



ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEETING

~ MINUTES ~

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

2:00 PM

Sullivan Chamber
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

The Ordinance Committee will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on Ordinance # 2022-17, Adding a chapter 6.24 to the Cambridge Municipal Code titled Sale of Fur Apparel Products.

Attendee Name	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Burhan Azeem	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dennis J. Carlone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Alanna Mallon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Marc C. McGovern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Patricia Nolan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
E. Denise Simmons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Paul F. Toner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Quinton Zondervan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sumbul Siddiqui	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

A public meeting of the Cambridge City Council’s Ordinance Committee was held on Tuesday, September 20, 2022. The meeting was Called to Order at 2:00 p.m. by the Chair, Councillor Zondervan. Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2022 adopted by Massachusetts General Assembly and approved by the Governor, this public meeting was hybrid, allowing participation in person, in the Sullivan Chamber, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 795 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA and by remote participation via zoom.

Chair Zondervan called the meeting to order. The Chair noted that the call of the meeting was to hold a public hearing on Ordinance #2022-17, adding a chapter 6.24 to the Cambridge Municipal Code titled Sale of Fur Apparel Products.

City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

- Councillor Burhan Azeem – Present/In Sullivan Chamber
- Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Absent
- Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Present/In Sullivan Chamber
- Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Present/Remote
- Councillor Patricia Nolan – Present/Remote
- Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Absent
- Councillor Paul Toner – Present/Remote
- Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Present/Remote
- Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Present/Remote

Present-7, Absent-2. Quorum established.

At the request of Chair Zondervan, Clerk LeBlanc read the public hearing notice for the record. The Chair opened the public hearing and recognized the sponsor of the legislation, Councillor

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Sep 20, 2022 2:00 PM (Committee Reports)

McGovern. Councillor McGovern spoke very passionately on the need for the legislation and then recognized Liza Oliver and Stephanie Harris to make a presentation. A copy of the presentation is attached.

The Chair then recognized the following individuals for comment, all who spoke in favor of the proposed legislation.

Emma Waldman, 20 Guest Street, Cambridge, MA

Betty Lou McClanahan, 26 Linnaean Street, Cambridge, MA

Kit Lilly, 58b Hammond Street, Cambridge, MA

Grant Levinson, 8 Lincoln Lane, Cambridge, MA

Curt Rogers, 8 Austin Park, Cambridge, MA

Councillor McGovern made a motion to amend POR 2022-#132/Ordinance #2022-17, as originally submitted to change section 6.24.070 – Effective Date to read: This ordinance shall take effect on January 1, 2023.

City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Absent

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Absent

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

Yes-7, No-0. Absent-2. Motion to accept the amendment passed.

Councillor McGovern made a motion to further amend POR 2022-#132/Ordinance #2022-17, as originally submitted to add the following language at the bottom of section 6.24.050 – Penalty: The Director of the Animal Commission, Animal Control Officers, Police Officers and Sanitation Inspectors and Code Enforcement Inspectors detailed with the Public Health and Inspectional Services Departments shall have the authority of enforcing all sections of this chapter. All fines and penalties assessed and collected under this chapter may be enforced by issuance of non-criminal tickets pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 21D, or as otherwise authorized by law.

City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Absent

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Absent

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

Yes-7, No-0. Absent-2. Motion to accept the amendment passed.

Councillor Toner made a motion to send POR 2022-#132/Ordinance #2022-17, as amended to the Full Council with a favorable recommendation to pass to a second reading.

City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Absent

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Absent

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

Yes-7, No-0. Absent-2. Motion passed.

There being no one else wishing to speak, the Chair, Councillor Zondervan made a motion to close the public hearing.

City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Absent

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Absent

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

Yes-7, No-0. Absent-2. Motion passed.

The Chair, Councillor Zondervan made a motion to adjourn.

City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Yes

Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Absent

Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Yes

Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Yes

Councillor Patricia Nolan – Yes

Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Absent

Councillor Paul Toner – Yes

Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Yes

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Yes

Yes-7, No-0. Absent-2. Motion passed

The Ordinance Committee adjourned at approximately 2:50 p.m.

