



Public Safety & Health Committee - Board of Representatives

Jeffrey Stella, Chair

Eric Morson, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Monday, November 18, 2019

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Republican 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 and Sherwood. Absent or excused were Reps. Lutz, Matherne and Pratt. Also in attendance were Dr. Jennifer Calder and Sonia Marino, Health Department.

Chair Stella called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. PS30.025	RESOLUTION and approval of public hearing; Concerning Food Establishment Plan Review. 11/08/18 – Submitted by Dr. Calder 11/13/18 – Moved to Pending 05/30/19 – Held by Committee 7-0-0 06/10/19 – Moved to Pending	Approved 4-0-1

Dr. Calder explained the request for increase in fees:

- Plan Reviews are an extremely time consuming activity.
- Proprietors often make changes after the Plan Review, and then a lot of time is spent on Plan Review Revisions.
- Plan Reviews insure that establishments follow local, state and federal laws, and some Plan Reviews are very complex.
- The last time fees were increased was in 2015 and Stamford charges significantly less than neighboring towns, which charge:
 - Norwalk: \$45 - \$130
 - Bridgeport: \$100 – \$225
 - Westport/Weston: \$660
 - New Canaan: \$25 (Plan Review Revisions)

A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 4-0-1 (Reps. Stella, Morson, Giordano and McMullen in favor; Rep. Sherwood abstaining).

2. [PS30.026](#) ORDINANCE for publication; Amending Chapter 132 of the Code of Ordinances, Food Sales, Miscellaneous Provisions, Section 132-5.1- Fees. **Failed 1-3-1**
 11/08/18 – Submitted by Dr. Calder
 11/13/18 – Moved to Pending
 05/30/19 – Held by Committee 7-0-0
 06/10/19 – Moved to Pending

Dr. Calder explained the two components proposed to be added in the ordinance are 1) to allow the BOR to approve fee changes and 2) allow the Health Department to deny a permit if someone has outstanding City fines.

- Permits are often issued to people who owe the City a substantial amount of money in outstanding fines. This is one way to recoup that money.
- Imposing fines is something that the Health Department will address in the future.
- The threshold is much lower for the BOR to approve resolutions than to approve ordinances.
- Does State statute require an ordinance to implement fees and fines?

A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and failed by a vote of 1-3-1 (Rep. Giordano in favor; Reps. Stella, Morson and McMullen opposed; Rep. Sherwood abstaining).

3. PS30.043 REVIEW; Possible Requirement of Commercial and Industrial Buildings and Structures that Utilize Truss Type Construction to be Marked by a Sign or Symbol That Informs People Conducting Fire Control and Other Emergency Operations of the Existence of Truss Construction. **HELD**
 06/05/19 – Submitted by Reps. Stella and Pratt
 09/26/19 – Held by Committee 4-0-1
 10/15/19 – Held at Steering
4. PS30.047 REVIEW; Plan Regarding the Position of Fire Safety Officer. **HELD**
 10/08/19 – Submitted by Reps. Stella and Pratt
 10/21/19 – Held by Committee 5-0-0
5. PS30.048 REVIEW; Lack of the Fire Commission Meeting Minutes and Video on the City Website. **HELD**
 11/07/19 – Submitted by Reps. Stella and Pratt
6. PS30.049 REVIEW; Fire Hydrant Testing Procedures. **HELD**
 11/07/19 – Submitted by Reps. Stella and Pratt

Items # 3, 4, 5 and 6 were held due to the unavailability of the invited guests, who were attending out of town services for a line of duty death.

Chair Stella adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Stella, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).