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James M. Tinsley Precinct 9 June M. Daley

Precinct 11

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Town of Barnstable Town Council

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TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA November 1, 2012 7:00 PM

1. ROLL CALL

- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
 - Comprehensive Emergency Planning Workshop
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT (May be limited to 2 minutes)
- 4. COUNCIL RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT
- 5. ACT ON MINUTES (Includes Executive Session)
- 6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, STAFF, CORRESPONDENCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS
- 7. ORDERS OF THE DAY
 - A. OLD BUSINESS
 - **B. NEW BUSINESS**
- 8. TOWN MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS
- 9. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: November 15, 2012

ITEM NO.

A. OLD BUSINESS

2013-031	Amending Code of Barnstable General Ordinances by inserting "Chapter 160, Problem Properties" (Public hearing) (Roll-call)	3 - 6
2013-032	Amending Code of Barnstable General Ordinances by inserting, "Chapter 54, Building and Property Maintenance" (Public hearing) (Roll-call)	7 - 10
2013-033	Amending Code of Barnstable General Ordinances Chapter 59, Comprehensive Occupancy (Public hearing) (Roll-call)	l - 12
2013-034	Amending Code of Barnstable General Ordinances Chapter 170, Rental Properties (Public hearing) (Roll-call)	3 - 15
2013-035	Amending Code of Barnstable General Ordinances Chapter `133, Noise (Public hearing) (Roll-call)	5 - 18

B. NEW BUSINESS

2013-039	Acceptance of a \$20,000 Massachusetts Cultural Council and Artist Link Program grant (May be acted upon)
2013-040	Confirming the trustee reappointments of the Affordable Housing/Growth and Development Trust Fund Board (May be acted upon)
2013-041	Confirming the trustee appointment of the Affordable Housing/Growth and Development Trust Fund Board (Maybe acted upon)
2013-042	Authorizing the Town Treasurer, upon the approval of the Town Manager, to enter into a lease-to-purchase agreement to acquire golf course equipment (Refer to public hearing 11/15/12)

Minutes- October 18, 2012. No executive session minutes for release.

Please Note: The list of matters, are those reasonably anticipated by the council president, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may in fact be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. It is possible that if it so votes, the Council may go into executive session. The Council may also act on items in an order other than they appear on this agenda.

Persons interested are advised that in the event any matter taken up at the meeting remains unfinished at the close of the meeting, may be put off to a continued session of this meeting, and with proper notice.

Anyone requiring hearing assistance devices please inform the Town Clerk at the meeting.

BARNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

ITEM# 2013-031 INTRO: 10/18/12, 11/01/12

2013-031 AMENDING CODE OF BARNSTABLE GENERAL ORDINANCES BY INSERTING "CHAPTER 160. PROBLEM PROPERTIES"

ORDERED: That Part I, General Ordinances, of the Code of the Town of Barnstable be amended by inserting the following chapter.

"Chapter 160. Problem Properties."

§160-1 Purpose and Intent.

The purpose and intent of this chapter is to define a coherent method of addressing the adverse effects on the health, safety, welfare, and quality of life of residents arising from properties where illegal activity occurs on a regular basis. Some persons that own or control such properties allow their properties to be used for illegal activity, with the result that these properties have become chronic problem properties in the neighborhood. Chronic problem properties within the town of Barnstable cause a financial burden by the numerous calls for service to the properties because of the illegal activities that repeatedly occur or exist on such properties. The current provisions of the ordinances relating to noise and disturbing the peace do not provide an adequate tool for abating such chronic problem properties. The Town through its public safety, code enforcement and regulatory agencies is in a unique position to gather data on such properties and to establish an active plan tailored to address the particularized problems and costs posed by specific properties.

§160-2 Cost of Police Officers Assigned to Problem Properties.

A. Authority for Police Response.

Where police department personnel, while on duty in service to the department, are dispatched or caused to respond to an incident at a property involving a criminal offense, whether a misdemeanor or felony under Massachusetts state law, including but not limited to battery, assault, harassment, trespass, illegal possession of a firearm, discharge of a firearm, disturbing the peace, underage drinking or criminal damage to property, at a particular property or location, the Chief of Police is hereby authorized and empowered to assign to such property or location a member or members of the department to staff such police response as the Chief of Police deems appropriate to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of the town of Barnstable.

B. Requirements for Police Response.

Such assignment of a police response shall only occur after the following procedure has been satisfied:

(1) Upon being dispatched or caused to respond to an incident at a property involving a criminal offense, police department personnel shall investigate the validity of the complaint against the occupants at the particular property or location.

2013-031 (Continued)

(2) Upon finding a valid complaint, police shall make a record of the incident. A "valid complaint", "incident" or "criminal offense" as used in this ordinance shall not include a complaint, incident or offense where an occupant of the premises is the victim of the crime.

