



BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
SHELTON, CONNECTICUT  
SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES  
THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2016

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Alderman Anglace called the Public Hearing to order at approximately 7:45 p.m.  
All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Alderman John F. Anglace, Jr., President – present  
Alderman Lynne Farrell – present  
Alderman John “Jack” Finn – present  
Alderman Stanley Kudej – present  
Alderman Noreen McGorty– not present  
Alderman Jim Capra – present  
Alderman Eric McPherson - present  
Alderman Anthony Simonetti –present

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. AMENDMENT TO CODE OF ORDINANCE CHAPTER 16 ARTICLE II  
SEC. 16-34 WINTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS (ORD. #861)
  - A) No person shall park or cause to be parked any motor vehicle on the streets of the city between the hours of 12:01 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. during the months of January, February, March and December, except as follows:
    - 1) On odd numbered ~~days~~<sup>months</sup>, parking shall be permitted during the aforementioned hours, only on the odd numbered side of any street.
    - 2) On even numbered ~~days~~<sup>months</sup>, parking shall be permitted during the aforementioned hours only on the even numbered side of any street, provided any previously established parking regulation shall remain in effect and shall be superior to the provisions of this section.

- B) No parking shall be permitted on any street during any snowstorm where the parking interferes with snow removal or cleaning operations.
- C) This section is supplemental to any previously enacted ordinance concerning the parking of motor vehicles.
- D) Any vehicles towed shall be stored at the police authorized towing company address. The fees for towing are regulated by the State of Connecticut.
- E) A snow/winter storm emergency may be declared by the mayor of the city or the mayor's designee. The Mayor shall cause each declaration made pursuant to this chapter to be publicly announced by means of broadcast, telecasts from stations with normal operating range covering the city. Additionally, posting said declaration notice in newspapers of general circulation, and on the city's official web page. Each announcement shall describe the action taken by the mayor including the time it became or will become effective. Said notice may be issued by use of media, by the posting of signs or by any other appropriate means. The mayor or the Mayor's designee may further announce when said snow emergency will cease.
- F) When such snow emergency is in effect, there shall be no on street parking in sections of the city where access to off-street parking is available including driveways and parking lots, unless otherwise exempted by the police department.
- G) Any person violating the provisions of this ordinance may be fined \$25.00 for the first violation and \$50 for repeat violations.

Alderman Anglace asked three times if anyone else wished to speak.

Being none, Alderman Anglace closed the Public Hearing for Item 1: Amendment to Code of Ordinance Chapter 16 Article II Sec. 16-34 Winter Parking Restrictions (Ord. #861).

## 2. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 9 ARTICLE II SOLICITORS AND CANVASSERS SECTION 9-21 (ORD. #893)

Time limit on soliciting.

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It is hereby declared to be unlawful and shall constitute a nuisance for any person whether registered under this article or not, to go upon any premises and ring the doorbell upon or near any door of a residence located thereon, or rap or knock upon any door or create any sound in any other manner calculated to attract the attention of the occupant of such residence, for the purpose of securing an audience with the occupant thereof and engage in soliciting as herein defined, prior to 9:00 a.m. or after 9:00 p.m. of any weekday, or at any time on a Sunday or on a State or national holiday. ~~after one-half hour before sunset of any weekday, or at any time on a Sunday or on a State or national holiday.~~

Alderman Anglace asked if anyone from the audience wished to speak.

David Eldridge, Shelton Police Department

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, Alderman Anglace and all of the aldermen. My name is David Eldridge, from the Shelton Police Department. I have been recently assigned as the Crime Prevention Officer. This ordinance that is about to be revised will be very helpful to our senior citizens and to the general public, by limiting some of the hours that solicitors can go and knock on doors. Some solicitors are reputable and some are not, and they use this opportunity to counter surveillance the houses that they might burglarize. They also use the opportunity to size up the target, so if they feel that someone is vulnerable they will solicit them through false magazine scams, solicit them for monies, etc. This helps the overall citizen in Shelton and it is a really good thing. The board should be commended for addressing this. Nobody should be knocking on someone's door at 9:00 at night. There is a lot of single, elderly men and women and at their age they are scared; they are vulnerable and they could be conned in to all sorts of things. So any support that you give to this ordinance is a plus.

Alderman Simonetti: Officer Eldridge, is it true that if someone wants to solicit door to door, do they need to come to the Police Department to obtain a certificate of some sort?

David Eldridge: Yes they do. Some of the solicitors do not have a permit. Sometimes they flood a particular neighborhood, they will go knocking from door to door and eventually someone gets a bad vibe from one of them, and then we will get a call to respond. If when we respond and the individual does not have a permit, he directs us to the one general manager of the group. Sometimes they send out 12-14 people and they drop them off in a particular neighborhood. We will then find that person to give us his permit. If that manager does not have a permit, we will either cite them or pick all of the guys up and get out of there. That is what generally happens.

