

From: [Rosenson, Valerie](#)
To: [Emmett, Kathryn](#); [Isidro, Judith](#)
Cc: [Quinones, Matt](#)
Subject: Request for Legal Opinion
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 12:22:56 PM
Attachments: [Park Police Resolution.pdf](#)

Matthew Quinones, the President of the Board of Representatives, is requesting a legal opinion regarding the authority of the Parks & Recreation Commission to issue the attached resolution, which was forwarded to the Parks & Recreation Committee of the Board of Representatives via the Board office. In addition, President Quinones would like an opinion on the authority of the Board of Representatives to implement this resolution.

Thank you,

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A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING PARK POLICE MINIMUM COVERAGE

AT A MEETING OF THE CITY OF STAMFORD CONNECTICUT PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION, HELD AT 888 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD, STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, ON OCTOBER 17, 2018, the Commission adopted this **RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING PARK POLICE MINIMUM COVERAGE.**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sec. C6-120-2(3) of the Charter of the City of Stamford, the Parks and Recreation Commission shall have the power to make all rules and regulations for the use and conduct of all parks and all public recreation areas; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sec. 175-1 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Stamford, the Regulations enacted by the Parks and Recreation Commission shall have the force and effect of law following approval by the Board of Representatives and publication in a newspaper having general circulation; and

WHEREAS, the Parks & Recreation Commission has adopted such Regulations, which are now in full force and effect; and

WHEREAS, for at least the past fifty years, the Stamford Park Police have comprised, and continue to comprise, the primary unit for enforcement of the Regulations enacted by this Commission, as well as general law enforcement and the performance of numerous ancillary functions such as the nighttime closings of parks and portions thereof, all of which continue throughout the entire calendar year; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission has determined that the Park Police are an indispensable resource of the Department of Parks and Recreation of the City of Stamford; and

WHEREAS, the residents of the City of Stamford have shown an overwhelming desire to increase the presence of Park Police in the City's Parks and Recreational Facilities, from the standpoints of public safety, enforcement of Park Regulations, and overall quality of life in the City's Parks and Recreation Facilities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sec. C5-30-5(7) of the Charter of the City of Stamford, the Superintendent of Parks & Recreation shall perform such duties as are imposed by the Parks & Recreation Commission;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Parks & Recreation Commission, that the minimum coverage hours and assignments for Park Police shall consist of two Park Police Officers, one covering destination parks on the East Side and one covering destination parks on the West Side, from 6 PM until 1 AM, seven nights per week; and two Park Police Officers, one covering destination parks on the East Side and one covering destination parks on the West side, from 10 AM until 6 PM on Saturday and Sunday, 52 weeks per year; and be it further

RESOLVED that in addition to the foregoing minimum coverage hours and assignments, during the period from May 1 through September 30, inclusive, such minimum coverage shall increase to two Park Police Officers on the East and West side, respectively, and one additional Park Police Officer covering destination parks in the northern portion of the City during the same hours; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, or any official or officials performing the duties of the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation in the absence of such Superintendent, shall, as a duty imposed pursuant to Sec. C5-30-5(7) of the Charter, obtain and allocate the necessary funds, collaborate as needed with the Chief of Police to recruit and engage the necessary Park Police personnel, and take all other necessary actions to bring about the terms of this Resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED that no reduction of hours of the current Park Police Officers shall be ordered; and be it further

RESOLVED that in recognition of their part-time status, no Part-Time Park Police Officer shall be compelled to work during any hours such Officer is unavailable for work due to such Officer's outside schedule.

Dated this 16/17 day of October, 2018.

**CITY OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

By: 

David Winston
Commission Chair