(3) The police department shall make a record of the number of such incidents at a particular property or location and keep such record within the department's control.

(4) After two (2) such incidents in a twelve-month period relating to the occupancy of a dwelling, or to a particular property or location, the Chief of Police may mail a copy of this ordinance and copies of the all-calls report relating to said police responses to the property owner by certified mail.

(5) After the third incident, whether misdemeanor or felony, in a twelve-month period relating to the tenants or occupants of a dwelling or at a particular property or location, the Chief of Police, at his discretion, shall notify, in writing, the property owner of his decision to assign police response as follows:

a. If the property owner resides within the town of Barnstable, such notification should be hand delivered to the property owner's residence or usual place of business that is on record at the assessor's office and by mailing the notification to such address by regular and certified mail - return receipt requested; or

b. If the property owner does not reside within the town of Barnstable, by mailing the notification to such address by regular and certified mail - return receipt requested.

c. The Chief of Police's notification must inform the property owner of where and to whom he must address his letter of appeal, specified under§160-2 D.

(6) Upon dispatch or delivery of the notification, the property or location shall be officially identified as a chronic problem property and the property owner shall be subject to the penalties addressed in Section (c). The Chief of Police may commence assigning police response seven (7) days after hand delivery of the notification and ten (10) days after mailing the notification to the property owner. Factors that should be considered by the Chief of Police include the following:

- a. the nature, scope, and seriousness of the incident(s);
- b. whether incident(s) resulted in an arrest;
- c. history of criminal activity taking place at the property;
- d. property owners and tenants/occupants willingness to cooperate with police.

(7). The Chief of Police or his designee shall keep an accurate record of the cost of police response to a particular property or location, including an accurate record of the number of officers who are part of the determined response; and the Chief of Police shall forward such record to the Collector.

(8.) Coordination of police response is subject to the rules and regulations of the department.

C. Penalties.

(1) The Collector is hereby authorized and empowered to bill the property owner for the costs the Town incurred for its police response in addition to any incidental costs during the period of police response to the particular property or location. The property owner is responsible for payment of the bill in full within thirty (30) days of receiving the bill. All amounts collected by the Collector shall be deposited into the general fund of the Town.

2013-031 (Continued)

(2) Any unpaid bill for police response, including interest and/or collection costs, shall be added to the real estate tax on the property and collected as part of that tax. Failure to pay real estate taxes will render the property owner delinquent and the Collector shall commence foreclosure proceedings

D. Property Owner's Rights.

The property owner may request, in writing, a hearing before the Town Manager or her designee within seven (7) days of receipt of notification to appeal any penalties set forth in Section C. The Town Manager may from time to time appoint a three person panel containing one (1) Barnstable member of the Cape Cod Board of Realtors, one (1) member of a civic association and one (1) at large member to hear appeals and advise the Town Manager on disposition. A decision on the appeal must be in writing. If the Town Manager or his/her designee finds in favor of the property owner, the cost of the penalty shall be abated.

E. Eviction.

In the event the property owner has commenced the process of eviction against the tenant(s) responsible for the incidents at the property, then the application of this ordinance shall be stayed until the eviction process is concluded. The Chief of Police may continue police response at the particular property or location, at his discretion, at all times after the eviction proceeding has been completed; provided, however, that such costs shall not be assessed to the property owner.

F. Charges to Constitute Municipal Lien Pursuant to MGL c. 40 s. 58.

All charges to recover costs imposed in this ordinance shall constitute a municipal lien on the property so charged in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws chapter 40 section 58.

SPONSOR: Councilor Jennifer Cullum with Councilors James Cote and Jessica Rapp Grassetti

DATE ACTION TAKEN

Read Item

- _____ Motion to Open Public Hearing
- ____ Rationale
- ____ Public Hearing
- Close public hearing Council discussion
- ____ Council discussio
- ____ Move/vote

ITEM# 2013-031 INTRO: 10/18/12, 11/01/12

SUMMARY

TO: Town Council

- FROM: Councilor Jennifer Cullum with Councilors James Cote and Jennifer Rapp Grassetti
- **DATE:** October 9, 2012
- SUBJECT: Amending the Code of Barnstable General Ordinances, "Adding Chapter 160. Problem Properties"

RATIONALE: Proposed ordinance Chapter 160 is modeled on an ordinance in the City of Boston. The purpose and intent of the ordinance is to address the adverse effects on the health, safety, welfare and quality of life of residents arising from properties where illegal activity occurs on a regular basis. Some properties have become chronic problem properties and have contributed to the deterioration of the quality of life and safety in various neighborhoods in Barnstable. In addition, chronic properties have become a severe strain on municipal services and taxpayer dollars. To this end, the proposed ordinance would hold responsible the owners of the problem properties for excessive and the verified illegal activity conducted on the premises.

