



## ***Parks & Recreation Committee - Board of Representatives***

Jim Caterbone, Co-Chair      Marion McGarry, Co-Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Thursday, March 26, 2015

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

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

The Parks & Recreation Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Co-Chairs Caterbone and McGarry and Committee Member Reps. Briscoe, DePina, Giordano, Mahoney, Pratt and Ryan. Absent or excused was Rep. Heaphy. Also present were the following members of the Cost Savings and Revenue Enhancement Committee: Co-Chairs Cerasoli and Silver and Committee Member Reps. Fedeli, Fountain, Okun and Zelinsky; Jim Hricay, Director of OPM; Laurie Albano and Scott Kassouf, Recreation Department; Ken Smith, Terry Conners Ice Rink; Joe Andreana and Lyda Ruijter, Parks and Recreation Commission; Frank Fedeli, Cashiering; and two members of the public (See the [sign-in sheet for PR29.024](#) and the [sign-in sheet for PR29.026](#))

Co-Chair Caterbone called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

| <b>Item No.</b>             | <b>Description</b>   | <b>Committee Action</b> |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 1. <a href="#">PR29.024</a> | RESOLUTION and <u>public hearing</u> ; approving an increase in Special Event Applications fees from \$25 to \$100.<br>01/21/15 – Approved by Parks & Rec Commission<br>01/22/15 – Submitted by Ernie Orgera<br>02/26/15 – No action taken | <b>Failed 1-6-0</b>     |

Co-Chair Caterbone opened the public hearing. Mr. Andreana spoke in support of the resolution and noted that the Parks & Recreation Commission had approved raising this fee. He explained that many of the organizations using the parks hire private companies to run the special events at costs of between \$10,000 and \$50,000. Special Events would include Live at Five as well as smaller events. City staff has the discretion to waive the fee. There being no other members of the public wishing to speak, the public

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<sup>1</sup> Video Time Stamp 00:00:30

hearing was closed. Committee members discussed whether this fee covers the wear and tear on the parks and who would bear the cost of this increase. Because Mr. Fedeli had not yet arrived, the Committee postponed further discussion of this item until later in the meeting.

<sup>2</sup>When the Committee resumed discussion of this item, Mr. Fedeli stated that the increase was requested by the Cashiering and Permitting Department because the administrative cost of issuing these permits is high. He noted that there were 80 permits issued last year, the majority of which were to non-profits. They do waive the fees for some non-profits. A motion to approve this resolution was made, seconded and failed by a vote of 1-6-0 (Rep. Pratt in favor; Reps. Caterbone, McGarry, Briscoe, Giordano, Mahoney, and Ryan opposed.)

- <sup>3</sup>2. [PR29.025](#) RESOLUTION and public hearing; Approving Fee Increases For Terry Conners Ice Rink. **Held in Committee 7-1-0**  
02/05/15 – Submitted by Jim Hricay  
02/26/15 – No action taken

*Secondary Committee: Cost Savings & Revenue Enhancement*

Co-Chair Caterbone opened the public hearing. There being no members of the public wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed. Mr. Hricay explained that this resolution only applied to hourly rates for ice time at Terry Conners Rink. His office will be reviewing lesson fees in the future. In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. Smith noted that the rates are lower than those at other rinks in the area. In addition, the rates would give a break to Stamford residents because they get more sessions for the fee than non-residents. Committee members expressed concerns that the information on the resolution was not clear. A motion to hold this item was made, seconded and passed by a vote of 7-1-0 (Reps. Caterbone, McGarry, Briscoe, Giordano, Mahoney, Pratt and Ryan in favor; Rep. DePina opposed).

- <sup>4</sup>3. [PR29.026](#) RESOLUTION and public hearing; Concerning Beach Pass Fees. **Approved, as amended 8-0-0**  
02/05/15 – Submitted by Jim Hricay  
02/26/15 – No action taken

*Secondary Committee: Cost Savings & Revenue Enhancement*

Co-Chair Caterbone opened the public hearing. Ms. Romanello spoke in opposition to raising the fee for Seniors. Mr. Andreana spoke in opposition of the resolution and stated that the Parks and Recreation Commission had voted against these increases. There being no further members of the public wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed. Mr. Fedeli stated that he would not recommend doubling the fee for Seniors, however, the fees have not been raised since 2002. He noted that creating a separate one day pass for non-residents would be difficult to administer at the beaches. Representatives discussed the fact that the beaches are now open 2 more months per year, but that the fees have not increased. Representatives also discussed whether

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<sup>2</sup> Video Time Stamp 02:27:44

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increasing the cost would be fair to residents, who also pay taxes. Representative Mahoney made a motion to amend the resolution to keep all of the fees as they currently are was made and seconded. He then accepted a friendly amendment from Representative DePina to increase the “Resident Non-Registered Car” fee from \$95 to \$110. The motion to amend, as amended by Ms. DePina, was approved by a vote of 8-0-0. (Reps. Caterbone, McGarry, Briscoe, DePina, Giordano, Mahoney, Pratt and Ryan in favor.) A motion to approve the resolution, as amended, was approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Caterbone, McGarry, Briscoe, DePina, Giordano, Mahoney, Pratt and Ryan in favor.) The Cost Savings & Revenue Enhancement Committee made a motion to concur with the recommendation of the Parks & Recreation Committee, which motion was seconded and failed by a vote of 1-5-0 (Rep. Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Cerasoli, Silver, Fedeli, Fountain and Okun opposed).

4. [PR29.027](#) RESOLUTION and public hearing; Establishing Fees **Held in**  
For Summer Camp Programs. **Committee 7-0-0**  
02/05/15 – Submitted by Jim Hricay  
02/26/15 – No action taken

*Secondary Committee: Cost Savings & Revenue Enhancement*

Co-Chair Caterbone opened the public hearing. There being no members of the public wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed. Mr. Hricay asked that this item be held. A motion to hold this resolution was made, seconded, and approve by a vote of 7-0-0 (Reps. Caterbone, McGarry, Briscoe, Giordano, Mahoney, Pratt and Ryan in favor.)

5. [PR29.028](#) RESOLUTION and public hearing; Concerning **Held in**  
Recreation Program Fees. **Committee 7-0-0**  
02/05/15 – Submitted by Jim Hricay  
02/26/15 – No action taken

*Secondary Committee: Cost Savings & Revenue Enhancement*

Co-Chair Caterbone opened the public hearing. There being no members of the public wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed. Mr. Hricay asked that this item be held. A motion to hold this resolution was made, seconded, and approve by a vote of 7-0-0 (Reps. Caterbone, McGarry, Briscoe, Giordano, Mahoney, Pratt and Ryan in favor.)

Co-Chair Caterbone adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Caterbone, Co-Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).