

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
ORDINANCE COMMITTEE  
Town Hall Council Chambers  
October 17, 2005**

Present: Paul J. Leary, Chairperson  
Michael Smart  
Arthur Mathews  
Kenneth DiFazio

Also present: Franklin Fryer, Town Clerk  
Jane Hackett, Chief of Staff  
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor  
James Wilson, Chief Financial Officer

Recording Secretary: Janet Murray

Chairman Leary called the Ordinance Committee Meeting to order at 6:30pm.

**05 090-Precious Metal Ordinance**

This is a continuation of a Public Hearing held on 09/19/05.

Chief Thomas and Officer Brian King from the Weymouth Police Department were present.

Mr. Snyder, of Snyder Jewelers, appeared before the Committee. He stated that he would like to see an exemption for customers who are looking to trade small items in order to purchase another item. The Police response was that once you start making exceptions, the ordinance begins to lose its teeth.

There was discussion regarding regulations in other cities and towns. Mr. Snyder stated that he believed all of the paperwork (taking pictures and more details) should be required for a trade. However, he stated that the holding period for a trade should be 15 days, and the holding period for all other items should be 30 days.

Mr. Wyman and Mr. Swanson of Del Greco Jewelers appeared before the Committee. Mr. Swanson stated that his company currently requires all who are selling jewelry to be 21 years of age or older. He also stated that payment is made by company check. In 15,000 transactions, there have only been six (6) bad transactions.

Mr. Swanson stated that some of the proposed changes in the ordinance create a burden on his business. He stated that he would need to buy a new safe, and interest paid on the property would increase. This would double the cost of the transaction.

He then noted that taking pictures of each item is cost prohibitive which in turn would lower the prices on the purchases. He also noted that if this type of transaction becomes unprofitable, he would have to stop providing this service. This would be detrimental to the customers, but also to employees who could lose their jobs.

Councilor Leary questioned the need for a new safe. Mr. Swanson stated that in order to hold the property for twice as much time, more room would be needed, hence a larger safe.

Councilor Mathews stated that Officer King could revise the form the jewelers would need to submit to include more specific details. He suggested that the Police and jewelers get together to design this form.

Chief Thomas stated that ultimately a better recording system is needed.

Councilor DiFazio questioned how many customers come in per day. It was noted that there are 3-15 customers per day. This could amount to 1-10 pictures per customer- depending on the number of items presented by the customer for purchase.

The issue of how detailed the pictures would need to be was also questioned.

There were questions regarding the requirements for maintaining the records when a copy of a driver's license is taken. Who has access to it? How are the documents stored? How long are the documents kept? When should the documents be shredded?

A MOTION was made by Councilor Smart to CONTINUE Item #05 090 and was seconded by Councilor DiFazio and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**05 026-Proposed Amendment to Responsible Employer Ordinance (REO)**

This is a continuation of a previous public hearing.

Robert Casimiro and George Lane, Town Solicitor, appeared before to the Committee. The Committee is in receipt of a letter from Mr. Casimiro's attorney, William J. Brown of Springfield. Solicitor Lane stated that he did not have a copy of the document. He was given a copy.

Solicitor Lane has also submitted a number of documents.

Attorney Brown's letter stated that if the Social Security number is going to be verified, permission of the individual is required. If the individual refuses, the employer does not have to hire this individual.

Mr. Casimiro stated that he has a colleague who is a former INS agent and does research for an immigration reform think tank in Washington. She provided information to Mr. Casimiro. She stated that the Basic Pilot Program is currently in use. Mr. Casimiro stated that since this program is currently being used, there is no reference to any issues regarding the use of verification and potential lawsuits. He stated that governmental agencies currently use the Social Security Online Verification (SSOV).

A MOTION was made by Councilor Smart to CONTINUE Item #05 026 and was seconded by Councilor DiFazio and was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**05 095-Review of Charter-Timeline for Budget**

A MOTION was made by Councilor Smart to CONTINUE Item #05 095 and was seconded by Councilor Mathews and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**05 139-Review of Section 3-102 (Ordinances)**

A MOTION was made by Councilor Smart to CONTINUE Item #05 139 and was seconded by Councilor Mathews and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**Adjournment**

At 7:30pm a MOTION was made by Councilor Smart to ADJOURN and was seconded by Councilor Mathews and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Paul J. Leary, Chairperson