

The Committee on Legislative Affairs & Elections met on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 6pm remotely through the Zoom web application.

The meeting was recorded by ECTV and can be viewed on the City of Everett website.

Members present were Councilor Anthony DiPierro, presiding, Councilors Rosa DiFlorio, Fred Capone and Stephanie Martins.

The Committee considered a Resolution offered by Councilor Michael McLaughlin: That a fine be issued to individuals for having vehicles that make unnecessary altered noises.

City Solicitor Colleen Mejia, Mayors Chief of Staff Erin Deveney and Traffic Commission Chairman Joe Gaff were also present remotely.

Solicitor Mejia reminded the Committee that the following Ordinance was already in place to address these types of issues: Chapter 13A, Article IX, Section 13A-62.0(g)((14)(b)(5) Exhaust – The ownership or operation of any motor vehicle or other combustible engine that does not have an adequate muffler in constant operation and properly maintained to prevent excessive or unusual noise. The equipping of any muffler or exhaust system with a cutout, bypass or similar device, or the modifying of any muffler or exhaust system in a manner which will amplify or increase the noise emitted by the engine above that emitted by the muffler or exhaust system originally installed shall constitute a violation of this section. Citations can be issued by Code Enforcement and Police Department in accordance with Section 1-8. Councilor McLaughlin, the Sponsor had informed Chairman DiPierro prior to the start of meeting that since an Ordinance already existed to address this matter that he would respectfully request that the Committee make a recommendation to refer to the Government Operations Committee so that he can have a discussion with public safety officials in that Committee on the enforcement of that ordinance. Sergeant Gaff informed the Committee that pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 90 Section 16 the Police can stop vehicles with an altered exhaust and fine them \$200. He assured the Committee that they do enforce very strictly.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with no recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley
Clerk of Committees

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Members present were Councilor Anthony DiPierro, presiding, Councilors Rosa DiFlorio, Fred Capone and Stephanie Martins.

The Committee considered a Resolution offered by Councilors Richard Dell Isola and Anthony DiPierro: Requesting City Clerk Cornelio appear at this meeting to discuss the upcoming municipal election and provide a timeline to the availability of nomination papers ect.

City Solicitor Colleen Mejia, Mayors Chief of Staff Erin Deveney, City Clerk Sergio Cornelio and Councilor Richard Dell Isola, the Sponsor were also present remotely.

Mr. Cornelio informed the Committee that nomination papers would be available on May 17th which is a week difference normally. He explained that the conversion of the Ward seats from at large votes to ward votes was moving through the Committee process at the State House and that both Senator Sal DiDomenico and Representative Joe McGonagle had informed him that they expected it to pass within a week or two. He noted that both State Officers have kept him aware of the State legislative process with the proposal currently before the Senate Committee. He stated that nomination papers would be due at the Election Commission on July 23rd and that nomination papers will need to be certified by August 6th. He noted that he is still working on a date for finalizing the 8 words or less for a candidate which he anticipated would either be July 23rd or August 6th. He planned to post the process on line next Monday. He pointed out that one difference this year is that the top of the nomination papers would be printed with the position the candidate was seeking election for, but that the candidate would still be required to write in their name and address. Councilor Dell Isola remarked that he liked that the position candidates are seeking would be printed on the top of nomination papers so that those signing know exactly what office the candidate is running for. He stated that it's important for voters to realize that they will now only be able to vote for the Council or School Committee Ward seat in their Ward and none of the other Ward seat as they have done in the recent past. Councilor Capone thanked the City Clerk for the overview and questioned if the City was prepared if complications occurred at the State in the passage of the conversion. Mr. Cornelio acknowledged that he was working with the legal department and assured the Committee they would be ready if that occurred but remained confident that everything would be a go. Councilor Martins asked what the new signature requirements would be if the conversion passed the State. Mr. Cornelio confirmed that there would be no change for Mayor in which 500 certified signatures were required or for the At Large City Council or School Committee in which 250 certified signatures were required, but explained that the City Council and School Committee Ward seats only would now require 125 certified signatures of Ward voters only.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a recommendation to refer back to Sponsor.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley
Clerk of Committees