

Public Safety & Health Committee - Board of Representatives

Jeffrey Stella, Chair

Eric Morson, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Democratic Caucus Room, 4th Floor Government Center,

888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford CT

The Public Safety & Health Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Stella, Vice Chair Morson, and Committee Member Reps. Giordano, Kolenberg, Lutz, Matherne, McMullen, Pratt, and Sherwood. Also in attendance were Reps. Cottrell, Graziosi, Lion, Patterson, and Saftic. Also present were Dana Lee, Assistant Corporation Counsel; Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety and Health; Annie Hornish, Connecticut State Director, The Humane Society; and four members of the public.

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

Item No.	Description	Action
1. PS30.001	REVIEW; State Law And Local Ordinances Relating to Hunting on Private Land Within City Limits. 12/04/17 – Submitted by Reps. Morson and Graziosi	Report Made

Mr. Lee explained that hunting on State owned property or private property cannot be regulated by the City. Any local ordinance that conflicts with State statue is generally unenforceable, and the City cannot pass any ordinance that is different than what the State allows. In all local municipalities (with the exception of Westport), private property owners have the ability to allow or restrict hunting on their property. Currently the State is under no obligation to notify residents of ongoing hunting. There is a complaint system in the State statute that allows citizens to make complaints regarding safety issues and regulation issues, and the Commissioner of Environmental Protection reviews the complaints. Mr. Jankowski explained that residents can call the Stamford PD regarding safety issues and regulation issues, and they will investigate to determine if there are violations. Mr. Lee explained that the Stamford Police have the discretion in determining if there are safety violations and whether or not to send a report to the State regarding their findings. Ms. Hornish discussed the possible dangers of bow hunting to people in the surrounding properties, and trauma to the animals.

There was continued discussion amongst the Committee members and invited quests.

Chair Stella adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jeffrey Stella, Chair