Current ordinances and provisions do not provide adequate tools to deal with the problem, in that they do not limit the amount of police calls to a particular address. This ordinance addresses the issue of chronic properties in the following manner:

After two (2) valid and confirmed criminal offenses are incurred in a twelve (12) month period to the same street address, the Chief of Police will warn the property owner/landlord that these offenses have occurred at said address. After the third incident, the Chief of Police may elect to bill the landlord/property owner for the cost of the police response needed to secure the neighborhood. There is a process to appeal this decision to the Town Manager or his designee.

BARNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

ITEM# 2013-032 INTRO: 10/18/12, 11/01/12

2013-032 AMENDING CODE OF BARNSTABLE GENERAL ORDINANCES BY INSERTING, "CHAPTER 54. BUILDING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE"

ORDERED: That Part I, General Ordinances, of the Code of the Town of Barnstable be amended by inserting the following chapter 54.

"Chapter 54"

BUILDING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

§ 54-1. Purpose and intent.

The purpose and intent of this ordinance is to eliminate nuisances in the town. Nuisances, such as deteriorated structures, vacant buildings, overgrowth of vegetation, trash, debris and stagnant pools of water cause and contribute to blight within neighborhoods and commercial areas; adversely affect the value of adjacent and surrounding property; and impair the health, safety and general welfare of the inhabitants of the town. This ordinance is intended to further the objectives of and to act in concert with any existing state or local laws.

§ 54-2. Building, structure and premises maintenance.

Each owner and occupant shall comply with this ordinance by keeping land, premises, buildings and structures in a safe, sanitary and non-hazardous manner so as to prevent deterioration and ensure that the property itself may be preserved safely so that hazards to public health and safety are avoided. For purposes of sections 54-2 to 54-4, "occupant" means the person or persons other than an owner or owners having exclusive possession of land, premises, buildings and structures, or parts thereof, and the obligation to maintain the same.

§ 54-3. Building and structure maintenance standards.

A. All means of egress, devices, safeguards and equipment shall be kept in good working order

B. All exterior components of every building and structure including but not limited to walls, roofs, chimneys, cornices, gutters, downspouts, drains, porches, canopies, awnings, steps, landings, fire escapes, exterior stairs, windows, shutters, and doors, shall be kept in sound condition and good repair, with proper weather protection and waterproofing, and be maintained substantially free of deterioration, including but not limited to loose or missing shingles or siding, crumbling brick, stone and mortar, and peeling, scaling or deteriorated paint.

C. Vacant buildings and structures shall be maintained in compliance with this ordinance and be kept secure from use or occupation by unauthorized persons.

D. Overhanging structures, including canopies, awnings, exterior stairways, fire escapes, and other overhanging extensions shall be maintained in sound condition and good repair, be securely anchored, and be composed of decay resistant materials or protected from substantial decay by application of a protective coating material.

E. All buildings and structures damaged by fire, explosion, weather or other cause shall be repaired and returned to their former condition or in compliance with this ordinance, or be razed within six (6) months unless granted an extension by the Building Commissioner.

2013-032 (Continued)

§ 54-4. Maintenance of land, premises and landscape elements.

A. Each owner and occupant shall keep premises and land, including but not limited to steps, walks, driveways, fences, retaining walls and vegetation, in good condition. "Occupant" for purposes of this section has the same meaning as in section 54-2.

B. All paved driveways and walks shall be maintained substantially free from broken or uneven condition.

C. All steps, fences, retaining walls and landscape features shall be firmly anchored and maintained in good structural repair. Elements subject to deterioration shall be composed of decay resistant materials or protected from substantial decay by application of a protective coating material.

D. All premises shall be maintained substantially free from overgrowth of vegetation which constitutes a suitable habitat for vermin, otherwise poses a hazard to the health and safety of any person in the vicinity of the premises, or is so overgrown as to have a clear adverse affect on the value of surrounding properties.

E. Indoor items such as furniture, appliances, plumbing fixtures and bedding shall be kept within enclosed structures after fifteen (15) days. All other personal property shall be kept within enclosed structures or screened from public view after six (6) months. Functional outdoor items such as fixtures, landscape elements, outdoor furniture, outdoor appliances, children's play structures, firewood, compost materials, operable vehicles, trailers, boats and inventory shall not be subject to the requirements of this subsection.

F. Water shall not be permitted to continuously stagnate outside of any building or structure for more than ten (10) days except under natural conditions. Nothing in this subsection shall operate as a waiver or exception to any other law, rule or regulation for the storage or handling of water.

