



## ***Public Safety & Health Committee - Board of Representatives***

Jeffrey Stella, Chair

Eric Morson, Vice Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Thursday, July 29, 2021  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Place:** This meeting was held remotely.

The Public Safety & Health Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Stella, Vice Chair Morson and Committee Member Reps. Curtis, Giordano, Matherne, Palomba, Sandford and Sherwood. Excused was Rep. McMullen. Also present were Reps. Coleman and Mahoney; Sandra Dennies, Director of Administration; Josie Carpanzano, Special Assistant to the Mayor; Chief Trevor Roach, Stamford Fire Department; Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Safety, Health and Welfare; Mike Toma, Law Department; and Jeremy Stein, CAGV.

Chair Stella called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
1. <a href="#">PS30.095</a>	ORDINANCE <u>for public hearing and final adoption</u> ; Amending <a href="#">Chapter 179, Article IV</a> of the Code of Ordinances to Remove the Food Truck Committee from the Permitting Process. 05/05/21 – Submitted by President Quinones 05/19/21 – Approved by Committee 8-0-0 06/14/21 – Held at Steering	<b>Approved 8-0-0</b>
<p>Chair Stella opened the public hearing. There being no members of the public present wishing to speak, the public hearing was closed. A motion to approve Item No. 1 was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Stella, Morson, Curtis, Giordano, Matherne, Palomba, Sandford and Sherwood in favor)</p>		
2. <a href="#">PS30.088</a>	RESOLUTION <u>and public hearing</u> ; Requiring Gun Owners to Produce Their Licenses When Asked by Law Enforcement Officers. 01/25/21 – Submitted by Reps. Stella, Pratt and Curtis and Mayor Martin 02/25/21 – Approved by Committee, 6-0-2 03/01/21 – Held by Full Board 03/08/21 – Moved to Pending	<b>Held 4-3-1</b>

Chair Stella opened the public hearing. Kieran Edmondson, Bonnie Kim Campbell, Cynthia Bowser, Sean Boeger, Jackie Pioli, and Sue Halpern spoke in favor of the proposed resolution. Barry Michelson, Jordan Don Nelson, Justine Del Grosso, Jeffrey Ferraro, Walt Kapson and an unnamed speaker spoke in opposition to the proposed resolution. Comments in support of the resolution from Seymour Weinstein and comments in opposition to the proposed resolution from Pavel Tolkachev and Daniel Malarkey were read into the record by Legislative Officer Rosenson. There being no further speakers, the public hearing was closed at 7:12 p.m.

Mr. Stein spoke in favor of the proposed resolution, which is urging the state to pass legislation. He stated that the SB60 was introduced in 2019 due to concerns expressed by police regarding incidents where they were unable to check whether a person could legally carry a firearm. Captain Conklin had identified this change as a priority for Stamford Police. Gun owners are currently required to carry their licenses while carrying their weapons. The intent should have been a procedure for police to check this license. It is not a frisk, just a display of a permit. This is no different from hunters who are required to show their licenses while hunting upon request. Open carry is often used as a means of intimidation people exercising their 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment rights, as in Charlottesville, and has occurred in state houses and polling places. Currently, the police can only compel a person to show their licenses if there is reasonable suspicion that a crime is being committed. Massachusetts and at least 13 other states have similar laws. This change would not be a violation of the 4<sup>th</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendments. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment does not guarantee openly carry a firearm. The courts have held that the states can regulate how and when guns are carried.

Mr. Jankowski spoke in support of the proposed resolution, noting that permitting police to request a permit can defuse an unnerving situation. There have been isolated incidents in Stamford. (He later clarified that there have been 2 organized events and 4 individual events in the past 5 years where someone has called 911. In one of those incidents a person refused to show their permit.)

Committee members discussed whether or not to hold this item in order to hear from those opposed to the proposed resolution. A motion to hold Item No. 2 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 4-3-1 (Reps. Giordano, Matherne, Palomba and Sandford in favor; Reps. Stella, Morson and Curtis opposed; Rep. Sherwood abstaining).

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|-------------|---|--------------------|
| 3. PS30.097 | REVIEW; Code of Ordinances <a href="#">Chapter 167: Numbering of Buildings</a> ; Particularly Compliance Citywide; Issues Found by First Responders (Police, Fire And EMS) Locating Addresses; and Ways to Increase Awareness of Importance of Proper Signage Identifying Houses and Buildings.<br>06/09/21 – Submitted by Rep. Curtis<br>06/14/21 – Held at Steering | <b>Report Made</b> |
|-------------|---|--------------------|

Committee members discussed Item No. 3 with Mr. Jankowski, Ms. Dennies and Ms. Carpanzano. There are some residents whose home addresses are not visible. A few years ago, the SFD put every address into GIS, so that addresses without numbers can still be located. If a first responder finds an address without a number, the owner is encouraged to put the number up. Issues remain with vanity addresses, but these are being included in the dispatch system. In the past, empty lots with construction did not

have addresses. Now, no building permit can be obtained until Engineering has assigned an address.

The City is working on this as part of the ERP process. Issues still being worked on are identifying commercial units with individual addresses within larger buildings and vanity addresses. The City is working to create a system that recognizes primary addresses, sub-addresses, vanity addresses and unofficial addresses.

Committee members discussed creating a publicity campaign to encourage people to post their addresses and to ensure people use correct addresses. A question was raised as to the collection of penalties through the Police Commission.

4. 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 8-0-0**  
06/05/19 – Submitted by Reps. Stella and Pratt  
09/26/19 – Held by Committee 4-0-1  
10/15/19 – Held at Steering  
12/09/19 – Held at Steering  
01/13/20 – Held at Steering  
02/27/20 – Held by Committee  
08/10/20 – Moved to Pending

As the invited guests had had to leave the meeting, a motion to hold Item No. 4 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Chair Stella adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeffrey Stella, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).