

Town of Wellesley



Massachusetts

TOWN MEETING

ARTICLE: 10

MOTION: 1 [DRAFT]

That the Town vote to accept Chapter 6, Section 172B½ of the General Laws enabling the Police Department to conduct State and Federal Fingerprint Based Criminal History checks for individuals applying for or in possession of certain licenses;

And further, that the Town Bylaws be amended by inserting the following in Article 49. Police Regulations:

49.36 Fingerprint-Based Criminal Record Background Checks

49.36.1 Purpose and Authorization

In order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of the Town of Wellesley, and as authorized by Chapter 6, section 172B ½ of the Massachusetts General Laws as enacted by Chapter 256 of the Acts of 2010, this by-law shall require a) applicants for certain Town licenses permitting the engagement in specific occupational activities within the Town as enumerated in Section 49.36.2 below to submit to fingerprinting by the Wellesley Police Department, b) the Police Department to conduct criminal record background checks based on such fingerprints, and c) the Town to consider the results of such background checks in determining whether or not to grant a license.

The Town authorizes the Massachusetts State Police, the Massachusetts Department of Criminal Justice Information Systems (DCJIS), and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as may be applicable to conduct on the behalf of the Town and its Police Department fingerprint-based state and national criminal record background checks, including of FBI records, consistent with this by-law. The Town authorizes the Police Department to receive and utilize FBI records in connection with such background checks, consistent with this by-law.

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49.36.2 Applicant's Submission to Fingerprinting by the Wellesley Police Department

Any applicant for a license to engage in any of the following occupational activities within the Town shall submit a full set of fingerprints taken by the Wellesley Police Department within ten (10) days of the date of the application for a license for the purpose of conducting a state and national criminal record background check to determine the suitability of the applicant for the license:

Manager of Alcoholic Beverage License
Hawker and Peddler
Owner or Operator of Public Conveyance
Dealer of Second-Hand Articles
Ice Cream Truck Vendor

At the time of fingerprinting, the Police Department shall notify the individual fingerprinted that the fingerprints will be used to check the individual's FBI criminal history records.

49.36.3 Police Department Processing of Fingerprint-Based Criminal Record Background Checks and Communication of Results

The Police Department shall transmit fingerprints it has obtained pursuant to Section 49.36.2 of this by-law to the Identification Section of the Massachusetts State Police, DCJIS, and/or the FBI as may be necessary for the purpose of conducting fingerprint-based state and national criminal records background checks of license applicants specified in Section 49.36.2.

The Police Department shall provide the applicant with a copy of the results of his or her fingerprint-based criminal record background check and supply the applicant the opportunity to complete or challenge the accuracy of the information contained in it, including in the FBI identification record. The Police Department shall also supply applicants with information regarding the procedures for obtaining a change, correction, or updating of a criminal record, including a copy of 28 C.F.R. Part 16.34 pertaining to FBI identification records. The Police Department shall not utilize the fingerprint-based criminal record background check pursuant to the paragraph below until it has taken the steps detailed in this paragraph and otherwise complied with the Town's policy applicable to Town licensing-related criminal record background checks.

The Police Department shall communicate the results of fingerprint-based criminal record background checks to the applicable licensing authority within the Town. The Police Department shall indicate whether the applicant has been convicted of, or is awaiting final adjudication for, a crime that bears upon his or her suitability, or any felony or misdemeanor that involved force or threat of force, controlled substances or a sex-related offense.

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49.36.4 Reliance on Results of Fingerprint-Based Criminal Record Background Checks

Licensing authorities of the Town shall utilize the results of fingerprint-based criminal record background checks for the sole purpose of determining the suitability of the subjects of the checks in connection with the license applications specified in 49.36.2. A Town licensing authority may deny an application for a license on the basis of the results of a fingerprint-based criminal record background check if it determines that the results of the check render the subject unsuitable for the proposed occupational activity. The licensing authority shall consider all applicable laws, regulations and Town policies bearing on an applicant's suitability in making this determination. The licensing authority shall not deny a license based on information in a criminal record unless the applicant has been afforded a reasonable time to correct or complete the record or has declined to do so.

49.36.5 Compliance with Law, Regulation, and Town Policy

Implementation of this by-law and the conducting of fingerprint-based criminal record background checks by the Town shall be in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations, and Town policies, including, but not limited to, the Town's policy applicable to licensing-related criminal record background checks which shall include record retention and confidentiality requirements. The Town shall not disseminate the results of fingerprint-based criminal background checks except as may be provided by law, regulation, and Town policy. The Town shall not disseminate criminal record information received from the FBI to unauthorized persons or entities.

49.36.6 Fees

The fee charged by the Police Department for the purpose of conducting fingerprint-based criminal record background checks shall be one hundred dollars (\$100). A portion of the fee, as specified in Mass. Gen. Laws Chapter 6, Section 172B 1/2, shall be deposited into the Firearms Fingerprint Identity Verification Trust Fund, and the remainder of the fee may be retained by the Town for costs associated with the administration of the fingerprinting system.

49.36.7 Effective Date

This by-law shall take effect May 4, 2012.

Approved:

Date

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Moderator's Signature

Sponsor's Signature