



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

Benjamin Lee, Chair

Elise Coleman, Vice Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Tuesday, November 17, 2020

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

**Place:** This meeting was held remotely.

The Legislative & Rules Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Lee; Vice Chair Coleman; and Committee Member Reps. Fedeli, Florio, Jacobson, Lion, Miller, Nabel and Zelinsky. Also present were Reps. McMullen and Sherwood; Mike Toma, Law Department; Ellen Bromley, Director of Social Services; Christina Crain, Stamford Senior Center; and Kathleen Bordelon, Silver Source.

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Invitee(s) or Designees</b>
3. <a href="#">LR30.097</a>	REVIEW; Possible Ordinance Creating Stamford Senior Commission. 09/01/20 – Submitted by Reps. Coleman, Pratt, Sherwood, Stella, Curtis, Zelinsky and Quinones 09/22/20 – Report Made & Held by Committee 8-1-0 10/20/20 –Held by Committee 8-0- 0	<b>Report Made &amp; Held 9-0-0</b>

The Committee first took up Item No. 3 Ms. Bromley reviewed the attached [PowerPoint presentation](#). Committee members then discussed next steps with the invited guests. Items discussed included:

- The need for advocates for seniors
- Having a Community Advisory Board of community leaders and other interested parties, similar to the Mayor's Access 4 All committee, rather than reactivating or replacing the Commission on Aging
- Maybe the composition of the Commission on Aging should be changed
- Whether the initiative should come from the Mayor or be a resolution recommending a board to the Mayor or an ordinance (which would give the Board of Representatives more control)
- Having a community advisory board would be a faster process to get up and running and keep staffed
- There should be reporting to the Board of Representatives, particularly prior to the beginning of the budget process
- A more flexible format would give a forum for ideas

A motion to hold this item was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

4. [LR30.102](#) REVIEW; Possible Ordinance Declaring Election Day a Municipal Holiday. **Report Made & Held 9-0-0**  
11/03/20 – Submitted by Rep. Jacobson

The Committee next took up Item No. 4.

Rep. Jacobson explained that he put this on the agenda because of the significance of exercising the ability to vote. The Board would only be able to declare a holiday for municipal workers.

Mr. Toma stated that an ordinance would not violate state or federal law so long as it does not mandate that employees not be paid for the day. The City and the unions would then have to engage in collective bargaining to determine how the employees would get the day off. The cost to the City would be a day's pay. The collective bargaining agreements might provide that employees who work on election day would receive premium pay. Once this day off is given, it would be difficult to take away from union employees.

Committee members discussed this item. Items discussed included the following:

- Code §47-37 language pertains to the holidays for non-union pay plan employees; this section does not apply to union employees
- A municipal holiday is unlikely to reduce lines
- This would serve as an inspiration to the State to create a holiday
- This will probably cost the City about \$1 million
- What happens when the State extends early voting; the day off would be difficult to take out of the collective bargaining agreements

2. [LR30.101](#) APPROVAL; Amendment of the Rules of the Board to Add Subsection V.D.6 Concerning Voting During Remote Meeting Authorized by State of Emergency. **Held 9-0-0**  
10/07/20 – Submitted by President Quinones  
10/20/20 – Held by Committee, as amended, 7-0-0

The Committee next took up Item No. 4.

Committee members noted that a new version of Robert's Rules had been issued which they would like time to review. A motion to hold this item was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

1. [LR30.100](#) REVIEW; Sale of Unused City Properties. **Held 9-0-0**  
09/24/20 – Submitted by Mayor Martin  
09/29/20 – Approved by Planning Board  
10/08/20 – To be Considered by Board of Finance  
10/20/20 – Report Made & Held by Committee 8-0- 0

Item No. 1 was held without objection.

Chair Lee adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Benjamin Lee, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).

***As a Secondary Committee: (Land Use Committee Meeting 12/2/20)***

1. [LU30.050](#) RESOLUTION and public hearing; Approving the Sale of Property Located at 0 West Park Place (a/k/a 66 West Park Place & Park Square West III), Stamford, Connecticut by the City of Stamford Urban Redevelopment Commission to Tullamore LLC.  
10/08/20 – Submitted by Thomas Madden  
09/29/20 – Approved by Planning Board  
11/12/20 – To be considered by Board of Finance