

Regular meeting of the Ordinance Subcommittee of the Town Council held Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 5:00 P.M. in the Town Building, 105 Harrisville Main St., Harrisville, RI 02830.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilors Stephen N. Rawson and David Houle

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilor Raymond J. Trinke was excused

I. Minutes:

VOTED to accept the minutes of the December 28, 2023 meeting and dispense with the reading of said minutes.

Motion by Councilor David Houle. The motion carried unanimously by the two members present.

II. Business

1. Consider and act on proposed amendments to the Revised General Ordinances of the Town of Burrillville, RI, 2004, as amended, *Ch. 4 Animals* to amend enforcement and penalty guidelines; or take any other action thereon.

Discussion: Michael C. Wood, Town Manager, stated that these proposed amendments were made because it's been a while since they were last updated. These were written so that it's clear that the police and animal control have a little leeway to issue written warnings for minor infractions by people who are not habitual offenders. Mr. Wood reviewed the other recommendations.

It was suggested to make a few minor adjustments. They are as follows:

Sec. 4-7(d) – move the word “habitual” from in front of nuisance to in front of howling. It should mean that the nuisance is habitual howling, barking, etc.

Sec. 4-71(a) – add language “Fees cannot be waived, but can be adjusted with approval of police chief or designee.”

It was pointed out that there was a change made to Sec. 11-5(a) that relates to penalties imposed by Municipal Court. The added language is “and any fees or direct expenses that are unpaid.”

VOTED to recommend amendments as presented with the additions to Sec. 4-7(d) and Sec. 4-71(a).

Motion by Councilor David Houle. The motion carried unanimously by the two members present.

2. Consider and act on the review of the sick leave policy for department heads and non-union administrative staff; or take any other action thereon.

Discussion: Michael C. Wood, Town Manager, stated that although the Ordinance Subcommittee does not normally weigh in on policies, he thought it would be a good idea for the Subcommittee to take a look at it. It hasn't been updated since 1998 and so many Federal and State laws on leave have changed since then. He has incorporated those in this version, as well as the standard language that is in the union contracts. Most of this is what is being followed already.

VOTED to accept the recommended changes to the sick leave policy and advance it to the Town Council.

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Motion by Councilor David Houle. The motion carried unanimously by the two members present.

III. Other business None

IV. Adjournment

VOTED to adjourn at 5:30 p.m.

Motion by Councilor David Houle. The motion carried unanimously by the two members present.



Vicki T. Martin, Town Clerk