

MEETING OF SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL
59 COURT STREET
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
MAY 31, 2022 AT 6:30 PM

The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chamber, Municipal Building, 59 Court Street, Westfield, MA at 6:32 PM by President Onyski.

The Clerk called the roll. Councilors Allie and Bean were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was

VOTED: That an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF WESTFIELD, APPENDIX B-ZONING, ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 3, 1987" (amendments to Kennel licenses section 2-20, 3-40, 50, 110, 120 and 4-30.4(1) relative to residential kennel restrictions, particularly lot area, to leave more discretion to the Special Permit granting authority) be given second reading by title only.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

Dan Allie	Absent
Brent Bean II	Absent
John Beltrandi III	No
Michael Burns	No
Ralph Figy	No
Dave Flaherty	No
Cindy Harris	No
Bridget Matthews-Kane	No
Kristen Mello	No
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	No
William Onyski	No
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	No
James Adams	No

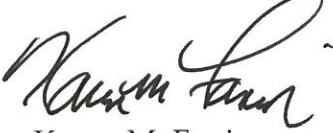
The President declared the motion LOST.

Prior to the vote, Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the purpose of the Special Meeting is that the zone change will time out if not acted upon today. He reminded the Council that at the last meeting of the Council held May 19, 2022, that the ordinance was amended by removing the change to allow four dogs in Residential A. Councilor Adams spoke in opposition of the zone change petition. He informed the Council that in 2006 the Legislative and Ordinance Committee, in which he was a member, created the animal ordinance and at that time the dog officer and the Police Chief were consulted and that for these amendments the dog officer and the Police Chief were not consulted. He expressed his

concern that if there are complaints relative to the amendments it would be the dog officer and the Police Chief that would get the complaints. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that he talked to the dog officer today and there haven't been any problems relative to dogs in rural residential and that the 60,000 sq ft would be flexible but would still remain close to 60,000 sq ft. He suggested amending the proposed ordinance by taking out eliminating the 60,000 sq ft. Councilor Adams informed the Council that when he talked to the dog officer she did not say she agreed with the ordinance amendments. Councilor Mello asked if the ordinance amendments would be retroactive or only going forward. Councilor Flaherty replied it would be going forward. Councilor Sullivan added that if a resident has too many dogs now they will get in trouble when caught. Councilor Morganelli commented that the dog officer has to follow the ordinance and cannot deny it for any other reason. Councilor Flaherty replied that there are two things happening here, first a Special permit by the Planning Board to allow the kennel then the dog officer has to inspect the kennel to issue the kennel license so if the kennel does not meet the standards in the ordinance the dog officer can deny issuing the license. Councilor Harris agreed with Councilor Adams that the dog officer and Chief should have been consulted and that it will affect a lot of people in certain zones and without relevant information it is difficult to make a decision and that it should come back with all the relevant information. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that it's not his recommendation, it's a report from the ZPD and that there was no opposition at the public hearing. Councilor Adams reiterated that he wants to hear from the dog officer and Chief before making decisions on the amendments.

At 6:48 PM, and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was VOTED: To ADJOURN.

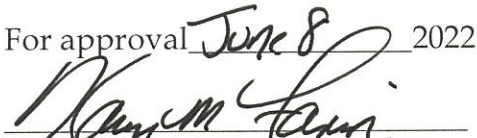
A true record, Attest:



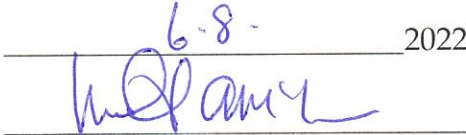
Karen M. Fanion

City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

Presented to the Mayor

For approval June 8 2022

Karen M. Fanion, City Clerk

Approved by the Mayor

6-8 2022

Michael A. McCabe, Mayor