

Prohibition Against Abusive Solicitation

Section 1. Purpose. It is the intent of this ordinance to impose reasonable manner of limitations on solicitation, as defined herein, in order to protect the safety of the general public against abusive solicitation while respecting the constitutional right of free speech.

Section 2. Definitions. The following word or phrases as used in this chapter shall have the following meanings:

(1) "Solicitation" means any request made in person seeking an immediate donation of money or other item of value. A person shall not be deemed to be in the act of solicitation when he or she passively displays a sign or gives any other indication that he or she is seeking donations without addressing his or her solicitation to any specific person, other than in response to an inquiry by that person.

(2) "Donation" means a gift of money or other item of value and shall also include the purchase of an item for an amount far exceeding its value under circumstances where a reasonable person would understand that the purchase is a substantial gift.

(3) "Abusive solicitation" means to do one or more of the following while engaging in solicitation or immediately thereafter:

(a) Blocking or impeding the passage of the person solicited;

(b) Following the person solicited by proceeding behind, ahead or alongside of him or her after the person solicited declines to make a donation;

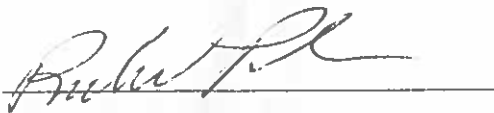
(c) Threatening the person solicited with physical harm by word or gesture;

(d) Abusing the person solicited with words which are offensive and inherently likely to provoke an immediate violent reaction;

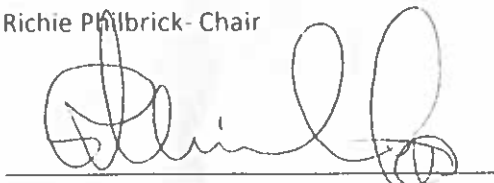
(e) Touching the solicited person without the solicited person's consent;

Section 3. Any person who engages in abusive solicitation as defined herein shall be guilty of a violation of this ordinance and, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) for each offense. The Town may also seek, and the court may order, injunctive relief designed to prevent any further violations of this ordinance.

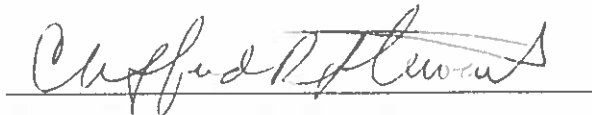
Adopted on: June 8th, 2021



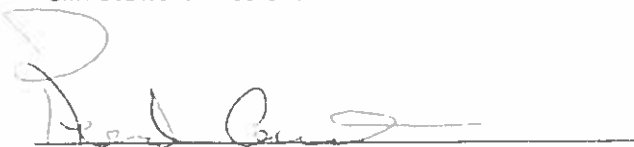
Richie Philbrick- Chair



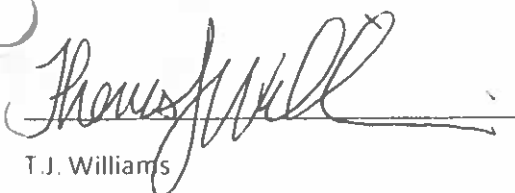
Peter Merrill



Cliff Stewart- Vice Chair



Reggie Arsenault



T.J. Williams