



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

Phil Berns, Chair

Sean Boeger, Vice-Chair

# **Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Tuesday, August 26, 2025

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

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

The Legislative & Rules Committee met as indicated above. Present were Chair Berns, Vice Chair Boeger, and Committee member Reps. Blank, Cottrell, Matheny, Sherwood, and Vandervoort. Absent/excused were Reps. Fedeli and Pierre-Louis. Also present were ex-officio Reps. Adams, Camporeale, de la Cruz, Goldberg, Mays, Stella, Summerville, and Weinberg, city staff members Dana Lee, City attorney and Matt Quiñones, Director of Operations, Mr. Vincent Giordano, local resident and Sierra Club member, Mr. Nelson Muñoz, local landscaper and electric landscaping equipment distributor, and members of the public.

Chair Berns called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Invitee(s) or Designees
1. <a href="#">LR31.100</a>	<b>ORDINANCE for publication;</b> Requiring a Citywide Transition to Electric Landscaping Equipment in the City of Stamford 04/08/25 – Submitted by Rep. Camporeale, de la Cruz, Weinberg and Berns 04/29/25 – Recommitted to Steering 8-0-0 05/27/25 – Recommitted to Steering 8-0-0 06/24/25 – Recommitted to Steering 7-0-0 07/29/25 – Recommitted to Steering 6-0-2 <b>08/26/25 – Amendment 1 approved 6-1-0</b> <b>08/26/25 – Amendment 2 approved 6-1-0</b> <b>08/26/25 – Amendment 3 approved 7-0-0</b> <b>08/26/25 – Amendment 4 approved 6-1-0</b> <b>08/26/25 – Approved as amended for public hearing 5-1-0</b>	<b>APPROVED FOR PUBLIC HEARING 5-1-0</b>

Chair Berns opened the meeting and asked for a motion for Item No. 1. Discussion regarding the updated draft ordinance ensued. A motion to amend Item LR31.100 for amendment 1 (see below) was made, seconded and approved via roll call vote of 6-1-0 (Chair Berns, Vice Chair Boeger and Reps. Blank, Cottrell, Sherwood, and Vandervoort approved; Rep. Matheny voted against).

Amendment 1:

- (1) Sec. 211-.A(3) re: including larger leaf blowers, such as walk-behind or ride-behind
- (2) Sec. 211-3.1 to Rewrite first sentence as Follows: "For purposes of this chapter, the term "compliance period" shall refer to the three (3) year period beginning on the effective date of this ordinance, with the exception of a six (6) year period for walk-behind, ride-behind, and ride-upon blowers."
- (3) Sec. 211-9. Rewrite second sentence as follows: "The three (3) year Compliance Period established in Section 211-3.1 shall begin on the effective date of this ordinance."

A motion to amend Item LR31.100 for amendment 2 (see below) was made, seconded and approved via roll call vote of 6-1-0 (Chair Berns, Vice Chair Boeger and Reps. Blank, Cottrell, Sherwood, and Vandervoort approved; Rep. Matheny voted against).

Amendment 2:

- (1) Sec. 211-3.A. Delete "Subject to funding approval from the Board of Finance and Board of Representatives." Capitalize the word "All". Delete "The provisions of this chapter do not apply to the Stamford Board of Education."
- (2) Sec. 211-4.B. Delete "Subject to funding approval from the Board of Finance and Board of Representatives." Capitalize the word "All". Delete "The provisions of this chapter do not apply to the Stamford Board of Education."
- (3) Sec. 211-5.B.(1) Delete "Subject to funding approval from the Board of Finance and Board of Representatives." Capitalize the word "All".

A motion to amend Item LR31.100 for amendment 3 (to strike all language throughout the draft ordinance that exempts the Board of Education from complying with the ordinance) was made, seconded and approved via roll call vote of 7-0-0 (Chair Berns, Vice Chair Boeger and Reps. Blank, Cottrell, Matheny, Sherwood, and Vandervoort approved).

A motion to amend Item LR31.100 for amendment 4 (Sec.211-4.A.(2) Rewrite as follows: "Seasonal Exception: Notwithstanding subsection (1), gasoline-powered leaf blowers may be used only during October, November and December. Use in all other time periods is prohibited.") was made, seconded and approved via roll call vote of 6-1-0 (Chair Berns, Vice Chair Boeger and Reps. Blank, Cottrell, Sherwood, and Vandervoort approved; Rep. Matheny voted against).

A motion to approve Item LR31.100 as previously amended for a public hearing was made, seconded and approved via roll call vote of 5-1-0 (Chair Berns and Reps. Blank, Cottrell, Sherwood, and Vandervoort approved; Rep. Matheny voted against; Vice Chair Boeger left the meeting at 9:35 pm prior to this vote).

2. [LR31.104](#)

**ORDINANCE for publication;** amending §111-6 Dogs (C-1) *Control of dangerous/vicious dogs of the Code of Ordinances*  
07/09/2025 – Submitted by Rep. Adams  
07/29/25 – Recommitted to Steering 7-0-0  
**08/26/25 – Approved for public hearing 5-0-0**

**APPROVED FOR  
PUBLIC  
HEARING 5-0-0**

Attorney Lee gave a brief explanation of the language of the amendment to the ordinance. During the discussion, Rep. Sherwood asked both Attorney Lee & Rep. Adams what the purpose is of the proposed changes to the ordinance. Attorney Lee stated it is to clarify what is being enforced, what the rules are of enforcement, and who can enforce them for everyone, especially for dog owners and law enforcement. Rep. Adams explained this is also to clarify the nuisance/excessive barking occurrence enforcement, needed due to the new dog pound in the South End.

A motion to approve Item LR31.104 for a public hearing was made, seconded and approved via roll call vote of 5-0-0 (Chair Berns and Reps. Blank, Cottrell, Sherwood, and Vandervoort approved; Rep. Matheny left the meeting prior to this vote).

Chair Berns adjourned the meeting at 10:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Berns, Chair

This meeting is also available on [video](#)