Attachment: Presentation “FUR-FREE CAMBRIDGE”

Clerk’s Note: The City of Cambridge/22 City View records every City Council meeting and every City Council Committee meeting. This is a permanent record. This is the link to this meeting:

https://cambridgema.granicus.com/player/clip/319?view_id=1&redirect=true&h=4ff364a9f998de4291f08fdcf74e76bd

All meetings are “closed captioned”. After each meeting the “closed captioned transcripts” are available online at: <https://app.box.com/s/9qormcahynjt4pzpt1n5opixogl3q7k5>

Please note that there is no editing of these “closed captioned transcripts” and they do not constitute a verbatim transcript prepared by a certified transcriber.

That the Ordinance Committee of the City Council meet to amend the Cambridge Municipal Code by adding a chapter numbered 6.24, titled Sale of Fur Apparel Products (Ordinance #2022-17).



City of Cambridge

O-
FIRST IN COUNCIL
September 20, 2022

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

- WHEREAS: Over 100 million animals are killed annually for their fur; and
- WHEREAS: These animals are bred and confined and forced to live in cramped, wire bottom cages and deprived of the ability to engage in natural behaviors; and
- WHEREAS: Egregious animal cruelty is the norm in the fur industry. Animals are killed in inhumane ways such as crude gassing or anal electrocution; and
- WHEREAS: There are no federal laws or animal welfare standards to protect animals on fur farms leading to immense suffering; and
- WHEREAS: The fur trade poses serious risks to public health, for example, in wildlife markets in China, foxes and raccoon dogs were found to have been infected with the SARS coronaviruses and on US and European fur farms, mink tested positive for the virus that causes COVID19, resulting in the death of over 5 million mink and the Dutch government said it is “very likely” that the farmed mink spread the virus to humans; and
- WHEREAS: The fur industry also poses serious environmental threats. On fur farms, waste runoff from animals pollutes the soil and waterways and the tanning and dyeing process uses toxic and carcinogenic chemicals like chromium and formaldehyde to prevent the skin from decaying; and
- WHEREAS: Banning fur sales eliminates the demand for cruel products and ensures that humane minded consumers can shop with confidence; and
- WHEREAS: Cambridge, currently does not have stores that sell fur, but nothing in our municipal code would prevent fur shops or sales; and
- WHEREAS: Communities in Massachusetts including, Plymouth, Brookline, Weston, and Wellesley have passed local ordinances to prevent this cruel industry from operating in their municipalities; now therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the Ordinance Committee of the Cambridge City Council meet to amend the Cambridge Municipal Code by adding a chapter numbered 6.24, titled Sale of Fur Apparel Products.

History:
08/01/22 City Council

ORDER ADOPTED

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Sep 20, 2022 2:00 PM (Committee Reports)

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE *That the Municipal Code of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts, is hereby amended by adding a chapter, to be numbered Chapter 6.24, which said Chapter reads as follows:*

Chapter 6.24 Sale of Fur Apparel Products.

6.24.010 – Council Findings

(a) The City Council finds that animals that are slaughtered for their fur endure tremendous suffering. Animals raised on fur farms typically spend their entire lives in cramped and filthy cages. Fur farmers typically use the cheapest killing methods available, including suffocation, electrocution, gas and poison.

(b) The City Council finds that fur farms are reservoirs and transmission vectors for dangerous zoonotic diseases, including SARS coronaviruses, that threaten public health, including in the City of Cambridge. COVID-19 infections have been confirmed at fur farms in Europe and the United States, and scientific studies have linked mink, raccoon dogs, and foxes – the animals most commonly farmed for their fur – to a variety of coronaviruses.

(c) The City Council finds that the fur production process is energy intensive and has a significant environmental impact, including air and water pollution. Runoff from the fur production process contains high concentrations of phosphorus and nitrogen, which are the most common forms of water pollution in the United States. In addition, the tanning and dyeing processes used in fur production use toxic chemicals and heavy metals like chromium and formaldehyde.

(b) Considering the wide array of alternatives for fashion and apparel, the City Council finds that the demand for fur products does not justify the unnecessary killing and cruel treatment of animals, harm to the environment, and the public health risks to the people of the City of Cambridge caused by these practices.

(c) The City Council believes that eliminating the sale of fur products in the City of Cambridge will decrease demand for these cruel and environmentally harmful products and promote community awareness of animal welfare and, in turn, will foster a more humane environment in the City of Cambridge and enhance the reputation of the City.

6.24.020 - Definitions

The following definitions shall apply in this section:

(a) *Fur* shall mean any animal skin or part thereof with hair, fleece, or fur fibers attached thereto, either in its raw or processed state.

