



**TOWN OF BERLIN
TATTOO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING**

**Thursday, January 25, 2018
6:00 P.M.**

**TOWN HALL
10 WILLIAM STREET
2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Review and approval of minutes
3. Q&A with Rebecca L. Jones RN, BSN, MSN, Health Officer, Worcester County Health Department
4. Q&A with Town Attorney David Gaskill
5. Next meeting
6. Adjournment



Town of Berlin

TATTOO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Thursday, December 14, 2017

Committee members present: Matt Amey, Dana Helmuth, Councilmember Zack Tyndall, Councilmember Dean Burrell, Patricia Dufendach

Staff present: Town Administrator Laura Allen and Town Planning Director Dave Engelhart

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00 pm.

2. Selection of Committee Chair Person and Vice Chair Person

On the nomination of Patricia Dufendach, seconded by Councilmember Zack Tyndall, Matt Amey was selected as the Chair. On the nomination of Councilmember Zack Tyndall, seconded by Councilmember Dean Burrell, Dana Helmuth was selected as the Vice Chair.

3. Review purpose of the Committee

The Committee reviewed the purpose outlined in the minutes from the September 25, 2017 Mayor and Council meeting. There were no questions. The group agreed to work as quickly as possible.

4. Discussion of policy components (1, 2, 4, All exercise)

The committee discussed the absence of a certification for tattoo artists. Mr. Amey indicated there are no legitimate boards to certify the practice.

A question was raised regarding the inspection process in the county's body piercing ordinance. The Town Administrator agreed to follow up on that topic.

Ms. Allen explained the role of the County Commissioners and the State Department of Health. She pointed out the need to work with the County if the Committee wants to include health related inspections or processes in the regulations. The Committee asked her to invite a representative from the County Health Department to attend the next meeting.

The Committee raised questions for the Town Attorney:

1. Can the Town regulate the quality of the tattoo art?

2. Can the Town tax tattoo parlors specifically?

Town Administrator Laura Allen suggested the Committee members use the 1, 2, 4, All brainstorming technique she used at a recent meeting between Town employees and merchants to identify the key components for the ordinance. Ms. Allen explained the process to the committee and they agreed.

Committee members took a minute to write down the key components they wanted in the Town's tattoo ordinance. Then they partnered with another committee member to share their thoughts. After that, the pairs reported to the full committee.

Councilmember Burrell and Patricia Dufendach

- Public safety is our first priority and concern. Ordinance should contain regular checks and monitoring to ensure compliance.
- Protection of health and hygiene is essential
- Strong ramifications for non-compliance – zero tolerance
- Professionalism – compliance with standards and procedures

Dave Engelhart and Councilmember Tyndall

- License and permit fees
- Health standards
- Quality assurance/inspections
- Zoning requirements

Matt Amey and Dana Helmuth

- Health regulations
- Universal precaution training
- Set the standard high to ensure public safety and a wonderful experience
- We want awesome tattoos in a safe environment

Ms. Allen mentioned

- Prohibit mobile, kitchen tattoo parties
- Provide location specifics – which zones are applicable?
 - During the discussion, the committee agreed the tattoo parlors should not be placed in a residential area.

The following additional questions were raised for the Town Attorney:

- Can the Town limit the number of tattoo parlors?
- Can the Town limit the number of tattoo licenses it processes per year?

At the end of the discussion, Mr. Amey circulated a copy of the draft ordinance he prepared. The Committee agreed to discuss it at the next meeting.

5. Next meeting

The Committee agreed to hold its next meeting on January 25, 2018 at 6 pm in the Town Hall conference room. Ms. Allen agreed to reach out to the Town Attorney to let him know about the committee's questions and ask him to attend the next meeting.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted:



Laura Allen
Town Administrator