



## **Legislative & Rules Committee – Board of Representatives**

Eileen Heaphy, Chair

Elise Coleman, Vice Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Monday, December 19, 2016

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Place:** Democratic Caucus Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT

The Legislative & Rules Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Heaphy and Committee Member Reps. Nabel, Okun, Ryan, Silver and Zelinsky. Absent or excused were Committee Member Reps. Coleman, Day and Mitchell. Also present were Robert Zaitooni, Traffic Engineer; and Cheryl Bader, Board of Ethics.

Chair Heaphy called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.:

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
11. <a href="#">LR29.074</a>	RESOLUTION <u>and public hearing</u> ; Approving a License Agreement between the City of Stamford and the Connecticut Department of Transportation for the use of City-owned Property at the Corner of John and Dock Streets for the Atlantic Street Metro-North Railroad Bridge Replacement. 12/02/16 – Submitted by Mayor Martin 12/06/16 – Approved by <a href="#">Planning Board</a> 12/15/16 - To be considered by Board of Finance	<b>Approved 6-0-0</b>

Chair Heaphy opened the public hearing. There being no members of the public present wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Zaitooni discussed this item with the Committee:

- The CT DOT is in Phase 1 construction of replacing the Metro-North bridge over Atlantic Street
- As part of Phase 2, DOT will rebuild the bridge and lower Atlantic Street by 4 feet
- DOT has requested to use property owned by City for 19 months to build the superstructure and put it in place. This will reduce the time for the construction.
- There will be no payment by the State. The City has used State property for its projects at no cost. This use is a common practice.
- The drainage design is within the plan and is being financed by the State
- The work will also include turn lanes

A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-0 (Reps. Heaphy and Committee Member Reps. Nabel, Okun, Ryan, Silver and Zelinsky).

---

<sup>1</sup> Video Part 1

Chair Heaphy adjourned the meeting at 7:15 until the invited guest for Item 2 arrived.

Chair Heaphy reopened the meeting at 7:25.

- <sup>2</sup>2. [LR29.070](#) REVIEW; Annual Report of the Board of Ethics. **Report Made**  
09/11/16 – Submitted by Rep. Heaphy

Ms. Bader discussed the Annual Report of the Board of Ethics with the Committee:

- The Board did have a full complement, but one member's term just ended and so there is now a vacancy, a replacement is being sought
- They are appreciative of now having administrative support, which has been very helpful
- The Board meets the second Monday of every month, but cancels the meeting if there is no business before them
- They would like to update their webpage in order to have their opinions available to the public
- They would like to meet with Corporation Counsel, the Mayor and the Board of Representatives
- For one of the advisory opinions requested, the Board did not get the information that they requested, on another, the Board did not feel an advisory opinion was warranted given the nature of the request and voted not to issue an opinion
- There is an ethics handbook, prepared by HR, but it may not be in final form
- The Board did meet with the Mayor, who mentioned that he would like an easy form of handbook
- Advisory Opinions are sent to the Mayor and the President of the Board of Representatives
- The Mayor and the Corporation Counsel are receptive to meeting semi-annually with the Board
- The L&R Committee meets with her once a year, but Board of Ethics would like to have a general sense of issues members of the Board of Representatives address, e.g. event attendance; it would be useful to have a dialogue
- There is no mechanism for confidentiality in advisory opinions at this point.
- Chair Heaphy said it was time to get an update from Human Resources Director Williams on the ethics handbook and training of elected and appointed officials. She will ask him to come to a meeting of the L & R committee in the near future.

Chair Heaphy adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eileen Heaphy, Chair

This meeting is on video ([Pt. 1](#) and [Pt. 2](#))

---

<sup>2</sup> Video Part 2