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Alderman Simonetti: Your word to the public is if someone comes to the door and they want to sell you something, you can ask them to show you their permit?

David Eldridge: Absolutely.

Alderman Simonetti: If they cannot show you the permit then you can shut the door.

David Eldridge: One of the things that I have been tasked to do is to educate, especially the elderly at senior center facilities and to let them know some of the scams that are coming up. Summer time is coming up and a lot of the doorknockers will prey on them for home repairs; some of them are legitimate and some of them are not. They might do partial work, but they never return. What they do is prey on your confidence, and they will hit two to three houses in the neighborhood and then they will never come back. So, this ordinance does help this. It was a good idea for whomever brought this forward. The whole board should be commended.

Alderman Kudej: The programs like girl scout cookies and stuff like that, do they need a permit?

David Eldridge: I believe they do, and I think they take a general permit out for the whole group, and that will cover them for that whole period. Say if an individual girl scout was out and goes knocking, I do not believe the individual person is pulling out a permit, but it would be the Girl Scouts of America will pull a blanket one for the group.

Alderman Anglace: Actually, what we are addressing in this amendment is focused a lot on the time restrictions. I will state of what I think it is that it is before us: we are regulating the hours of solicitation. You cannot solicit prior to 9:00 am, or one half hour prior to sunset, so it would be okay Monday through Saturday to solicit. However, we are also saying that you cannot solicit on Sunday or on any state or national holiday. That is the focus of what we are addressing. I do not know how that came about, but that is what is before us. Dave, we appreciate your testimony because this is the kind of thing that the City needs to develop. We need to get feedback when we do something like this from the police department or from others. Your department does participate in the Public Health & Safety and the Street Committee meetings, which we send out a heartfelt thanks for your participation and for all o your good ideas and suggestions. This is certainly a big help to have you here, thank you.

Alderman Capra: John, since we are taking out a line it doesn't say anything about Sundays. Are we still taking that, or is that a typo?

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Alderman Anglace: It is a typo. You cannot solicit before 9 am, you cannot solicit one half hour before sunset but you can solicit Monday through Friday, Saturday but you cannot solicit on Sunday or any state or federal holiday.

Alderman Capra: We just need to make sure that gets changed.

Alderman Anglace closed the Public Hearing for Item 2: Amendment to Code of Ordinance Chapter 9 Article II Solicitors and Canvassers Section 9-21 (Ord. #893).

3. AMENDMENT TO CODE OF ORDINANCE CHAPTER 2 ARTICLE VI  
PERSONNEL RULES AND MERIT SYSTEM SECTION 11.3

**Amend:** Section 11.3 Vacation by adding the following additional language:

11.3 All full-time employees shall be eligible for paid vacation as follows:

One (1) year to six (6) years - two (2) weeks

Six (6) years to twelve (12) years – three (3) weeks

More than twelve (12) years – four (4) weeks

**(ADD NEW)** Notwithstanding the foregoing, newly hired supervisors or directors may be granted additional vacation time within a range that is commensurate with their qualifications, background and experience, including the amount of vacation the new employee may have had at their present or most immediate past employment. Such additional vacation time for newly hired supervisors and/or directors shall be recommended by the head of the department subject to approval by the Administrative Assistant and final approval of the Mayor.

Alderman Anglace asked three times if the public wished to speak.

Alderman Anglace: Essentially what this does is it gives the department head, through the Administrative Assistant with the approval of the Mayor, at the time of hiring to increase the amount of vacation time they can offer to an applicant. The reason is that there had been some denials where the money was acceptable but people who worked in other places for a long time had 4 or 5 weeks of vacation time. We were a little bit deficient so they want to be able to bury that. This is only for certain positions; this is not for everybody. This is just for supervisors and directors, and this is for only at the time of hiring. You cannot take someone from the course of their employment and decide that you want to change their

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vacation. So this is very restrictive, but this is to give us a competitive advantage in hiring or a decent chance of getting somebody.

Alderman Anglace closed the Public Hearing for Item 3: Amendment to Code of Ordinance Chapter 2 Article VI Personnel Rules and Merit System Section 2-316 (Ord. #668).

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other speakers, Alderman Anglace closed the public hearing around 8:00 p.m.

Alderman Kudej MOVED to adjourn the Public Hearing; SECONDED by Alderman Simonetti. A voice vote was taken and hearing was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Brittany Gannon*

Brittany Gannon, Clerk

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Mark A. Laretti  
Mayor, City of Shelton