§ 54-5. Storage and Removal of Rubbish, Garbage and Refuse.

A. Owner's responsibilities. The owner of any building, structure or premises shall be responsible for receptacles with tight-fitting lids to be used for the proper storage of rubbish, garbage and other refuse. Said receptacles shall be located in such manner that no objectionable odors enter any other building, structure or premises and so as to provide maximum screening from the street. The owner of any dwelling that contains three or more units, and the owner of any dwelling which contains one or two units which is rented or leased for a period of six months or less, shall be responsible for the final collection and disposal of rubbish, garbage and other refuse at a permitted transfer station or facility.

B. Occupant's responsibilities. The occupants of any building, structure or premises shall be responsible for the proper storage of rubbish, garbage and other refuse within receptacles with tight-fitting covers. Said occupant(s) shall also ensure that all tight-fitting covers are kept so that all rubbish, garbage and other refuse, which is stored outside a building or structure is properly covered. Said occupant(s) shall be responsible for the proper use and cleaning of the receptacles and keeping the premises free of rubbish, garbage and other refuse. Unless a written lease agreement specifies otherwise, the occupant(s) of any dwelling which contains one or two units and which is rented or leased for any period greater than six months shall be responsible for the collection and ultimate disposal of rubbish, garbage and other refuse at a permitted transfer station or facility.

C. For purposes of subsections (A) and (B): "owner" shall mean any person(s) who alone or severally with others has legal title to buildings, structures, vacant land or to land with buildings or structures thereon, or to any dwelling or rooming unit, mortgagee in possession, or agent, trustee or person appointed by a court; and "occupant" shall mean any person(s) who alone or severally with others rents or leases premises, or resides overnight other than as a guest.

D. Premises covered by this section shall be subject to reasonable inspections by Town inspectional staff. All interior inspections shall be done in the company of the owner, occupant or the representative of either.

§ 54-6. Enforcement

A. The Board of Health, the Police Chief, and the Building Commissioner, or their designees, are hereby designated as the enforcing authorities for this ordinance. If any enforcing authority determines that a violation of the standards contained in this ordinance exists, he or she shall notify the owner or occupant to

2013-032 (Continued)

remove or abate the nuisance by a date certain as determined by the enforcing authority not more than ten (10) days after service of notice of the violation(s): provided, however, that if the enforcing authority determines that the violation is such that the public health and safety will be jeopardized by that delay, the enforcing person may order the abatement or removal of the nuisance in a shorter time as public health and safety may in her or his judgment require. The order shall be in writing and may be served personally on the owner, occupant or his authorized agent by any person authorized by the enforcing authority. If the violation is not removed or abated after notice, the enforcing authority may commence enforcement action through non-criminal, criminal or civil proceedings and no action shall preclude any other enforcement action or actions.

B. In addition to any penalties or enforcement action(s) hereunder, after final determination of three (3) or more violations within a twelve-month period an enforcing authority may notify a violator in writing that the enforcing authority may elect to bill the violator for the costs incurred by the Town for response to each subsequent violation not abated or ordered without abatement as provided herein. Such bill(s) shall be due and payable in full by the violator within thirty (30) days of submission and if unpaid thereafter shall be subject to a municipal charges lien as provided in G. L. c. 40 § 48.

§ 54-7. Applicability and Severability.

A. The provisions of this ordinance are in addition to and not in lieu of any other ordinance, rule or regulation of the Town of Barnstable and any board, commission or officer. Compliance with this ordinance shall not thereby constitute compliance with any other ordinance, rule or regulation, and violation of this ordinance does not thereby preclude violation of any other ordinance, rule or regulation.

B. If any provision of this ordinance is declared invalid, it shall not thereby invalidate any other provision.

SPONSOR: Councilor Jennifer Cullum with Councilors James Cote and Jessica Rapp Grassetti

DATE ACTION TAKEN

____ Read Item

- _____ Motion to Open Public Hearing
- _____Rationale
- ____ Public Hearing
- ____ Close public hearing
- ____ Council discussion
- ____ Move/vote

ITEM# 2013-032 INTRO: 10/18/12, 11/01/12

SUMMARY

TO: Town Council
FROM: Councilor Jennifer Cullum with Councilors James Cote and Jessica Rapp Grassetti
DATE: October 9, 2012
SUBJECT: Amending the Code of Barnstable General Ordinances, C.54

RATIONALE: Throughout the Town of Barnstable, many blighted and/or abandoned homes presently not presently being addressed by the town. The intent of this ordinance is to eliminate deteriorated structures, vacant buildings, overgrowth of vegetation, trash and debris within neighborhoods and commercial areas, where buildings may be abandoned.

