



Board of Aldermen
Shelton, Connecticut
Public Hearing on Ordinances
June 28, 2005

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Aldermanic President John Anglace opened the Public Hearing at 7 p.m. All those present rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL

- Aldermanic President John F. Anglace, Jr. - present
 - Alderman John "Jack" Finn - present
 - Alderman Stanley Kudej - present
 - Alderman Joseph Lanzi - absent
 - Alderman Lynne Farrell - present
 - Alderman Nancy Minotti - present
 - Alderman Kenneth Olin - present
 - Alderman John P. Papa - present
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**AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 548 – ABANDONED OR
UNREGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Proposed

Ordinance #548

Abandoned or Unregistered Motor Vehicles

Be it ordained by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Shelton:

Section 1:

No person, firm or corporation shall abandon any motor vehicle within the limits of any highway within the City of Shelton or upon property other than his own without the consent of the owner for a period of longer than twenty-four hours.

Section 2:

Any person who abandons a motor vehicle in violation of the provisions of this ordinance shall be fined not more than \$100.00.

Section 3:

This ordinance is supplemental to any previously enacted ordinance concerning the parking of motor vehicles within the City limits.

Section 4:

The last owner of record of a motor vehicle found abandoned, as shown by the files of the State of Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles, shall be deemed prima facie to have been the owner of such motor vehicle at the time the vehicle was abandoned and the person who abandoned the vehicle or caused or procured its abandonment.

Section 5:

Any police officer of the city upon discovery of any motor vehicle, whether situated within or without any highway of this State or City, which is a menace to traffic is authorized to take such motor vehicle into his custody and cause the same to be taken to and stored in a suitable place.

Section 6:

Any police officer of the City upon discovery of any motor vehicle apparently abandoned or a motor vehicle without proper registration, whether situated within or without any highway of this State or City shall affix to such motor vehicle a notification sticker in a manner so as to be readily visible. This notification sticker shall contain the following information:

- a) **The date and time the notification sticker was affixed to the motor vehicle.**
- b) **A statement that pursuant to this ordinance and State Statute, if the vehicle is not removed within twenty-four hours of the time the sticker was affixed; it shall be taken into custody and stored at the owner's expense.**
- c) **The location and telephone number where additional information may be obtained.**
- d) **The identity of the affixing officer.**

If the motor vehicle is not removed within such twenty-four hour period, the City Police Department shall tow such motor vehicle and cause the same to be stored in a place designated by the Chief of Police.

Section 7:

If the vehicle is apparently abandoned, a menace to traffic or has no registration marker plates or invalid registration marker plates, the City Police Department shall follow the procedures set forth in Connecticut General Statute Section 14-150 as amended relative to the disposition of said vehicle.

Section 8:

- A. Any motor vehicle located on private property that is abandoned or inoperable or unregistered and remains unmoved for a period exceeding thirty (30) days after the Zoning Enforcement Officer has (1) provided notice to the property owners on which such motor vehicle remains, requesting removal of such motor vehicle and (2) said notice was published in a newspaper having a substantial circulation in such municipality; may be removed by the City of Shelton.
- B. The Zoning Enforcement Officer shall be responsible for notifying such property owner, publication of the general notice, and for removal and disposition of such motor vehicle by an approved City of Shelton towing company as authorized by the Police Department.
- C. The property owner shall be responsible for the cost of the removal of any motor vehicle and shall be fined not more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each day (each day being a separate offense) that the vehicle remains on the property after the thirty (30) day notice expires.
- D. A property owner that moves the motor vehicle on the property does not exempt said vehicle from this ordinance.

The Shelton Police Department may issue the City ordinance violation prior to the removal of said vehicle

Mayor Lauretti asked if any member of the public wished to speak.

Jim Cornelson, 24 Fanny Street

My main impetus for being here is I just want to present a couple of things on my own neighborhood. I'm curious if the new ordinance can deal with it or not. The one circumstance is, a guy has three abandoned vehicles and three boats. One is a big raft that is thrown on top of a car to kind of hide it from one direction. They're all in the front yard. One of the vehicles is right off the street. When neighbors complained, over two years ago, he was able to beat it by getting it licensed. All of the tires are flat, it's rusted almost 100 percent, and it's literally filled with junk, even the driver's seat. I'm wondering if there is a way for this guy to beat this in the ordinance – the proposed change. If so, then maybe you can change the ordinance at the last second. I don't know if he can just roll it back six feet and say 'it's not abandoned because we move it now.'

That's around the corner. Then, a guy across from me, honestly I don't know if he has 10 or 12 cars. I'm just kind of wondering – his wife has a house in Wallingford. They kind of stay in both houses. So if he moves five cars there and keeps five here, one day he's going to have seven cars, and another day he's only going to have five. Is that anything that the City can deal with in terms of car limitations - what you own.

One more thing - a lady who would probably be happy to have the City come and remove this thing - the City of Bridgeport got onto a friend of hers for having a trailer that is literally broken windows, I mean I can't describe what it looks like. It's not worth a dollar. It's about 20 feet long. Bridgeport said 'get it out of here,' so now it's sitting in her yard. Since, he's died. She's got no title to it and no legal right I suppose to remove it. It's just junk. I don't know if that's an abandoned thing that this ordinance deals with or not.

Wonderful people; but kind of unique things going on there. I just want you to make note of it so that what ever you need to do here, what ever you're doing, you can think about it.

Mayor Lauretti stated, call that information in to my office and I will have someone take a look at the neighborhood.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Lauretti asked if any other member of the public wished to speak. Being none, Alderman Papa MOVED to close the public hearing at approximately 7:05 p.m.; SECONDED by Alderman Farrell. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Date Submitted: _____

DATE APPROVED: _____ BY: _____

Mark A. Lauretti
Mayor, City of Shelton