

Alex Taylor

From: Alex Taylor
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2025 12:09 PM
To: Eric Peterson
Cc: Jana Roberson; James Drumm; Brianmurray29@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Questions from last night's FS/HSRSC Meeting

Chief Peterson,

At the request of the committee at last night's meeting I have prepared a series of questions based on some points they wished to clarify. Please take some time to respond when you have the chance such that the answers can be added to next month's agenda.

- Re: Range inspections or registration
 - The committee is considering the idea of imposing a requirement as a part of an ordinance that a home shooting range must be inspected and receive a permit or perhaps just be registered
 - Does the Police department have the capacity to perform these inspections?
 - What impact would they have on operations?
 - Does the department have an estimate of how many home gun ranges are in the town currently?
 - Are lists of permit holders public? What would the requirements be under the Freedom of information act as far as disclosing this list?
- Re: Safety and range design
 - The committee wished for additional information regarding the potential charges one might face from improper behavior at a range
 - If an individual has an unsafe range, would this meet the standards for improper discharge of a firearm or reckless endangerment?
 - How enforceable is improper range design?
 - In your opinion, would establishing a permitting process to mandate a degree of safety in range design cover potential behaviors that may not meet the level of other criminal charges but could still be a safety concern for the resident in question and those around them?
- Re: Time of day shooting restriction
 - The committee is considering the idea of imposing a limit on the times of day one would be able to shoot, potentially from ~10:00 am to sunset
 - Was the time of day at which shooting occurred an issue in any of the past cases which led to the creation of this committee?
 - How enforceable is a time restriction on shooting?
- Re: Call before shooting
 - The committee is considering the idea of a requirement to call and notify the police department before beginning shooting at a home shooting range
 - Does the police department have the capacity to accommodate this requirement?
 - What impact would this have on operations at the police department?
 - Are some shooters already performing this task as a courtesy?
 - Do residents nearby shooters regularly call to complain or out of worry about nearby shooting?
 - Would this requirement be helpful in reducing concern among nearby residents? i.e. allowing the department to readily inform callers that there is a registered range nearby and that there is likely no illegal activity occurring
- Re: Fines
 - The committee has expressed an interest in associating a fine with a potential ordinance to increase compliance
 - What is the department's process for levying fines under an ordinance?
 - How much discretion does an officer have to opt for a warning instead of a fine for minor offenses?

- Summary
 - Would any of these potential restrictions be helpful to the police department as something to indicate to when an issue arises over a home shooting range?
 - Are there additional restrictions not covered in this list which might be helpful to the department?

Please let me know if you have any questions or clarifications. Brian and Jana, do you feel these accurately reflect the questions the committee had? If not, what changes would you recommend? Thank you everyone for your time.

Sincerely,
Alexander Taylor
Special Projects Coordinator, Coventry, CT
ataylor@coventry-ct.gov
(860) 742-6324 Ext. 1256