



Public Safety & Health Committee - Board of Representatives

Jeffrey Stella, Chair

Eric Morson, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Thursday, January 30, 2025

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. Campbell, Camporeale, and Graham. Absent or excused were Vice Chair Morson and Committee Members Reps. Berns, Pavia, Pollack, and Roqueta. Also in attendance were Reps. Adams, Matheny, and Summerville; Lou DeRubeis, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare; Stamford Police Sergeant Jeff Booth; Jody Bishop-Pullan, Director of Health & Human Services; and members of the public.

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

Item	Description	Committee Action
1. PS31.061	REVIEW; Need for more Park Police 01/08/25 – Submitted by Reps. Curtis and Stella	No Action Taken
2. PS31.049	REVIEW; Park Police Staffing and Park Enforcement for 2024	No Action Taken
3. PS31.062	REVIEW; High speed Driving/ street racing by highly modified vehicles in the City of Stamford and what can we do to address it 01/08/25 – Submitted by Reps. Curtis and Stella	No Action Taken
Due to the unavailability of one of the submitters, Items #1, #2, and #3 were not taken up.		
4. PS31.063	REVIEW; of warming centers and their policies on accepting animals. 01/08/25 – Submitted by Reps. Camporeale, Curtis and Stella	Report Made

Rep. Camporeale explained she spoke to a few homeless people in New York City who would not go to warming centers they did not want to leave their pets. She wants to know what is Stamford's policy on animals in warming centers.

Director DeRubeis spoke to Tilford Cobb, the animal shelter coordinator, and there is no specific policy. They do take abandoned animals and will take temporary surrender of a pet in an emergency, such as hospitalization of the owner. This is on a case by case basis but the animal shelter is not set up to take an influx of animals during cold weather.

Director Bishop-Pullan said the shelter system in Stamford is run through the State's 211 system. The starting point would be to connect with the 211 system about the shelters. Stamford's daytime warming centers are either municipal buildings or community partner buildings and only allow service animals. Overnight warming centers are the shelters.

Rep. Campbell stated there are some warming centers and emergency shelters in Bridgeport, Enfield, and Vernon that take animals. It would be a good idea to talk to the people who run these.

Chair Stella stated that as a city we can do better with this as no one should be turned away from seeking shelter because they have a pet.

5. PS31.064	REVIEW; hunting regulations within Stamford, including clarification on whether hunting with firearms is permitted and the process for granting hunting permissions on private properties. 01/08/25 – Submitted by Reps. Camporeale Curtis and Stella	Report Made
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Rep. Camporeale explained she received a letter from a hunter asking to use her property because there are several apps that tell hunters properties for potential use. Her property is less than one acre and was surprised that people can hunt on land that size.

Sergeant Booth said there is no city ordinance that controls hunting, it is all under state law. Hunting is allowed on private property with the owner's written permission. While all firearms can only be discharged a minimum of 500 feet from a human dwelling or a barn with domesticated animals, centerfire rifles can only be used on a minimum of 10 acres that is a single piece of property.

The 10 acre minimum only covers centerfire rifles, which is the standard for hunting. There are no minimum acreage laws for other types of guns and for bow hunting.

Westport has a stricter law than the state, but it is allowed because it existed before the Charter.

Chair Stella stated it is concerning that there are no acreage laws regarding bow hunting. While there are professional hunters, there could be non-hunters playing with a bow and arrow and a person could get struck. Additionally, it is the responsibility of a hunter to pursue a target if that target is struck but does not come down. If this does not happen, it can be very disturbing for people to witness a deer walking around with an arrow in it. He agrees that more research and conversation needs to happen regarding this topic.

6. [PS31.002](#) REVIEW; Administration Plans to pursue Air Quality Monitoring as Proposed in [Resolution 4081](#). (Previously PS30.092) **No Action Taken**
- 12/08/21 – Submitted by Reps. de la Cruz and Berns
12/13/21 – Moved to Pending
03/01/23 – Report Made
03/06/23 – Recommitted to Steering at Board Meeting by Unanimous Voice Vote
03/13/23 – Moved to Pending
04/20/22 – Held by Committee 6-0-0
05/18/22 – No Action Taken
06/13/22 – Moved to Pending
05/18/23 – Report Made
06/05/23 – Recommitted to Steering by Full Board
06/12/23 – Moved to Pending
08/24/28 – No Action Taken
09/21/23 – Report Made and Recommitted to Steering, 6-0-1
10/26/23- Report Made and Recommitted to Steering 5-0-0
11/13/23 – Moved to Pending
10/30/24 – Recommitted to Steering 7-0-0
11/12/24 – Moved to Pending

Due to the unavailability of the submitters, Item #6 was not taken up.

Chair Stella adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Stella, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).