This amendment outlines basic property management and repair standards and guidelines for structural and landscape management, trash removal, and land maintenance standards.

At present, these unchecked blighted/abandoned properties impair the health, safety and general welfare of the neighborhood in which they are located. It is intended that this amendment address these issues of abandoned/blighted properties and improve the standard of public safety and general welfare in the neighborhoods in which they are located.

BARNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

ITEM# 2013-033 INTRO: 10/18/12, 11/01/12

2013-033 AMENDING CODE OF BARNSTABLE GENERAL ORDINANCES C. 59, COMPREHENSIVE OCCUPANCY

ORDERED: That Chapter 59 of the Code of the Town of Barnstable, General Ordinances, be amended as follows.

SECTION 1. By striking the number "22" from the definition of "occupant" in section 59-2 and substituting therefore the number "18," said section 59-2 to read as follows.

"OCCUPANT — Any person who has attained the age of 18 who has resided in a residential dwelling for any length of time."

SECTION 2. By striking the words "under the age of" and the number "22" from section 59-4 and substituting therefore the words "grandchildren and foster children of an owner or occupant," said section 59-4 to read as follows.

"Children, grandchildren and foster children of an owner or occupant shall be exempt from these provisions."

SECTION 3. By striking subsection 59-3(B), which reads as follows.

"The maximum number of motor vehicles that are permitted to be parked overnight, other than in a building, at any residential dwelling shall be equal to two motor vehicles for the first bedroom in a residential dwelling and one motor vehicle per bedroom thereafter."

SPONSOR: Councilor Jennifer Cullum with Councilors James Cote and Jessica Rapp Grassetti

DATE ACTION TAKEN

Read Item
 Motion to Open Public Hearing
 Rationale
 Public Hearing
 Close public hearing

- Council discussion
- _____ Move/vote

ITEM# 2013-033 INTRO: 10/18/12, 11/01/12

SUMMARY

TO: Town Council
FROM: Councilor Jennifer Cullum with Councilors James Cote and Jessica Rapp Grassetti
DATE: October 9, 2012
SUBJECT: Amending the Code of Barnstable General Ordinances, Chapter 59

RATIONALE: Existing Town Ordinance, Chapter 59 defines the legal age of an occupant and addresses the number of vehicles allowed on a property. Under the current Ordinance, the legal age of an occupant is defined as 22 years of age. By law, however, an 18 year old may enter into a lease agreement. This discrepancy allows the potential for an overcrowding situation in residences.

The proposed change to the General Ordinances, Chapter 59 amends the definition of the legal occupant to "any person who has attained the age of 18 and who resides in a residential dwelling for any length of time."

BARNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

ITEM# 2013-034 INTRO: 10/18/1, 11/01/12

2013-034 AMENDING CODE OF BARNSTABLE GENERAL ORDINANCES CHAPTER 170, RENTAL PROPERTIES

ORDERED: That Chapter 170 of the Code of the Town of Barnstable, General Ordinances, be amended as follows.

SECTION 1. By striking the following sections 170-11 entitled "storage and removal of rubbish, garbage, and other refuse" and 170-12 entitled "inspections" and re-numbering the remaining sections accordingly.

"§ 170-11. Storage and removal of rubbish, garbage, and other refuse.

- A. Owner's responsibilities. The owner of any dwelling shall be responsible for providing receptacles with tight-fitting lids to be utilized for the proper storage of rubbish, garbage, and other refuse. Said receptacles shall be located in such a manner that no objectionable odor enters any dwelling and so as to provide maximum screening from the street. The owner of any dwelling that contains three or more units, and the owner of any dwelling which contains one or two units which is rented or leased for a period of six months or less, shall be responsible for the final collection and disposal of rubbish, garbage, and other refuse at a permitted transfer station or disposal facility.
- B. Occupant's responsibilities. The occupant(s) of any dwelling shall be responsible for the proper storage of rubbish, garbage, and other refuse within receptacles with tight-fitting covers. Said occupant(s) shall also ensure that all tight-fitting covers are kept so that all rubbish, garbage, and other refuse which is stored outside the dwelling unit is properly covered. Said occupant shall be responsible for the proper use and cleaning of the receptacles and keeping the premises free of rubbish, garbage, and other refuse. Unless a written lease agreement specifies otherwise, the occupant(s) of any dwelling which contains one or two units and which is rented or leased for any period greater than six months shall be responsible for the collection and for the ultimate disposal of rubbish, garbage, and other refuse at a permitted transfer station or disposal facility."

§ 170-12. Inspections.

Dwelling units covered by this section shall be subject to reasonable inspections by Town inspectional staff. All interior inspections shall be done in the company of the owner, occupant or the representative of either."

