

han Tolan K
2-8-16

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

February 1, 2016
8:00 p.m.

South Windsor Town Council

PURPOSE: To receive citizen input on the Establishment of a Proposed Ordinance Concerning Panhandling

Mayor Delnicki called the Public Hearing to order at 8:00 p.m.; and requested that the Clerk of the Council read the call of the meeting (a copy of which is attached hereto, **Exhibit A**). There were approximately fifty (50) people present in the audience.

Town Attorney Yagaloff explained that this is an ordinance that was created with the Chief and Deputy Chief of Police. The plan was to create an ordinance that was legally sound and would stand any constitutional challenges. What is in this ordinance is basic prohibitions on aggressive dangerous types of activity. The ordinance is based on safety rather than the activity of panhandling. Panhandling is an activity that is protected by the First Amendment. This ordinance prohibits panhandling in areas that are unsafe for pedestrians. The Police Chief will be allowed to designate areas that are unsafe for pedestrians and once the areas are designated, there will be no panhandling allowed in those areas. There is an appeals process if someone believes the designated area is safe. This will give the police department the ability to create areas of safety in Town that are presently believed to be unsafe because people are in those areas.

Mayor Delnicki asked if there was anyone from the public that would like to speak.

Public

Mr. Robert Prowdy who has been a resident of South Windsor for 40 years came forward and stated he frequently travels up and down Route 5 and has noticed a problem with public safety. There are panhandlers on Route 5, near Stop and Shop, at the end of the Bissell Bridge ramp, the center of Route 5 at the light, and at the beginning of Route 30. These individuals are stepping into traffic and someone is going to get hurt or killed. The Town Council needs to adopt some type of ordinance to stop this activity.

Mr. Thomas Kelly, stated that this activity is a disturbance in Town and it is a danger to everyone.

Mr. Steve Wagner, 181 Tumblebrook Drive stated that he has reviewed the ordinance and encourages the Town Council to support it. It supports the balance between the safety issues of the panhandlers and the members of the public.

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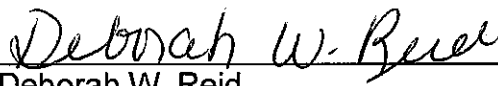
Mayor Delnicki asked for a Straw Vote, the results of which were as follows:

Those supporting the establishment of a Panhandling Ordinance: - 35

Those in opposition of the establishment of a Panhandling Ordinance: - 1

The public hearing was closed at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Deborah W. Reid
Clerk of the Council

Public Hearing Notice – Exhibit A



OFFICE
OF THE
TOWN COUNCIL

Town of South Windsor

1540 SULLIVAN AVENUE • SOUTH WINDSOR, CT 06074-2786

AREA CODE 860/644-2511

FAX 860/644-3781

JAN 29 2016

Sam E. [Signature]

3:05 PM

Exhibit A

TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL INQUIRER

January 25, 2016

LEGAL AD

TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Notice is hereby given that the South Windsor Town Council has set Monday, February 1, 2016, at 8:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the South Windsor Town Hall, 1540 Sullivan Avenue, South Windsor, Connecticut as the time and place for a Public Hearing to receive citizen input on the establishment of a Proposed Ordinance Concerning Panhandling, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk.

Dated at South Windsor, Connecticut this 22nd day of January 2016.

Attested to by:

Deborah W. Reid
Deborah W. Reid
Clerk of the Council

PUBLIC NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Notice is hereby given that the South Windsor Town Council has set Monday, February 1, 2016, at 8:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the South Windsor Town Hall, 1540 Sullivan Avenue, South Windsor, Connecticut as the time and place for a Public Hearing to receive citizen input on the establishment of a Proposed Ordinance Concerning Panhandling, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk.

Dated at South Windsor, Connecticut this 22nd day of January 2016.

Attested to by: Deborah W. Reid
Clerk of the Council

Journal Inquirer
January 25, 2016