

**MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN
HALL, 84 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE CT 06410**

Present

Robert J. Oris Jr. Chairman; Michael Ecke, Patti Flynn-Harris, Liz Linehan, Sylvia Nichols, Thomas Ruocco, Timothy Slocum and Peter Talbot.

Absent: Paul A. Bowman.

Staff: Michael A. Milone, Town Manager; Alfred Smith, Town Attorney; James Jaskot, Finance Director; Police Chief Neil Dryfe

Guest: Detective Dennis Boucher; PBC Member Art Crooker.

Public Hearing Subject Matter

CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED ORDINANCE
AMENDMENT FOR TOBACCO FREE PARKS (new)

1. ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll and a quorum was determined to be present.

2. EXPLANATION OF HEARING PROCEDURE AND AGENDA

3. READING OF LEGAL NOTICE

The clerk read the legal notice into the record.

4. PRESENTATION ON HEARING SUBJECT

Ms. Flynn-Harris reported this matter came before the Ordinance Review Committee from the Parks and Recreation Commission and Director Ceccolini. Concerns have been expressed to the Commission and Director about use of tobacco in Town parks when children are present. This usually occurs during sporting events, i.e. at Quinnipiac Park and MacNamara Park. The Town has always focused on having a healthy attitude with its healthy heart and cancer programs. There have been many demands to the Commission to implement a tobacco free parks program in Cheshire. Although it may be difficult to control or police, there is support for this program. The Ordinance Review Committee discussed the program, its pros and cons, and is bringing it forward to the full Town Council for approval.

5. QUESTIONS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR.

Adam Grippo, 1068 Avon Boulevard, said his organization has events at Cheshire Park, and people purchase tickets to attend. Many of them smoke outside, enjoy tobacco products in the open air or pavilion, and he does not believe they should be penalized because of people who smoke around children in the parks.

Derf Kleist, 251 Lancaster Way, stated there should also be a ban on alcoholic beverages, and not just limit it to tobacco products.

Town Manager Milone informed everyone that there is an alcohol prohibition for Town Parks with the exception of a permit from the Parks and Rec Director for beer and wine at special events, and only in the pavilion.

- 6. PROPONENTS AND OPPONENTS STATEMENTS ALTERNATELY EXPRESSED.**
- 7. REBUTTAL AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR.**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Oris adjourned the public hearing at 7:12 p.m.

Attest:

Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk