



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

Phil Berns, Chair

Sean Boeger, Vice-Chair

# **Committee Report DRAFT**

**Date:** Tuesday, October 29, 2024  
**Time:** 7:00 p.m.  
**Place:** *This meeting was held remotely.*

The Legislative & Rules Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Phil Berns, Vice Chair Sean Boeger and Committee Member Reps. Megan Cottrell, Mary Fedeli, Jennifer Matheny, Nina Sherwood and Jennifer Vandervoort. Also in attendance were Reps. Eric Morson, Annie M. Summerville and Kindrea Walston, City staff members Peter Gould, Stamford Police Department (Park Police Operations Officer), City Attorneys Cynthia Anger, Dana Lee, and Mike Toma and members of the public. Absent or excused were Committee member Rep. Jonathan Jacobson.

Chair Berns called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Invitee(s) or Designees</b>
1. LR31.081	REVIEW; Legal requirements of land use boards to promulgate guidance, regulations, versus decide applications particularly when staff is shorthanded 07/10/24 – Submitted by Rep. Berns 08/12/24 – Held at Steering 10/01/24 – Recommitted to Steering <b>10/29/24 – Recommitted to Steering</b>	<b>RECOMMITTED TO STEERING</b>

Due to meeting conflict with Planning Board, an invited presenter was not present. Chair Berns opened the discussion, about both scope of item and general discussion on item. Attorney Anger responded to Committee member questions.

A motion to recommit Item 1 to Steering was made (Rep. Sherwood), seconded (Rep. Cottrell), and approved by a unanimous voice vote of 8-0-0 (Chair Berns, Vice Chair Boeger, and Committee Reps. Cottrell, Fedeli, Matheny, Pierre-Louis, Sherwood and Vandervoort approved).

2. LR31.078	REVIEW; The Rights of The Public to Intervene In Land Use Board Matters 07/09/24 – Submitted by Rep. Berns 07/15/24 – Held at Steering 08/12/24 – Held at Steering 10/01/24 – Recommitted to Steering <b>10/29/24 – Report Made</b>	<b>REPORT MADE</b>
-------------	--	--------------------

Chair Berns opened discussion and gave Attorney Anger the floor to present report on item. Brief discussion, no motions made.

3. LR31.080      ORDINANCE for discussion; banning the use of paper bags. **RECOMMITTED TO STEERING**  
07/10/24 – Submitted by Rep. de la Cruz  
07/15/24 – Held at Steering  
08/12/24 – Held at Steering  
10/01/24 – Recommitted to Steering  
**10/29/24 – Recommitted to Steering**

Rep. de la Cruz, who submitted item, was not present to participate in discussion.

A motion to recommit Item Nos. 3, 4, 6 and 7 to Steering in one bundled vote was made (Vice Chair Boeger), seconded (Rep. Vandervoort), and approved by a unanimous voice vote of 5-0-0 (Chair Berns, Committee Reps. Boeger, Cottrell, Sherwood and Vandervoort approved; Reps. Fedeli, Matheny and Pierre-Louis were not yet in attendance to vote).

4. LR31.075      ORDINANCE, for publication; Amending Chapter 137, Article VII, Non-Biodegradable Disposable Carryout Bags to Delete §137-65, Establishment of Charge, and §137-66, Exemptions. **RECOMMITTED TO STEERING**  
06/05/24 – Submitted by Reps. Stella and Figueroa  
06/25/24 – Held by Committee 8-0-0  
07/15/24 – Held at Steering  
08/12/24 – Held at Steering  
10/01/24 – Recommitted to Steering  
**10/29/24 – Recommitted to Steering**

Submitting Reps. Stella and Figueroa were not present to participate in discussion.

A motion to recommit Item Nos. 3, 4, 6 and 7 to Steering in one bundled vote was made (Vice Chair Boeger), seconded (Rep. Vandervoort), and approved by a unanimous voice vote of 5-0-0 (Chair Berns, Committee Reps. Boeger, Cottrell, Sherwood and Vandervoort approved; Reps. Fedeli, Matheny and Pierre-Louis were not yet in attendance to vote).

5. [LR31.077](#)      ORDINANCE; Concerning the definition and regulation of the use of Motorized Recreational Vehicles **RECOMMITTED TO STEERING**  
07/09/24 – Submitted by Rep. Boeger and Curtis  
07/15/24 – Held at Steering  
08/12/24 – Held at Steering  
10/01/24 – Recommitted to Steering  
**10/29/24 – Recommitted to Steering**

Vice Chair Boeger presented item and reviewed a copy of the City of New Haven's Ordinance on Recreational Vehicles in a draft form showing some suggested updates or changes to use when creating the City of Stamford version. Committee members engaged in discussion, and Rep. Cottrell made recommendation that Corporation Counsel should review the New Haven ordinance and create a draft of it for Stamford that conforms to Stamford's City Charter and Code of Ordinances. Vice Chair Boeger acknowledged Corporation Counsel was sent a copy on 10/24/24 and that he wants to add one-wheeled scooter devices to the draft ordinance as well. Need to hold a Public Hearing was noted.

A motion to recommit Item 7 to Steering was made (Vice Chair Boeger), seconded (Rep. Cottrell), and approved by a unanimous voice vote of 8-0-0 (Chair Berns, Vice Chair Boeger, and Committee Reps. Cottrell, Fedeli, Matheny, Pierre-Louis, Sherwood and Vandervoort approved).

- |                             |   |                                    |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| 6. <a href="#">LR31.060</a> | REVIEW; Potential Ordinance to Stop Loud and Excessive Exhaust Pollution (SLEEP).<br>09/27/23 – Submitted by Rep. Jacobson<br>10/24/23 – Held by Committee<br>11/28/23 – Held by Committee 7-0-0<br>01/23/24 – Held by Committee 9-0-0<br>02/27/24 – Held by Committee<br>04/30/24 – Held by Committee 6-0-0<br>05/28/24 – Held by Committee 6-0-0<br>06/25/24 – Held by Committee 8-0-0<br>07/15/24 – Held at Steering<br><b>10/29/24 – Recommited to Steering</b> | <b>RECOMMENDED<br/>TO STEERING</b> |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|

Rep. Jacobson, who submitted item, was not present to participate in discussion.

A motion to recommit Item Nos. 3, 4, 6 and 7 to Steering in one bundled vote was made (Vice Chair Boeger), seconded (Rep. Vandervoort), and approved by a unanimous voice vote of 5-0-0 (Chair Berns, Committee Reps. Boeger, Cottrell, Sherwood and Vandervoort approved; Reps. Fedeli, Matheny and Pierre-Louis were not yet in attendance to vote).

- |             |  |                                    |
|-------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 7. LR31.085 | REVIEW; Printing and mailing of incorrect voter registration cards; process for preparing text, layout, proofreading, security of computer files, chain of custody of source materials, software used for printing, when, how, and by whom discovered; and origin of error once determined.<br>10/10/2024 – Submitted by Rep. de la Cruz<br><b>10/29/24 – Recommited to Steering</b> | <b>RECOMMENDED<br/>TO STEERING</b> |
|-------------|--|------------------------------------|

Rep. de la Cruz, who submitted item, was not present to participate in discussion.

A motion to recommit Item Nos. 3, 4, 6 and 7 to Steering in one bundled vote was made (Vice Chair Boeger), seconded (Rep. Vandervoort), and approved by a unanimous voice vote of 5-0-0 (Chair Berns, Committee Reps. Boeger, Cottrell, Sherwood and Vandervoort approved; Reps. Fedeli, Matheny and Pierre-Louis were not yet in attendance to vote).

8. [LR31.076](#)            ORDINANCE; Concerning the definition and regulation of the use of External Loud Speakers            **RECOMMENDED TO STEERING**  
07/09/24 – Submitted by Rep. Boeger  
07/15/24 – Held at Steering  
10/01/24 – Recommended to Steering  
10/01/24 – Recommended to Steering  
**10/29/24 – Recommended to Steering**

Discussion regarding Item 8 was conducted between committee members and Officer Gould.

A motion to recommit Item 8 to Steering was made, seconded, and approved by a unanimous voice vote of 8-0-0 (Chair Berns, Vice Chair Boeger, and Committee Reps. Cottrell, Fedeli, Matheny, Pierre-Louis, Sherwood and Vandervoort approved).

9. LR31.083            REVIEW; of the public speaking portion of the rules and procedures of the monthly meeting and how we can correct factually incorrect statements made by speakers.            **RECOMMENDED TO STEERING**  
08/07/24 - Submitted by Rep. Goldberg  
08/12/24 – Held at Steering  
10/01/24 – Recommended to Steering  
**10/29/24 – Recommended to Steering**

Discussion regarding Item 9 was conducted between committee members; Rep. Goldberg, who submitted item, was not present to participate in discussion.

A motion to recommit Item 9 to Steering was made, seconded, and approved by a unanimous voice vote of 8-0-0. (Chair Berns, Vice Chair Boeger, and Committee Reps. Cottrell, Fedeli, Matheny, Pierre-Louis, Sherwood and Vandervoort approved).

Chair Phil Berns adjourned the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Berns, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).