

The February 24, 2021, meeting of the Ordinance Committee, a sub-committee of the Board of Selectmen was convened at 6:16 p.m. by Chairman Mica Cardozo via webex. A recording of the meeting may be accessed here: [https://youtu.be/TYLTbX4\\_ank](https://youtu.be/TYLTbX4_ank)

Mr. Cardozo stated that in accordance with Governor Lamont's Executive Order #7b. Section 1 which suspends the open meeting requirements of in-person participation, audio and video of this Ordinance Committee meeting will be simultaneously televised on Channel 79 and youtube@wgatv79 to allow the public to view and listen to the meeting. In-person attendance is not permitted.

### **MINUTES**

The minutes of October 20, 2020, were approved (Cardozo – Dey)

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Written public comments were received from Jason Morrill, Chair of the Woodbridge Conservation Commission and from Virginia and David Schneider, 25 Cassway Road, Woodbridge, putting forth a case to ban artificial turf in Woodbridge. A third letter was also received – unfortunately the writer did not identify themselves, however the letter will be included. The Public Comments included a copy of the Westport Ordinance banning such material and the Hartford Zoning Regulation. For the public record the written comments are attached to these minutes.

### **RECEIVE A REQUEST FROM THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO CONSIDER A NEW ORDINANCE BANNING SYNTHETIC MATERIALS IN WOODBRIDGE**

Chairman Cardozo said that at its February 10, 2021 Regular Meeting, the Board of Selectmen received a request from the Concerned Citizens of Woodbridge to adopt a new ordinance and forwarded the request to the Ordinance Committee. The requested ordinance as presented:

*"We, the Concerned Citizens of Woodbridge respectfully request consideration for a new ordinance(s) in the Town of Woodbridge banning synthetic materials and requiring third-party independent testing (chain-of-custody) for PFAS/total fluorine along with heavy metals of all new man-made materials".*

Chairman Cardozo said that this meeting was called to initially identify and set-up a plan of action as to how the Ordinance Committee would move forward regarding the request; to determine what information is required and to gather that information. Based on other input it appears that the request has to do with the artificial turf field proposed and approved for installation at the Amity Regional District #5 High School located in Woodbridge on Newton Road.

Mr. Cardozo asked Town Counsel Gerald Weiner to review what the situation regarding Committee's limitations in relations to the installation of the turf field and how action of the Committee could impact that specifically going forward as the project was:

- Approved at referendum by a majority (2) of the three towns that make up Amity Regional District #5.
- Approved by the Woodbridge Town Plan & Zoning Commission & Inland Wetlands Agency

Town Counsel advised the Board that any ordinance passed by the Board of Selectmen would need to affect activity prospectively and cannot be implemented to affect past actions. Since the referendum and approvals from the Town planning boards occurred many months ago, ordinances passed at this time or in the future would not affect the land use approvals and referendum.

The Committee agreed that the language of the request was over-broad and specificity was required before the Committee could move forward. Chairman Cardozo agreed to reach out to the group requesting the ordinance for clarification and information.

**NEXT MEETING**

The Committee agreed to meet via Webex at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 16, 2021.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a non-debatable motion by Ms. Heller, seconded by Mr. Dey, the meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted  
Geraldine S. Shaw, Clerk