



Public Safety & Health Committee - Board of Representatives

Jeffrey Stella, Chair

Eric Morson, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Thursday, April 20, 2023

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 and Committee Member Reps. Berns, Campbell, Coleman, Garst, Pavia, and Pollack. Absent or excused were Reps. Morson and Roqueta. Also present were Reps. Adams, Boeger, Summerville and Walston; Mike Toma and Dana Lee, Office of Corporation Counsel; Matthew Quiñones, Director of Operations; and Lt. Eugene Dohmann, Stamford Police Department.

Chair Stella called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Invitee(s) or Designee(s)
	A motion to suspend the rules to take up Item No. 2 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Stella, Berns, Campbell, Coleman, Garst, Pavia, and Pollack in favor).	
2. PS31.037	ORDINANCE <u>for publication</u> ; Inoperable Elevators. 03/06/23 – Submitted by Matt Quinones 03/23/23 – Report Made & Held 7-0-0	Approved, as amended, 7-0-0

Mr. Toma explained that he had added an additional paragraph in response to concerns raised by the committee members at last month's meeting. The change recognizes that condos and coops are not similarly situated in that the owners would be using the elevator and not motivated to be delay repairs. Any delay is likely to be due to the property manager.

A motion to approve the amended ordinance for publication was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Stella, Berns, Campbell, Coleman, Garst, Pavia, and Pollack in favor).

1. [PS31.036](#) ORDINANCE for final adoption; Amending Code of Ordinances, [Chapter 72, Alcoholic Beverages §72-2](#), to Prohibit all Consumption of Alcoholic Liquor on any Public Highway or Municipally-Owned Public Area or in a Building or Room without a License for the Sale, Distribution or Dispensing of Alcoholic Liquors.
02/13/23 – Submitted by Reps. Stella, Campbell, Matheny, Tomas, and Sherwood
03/01/23 – Approved by Committee 7-0-0
03/23/23 – Public Hearing Held Report Made & Held 4-2-0

Approved, as Amended, 7-0-0

Rep. Boeger shared the [attached presentation](#) with the Committee.

Committee members discussed the proposed ordinance. Items discussed included the following:

- This ordinance is based on the New Haven ordinance; New Haven has seen a reduction in drinking on public streets as a result
- New Haven does not have a carve-out for parks and beaches
- Carving out specific neighborhoods would create the risk of a constitutional violation based on disparate treatment
- All of these beaches are parks are publicly accessible
- The streets surrounding the parks would be subject to the ordinance
- This infraction would not lead to arrest, although failure to answer a ticket is an arrestable offense
- Alcohol is an addiction, which should not be addressed with a fine
- The exception for parks with sporting fields would apply at any time, whether or not there is a game going on
- Police officers would have discretion to enforce this ordinance
- There is no exception for parks which have basketball courts but no other fields
- It will be possible to get data regarding how this ordinance is enforced

A motion to amend Item No. 2 to add a one-year sunset provision was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Stella, Berns, Campbell, Coleman, Garst, Pavia, and Pollack in favor).

A motion to amend Item No. 2 to include the [changes submitted by Attorney Lee](#) was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Stella, Berns, Campbell, Coleman, Garst, Pavia, and Pollack in favor).

A motion to approve Item No. 2 as amended was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Stella, Berns, Campbell, Coleman, Garst, Pavia, and Pollack in favor).

3. PS31.039 REVIEW; How the City of Stamford is Handling The Presumed Occupational Cancer Within the Fire Department
04/05/2023 – Submitted by Reps. Stella and Curtis

HELD

4. PS31.040 REVIEW; The Creation of a Special Committee/Task Force to Study, Make Innovative Programmatic Recommendations and Seek Funding to Improve the Quality of Life Issues for the City of Stamford Regarding Substance Abuse (Specifically Alcohol Consumption) and Mental Health Issues.
04/05/2023 – Submitted by Reps. Adams, Baxter, Moore, and Walston
- HELD**

Chair Stella noted that Item Nos. 3 and 4 were being held this month.

Chair Stella adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Stella, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).