

The Regular Meeting of the 31st Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford was held on Monday, January 6, 2025, at 8:00 p.m., remotely on Zoom.com.

DRAFT MINUTES

President Curtis called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m.

INVOCATION: Delivered by Rabbi Moshe Shemtov [16th District].

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: Led by President Curtis.

ROLL CALL: Conducted by Clerk Cottrell. There were 33 members present and 7 members absent or excused at the time of the roll call (Reps. Adams, Baines, Berns, Blank, Boeger, Campbell, Camporeale, Cottrell, Curtis, de la Cruz, Fedeli, Figueroa, Gilbride, Goldberg (left at 8:57 p.m.), Graham, Grunberger, Kuczynski, Matheny, Morson, Patterson, Pavia, Pierre-Louis, Pollack, Shaw, Sherwood (joined at 9:12 p.m.), Stella (left at 9:00 p.m.) Strain, Summerville (joined at 8:26 p.m.), Tomas, Vandervoort, Walston, Watkins, Weinberg, and Williams were present; Reps. Ley, Moore, Roqueta, Saffic, Sandford, absent or excused).

VOTING MACHINE STATUS: N/A

MOMENTS OF SILENCE: For the late: Former Representative Philip J. Giordano, and former President Jimmy Carter from the 31st Board of Representatives; and Ina Cameron Winn from Rep. Summerville.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. The deadline for the Steering Committee Agenda is Wednesday, January 8th at 5:00 p.m.
2. The Steering Committee meeting will be on Monday, January 13th at 7:00 p.m.
3. The next regular Board meeting will be on Monday, February 3rd at 8:00 p.m.
4. The Board office will be closed on Monday, January 20th.
5. Representative Berns is celebrating his birthday this month.
6. The invocation for the February Board Meeting will be the responsibility of the representatives from the 17th District (Reps. Fedeli and Pavia). Representatives are responsible for notifying the Board office with the name of the person doing the invocation.
7. If you need assistance with Zoom during the meeting, please call: [REDACTED] to speak with IT. Please do not call other members of the Board or the Board office. If you are having problems speaking or hearing with your computer, you can always access the meeting through a telephone by dialing the phone number on the Agenda - 1-646-558-8656, and using the Webinar ID on the agenda: **814 7054 1826**. Please call or text IT at

██████████ or text the Clerk at 475-489-5435 to let us know you are coming on, with the phone number you are using, and we will make sure you are able to speak during the meeting.

8. If you do not respond during a roll call vote, your name will be called 2 more times after the conclusion of the vote. If you do not respond, you will be assumed to have left the meeting and your name will not be called on the next roll call vote.
9. If you decide to leave the meeting, you must text the Clerk when you leave. If you need to leave the meeting for a short period, text the Clerk when you leave and return. Members who do not text the Clerk when they leave the meeting will be presumed to be present for all consent items.

A motion to change the Agenda order for the Public Participation Session to go before Honorary Resolutions was made, seconded and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION:

The following people spoke during the session: Kieran Edmondson, Susan Halpern, Michael Hyman, Andy George, Richard Freedman, Shelley Michelson, James Fleischer, Mike Pappa, Dave Adams, and Philip Magalnick.

HONORARY RESOLUTIONS:

1. [RESOLUTION](#); Honoring Jackie Heftman on her more than thirty years of dedicated volunteer leadership to the people of Stamford, including 5 years on the Urban Redevelopment Commission, 10 years on the Zoning Board and 16 years on the BOE.
12/04/24 – Submitted by Reps. Morson, Weinberg and Patterson
- FAILED BY A
ROLL CALL
VOTE OF 23-4-6**

A motion to approve the resolution honoring Jackie Heftman was made, seconded and failed by a roll vote of 23-4-6. (Reps. Adams, Berns, Blank, Camporeale, Cottrell, Curtis, de la Cruz, Fedeli, Gilbride, Goldberg, Grunberger, Matheny, Mays, Morson, Patterson, Pavia, Pierre-Louis, Pollack, Shaw, Vandervoort, Watkins, Weinberg, and Williams in favor; Reps. Campbell, Figueroa, Stella, and Walston opposed; and Reps. Boeger, Graham, Kuczynski, Strain, Summerville, and Tomas abstained.)

STANDING COMMITTEES

STEERING COMMITTEE:

Meeting: Monday, December 9, 2024
7:00 p.m. – By Webinar

A motion to waive the Steering Committee report was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE:

[Attendance](#)
[Minutes](#) & [Video](#)

Denis W. Patterson, Chair

Ramya Shaw, Vice Chair

Meeting: Tuesday, December 17, 2024

6:30 p.m. – Democratic Caucus Room and by webinar

Chair Patterson reported that the Appointments Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Shaw, and Committee Member Rep. Baines. Also in attendance were Reps. Goldberg and Weinberg. Absent or excused were Reps. Figueroa, Grunberger, Kuczynski, Pavia, Summerville, and Walston.

- | | | |
|------------|---|--|
| 1. A31.158 | Golf Commission
Robert Judge (R) Reappointment
Stamford, CT 06903
Term Expires: 12/1/2027
11/6/2024 - Submitted by Mayor Caroline Simmons
11/19/2024 – No Action Taken
12/17/2024 – No Quorum No Action Taken | APPROVED BY A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
<i>(Reps. Figueroa and Walston abstained)</i> |
| 2. A31.161 | Golf Commission
Angelo Ripegno (R) <i>Repl. Vera (R) Exp. 12/1/23</i>
Term Expires: 12/1/2027
Stamford, CT 06902
12/04/24 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
12/17/2024 – No Quorum No Action Taken | NO ACTION TAKEN |
| 3. A31.162 | Civil Citation Officers - Environmental Health
Ebrima Jobe, Director of Environmental Health and Inspections
12/04/24 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
12/17/2024 – No Quorum No Action Taken | APPROVED BY A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
<i>(Reps. Figueroa and Walston abstained)</i> |
| 4. A31.163 | Civil Citation Officers - Environmental Health
Tiziana Covacci, Deputy Director of Environmental Health and Inspections
12/04/24 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
12/17/2024 – No Quorum No Action Taken | APPROVED BY A UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
<i>(Reps. Figueroa and Walston abstained)</i> |

A motion to approve items 1, 3 and 4 was made, seconded and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

FISCAL COMMITTEE:

[Attendance & Votes](#)
[Minutes & Video](#)

Sean Boeger, Co-Chair**Mary Fedeli, Co-Chair**

Meeting: Monday, December 30, 2024

7:00 p.m. – Democratic Caucus Room and by
webinar

Co-Chair Fedeli reported that the Fiscal Committee met as indicated above.

In attendance were Co-Chair Fedeli and Committee Member Reps. Camporeale, Figueroa, Goldberg, Graham, Tomas, and Vandervoort. Also in attendance were Reps. Adams, de la Cruz, Summerville, and Williams; Bill Brink, Stamford Water Pollution Control Authority Executive Director; Anita Carpenter, Grants Officer, and Ann Brown, Stamford Water Pollution Control Authority Supervising Engineer. Absent or excused were Co-Chair Boeger, Reps. Morson, Pierre-Louis, and Shaw.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1. F31.489
\$2,000,000.00 | ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget);
Project: C22046 Perna Lane Area Sewers; Water
Pollution Control; Complete installation of sanitary
sewers, pump stations and force mains in the Phase 1
are of the Perna Lane Sewer Project.
11/18/24 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
12/12/24 – Item Withdrawn | WITHDRAWN |
| 2. F31.490 | RESOLUTION; Amending the Capital Budget for Fiscal
Year 24/25 Water Pollution Control Project C22046 Perna
Lane Sewers.
11/18/24 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
12/12/24 – Item Withdrawn | WITHDRAWN |
| 3. F31.491
\$350,000.00 | ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget);
Project: CP4242 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation; Water
Pollution Control; to rehabilitate sanitary sewers and
manholes to extend their useful life and remove infiltration
and inflow.
11/18/24 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
12/12/24 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-0-0
12/30/24 – Committee Approved 5-0-1 | APPROVED ON
THE CONSENT
AGENDA |
| 4. F31.492
\$250,000.00 | ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget);
Project: CP5241 Storm Water Pump Stations;
Operations, Stormwater Management; for capital
improvements at the three storm water pump stations that
make up the Stamford Hurricane Barrier: Dyke Lane,
Wampanaw and Cummings Pump Stations.
11/18/24 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
12/12/24 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-0-0
12/30/24 – Committee Approved 7-0-0 | APPROVED ON
THE CONSENT
AGENDA |
| 5. F31.493 | RESOLUTION; Amending the capital budget for Fiscal | APPROVED ON |

YR 24/25 by adding an appropriation of \$250,000 for the Storm Water Pump Stations Project and authorizing \$250,000 General Obligation bonds of the City to meet said appropriation.

11/18/24 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons

12/12/24 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-0-0

12/30/24 – Committee Approved 7-0-0

**THE CONSENT
AGENDA**

6. [F31.494](#)
\$1,423.00

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); This additional amount is to reflect the actual award amount. Funds will be used for Stamford Police Department; Click it Ticket Overtime and FICA.

