



The Office of Mayor Neil M. O'Leary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 20th, 2020

Important Announcement Regarding the Cancelling of Tonight's Board of Aldermen Meeting

On June 17th, 2020 the State of Connecticut's rules for Phase 2 of Connecticut's gradual reopening went into effect. Included in these rules is a limit of 25 people for indoor gatherings. We understand that a large number of individuals from both within, and outside the City of Waterbury would like to come and address the Board this evening.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the associated social distancing requirements, and the extreme heat expected this evening, a number of Aldermen including Board President Paul Pernerewski have expressed safety concerns regarding the ability to effectively socially distance. *The only way to facilitate public participation while promoting the safety of our residents is through the scheduling of a Special Meeting of the Board of Aldermen on Wednesday, July 22nd, 2020 at 7:00 PM.*

In an effort to adhere to social distancing guidelines, and promote the safety of our residents, Wednesday's special meeting of the Board of Aldermen will be held without normal in-person public access.

To ensure that the general public has the ability to view, listen, and participate in Wednesday's Special Meeting of the Board of Aldermen, a number of measures have been put in place:

1. Wednesday's meeting will be broadcasted live on the City of Waterbury's Government Access Channel (Comcast Channel 96; Frontier Channel 6096).
2. Individuals interested in providing comment during the regularly scheduled Public Speaking portion of the meeting, are invited to call (203) 597-3477.
 - a. Beginning at 6:00 PM, the city's Information Technology staff will compile a chronological list of callers who would like to provide testimony or public comment.
 - b. Those callers will be asked for their name, address, and phone number.
 - c. City Information Technology staff will call back residents when it is their turn to provide comment. Individual's comments will be projected to the Board of Aldermen through the use of an intercom speaker.

Public access information will also be published on the city's website, the Mayor's social media accounts, and the Board of Aldermen Agenda.

Background: Governor Lamont suspended "In-Person Open Meeting Requirements" when he signed Executive Order #7B on March 14th, 2020. To read Executive Order #7B, please click [here](#).