

To: The Mayor & Council of the Town of Townsend

Dear Council Members,

Greetings. My name is James C. Reyes. I could not be there for the Public Meeting due to my work taking me out of town but I wanted to have my concerns as a Resident read for the record. First thank you for the work everyone has done thus far. So, in reviewing Ordinance 2024-002 regarding amending Ordinance 24.04.060 and Section 24.04.090. Although I agree with some of you proposed amendments like the residential parking of Commercial Vehicle Class 4 and above but there are some things that I am extremely concerned about and its legitimacy or bias nature of this amendment. To be more specific your Amendment 3 regarding Recreational Vehicles. It feels to me that this is an unnecessary item rolled into Commercial vehicle amendment as like a Trojan Horse. Let me clear what I mean up we as the Town have protections regarding Recreation vehicles in Municipal Code 24.20.020 regarding No Recreational Vehicles parked in front yard of a residential property.

My concerns are that it doesn't seem to have any unbiased Council Members or someone represented by the "Old Town" to make this decision that isn't really written for the whole town but more of a New Neighborhood issue like TV1, TV2, and other Deed Restricted Developments with H.O.A. The New Amendments sound straight out of a H.O.A. playbook and although they have their place and need for such and amendment mainly in a "Deed Restricted" area but not a blanket Amendment to cover "Old Town" who's properties have room for side parking and more space between properties because we are in a less congested area. Example if I have a 1-acre lot with side or rear parking with gravel, blacktop or concrete and wanted to keep a 18ft boat on their property your amendment makes that illegal to do so and requires Owner to pay for storage elsewhere all awhile paying mortgage and Townsend Taxes knowing that said property can more than accommodate this scenario.

It is my opinion that this Recreation Vehicle Amendment will alienate and divide most of the town and is an excessive over reach by our Mayor & Town Council by using Our Town of Townsend to be H.O.A. and/or "Deed Restricted" area as the Muscle for a weak H.O.A. that has had trouble enforcing their own rules and wants the Town to do it for them. The fact that you included Section 32, Section 43, and Section 54 tells me Council knows we already have Ordinances for this topic. More thought should go into this blanket amendment to make all of Townsend Deed Restricted. I nor anyone in "Old Town" purchased a house in a "Deed Restricted" area and should not be subject to their overreaching rules. That was a choice I made when I moved here in 2012 as you have when you decided to purchase a "deed restricted" home. In final if you haven't guessed I am not a "Deed Restricted" home and don't want any parts of it and this Amendment infringes on my rights as a property owner by forcing excessive unfounded amendments to property owners who clearly have the accommodations to properly meet current Townsend and New Castle County requirements and are not a nuisance property. So, I opposed these changes as it is currently proposed to Ordinance 2024-002 and it's a selfish and personal change which does not include the "Old Town Peoples"

Representing Old Town,

James C. Reyes

4/16/2024