



Operations Committee - Board of Representatives

Jonathan Jacobson, Chair

John Zelinsky, Jr., Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021
Time: 6:30pm
Place: This meeting was held remotely

The Operations Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Jacobson, Vice Chair Zelinsky and Committee Member Reps. Adams, Coleman, Curtis, Mahoney, Sherwood, and Watkins. Rep. Lee was excused. Also present were Reps. de la Cruz, Figueroa, McMullen, Morson, and Nabel; Lou Casolo, Engineering Dept.; Tom Turk, Highways Dept.; and three members of the public.

Chair Jacobson called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
11. O30.098	RESOLUTION <u>and public hearing</u> ; BOR's Recommendation on the use of the Old Police Station to the Mayor. 07/06/21 – Submitted by Rep. Jacobson 07/27/21 – Held by Committee and public hearings approved, 8-0-0 08/24/21 – Public Hearing Held and Held by Committee 8-0-0	Approved as Amended 5-2-0

Rep. Sherwood explained the amendment regarding a public safety headquarters and there was discussion on Item #1. Discussion included the following:

- Rep. Sherwood spoke to several different department heads about amending the resolution regarding a public safety headquarters.
- There will be a new Mayor and Administration as of Dec. 1st and if the BOR decides on a definitive stance, the Administration does not have to adhere to it.
- It would be better for the BOR to ask for more information and a future conversation about the use of the property. The resolution would request the next Mayor to come to the BOR and have a conversation about the feasibility of making it a public safety headquarters, proposing the future administration do a cost analysis and feasibility study.
- It should be made green space indefinitely until further decisions are made.
- It is much harder to remove a park once it is in place. Green space does not necessarily mean it is a park.

¹ Video Time Stamp: 00:02:00

- The City could possibly generate revenue by selling other current emergency properties and moving them to 805 Bedford Street.
- As Stamford continues to grow, public safety measures will need to be upgraded.
- The abatement process has begun for the old police station. Demolition is scheduled to be finished in the next few months.
- This proposed resolution is written in a way that is open ended and asks the Administration to get cost figures and look into a public safety headquarters as an option for the property.
- The final outcome of this property will be between the new Administration and the 31st Board.

A motion was made to approve the amendment “it recommends that the site of the old police station at 805 Bedford Street be reserved for future alternative City use. With the further recommendation that the property be assessed for future use as a Public Safety Headquarters for police, fire and EMS that includes an Emergency Operations Center / Critical Incident Fusion Center / Backup 911 Communications Center and/or City Multi-Purpose Space. We hereby request a full and complete feasibility and cost analysis along with, but not limited to a sighting study to show any possible effects on response times of any fire apparatus and EMS vehicles that may be relocated to 805 Bedford Street from other locations in the city. We also request information pertaining to the potential re-use or sale of any city owned facility/property that's function may be moved to 805 Bedford Street” was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-2-0 (Reps. Jacobson, Zelinsky, Curtis, Sherwood, and Watkins in favor; Reps. Adams and Mahoney opposed).

A motion to approve the amendment “Property” was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Jacobson, Zelinsky, Adams, Coleman, Curtis, Mahoney, Sherwood, and Watkins in favor).

A motion to approve Item #1 as amended was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-2-0 (Reps. Jacobson, Zelinsky, Curtis, Sherwood, and Watkins in favor; Reps. Adams and Mahoney opposed).

<p>². O30.065</p>	<p>REVIEW; West Main Street Bridge 12/04/2019 – Submitted by Mayor Martin 12/30/19 – Held in Committee 7-0-0 01/28/20 – Report Made & Held by Committee 8-0-0 02/26/20 – Held by Committee 5-0-0 12/29/20 – Report Made & Held by Committee 6-0-0 01/11/21 – Moved to Pending 05/25/21 – Report Made & Held by Committee 9-0-0 06/29/21 – Held by Committee 9-0-0 07/27/21 – Report Made and Held by Committee, 8-0-0 08/24/21 – Report Made & Held by Committee 8-0-0</p>	<p>Report Made</p>
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Mr. Casolo gave an update on Item #2:

² Video Time Stamp: 01:15:00

- This project is for a prefabricated pedestrian bridge with emergency vehicle access.
- The design plan is progressing. The EPB received the application for acceptance on October 21st, and will take it up for review at its next meeting.
- The plan is now in the regulatory submittals phase.
- Once it is submitted to DEEP, they will work with the Army Corps to do a coordinated review and approval.
- Stamford has had numerous meetings with utility companies to discuss moving the utilities over from the existing bridge.
- The next steps are to finalize the details with the supplier of the bridge, keep moving along with permit applications for regulatory agencies, finalize utility coordination, and put the project out to bid.
- Design completion is targeted for the end of November, the advertisement for bid is targeted for December, bids will be due back in February, and will be awarded in the Spring.

- ³³. [O30.105](#) RESOLUTION; Directing the Administration to Develop a Short and Long Term Plan to Mitigate the Impact of Severe Storm and Rain Events, including Keeping Rivers and Streams Free of Obstructions and Debris; Cleaning and Repair of Catch Basins; and Upgrading of Related Drainage Infrastructure.
09/09/21 – Submitted by Rep. de la Cruz
09/28/21 – Held by Committee 9-0-0
- Approved as Amended 8-0-0**

Rep. de la Cruz explained that his reason for submitting Item #3 is due to more frequent and stronger storms, and rising sea levels, flooding has become worse during recent storm events. There was a brief discussion.

- This resolution communicates to the Administration how the BOR would like the Administration to proceed.
- There are areas in Stamford where it is known that any strong rain storm will result in flooding.
- This resolution requests that City of Stamford perform a resiliency study to determine what further actions are needed.
- This would address future flooding and potential new areas of flooding in Stamford.
- The WPCA should be involved in the resiliency study and the process of the fixing the problems.

A motion to approve the amendment “BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Administration commissions a “Resiliency Study”, similar to those commissioned by other waterside towns such as Greenwich, to evaluate the probable effects of the anticipated rise in sea levels over the next 25 years and to develop physical and regulatory responses to these effects” was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Jacobson, Zelinsky, Adams, Coleman, Curtis, Mahoney, Sherwood, and Watkins in favor).

³ Video Time Stamp: 01:26:00

A motion to approve Item #3 as amended was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Jacobson, Zelinsky, Adams, Coleman, Curtis, Mahoney, Sherwood, and Watkins in favor).

44. O30.080 REVIEW; Update on Water Running into 6 **Report Made**
Woodland Avenue (Previously Reviewed as
O30.052).
12/09/20 – Submitted by Rep. Adams
12/29/20 – Report Made & Held by Committee 6-0-0
01/11/21 – Moved to Pending

Mr. Casolo gave an update on Item #4.

- The old catch basin was removed and a new one installed at the intersection of Lipton Place and Atlantic Street in the Spring, and the water now drains properly.
- The overflow of the old catch basin was causing the flooding for 6 Woodland Avenue. It was installed in the 1950's and there was a deformity in the basin.
- Mr. Casolo went to the property today during the heavy rain to observe and everything appears to be working as it should.
- Rep. Adams thanked Mr. Casolo for taking care of the problem for the constituents.

Chair Jacobson adjourned the meeting at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan Jacobson, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).