(b) *Fur product* shall mean any article of clothing or covering for any part of the body, or any fashion accessory, including but not limited to handbags, shoes, slippers, hats, earmuffs, scarves, shawls, gloves, jewelry, keychains, toys or trinkets, and home accessories and décor, that is made in whole or part of fur. “Fur product” does not include any of the following:

(1) An animal skin or part thereof that is to be converted into leather, or which in processing will have the hair, fleece, or fur fiber completely removed;

(2) Cowhide with the hair attached thereto;

(3) Deerskin with the hair attached thereto;

(4) Lambskin or sheepskin with the fleece attached thereto; or

(5) The pelt or skin of any animal that is preserved through taxidermy or for the purpose of taxidermy.

(c) *Non-profit organization* shall mean any corporation that is organized under 26 U.S.C. Section 501(c)(3) that is created for charitable, religious, philanthropic, educational or similar purposes.

(d) *Taxidermy* shall mean the practice of preparing and preserving the skin of an animal that is deceased and stuffing and mounting it in lifelike form.

(e) *Ultimate consumer* shall mean an individual who buys a fur product for their own use, or for the use of another, but not for resale or trade.

(f) *Used fur product* shall mean a fur product that has been worn or used by an ultimate consumer.

6.24.030 – Prohibition

No person shall sell, offer for sale, display for sale, trade, or otherwise distribute for monetary or nonmonetary consideration a fur product within the City of Cambridge. For purposes of this section, the sale of a fur product shall be deemed to occur in the City of Cambridge if:

(1) The buyer takes physical possession of the fur product in the city; or

(2) The seller is located in the city.

6.24.040 - Exemptions

This Chapter shall not apply to the sale, offer for sale, displaying for sale, trade, or distribution of:

(1) A used fur product by an individual (excluding a retail transaction), non-profit organization, or second-hand store, including a pawn shop;

(2) A fur product required for use in the practice of a religion;

(3) A fur product used for traditional tribal, cultural, or spiritual purposes by a member of a federally recognized Native American tribe; or

(4) A fur product where the activity is expressly authorized by federal or state law.

6.24.050 – Penalty

Any person who violates this Chapter shall be subject to a fine not exceeding three hundred dollars. As an alternative penalty, any person who violates this Chapter may be penalized by a noncriminal disposition as provided in General Laws Chapter 40, Section 21D. Each act of violation and every day upon which any such violation shall occur shall constitute a separate offense. Each fur product involved in a violation of this Chapter shall constitute a separate act of violation.

6.24.060 – Severability of Sections

It is declared to be the intention of the City Council that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and words of this Chapter are severable and if any word, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Chapter shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid by the judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining words, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this Chapter since the same would have been enacted by the city council without the incorporation in this code of any such unconstitutional or invalid word, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

6.24.070 – Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect following approval of the Attorney General and compliance with the provisions of G.L. c.40, § 32, and no earlier than January 1, 2023.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE That the Municipal Code of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts, is hereby amended by adding a chapter, to be numbered Chapter 6.24, which said Chapter reads as follows:

Chapter 6.24 Sale of Fur Apparel Products.

6.24.010 – Council Findings

(a) The City Council finds that animals that are slaughtered for their fur endure tremendous suffering. Animals raised on fur farms typically spend their entire lives in cramped and filthy cages. Fur farmers typically use the cheapest killing methods available, including suffocation, electrocution, gas and poison.

(b) The City Council finds that fur farms are reservoirs and transmission vectors for dangerous zoonotic diseases, including SARS coronaviruses, that threaten public health, including in the City of Cambridge. COVID-19 infections have been confirmed at fur farms in Europe and the United States, and scientific studies have linked mink, raccoon dogs, and foxes – the animals most commonly farmed for their fur – to a variety of coronaviruses.

(c) The City Council finds that the fur production process is energy intensive and has a significant environmental impact, including air and water pollution. Runoff from the fur production process contains high concentrations of phosphorus and nitrogen, which are the most common forms of water pollution in the United States. In addition, the tanning and dyeing processes used in fur production use toxic chemicals and heavy metals like chromium and formaldehyde.

(b) Considering the wide array of alternatives for fashion and apparel, the City Council finds that the demand for fur products does not justify the unnecessary killing and cruel treatment of animals, harm to the environment, and the public health risks to the people of the City of Cambridge caused by these practices.

(c) The City Council believes that eliminating the sale of fur products in the City of Cambridge will decrease demand for these cruel and environmentally harmful products and promote community awareness of animal welfare and, in turn, will foster a more humane environment in the City of Cambridge and enhance the reputation of the City.

6.24.020 - Definitions

The following definitions shall apply in this section:

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(1) An animal skin or part thereof that is to be converted into leather, or which in processing will have the hair, fleece, or fur fiber completely removed;

(2) Cowhide with the hair attached thereto;

(3) Deerskin with the hair attached thereto;

(4) Lambskin or sheepskin with the fleece attached thereto; or

(5) The pelt or skin of any animal that is preserved through taxidermy or for the purpose of taxidermy.

(c) *Non-profit organization* shall mean any corporation that is organized under 26 U.S.C. Section 501(c)(3) that is created for charitable, religious, philanthropic, educational or similar purposes.

(d) *Taxidermy* shall mean the practice of preparing and preserving the skin of an animal that is deceased and stuffing and mounting it in lifelike form.

(e) *Ultimate consumer* shall mean an individual who buys a fur product for their own use, or for the use of another, but not for resale or trade.

(f) *Used fur product* shall mean a fur product that has been worn or used by an ultimate consumer.

6.24.030 – Prohibition

No person shall sell, offer for sale, display for sale, trade, or otherwise distribute for monetary or nonmonetary consideration a fur product within the City of Cambridge. For purposes of this section, the sale of a fur product shall be deemed to occur in the City of Cambridge if:

(1) The buyer takes physical possession of the fur product in the city; or

(2) The seller is located in the city.

6.24.040 - Exemptions

This Chapter shall not apply to the sale, offer for sale, displaying for sale, trade, or distribution of:

(1) A used fur product by an individual (excluding a retail transaction), non-profit organization, or second-hand store, including a pawn shop;

- (2) A fur product required for use in the practice of a religion;
- (3) A fur product used for traditional tribal, cultural, or spiritual purposes by a member of a federally recognized Native American tribe; or
- (4) A fur product where the activity is expressly authorized by federal or state law.

6.24.050 – Penalty

Any person who violates this Chapter shall be subject to a fine not exceeding three hundred dollars. As an alternative penalty, any person who violates this Chapter may be penalized by a noncriminal disposition as provided in General Laws Chapter 40, Section 21D. Each act of violation and every day upon which any such violation shall occur shall constitute a separate offense. Each fur product involved in a violation of this Chapter shall constitute a separate act of violation.

6.24.060 – Severability of Sections

It is declared to be the intention of the City Council that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and words of this Chapter are severable and if any word, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Chapter shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid by the judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining words, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this Chapter since the same would have been enacted by the city council without the incorporation in this code of any such unconstitutional or invalid word, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

6.24.070 – Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect following approval of the Attorney General and compliance with the provisions of G.L. c.40, § 32, and no earlier than January 1, 2023.



City of Cambridge

O-
FIRST IN COUNCIL
October 3, 2022

COUNCILLOR MCGOVERN

WHEREAS: Over 100 million animals are killed annually for their fur; and

WHEREAS: These animals are bred and confined and forced to live in cramped, wire bottom cages and deprived of the ability to engage in natural behaviors; and

WHEREAS: Egregious animal cruelty is the norm in the fur industry. Animals are killed in inhumane ways such as crude gassing or anal electrocution; and

WHEREAS: There are no federal laws or animal welfare standards to protect animals on fur farms leading to immense suffering; and

WHEREAS: The fur trade poses serious risks to public health, for example, in wildlife markets in China, foxes and raccoon dogs were found to have been infected with the SARS coronaviruses and on US and European fur farms, mink tested positive for the virus that causes COVID19, resulting in the death of over 5 million mink and the Dutch government said it is “very likely” that the farmed mink spread the virus to humans; and

WHEREAS: The fur industry also poses serious environmental threats. On fur farms, waste runoff from animals pollutes the soil and waterways and the tanning and dyeing process uses toxic and carcinogenic chemicals like chromium and formaldehyde to prevent the skin from decaying; and

WHEREAS: Banning fur sales eliminates the demand for cruel products and ensures that humane minded consumers can shop with confidence; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge, currently does not have stores that sell fur, but nothing in our municipal code would prevent fur shops or sales; and

WHEREAS: Communities in Massachusetts including, Plymouth, Brookline, Weston, and Wellesley have passed local ordinances to prevent this cruel industry from operating in their municipalities; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the Ordinance Committee of the Cambridge City Council meet to amend the Cambridge Municipal Code by adding a chapter numbered 6.24, titled Sale of Fur Apparel Products.

History:

08/01/22 City Council
09/20/22 Ordinance Committee

ORDER ADOPTED

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE *That the Municipal Code of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts, is hereby amended by adding a chapter, to be numbered Chapter 6.24, which said Chapter reads as follows:*

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6.24.010 – Council Findings

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(c) The City Council finds that the fur production process is energy intensive and has a significant environmental impact, including air and water pollution. Runoff from the fur production process contains high concentrations of phosphorus and nitrogen, which are the most common forms of water pollution in the United States. In addition, the tanning and dyeing processes used in fur production use toxic chemicals and heavy metals like chromium and formaldehyde.

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(c) *Non-profit organization* shall mean any corporation that is organized under 26 U.S.C. Section 501(c)(3) that is created for charitable, religious, philanthropic, educational or similar purposes.

(d) *Taxidermy* shall mean the practice of preparing and preserving the skin of an animal that is deceased and stuffing and mounting it in lifelike form.

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6.24.060 – Severability of Sections

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6.24.070 – Effective Date

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BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE That the Municipal Code of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts, is hereby amended by adding a chapter, to be numbered Chapter 6.24, which said Chapter reads as follows:

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6.24.010 – Council Findings

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(c) *Non-profit organization* shall mean any corporation that is organized under 26 U.S.C. Section 501(c)(3) that is created for charitable, religious, philanthropic, educational or similar purposes.

(d) *Taxidermy* shall mean the practice of preparing and preserving the skin of an animal that is deceased and stuffing and mounting it in lifelike form.

(e) *Ultimate consumer* shall mean an individual who buys a fur product for their own use, or for the use of another, but not for resale or trade.

(f) *Used fur product* shall mean a fur product that has been worn or used by an ultimate consumer.

6.24.030 – Prohibition

No person shall sell, offer for sale, display for sale, trade, or otherwise distribute for monetary or nonmonetary consideration a fur product within the City of Cambridge. For purposes of this section, the sale of a fur product shall be deemed to occur in the City of Cambridge if:

(1) The buyer takes physical possession of the fur product in the city; or

(2) The seller is located in the city.

6.24.040 - Exemptions

This Chapter shall not apply to the sale, offer for sale, displaying for sale, trade, or distribution of:

(1) A used fur product by an individual (excluding a retail transaction), non-profit organization, or second-hand store, including a pawn shop;

(2) A fur product required for use in the practice of a religion;

(3) A fur product used for traditional tribal, cultural, or spiritual purposes by a member of a federally recognized Native American tribe; or

(4) A fur product where the activity is expressly authorized by federal or state law.

6.24.050 – Penalty

Any person who violates this Chapter shall be subject to a fine not exceeding three hundred dollars. As an alternative penalty, any person who violates this Chapter may be penalized by a noncriminal disposition as provided in General Laws Chapter 40, Section 21D. Each act of violation and every day upon which any such violation shall occur shall constitute a separate offense. Each fur product involved in a violation of this Chapter shall constitute a separate act of violation.

6.24.060 – Severability of Sections

It is declared to be the intention of the City Council that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and words of this Chapter are severable and if any word, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Chapter shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid by the judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining words, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this Chapter since the same would have been enacted by the city council without the incorporation in this code of any such unconstitutional or invalid word, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

6.24.070 – Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect following approval of the Attorney General and compliance with the provisions of G.L. c.40, § 32, and no earlier than January 1, 2023.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE That the Municipal Code of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts, is hereby amended by adding a chapter, to be numbered Chapter 6.24, which said Chapter reads as follows:

Chapter 6.24 Sale of Fur Apparel Products.

6.24.010 – Council Findings

(a) The City Council finds that animals that are slaughtered for their fur endure tremendous suffering. Animals raised on fur farms typically spend their entire lives in cramped and filthy cages. Fur farmers typically use the cheapest killing methods available, including suffocation, electrocution, gas and poison.

(b) The City Council finds that fur farms are reservoirs and transmission vectors for dangerous zoonotic diseases, including SARS coronaviruses, that threaten public health, including in the City of Cambridge. COVID-19 infections have been confirmed at fur farms in Europe and the United States, and scientific studies have linked mink, raccoon dogs, and foxes – the animals most commonly farmed for their fur – to a variety of coronaviruses.

