

**MINUTES
GENERAL COUNSEL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MAY 9, 2019**

Present: Councilwoman and Chair Bartolotta, Councilwoman Kleckowski, and Councilwoman Salafia. Staff: Deputy General Counsel Kori Wisneski, Justin Richardson, Director of HR

Public: David Bauer

Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Public Comment:

David Bauer – David spoke in support of the signs ordinance. He let the committee know that it passed at the Public Works and Facilities commission and asked that this be forwarded to Council.

Approval of Minutes

Councilwoman Kleckowski moved approval of the minutes from the March 14, 2019 regular meeting. The Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Salafia. The MOTION passed unanimously.

New Business:

A. Ordinance – Changes is adopted ordinances (1-19)

Attorney Wisneski introduced ordinance. She explained that Cathy Lechowicz contacted her to change Recreation and Community Services to Recreation and Senior Services because the seniors wanted recognition in the name. Attorney Wisneski also explained that instead of changing multiple ordinances she just made the changes in 1-19. Councilwoman Bartolotta expressed that she is all in favor of this change as she has sat on the commission and the seniors deserve it. Attorney Wisneski also explained that the ordinance also corrects a previous scrivener's error that got rid of some of the history of prior changes. This draft should correct the record.

Councilwoman Salafia made the MOTION to approve the ordinance. The Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Kleckowski. The Motion passes unanimously by those present and voting.

B. Ordinance – Notices & Signs (214-12)

Attorney Wisneski introduced the ordinance. She explained the Public Works and the Registrar's office gets calls throughout the year regarding notices and signs. The Office of the

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General Counsel worked with both offices to update the language in the ordinance. She explained that OGC is also seeking to correct the fine as the \$500 amount is over the amount authorized under Section 7-148 (or the Home Rule Statutes). Councilwoman Salafia had an issue about the wording in paragraph A of 262-41. More specifically she felt that if she wanted to put something on her house she should be able to and the ordinance is written so that is not clear. More discussion ensued regarding the wording. Attorney Wisneski recommended the following changes:

The posting of bills, placards, signs or other notices ~~without legal right~~ upon city streets, city rights of way, city parks and recreational facilities, public school property, other municipal property, or upon any City building, wall, fence, post, utility structure or pole, or tree within ~~or adjoining any street, highway, alley or other public way~~ the City's public right of way is prohibited, except when authorized by the Director of Public Works or his or her designee.

Councilwoman Kleckowski made the MOTION to accept Kori's language. The Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Salafia. The Motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Kleckowski questioned the amount of the fine and who decides the fine. It is stated that the Public Works director decides the fines; however, the commission feels as though Public Works director should not decide. More discussion ensued regarding the fee structure. Councilwoman Salafia raised whether the fines should be tied to violations within a calendar year. The commission came up with a proposed fee structure for violations within a calendar year. The fee structure agreed upon was as follows:

For the first offense within the calendar year, the fine shall be \$100 per occurrence. For the second offense within the calendar year, the fine shall be \$150 per occurrence. For the third offense and for every additional offense within the calendar year, the fine shall be \$250 per occurrence, in an amount not to exceed \$250500, or actual cost if greater, except as otherwise stated herein.

Councilwoman Salafia made a MOTION to accept the ordinance with all proposed changes. The Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Kleckowski. The Motion passed unanimously.

C. Executive session pursuant to 1-200(6)(A) to discuss employee's request for 30 day sick time advancement.

Councilwoman Kleckowski made a MOTION to add an executive session under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-200(6)(A) for a sick time advancement to the agenda. Councilwoman Salafia seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Kleckowski made a MOTION to go into executive session. Councilwoman Salafia seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Salafia made a MOTION to approve the sick time advancement. Councilwoman Kleckowski seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Other

- A. **Vacancy Report** – No discussion ensued.
- B. **Legal Bills** – None to report.

Adjournment:

MOTION to Adjourn by Councilwoman Bartolotta.