

A **PUBLIC HEARING** was held by the Torrington Board of Councilmen in the City Hall Auditorium on Monday, April 15, 2019, to solicit citizen input regarding a proposed ordinance that would raise the minimum age for the sale of tobacco and vaping products to 21.

Present were Mayor Elinor Carbone and City Councilors Marie Soliani, Frank Rubino, Paul Cavagnero, Gregg Cogswell, Fred Simon, and Anne Ruwet. Also present were Corporation Counsel Atty. Victor Muschell, Police Chief William Baldwin, Jr., City Treasurer Dan Farley, Public Works Director Ray Drew, and City Engineer Paul Kundzins.

Mayor Carbone called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Clerk Carol Anderson read the legal notice.

Public Comment

Alphonse "Buddy" Milo commended the students at THS for their efforts to mitigate vaping and tobacco use among Torrington youth, but stated his opposition to the proposed ordinance which would punish retailers, rather than users.

Brett Johnson expressed his support for the ordinance on behalf of the American Cancer Society's Cancer Action Network and stated several benefits of raising the minimum age for the sale of vaping and tobacco products.

Nik Chapman expressed his opposition to the proposed ordinance and stated that the onus of responsibility should be on the users and their parents.

Kent Johnson expressed his opposition and concerns regarding the tax impact of the proposed ordinance.

Andrew Lyon presented information regarding the prevalence and dangers associated with vaping and tobacco use among adolescents and high school age persons.

Meeting Closed

Mayor Carbone declared the public hearing closed at 6:49 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Jonathan R. Draper, Asst. Clerk*

ATTEST:



CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK