



Ashley M. Shade
North Adams City Councilor

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

Dear Fellow Councilors,

In preparation for serving as a City Councilor, I spent a great deal of time reading and trying to better understand our City Charter and Ordinances. These documents govern our city government, residents, and visitors of North Adams. In my time reviewing these documents I have found several items that need updating or changing to help bring our city forward. As we strive to be a more inclusive and welcoming city, I have found that we have an ordinance that is completely unenforceable and could be viewed as discriminatory, on our records. I am referring to a City Ordinance defined in Chapter 14 Section 14.2 Curfew. This ordinance was changed years ago to include language that makes the ordinance unenforceable, and I would like to review the ordinance for a complete repeal.

It is imperative that we continue to work to update our ordinances and work towards updating our charter to be inclusive and friendly to all residents and visitors to North Adams, regardless of age or other personal identifying demographics. It should never be against the law for any human being to walk down a street or exist outside. As we currently have enforcement for individuals who do break other laws, the curfew ordinance is redundant and antiquated.

I urge you all to review and support the repeal of Chapter 14 Section 14.2 Curfew.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Ashley M. Shade