SECTION 2. By adding the following sentence to subsection 170-12(A) of section 170-12 as renumbered entitled "violations and penalties" after the first sentence; "Any owner of a rental property found to have two (2) documented violations within any twelve month period shall pay a fine of \$300.00"; and by adding the following at the end of the second sentence in subsection 170-12(B) as renumbered; "or \$300.00 for any owner of a rental property found to have two (2) documented violations within any twelve month period"; said subsection 170-12 to read as follows.

"§ 170-12. Violations and penalties.

A. Any person who violates any provision of this chapter shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$300. Any owner of a rental property found to have two (2) documented violations within any twelve month period shall pay a fine of \$300.00. Each day of continued violation may be deemed to be a separate offense.

B. This chapter may be enforced under the provisions of MGL c. 40, § 21D. The fine for any violation under the provisions of MGL c. 40, § 21D shall be \$100 or \$300.00 for any owner of a rental property found to have two (2) documented violations within any twelve month period. Each day of continued violation may be deemed to be a separate offense."

SPONSOR: Councilor Jennifer Cullum with Councilors James Cote and Jessica Rapp Grassetti

DATE ACTION TAKEN

____ Read Item

- _____ Motion to Open Public Hearing
- _____ Rationale
- _____ Public Hearing
- ____ Close public hearing
- ____ Council discussion
- ____ Move/vote

ITEM# 2013-034 INTRO: 10/18/12, 11/01/12

SUMMARY

TO: Town Council
FROM: Councilor Jennifer Cullum with Councilors James Cote, and Jessica Rapp Grassetti
DATE: October 9, 2012
SUBJECT: Amending the Code of Barnstable General Ordinances, C.170

RATIONALE: The Code of Barnstable General Ordinances, Chapter 170 concerns rental properties in the town. This amendment provides for a maximum fine of \$300 after two (2) valid violations within a twelve (12) month period, making it consistent with other graduated fines.

BARNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

ITEM# 2013-035 INTRO: 10/18/12, 11/01/12

2013-035 AMENDING THE CODE OF BARNSTABLE GENERAL ORDINANCES CHAPTER 133, NOISE

ORDERED: That Chapter 133 of the Code of the Town of Barnstable, General Ordinances, be amended as follows.

SECTION 1. By revising §133-1 as follows:

By adding the words "or owning" between the words "of" and "premises" in the Title and by adding the words "or owning" between the words "of" and "any" in the first line of the first sentence of the paragraph.

So, as amended, §133-1 shall now read:

"§133-1. Responsibility for noise violations by person in charge of or owning premises.

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons occupying, having charge of or owning any building, dwelling, structure, premises, shelter, boat or conveyance or any part thereof in the Town, to cause or suffer to allow any unnecessary, loud, excessive or unusual noises in the operation of any radio, phonograph or other mechanical or electronic sound making device or instrument, or reproducing device or instrument, or in the playing of any band, orchestra, musician or group of musicians, or in the use of any device to amplify the aforesaid, or the making of loud outcries, exclamations or other loud or boisterous noises or loud and boisterous singing by any person or group of persons or in the use of any device to amplify the aforesaid noise, where the noise is plainly audible at a distance of 150 feet from the building, dwelling, structure, premises, shelter, boat or conveyance in which or from which it is produced. The fact that the noise is plainly audible at a distance of a violation of this chapter."

SECTION 2: By revising §133-4 as follows:

By adding the words "and owner's responsibility for repeated violations by renters" after the word "renters" in the title; and by adding the following after the first sentence in the paragraph: "The owner of any building, dwelling, structure, premises, shelter, boat or conveyance which is let, rented or leased shall be notified in writing of each violation of this chapter committed by his tenants, lessees and sublessees After notice of two such violations within a twelve month period, for each subsequent violation, the owner shall be deemed to have suffered to allow noise in violation of §133-1."

So as amended, §133-4 shall now read:

"\$133-4. Notice of noise restrictions to be provided to renters and owner's responsibility for repeated violations by renters.

