

Town of Southington  
Ordinance Review Committee  
Meeting Summary Minutes

A Meeting of the Ordinance Review Committee was held on Monday, February 4, 2020 at 4:00 pm in Council Chambers, Southington Town Hall.

The meeting was called to order at 4:08 pm by Chairperson William Dziejdzic.

**Committee Members Present:**

Chairperson William Dziejdzic, Jeffrey Gworek, Susan Locks, Christopher Palmieri, William Weber, Ex-Officio Town Attorney Jeremy Taylor and Ex-Officio Deputy Police Chief William Palmieri.

**Determination of a Quorum:**

The Member's present confirmed a quorum.

**Committee Members Excused:**

Victoria Triano, Tony D'Angelo and Zaya Oshana.

Chairperson Dziejdzic opened up the discussion on the purposed Block the Box Ordinance.

**Review of the Block Box Ordinance:**

Deputy Chief Palmieri explained Public Act 09-171 allows for a municipality to create an ordinance to designate intersection(s) within the Town that cannot be blocked by vehicular traffic. This is commonly known as "Blocking the Box". Deputy Chief Palmieri further explained there are signage requirements as well as pavement marking guidelines within the established box area. The violation for "Blocking the Box" would all under 14-250b and would be a \$92.00 infraction.

Requests to utilize this ordinance would be reviewed by the Southington Police Department Traffic Officer and final approval or rejection would come from Police Chief Jack Daly, who is the Local Traffic Authority for the Town of Southington.

The ordinance only applies to Town roadways. If a request was made for a State Roadway the same review would take place and Chief Daly would send his recommendation to the appropriate State of Connecticut Department of Transportation Office for final approval and/or rejection.

Implementation of the ordinance/locations would be done with education, awareness and enforcement if need be.

Committee Member Weber asked about a right turn lane for eastbound traffic on Spring Street. Committee Member Palmieri and Town Attorney Taylor confirm there were discussion on working with the property owner of Plan B to install a right turn lane to assist with traffic flow in the area of Spring Street.

Committee Member Gworek asked for clarification that it was the Local Traffic Authority (Chief Daly) who has final approval on a Town roadway. This was confirmed by Deputy Chief Palmieri.

**Discussion on Sign License Ordinance:**

Attorney Taylor stated this ordinance was in the early stages of development, and was being reviewed because of complaints received regarding the installation of signs being done within the Town by non-certified contractors or sub-contracts. The licensing would allow the Town to know who is installing signs, what locations they are being installed and the installers are certified to install the sign, i.e. sign with electrical power vs no electrical power.

Attorney Taylor further stated the Town currently does not have a yearly licensing process in place and the ordinance would establish and process for the installation and enforcement of signs within our Town and would make sure the installers are properly certified to install the sign(s).

Committee Member Gworek requested clarification that the ordinance would address commercial signs. Attorney Taylor confirmed that there are already established guidelines for lawn, tag sale, and other such signs.

Committee Member Weber also requested information on how the ordinance would affect the Town of Southington Sign installers vs a national company that doesn't conduct regular business within the Town of Southington.

Chairman Dzedzic requested that Robert Phillips, Director of Planning and Community Development attend our next Ordinance Committee meeting to discuss the needs or structure of a Sign Licensing Ordinance. Attorney Taylor and the rest of the Ordinance Committee agreed that it would be beneficial to further discuss the information with Robert.

**Public Communications:**

None

**Old Business:**

Committee Member Christopher Palmieri made a motion to approve the Traffic Box Ordinance as presented. Committee Member Weber seconded the motion. No discussion on the motion. Motion passed 5-0, with Attorney Taylor and Deputy Chief Palmieri not voting.

Committee Member Christopher Palmieri made a motion adjourn. Committee Member Weber seconded the motion. No discussion on the motion. Motion passed 5-0, with Attorney Taylor and Deputy Chief Palmieri not voting.

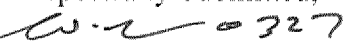
**New Business:**

None

**Executive Session:**

None

Meeting Adjourned 4:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
  
Bill Palmieri  
Deputy Chief