(c) The City Council finds that the fur production process is energy intensive and has a significant environmental impact, including air and water pollution. Runoff from the fur production process contains high concentrations of phosphorus and nitrogen, which are the most common forms of water pollution in the United States. In addition, the tanning and dyeing processes used in fur production use toxic chemicals and heavy metals like chromium and formaldehyde.

(b) Considering the wide array of alternatives for fashion and apparel, the City Council finds that the demand for fur products does not justify the unnecessary killing and cruel treatment of animals, harm to the environment, and the public health risks to the people of the City of Cambridge caused by these practices.

(c) The City Council believes that eliminating the sale of fur products in the City of Cambridge will decrease demand for these cruel and environmentally harmful products and promote community awareness of animal welfare and, in turn, will foster a more humane environment in the City of Cambridge and enhance the reputation of the City.

6.24.020 - Definitions

The following definitions shall apply in this section:

(a) *Fur* shall mean any animal skin or part thereof with hair, fleece, or fur fibers attached thereto, either in its raw or processed state.

(b) *Fur product* shall mean any article of clothing or covering for any part of the body, or any fashion accessory, including but not limited to handbags, shoes, slippers, hats, earmuffs, scarves, shawls, gloves, jewelry, keychains, toys or trinkets, and home accessories and décor, that is made in whole or part of fur. “Fur product” does not include any of the following:

(1) An animal skin or part thereof that is to be converted into leather, or which in processing will have the hair, fleece, or fur fiber completely removed;

(2) Cowhide with the hair attached thereto;

(3) Deerskin with the hair attached thereto;

(4) Lambskin or sheepskin with the fleece attached thereto; or

(5) The pelt or skin of any animal that is preserved through taxidermy or for the purpose of taxidermy.

(c) *Non-profit organization* shall mean any corporation that is organized under 26 U.S.C. Section 501(c)(3) that is created for charitable, religious, philanthropic, educational or similar purposes.

(d) *Taxidermy* shall mean the practice of preparing and preserving the skin of an animal that is deceased and stuffing and mounting it in lifelike form.

(e) *Ultimate consumer* shall mean an individual who buys a fur product for their own use, or for the use of another, but not for resale or trade.

(f) *Used fur product* shall mean a fur product that has been worn or used by an ultimate consumer.

6.24.030 – Prohibition

No person shall sell, offer for sale, display for sale, trade, or otherwise distribute for monetary or nonmonetary consideration a fur product within the City of Cambridge. For purposes of this section, the sale of a fur product shall be deemed to occur in the City of Cambridge if:

(1) The buyer takes physical possession of the fur product in the city; or

(2) The seller is located in the city.

6.24.040 - Exemptions

This Chapter shall not apply to the sale, offer for sale, displaying for sale, trade, or distribution of:

(1) A used fur product by an individual (excluding a retail transaction), non-profit organization, or second-hand store, including a pawn shop;

- (2) A fur product required for use in the practice of a religion;
- (3) A fur product used for traditional tribal, cultural, or spiritual purposes by a member of a federally recognized Native American tribe; or
- (4) A fur product where the activity is expressly authorized by federal or state law.

6.24.050 – Penalty

Any person who violates this Chapter shall be subject to a fine not exceeding three hundred dollars. As an alternative penalty, any person who violates this Chapter may be penalized by a noncriminal disposition as provided in General Laws Chapter 40, Section 21D. Each act of violation and every day upon which any such violation shall occur shall constitute a separate offense. Each fur product involved in a violation of this Chapter shall constitute a separate act of violation. The Director of the Animal Commission, Animal Control Officers, Police Officers and Sanitation Inspectors and Code Enforcement Inspectors detailed with the Public Health and Inspectional Services Departments shall have the authority of enforcing all sections of this chapter. All fines and penalties assessed and collected under this chapter may be enforced by issuance of non-criminal tickets pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 21D, or as otherwise authorized by law.

6.24.060 – Severability of Sections

It is declared to be the intention of the City Council that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and words of this Chapter are severable and if any word, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Chapter shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid by the judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining words, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this Chapter since the same would have been enacted by the city council without the incorporation in this code of any such unconstitutional or invalid word, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

6.24.070 – Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect on January 1, 2023.