

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**  
**July 23, 2019**

PRESENT: Chairperson Mixon, Members Hegy, Carroll

ABSENT & EXCUSED: Alderperson Garza

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Volkert, City Engineer Schall, Police Chief Groves

Call to Order – Chairperson Mixon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers of Hartford City Hall, 109 North Main Street.

Roll Call – All members of the Committee were present except Alderperson Garza who was absent and excused.

Public Comment Period – None.

Heavy Traffic Routes – The Public Works Committee at its June meeting directed staff to move forward with the idea of creating heavy traffic routes through the City of Hartford. Creating heavy traffic routes through the City would allow heavy traffic to use only those routes identified. Heavy traffic would not be allowed on any other street within the City of Hartford with a few exceptions. Staff has identified streets in the City of Hartford to designate as heavy traffic routes. City Engineer Schall provided information on the proposed heavy traffic routes, and responded to questions. The Committee reviewed the proposed routes and concurred as presented. An ordinance will be drafted creating heavy traffic routes for the Committee's review at a future meeting.

Outdoor Burning – Recent issues have come to light regarding Section 6.12 of the municipal code relating to outdoor fires specifically fire pits. Some of the issues have been created by the current verbiage and the police department's ability to enforce the code. The proposed revisions would clarify when and how enforcement action could be taken for violations of the ordinance for both members of the public and for police officers, and establish guidelines for their use for recreational burning. The proposed changes would also prohibit the use of burn barrels for any reason in the City. The proposed ordinance was crafted in conjunction with the Hartford Fire Department.

Police Chief Groves provided information on the proposed changes to the ordinance, and responded to questions. In response to a question, the Police Chief will research and find out if the City's regulations would still be enforceable in any state campground within the city limits. The Chief will also check the feasibility of setting the distance a fire pit must be from another structure at 10 feet rather than the 15 feet proposed by the fire department, as suggested by Alderperson Hegy. Alderperson Carroll noted that he has concerns with the provision of being able to burn confidential papers, other than to start a fire, as it could create a large amount of smoke and smell if a lot of papers were to be burned at one time.

Public Works Committee (7/23/2019)

MOTION by Alderperson Carroll, and seconded by Alderperson Hegy recommending an ordinance repealing and recreating Section 6.12 of the municipal code relating to outdoor burning, and amend the structure of Section 42.02(1) as proposed, with the deletion of the language allowing the burning of confidential papers. MOTION CARRIED. (Alderperson Mixon voted no)

Adjournment – MOTION by Alderperson Hegy, and seconded by Alderperson Carroll for adjournment. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lori Hetzel, City Clerk

LH:pb  
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Compiled by Pat Borlen, Deputy Clerk