

COMMON COUNCIL
Emergency meeting Agenda

Held at
One City Plaza
September 19, 2025
4:30 PM

Call To Order

Motion

- ◆ To Receive Proposed Local Law No. (G) of 2025 Chapter 575 and Set Public Hearing for October 7, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. to enact a moratorium on new Smoke Shops in the Business Improvement District (BID)

Adjournment

Motions

- ◆ To Receive Proposed Local Law No. (G) of 2025 and Set Public Hearing for October 7, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. – Ald. _____ moved to receive Proposed Local Law No. (G) of 2025 and set a Public Hearing for October 7, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. to hear comment regarding enactment of a moratorium on new Smoke Shops in the Business Improvement District (BID). Seconded by Ald. _____, approved ayes all.

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. (G) OF 2025

A LOCAL LAW IMPOSING A TWELVE (12) MONTH MORATORIUM ON NEW SMOKE SHOPS WITHIN ~~THE CITY OF NORWICH~~ **THE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID)**

BE IT ENACTED by the Common Council of the City of Norwich, Chenango County, State of New York, that a new Article VII of Chapter 575 of the City of Norwich Code entitled “Moratorium on New Smoke Shops” is adopted as follows:

Chapter 575, Article VII—Moratorium on New Smoke Shops

§575-37 PURPOSE

The Common Council is concerned with the proliferation of smoke shops in the City and its effect on the health, safety, and welfare of the City’s residents, in particular young residents. The proposed moratorium temporarily prohibits the opening, siting, approval, or establishment of any new smoke shops, tobacco retailers, vape shops, or similar establishments within the ~~City of Norwich~~ **BID** while the Common Council undertakes a comprehensive review of zoning, land use, and regulatory provisions applicable to such businesses, ~~and reviews a proposed ordinance Regulating Tobacco Product Sales, and Requiring the Licensure of Tobacco Retailers.~~ The moratorium is intended to preserve the status quo and protect the public health, safety, and welfare of residents while ~~the City until~~ new regulations, rules, laws, and/or controls are adopted by the Common Council.

§575-38 AUTHORITY

This moratorium is enacted by the Common Council of the City of Norwich pursuant to its authority to adopt local laws under the New York State Constitution Article IX and Municipal Home Rule Law §10.

§575-39 DEFINITIONS

Smoke Shop

Any retail establishment primarily engaged in the sale, display, or marketing of tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, vaping products, nicotine delivery devices, pipes, rolling papers, or related smoking accessories.

§575-40 TERM

The moratorium imposed by this Local Law shall be in effect for a period of twelve (12) months from the effective date of this Local Law. This moratorium may be extended for an additional period of not more than twelve (12) months by resolution of the Common Council.

§575-41 ENFORCEMENT

This Local Law shall be enforced by the City of Norwich Code Enforcement Office. The Common Council reserves the right to direct a Code Enforcement Officer to revoke or rescind any building permit, certificate of occupancy, or any other permits or certificates issued in violation of this Local Law.

§575-42 APPEALS

Any person desiring an exemption from the temporary moratorium imposed by this Local Law shall present a waiver request to the Common Council of the City of Norwich. The Common Council shall have the discretion to grant such a waiver if the Common Council finds that the waiver will not adversely affect the purpose of this Local Law or the health, safety, or welfare of the residents of the City.

§575-43 SEVERABILITY

If any part of this Local Law is deemed by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Local Law.

§575-44 EFFECTIVE DATE

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.