

CITY OF NEWPORT

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
COUNCIL**

No. _____

- WHEREAS, Newport is the premier sea side community in the Ocean State and should be in the vanguard of protecting our waters; AND
- WHEREAS, According to Environment Rhode Island, hundreds of millions of disposable plastic bags are used in Rhode Island every year, most of which are only used once; AND
- WHEREAS, According to a study commissioned by the US Marine Debris Monitoring Program, plastic bags remain one of the top items found consistently during annual beach cleanups; and WHEREAS, The plastic found in disposable plastic bags does not biodegrade, but rather breaks into many micro plastic particles; AND
- WHEREAS, Such particles negatively impact the environment in many ways including introducing toxins to the food chain, harming marine wildlife, altering ecosystems, and ; AND
- WHEREAS, Micro plastic particles from plastic bags pose threats to human health and to the local economy by exposing our food sources to synthetic materials and toxins; AND
- WHEREAS, Plastic bags come with costs to state and municipal government, as they can damage machinery at wastewater treatment plants and recycling plants, clog storm drains, and litter roadsides and beaches; AND
- WHEREAS, On January 1st, 2013, the Town of Barrington became the first municipality in Rhode Island to ban plastic bags; AND

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WHEREAS, More than 100 municipalities across the nation have placed restrictions on plastic bags; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the City Administration, in conjunction with the Planning Board and the Energy and Environment Commission, will construct an ordinance to phase out the use of disposable plastic bags.

JOHN F. FLOREZ
LYNN UNDERWOOD CEGLIE
NAOMI NEVILLE

IN COUNCIL
READ AND PASSED

Laura C. Swistak
City Clerk