



Town of Townsend
Townsend Council Public Hearing Minutes
Wednesday, September 6th, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.
Via Town Hall & Conference Call

6:30 p.m. Townsend Town Council Public Hearing

- I. Call to Order 6:33 pm.

- II. Opening Ceremonies
 - a. Roll Call: Mayor S. Lobdell, Councilman M. Chapman, Councilman J. Bangura, Councilman M. Suhr, Councilman J. Mertz, Town Manager A. Tantillo, Town Solicitor L. Hatfield, Chief of Police R. Longo, and Town Clerk M. Rivera.
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance:
 - i. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance
 - c. Recognition of Visitors:
 - i. Mayor Lobdell recognized all visitors present as reflected on the sign in sheet and via zoom: Dwain Haines, Keith Henry, Ann Marie Germano, Thomas Germano, D. McCarron, and Michelle Gordon-Akinola.
 - d. Announcements: None.

- III. Additions and Deletions to published Agenda.
 - a. None.

- IV. Public hearing Ordinance 2023-001, An Ordinance to Provide for the Quality of Outdoor Night Lighting to Conserve Energy, Reduce Light Pollution, and Improve Safety by Light Direction.
 - a. CM Chapman made a suggested amendment to c.4.d: Strike “light candles” and replace with “candle power”.
 - b. TM Tantillo advised the ordinance will be put into effect 30 days after publication as reflected in the ordinance. Additionally, there are a handful of residents who expressed concern for light pollution, which is the reason why a light pollution ordinance is being presented.

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- c. Mayor Lobdell noted this ordinance is similar to the noise ordinance in terms of enforcement.
- d. TM Tantillo noted the Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on 7/19/2023 and there has been no objections to the ordinance. Additionally, this ordinance was previously part of the Code and was inadvertently omitted. Furthermore, residents have expressed interest since it has been omitted. TM Tantillo advised research on other municipalities codes was performed and they all had light ordinances.
- e. TS Hatfield confirmed anything existing does not have to comply with the Light Ordinance, however this is dependent on definitions.
- f. Council discussed verbiage to address indoor lighting that crosses property lines.
- g. Council discussed verbiage to include effectiveness for the three-year gap between the previous ordinance and the new ordinance.
- h. TM Tantillo confirmed additions to the original ordinance have been highlighted in yellow for the drafted new ordinance presented. TM Tantillo noted these changes were determined advised by the Planning Commission upon review of other municipality ordinances. Additionally, the fees are to be determined administratively and are based upon compliance.
- i. Council to further discuss during a regular meeting item c.4.k..

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j. CM Chapman made a motion to close the Public Hearing. CM Bangura seconded the motion.

i. Public Hearing closed at 6:54 pm.

V. Adjourn at 7:00 pm

a. CM Mertz made a motion to adjourn. CM Chapman seconded the motion.

i. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.