C.H.E.S.S. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING, EDUCATION, SOCIAL SERVICES, STATE & COMMERCE

Maureen Pollack, Co-Chair Stephanie Sylvestre, Co-Chair

Committee Minutes

Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2026
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: This meeting was held in the Democratic Caucus Room and on Zoom.

The CHESS Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Co-Chairs Pollack and Sylvestre, and Committee Member Reps. Goldberg, Gross, McKeown, Price, Walston, Wirz and Yeager. Also in attendance were Reps. Adams, Camporeale, Dorsey, Hughes, Hyatt, Johnson, Lapine, and President Shaw; Ralph Blessing, Land Use Bureau Chief; Emily Gordon, Director of Housing and Community Development; and Moira Sawch, Community Development Administrator.

Co-Chair Pollack called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. CHESS32.024	**ORDINANCE for public hearing and final adoption;** Amending Section 146 Article VI of the Code of Ordinances – Stamford Housing Affordable Trust Fund. 09/06/2026 – Submitted by Reps. Shaw, Hughes and Lapine 09/30/2026 – Amended by Committee 8-0-0 09/30/2026 – Approved as amended by Committee 7-0-1 10/20/2026 – Approved as amended by Committee 7-1-0	**COMMITTEE APPROVED 8-0-1**

Co-Chair Pollack opened the public hearing at approximately 6:32 p.m. Twelve members of the public spoke regarding the proposed ordinance. Most of the discussion concerned tenant representation on the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board, the number and qualifications of trustees, housing affordability, transparency, and Board of Representatives oversight of Trust Fund expenditures. Several speakers expressed opposition to reducing tenant representation and increasing the amount requiring Board of Representatives review from $100,000 to $1 million.

Co-Chair Pollack closed the public hearing at approximately 6:58 p.m.

A motion was made to approve CHESS32.024 for final adoption. Said motion was seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-1. (Reps. Pollack, Sylvestre, Goldberg, Gross, McKeown, Price, Wirz and Yeager in favor; Rep. Walston abstained.)

2. CHESS32.026	**REVIEW;** the status of CDBG activities. 11/03/2026 – Submitted by Moira Sawch	**REPORT MADE**

Moira Sawch reviewed the status of CDBG public service projects for Years 50 and 51. The Committee discussed outstanding contracts, invoices, supporting documents, reimbursements, reporting requirements, and project closeouts. Ms. Sawch also answered questions regarding HUD communications and the timeline for future CDBG funding. No vote was taken.

Co-Chair Pollack adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Maureen Pollack, Co-Chair

This meeting is on video.