The owner of any building, dwelling, structure, premises, shelter, boat or conveyance, which is let, rented or leased, shall provide any and all tenants, lessees and sublessees with a copy of this chapter. The owner of any building, dwelling, structure, premises, shelter, boat or conveyance, which is let, rented or leased, shall be notified in writing of each violation of this chapter committed by his tenants, lessees and sublessees. After notice of two such violations within a twelve month period, for each subsequent violation, the owner shall be deemed to have suffered to allow noise in violation of §133-1. "

2013-035 (Continued)

SECTION 3: By revising §133-5 as follows:

By adding the following after the first sentence: "After final determination of three (3) or more violations within a twelve-month period, an enforcing authority may notify a violator in writing that it elects to bill the violator for the costs incurred by the Town for response to each subsequent violation. The person so notified shall have the right to appeal this notification by requesting, in writing, a hearing before the Town Manager or her designee within seven (7) days of receipt of said notification. The Town Manager may from time to time appoint a three person panel containing one (1) Barnstable member of the Cape Cod Board of Realtors, one (1) member of a civic association and one (1) at large member to hear appeals and advise the Town Manager on disposition. A decision on the appeal must be in writing. If the Town Manager or her designee finds in favor of the appealing party, the cost of the penalty shall be abated. All unabated charges shall be due and payable in full by the violator within thirty (30) days of submission. All unpaid charges for violations of this chapter by an owner shall constitute a municipal lien on the property so charged in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws chapter 40 section 58."

So, as amended, §133-5 shall now read:

"§133-5. Violations and penalties

Any person violating the provisions of this chapter shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$200 for each offense. After final determination of three (3) or more violations within a twelve-month period, an enforcing authority may notify a violator in writing that it elects to bill the violator for the costs incurred by the Town for response to each subsequent violation. The person so notified shall have the right to appeal by requesting, in writing, a hearing before the Town Manager or her designee within seven (7) days of receipt of said notification. The Town Manager may from time to time appoint a three person panel containing one (1) Barnstable member of the Cape Cod Board of Realtors, one (1) member of a civic association and one (1) at large member to hear appeals and advise the Town Manager on disposition. A decision on the appeal must be in writing. All unabated charges shall be due and payable in full by the violator within thirty (30) days of submission. All unpaid charges for violations of this Chapter by an owner shall constitute a municipal lien on the property so charged in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws chapter 40 section 58."

SPONSOR: Councilor Jennifer Cullum with Councilors James Cote and Jessica Rapp Grassetti

DATE ACTION TAKEN

Read Item
Motion to Open Public Hearing
Rationale
Public Hearing
Close public hearing
Council discussion

____ Move/vote

ITEM# 2013-035 INTRO: 10/18/12, 11/01/12

SUMMARY

TO: Town Council
FROM: Councilor Jennifer Cullum with Councilors James Cote and Jessica Rapp Grassetti
DATE: October 9, 2012
SUBJECT: Amending the Code of Barnstable General Ordinances, C.133 §133-1

RATIONALE: Chapter 133 is the current Noise Ordinance in the Town of Barnstable. At present, it defines a noise violation as noise that emanates more than 150 feet from its source. The ordinance currently states that: "[i]t shall be unlawful for any person or persons occupying or having charge of any building, dwelling, structure, premises, shelter, boat or conveyance or any part thereof in the Town, to cause or suffer to allow any unnecessary, loud, excessive or unusual noise..." The amendment clarifies the owner's responsibility for noise violations on leased premises and requires that the owner be notified in writing of each noise violation committed by his tenants. After notice of two such violations within a twelve month period, for each subsequent violation, the owner shall be deemed "to have suffered to allow noise" in violation of the ordinance.

After final determination of three (3) or more violations within a twelve-month (12) period, the Town may notify a violator in writing that it elects to bill the individual previously found in violation of the ordinance for the costs incurred by the Town for response to each subsequent violation. There is a process to appeal this decision to the Town Manager or his designee.

The intent of the ordinance is to curtail the waste of municipal resources and taxpayer dollars, as well as to encourage responsible renting and peaceful neighborhood living conditions.

B. NEW BUSINESS (May be acted upon)

BARNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

ITEM# 2013-039 INTRO: 11/01/12

2013-039 ACCEPTANCE OF A \$20,000 GRANT AWARD FROM MA CULTURAL COUNCIL AND ARTIST LINK PROGRAM

RESOLVED: That the Town Council does hereby accept the grant award in the amount of \$20,000 from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and Artist Link Program, a statewide artist space initiative and program of the Massachusetts Cultural Council for the purpose of hiring a qualified professional to analyze how artist space planning is integrated into community wide economic development plans and how opportunities for artists are advanced by stable and affordable work and live work spaces. Further resolved that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for and expend the grant funds for the purpose stated herein.

SPONSOR: Thomas K. Lynch, Town Manager

DATE ACTION TAKEN

____ Read Item

____ Rationale

____ Move/Vote

ITEM# 2013-039 INTRO: 11/01/12

SUMMARY

TO: Town Council
FROM: Thomas K. Lynch, Town Manager
THROUGH: Jo Anne Miller Buntich, Growth Management Director
DATE: October 22, 2012
SUBJECT: Acceptance of a \$20,000 grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and Artist Link Program, a statewide artist space initiative and program of the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

BACKGROUND: The Growth Management Department applied for and has been awarded funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and Artist Link Program, a statewide artist space initiative and program of the Massachusetts Cultural Council in the amount of \$20,000 to supplement efforts to support economic development in downtown Hyannis through exploration and facilitation of affordable housing and work space opportunities for artists through the services of a qualified professional.

