

(c) *Payment of the fine(s) associated with the issue of any Ticket shall be in accordance with current Connecticut State Statutes.*

Mr. Treaster noted “Appendix A- Fee Schedule” stated that a fine of \$200.00 could be issued. Therefore, he noted the language in Section 9 “*shall be fined not more than Two Hundred (\$200.00)*” was conflicting.

Mr. Treaster noted subsection (c) and he questioned whether the fine was paid to the Town or did it get paid to the State. He questioned who received the payment of the fine and who issued the receipt.

Mr. Lee Wilmonen, 47 Seabury Avenue, Ledyard, was attending the Public Hearing remotely, proposed a revision to Section 6 subparagraph (c) which stated:

- Section 6. Parking Restrictions
- (c) No vehicle shall be permitted to be parked on any street ***for a period of more than ten (10) consecutive days.*** After such period, such vehicle will be considered a fixed obstruction according to Section 3 Paragraph (a).

Mr. Wilmonen stated a person could park a vehicle on a street for nine days, move the vehicle off the street for one day and then move the vehicle back on the street for another nine days and not be in violation of the Ordinance. He stated in theory this could be done year-round without violating Ordinance #300-027 (rev 2) “*An Ordinance Regulating Parking and Other Activities in Town Roads And Rights-of-Way And Providing Penalties for the Violation Thereof*”. He proposed the following language be added to provide clarification and to prevent the possibility of vehicles being parked on the street for extended period time:

“No more than ten-days in any 365 -day period”

Mr. Wilmonen went on to state he lived in Parsonage Hill Manor and that they have had vehicles parked for long periods of time during the past six-months. He stated this creates safety hazards for walkers, school buses, delivery vehicles, and cars because two vehicles cannot pass each other with the parked vehicles taking up the traffic lane. He stated one vehicle was parked at a key intersection for a period of time, which was particularly hazardous.

Police Chief John Rich addressed Mr. Treaster’s question regarding the payment of the fines. He stated the fines/tickets would be paid in accordance with the Connecticut State Statutes. He stated the infraction ticket that would be issued by the Ledyard Police Department would be the typical mail-in infraction ticket. He stated the ticket would be mailed to the Connecticut Centralized Infraction Bureau with the payment of the fine or the selection to plead “*not guilty*” to the charge. He stated for clarification the fine would be paid to the State and that the State had a court system to adjudicate the matter.

Mayor Fred Allyn, III, stated the proposed Ordinance amendments were not in response to one resident, noting that the town has received numerous complaints from school bus drivers on Christy Hill, property owners, etc. He stated some of the roads in subdivisions have narrower streets that do not afford the ability to get around a larger vehicle. He stated when the school buses have difficulty navigating around parked vehicles with potential on-coming cars in obscured location that it becomes an important safety issue. He stated it obviously imposes a problem during the winter months for snow plowing purposes. He stated he has also heard from people who do drive large vehicles home and that he has explained to them that if they cannot park their large vehicle in their driveway it becomes a problem in higher density neighborhoods in particular. He stated the best scenario would be for the large commercial vehicles not to be driven home.

Chairman Dombrowski addressed Ms. Franklin’s comments to extend the timeframe for one or two days. He explained some of the residents’ concerns were that neighbors, who were working for a business, were bringing home vehicles such as large tow trucks. He

stated the large commercial vehicles were sitting on the street idling (running) all night long and blocking people driveways, noting that these types of vehicles were only there overnight, which was one of the problems.

Chairman Dombrowski went on to explain the reason the time frame of December 1st to March 31st was included in Ordinance #300-027 (rev 2) was so the Police Department did not have to notify people to move their vehicles off the road for the Public Works Department to plow the streets if there was a snowstorm overnight.

Councilor Dombrowski also explained that some commercial entities that use what was public property to support the use of their business, which was unfair to the taxpayers and residents.

Mr. Bill Saums, 333 Pumpkin Hill Road, Ledyard, Town Councilor, stated it was unfortunate that the town had to take this step noting that he fully supported the proposed amendments to Ordinance #300-027 (rev 2) “*An Ordinance Regulating Parking and Other Activities in Town Roads And Rights-of-Way And Providing Penalties for the Violation Thereof*”. He stated that he was sympathetic to Ms. Franklin and her small business; and he commented if they did not have so many people taking advantage of their neighbors they would not have to amend the Ordinance. He stated for those who do not like laws and regulations that this was why it happens. If stated when folks abuse the system, abuse their neighbors, or take advantage of things, laws get written and enforced.

Ms. Andra Ingalls, 5 Bolduc Drive, Ledyard, Town Councilor, stated that she agreed Councilor Saums’ comments noting that it was unfortunate that the town had to take these steps. She stated this situation was similar to the Short-Term Rental issue, in that most people were renting their homes out on a short-tem basis quietly and well. However, she stated because a few people did it very badly to the abuse of their neighbors, it had to be regulated.

Ms. Robin Franklin, 13 Kalmia Drive, Gales Ferry, Robin in the Garden Landscaping, stated it sounded like most of the issues were being caused by fairly large trucks, particularly diesel vehicles and large commercial vehicles. Therefore, she questioned whether the proposed Ordinance amendments could specify “*diesel vehicles*”. Chairman Dombrowski explained that this issue they were addressing in the proposed Ordinance was not only diesel vehicles. Mayor Allyn also explained that it was not just about diesel engines noting that a residential (non-commercial) use of a F150 pick-up truck could have a diesel engine.

Mr. Eric Treaster suggested also adding a requirement that the large Inter-state Highway tractor trailers not be parked on residential sites. Chairman Dombrowski explained the Town Council could not regulate what people do on their property through an ordinance, noting that this would be a zoning matter, and was statutorily outside the Town Council’s purview.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further public comment, Chairman Dombrowski adjourned the public hearing at 6:23 p.m.

Transcribed by Roxanne M. Maher
Administrative Assistant to the Town Council

I, Kevin J. Dombrowski, Chairman of the Ledyard Town Council,
hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct
copy of the minutes of the Public Hearing held on December 14, 2022.

Attest: _____
Kevin J. Dombrowski, Chairman