

**MINUTES**

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**CITY COUNCIL & WPCA**

**PUBLIC HEARING: NEW ORDINANCE CH. 181 "TREES, SHRUBS, AND WOODY VEGETATION"**

**CITY HALL AUDITORIUM/ZOOM**

**February 21, 2023**

A **PUBLIC HEARING** was held by the City Council & WPCA of the City of Torrington on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, to solicit citizen input regarding the new Chapter 181 "Trees, Shrubs, and Woody Vegetation".

Attendance was by Zoom and in person. Present at City Hall were Mayor Elinor Carbone, Corporation Counsel Victor Muschell, and City Councilors Drake Waldron, Keri Hoehne, Paul Cavagnero, Anne Ruwet, and Armand Maniccia. City Councilor David Oliver participated via Zoom. Also present in person were Public Works Director Ray Drew, Fire Chief Eric Borden, Deputy Fire Chief David Tripp, Police Chief William Baldwin, Deputy Police Chief Bart Barown, Sergeant Dustin Baldis, Economic Development Director Rista Malanca, Fleet Manager Emil Castro, Purchasing Agent Pennie Zucco, and Assistant City Planner Nate Nardi-Cyrus. Director of Services for the Elderly Joel Sekorski also joined via Zoom.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m. beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Clerk Carol Anderson read the legal notice into the record.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Tom Kandefer, a Torrington resident, shared his thoughts on the Tree Ordinance, and how there are a lot of good pieces to it, however, there are a few parts that need some clarification. For instance, the liability issues surrounding trees located on private property, also the personal injury/property damage section should also have a nuisance tree on private property that is having an impact on public property. Paul Robert Blackman, a Torrington resident, believes that the Tree Warden should be an independent position and not part of the head of Public Works, who already has more than enough responsibilities. He also mentioned the number of historical trees in town that are being overlooked.

**PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED**

Mayor Carbone declared the public hearing closed at 6:45 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by*  
*Heather Abraham, Asst. City Clerk*

ATTEST:



CAROL L. ANDERSON, CITY CLERK