FISCAL IMPACT: This grant will allow the Town to provide additional support and services to residents, businesses, organizations and stakeholders in downtown Hyannis. This grant does not require a match.

TOWN MANAGER RECOMMENDATION: The Town Manager recommends acceptance of this grant.

B. NEW BUSINESS (May be acted upon)

BARNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

ITEM# 2013-040 INTRO: 11/01/12

2013-040 CONFIRMING THE TRUSTEE REAPPOINTMENTS OF THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING/GROWTH AND DEVELOPEMNT TRUST FUND BOARD

ORDERED: That the Town Manager hereby reappoints the following individuals to serve as Trustees of the Affordable Housing/Growth and Development Trust Fund Board, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44 §55C and subject to confirmation by the Town Council:

Mark Milne, 606 River Road, Marstons Mills, MA 02648 to a term expiring 06/30/2014

Laura Shufelt, 1696 Osterville-West Barnstable Rd, W. Barnstable, MA 02668 to a term expiring 06/30/2014.

Wendy Northcross, 1684 Main Street, West Barnstable, MA 02668 to a term expiring 06/30/2014.

SPONSOR: Thomas K. Lynch, Town Manager

DATE ACTION TAKEN

____ Read Item

____ Rationale

____ Council Discussion

____ Move/Vote

B. NEW BUSINESS (May be acted upon)

BARNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

ITEM# 2013-041 INTRO: 11/01/12

2013-041 CONFIRMING THE TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT OF THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING/GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND BOARD

ORDERED: That the Town Manager, pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44 §55C and Section 241-47.1(u) of the Code of the Town of Barnstable is authorized, subject to confirmation of the Town Council, to appoint the Trustees of the Affordable Housing/Growth and Development Trust Fund Board, and the Town Manager, in addition to the designation of the Town Manager, as a Trustee, as required by M.G.L. c. 44 §55C (b), hereby appoints the following individual to serve as Trustee:

Mark S. Ells, 1300 Craigville Beach Road Centerville, MA 02632, to a term expiring June 30, 2014.

SPONSOR: Thomas K. Lynch, Town Manager

DATE ACTIO

ACTION TAKEN

____ Read Item Rationale

____ Council Discussion

____ Move/Vote

B. NEW BUSINESS (Refer to public hearing 11/15/12)

BARNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

ITEM# 2013-042 INTRO: 11/01/12

2013-042 AUTHORIZING THE TOWN TREASURER, UPON THE APPROVAL OF THE TOWN MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A LEASE-TO-PURCHASE AGREEMENT TO ACQUIRE GOLF COURSE EQUIPMENT

ORDERED: That the Treasurer, with the approval of the Town Manager, be authorized to enter into a Tax Exempt Lease Purchase agreement for the acquisition of golf course equipment.

SPONSOR: Thomas K. Lynch, Town Manager

DATE ACTION TAKEN

___ Read Item
___ Rationale
___ Council Discussion
Move/Vote

ITEM# 2013-042 INTRO: 11/01/12

SUMMARY

TO: Town Council
FROM: Lynne, Poyant, Director of Community Services
DATE: November 1, 2012
SUBJECT: Lease-Purchase Agreement for Golf Course Equipment

RATIONALE: Golf course fairway and greens mowing equipment at Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds is in need of replacement. Two Toro Greenmaster units will be acquired pursuant to Massachusetts State Contract FAC71 at a total price of \$59,041.85. No appropriation is necessary as this has been previously approved with the passage of the FY13 budget. Three annual payments of principal will be made in the amount of \$21,484.02 each to which interest in the amount of \$3,056.56 will be added.

The equipment will be leased from PNC Equipment Finance, LLC for three (3) years. At the expiration of the lease, the Town may purchase the equipment for One Dollar. The lease is a so-called tax exempt lease purchase "TELP" available to governmental units; it is similar in some respects to a tax-exempt municipal bond in that the entity financing the lease pays no tax on the interest earned which, in turn, results in a very competitive financing package for the municipality.

The state Department of Revenue has ruled that this transaction is in the nature of a borrowing which requires a 2/3 vote of the Council to approve.

FISCAL IMPACT: Total cost of the lease-purchase agreement over the life of the three-year lease is \$62,098.41.

STAFF ASSISTANCE: Lynne Poyant, Director of Community Services Bruce McIntyre, Director of Golf Operations Charles S. McLaughlin, Jr., Assistant Town Attorney