



Public Safety & Health Committee - Board of Representatives

Jeffrey Stella, Chair

Eric Morson, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Thursday, August 2, 2018

Time: 6:30 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, McMullen, Pratt and Sherwood. Also present were Rep. Lion, Ralph Blessing, Land Use Bureau, and Dana Lee, Law Department.

Chair Stella called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. PS30.013	REVIEW; Exterior Lighting Regulations 7/11/2018 - Submitted by Rep. Lion	Held 6-0-0

Rep. Lion stated that there is a noise ordinance, but no light ordinance. He distributed the [attached handout](#). This ordinance is designed to deal with 4 kinds of light issues: glare, sky glow, light trespass and clutter. This ordinance would go along with the State and City electrical codes and provide directions for lighting public spaces and eliminate unnecessary lighting.

Mr. Blessing explained that this is part of the Land Use Bureau's efforts to ensure that there is as little interference as possible of developments with neighboring developments. There is a noise ordinance, so they thought it would also be a good idea to have a light ordinance which the Land Use Boards could refer to. He believes this should be reviewed by the Engineering Department, in particular, Nancy Pipicelli.

Committee members discussed:

- The need for review by Nancy Pipicelli, who is the expert on lighting in the City
- Finding out more about safety issues that might be raised
- Who would enforce this and how
- Many of these issues are already part of the site plan review, and these requirements would be able to be included
- The Committee needs to find out what is already being done
- Residents in different areas will have different concerns
- There needs to be some way to grandfather existing lights/structures
- What will be the burden on homeowners and the City

- The law department has not yet analyzed this language
- The building code is a state codes and regulates some lighting, including emergency lighting
- Traffic lights would be governed by the traffic department

Mr. Lee stated that the Law Department would review the drafting of this ordinance, ensuring that it gives adequate notice, so that definitions and prohibitions and exemptions are clear. They would also look at how difficult it would be to comply with the ordinance and enforceability. Lastly, they would look at the effective date and whether things would be grandfathered. The Law Department would also review current applicable codes and laws.

Committee members discussed:

- There needs to be data to rely on to prepare this ordinance
- There may be a need for more pedestrian lights, but don't want to disrupt dark sky or migratory boards
- This is a good first step
- Citizens Services complaints may give some information about light complaints
- Bob Lion will meet with Nancy Pipicelli and revise this for the next meeting.

A motion to hold this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-0 (Reps. Stella, Morson, Giordano, McMullen, Pratt and Sherwood in favor).

2. PS30.012 REVIEW; Monitoring of Food Trucks No Action Taken
7/10/2018 – Submitted by Rep. DePina

Chair Stella explained that this item will be taken up by the Stamford Food Truck Committee.

Chair Stella adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Stella, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).