11/18/24 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons

12/12/24 – Approved by Board of Finance 5-0-0

12/30/24 – Committee Approved 6-0-1

**APPROVED ON
THE CONSENT
AGENDA** (*Reps.
Boeger and
Figueroa
abstained*)

7. [F31.495](#)

RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for the John Boccuzzi Park Phase 2 Project #CP3159 (formerly #012662)

11//26/24 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons

12/30/24 – Committee Approved 7-0-0

**APPROVED ON
THE CONSENT
AGENDA**

8. [F31.496](#)

RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Mayor to enter into agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Services (FS) for the IRA Growing Together Stamford Project

11//26/24 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons

12/30/24 – Committee Approved 7-0-0

**APPROVED ON
THE CONSENT
AGENDA**

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item 3-8, was made, seconded and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**LEGISLATIVE & RULES
COMMITTEE:**

[Attendance](#) & [Votes](#)
[Minutes](#) & [Video](#)

Phil Berns, Chair

Sean Boeger, Vice Chair

Meeting: Thursday, January 2, 2025

7:00 p.m. – By Webinar

Chair Berns reported that the Legislative and Rules Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Phil Berns, Vice-Chair Boeger and Committee Member Reps. Blank, Cottrell, Fedeli, Matheny, Pierre-Louis, and Vandervoort. Also in attendance were Reps. Adams, Strain, Summerville, Walston, and Weinberg; Peter Gould, Park Police Coordinator; Greg Stackpole, Tax Assessor and Jonathan Gottlieb, President, Rippowam Corporation. Absent or

excused was Representative Sherwood.

1. [LR31.088](#) ORDINANCE for public hearing and Final Adoption;
Concerning a Tax Abatement Agreement among the City
of Stamford and Oak Park 2 Limited Partnership and the
Housing Authority of the City of Stamford for 43 Below-
Market Units Located at Ursula Place, Stamford, CT.
10/16/24 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
11/26/24 – Approved by Committee 8-0-0
01/02/25 – Approved by Committee 8-0-0 **APPROVED ON
THE CONSENT
AGENDA**

2. [LR31.077](#) ORDINANCE for public hearing and Final Adoption;
Concerning the definition and regulation of the use of
Motorized Recreational Vehicles
07/09/24 – Submitted by Rep. Boeger and Curtis
07/15/24 – Held at Steering
08/12/24 – Held at Steering
10/01/24 – Recommitted to Steering
10/29/24 – Recommitted to Steering 8-0-0
11/26/24 – Amended by Committee 8-0-0
11/26/24 – Approved as Amended for Publication by
Committee 8-0-0
01/02/25 – Approved as amended by Committee 8-0-0 **APPROVED ON
THE CONSENT
AGENDA**

3. [LR31.076](#) ORDINANCE for public hearing and Final Adoption;
Concerning the definition and regulation of the use of
External Loud Speakers.
07/09/24 – Submitted by Rep. Boeger
07/15/24 – Held at Steering
10/01/24 – Recommitted to Steering
10/01/24 – Recommitted to Steering
10/29/24 – Recommitted to Steering 8-0-0
11/26/24 – Amended by Committee 7-0-0
11/26/24 – Approved for Publication by Committee 7-0-0
01/02/25 – Approved by Committee 8-0-0 **APPROVED ON
THE CONSENT
AGENDA**

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item 1-3, was made, seconded and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

[Attendance & Votes](#)
[Minutes & Video](#)

Mary Fedeli, Chair

Bobby Pavia, Vice Chair

Meeting: Monday, December 16, 2024

7:00 p.m. – By Webinar

Chair Fedeli reported that the Personnel Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Fedeli, Vice Chair Pavia and Committee Member Reps. Adams, Berns, Cottrell, Figueroa,

Goldberg, Patterson, and Williams. Also in attendance were Reps. Morson, Summerville, Walston, and Weinberg; Dr. Tamu Lucero, Dr. Michael Fernandes, and Ryan Fealey, Board of Education; Dr. Paula Russell, Human Resources Department; and members of the public.

- | | | |
|------------|--|---|
| 1. P31.062 | APPROVAL; of an employment agreement with Ana Gonzalez for Labor Relations Specialist
11/08/24 – Submitted by P. Russell
12/16/24 – Approved by Committee 9-0-0 | APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA (Rep. Curtis abstained) |
| 2. P31.063 | REJECTION; of an agreement between the Board of Education and Stamford Education Association (SEA)
11/19/24 – Submitted by P. Russell
11/13/24 – Advisory Opinion of the Board of Finance
12/16/24 – Rejection failed by Committee 0-8-1 | REJECTION FAILED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
(Rep. Pavia Abstained) |

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item 1, was made, seconded and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

A motion to reject Item number 2 was made, seconded and failed by a unanimous voice vote.

LAND USE/URBAN REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: **Nina Sherwood, Co-Chair**
Carmine Tomas, Co-Chair

Co-Chair Sherwood reported there was no meeting of the Land Use/ Urban Redevelopment Committee and no report.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE: **Virgil de la Cruz, Chair**
Carmine Tomas, Vice Chair

Chair de la Cruz reported that there was no meeting of the Operations Committee and no report.

PUBLIC SAFETY & HEALTH COMMITTEE: **Jeffrey Stella, Chair**
Eric Morson, Vice Chair
[Attendance](#) & [Votes](#)
[Minutes](#) & [Video](#)
Meeting: Thursday, December 16, 2024
6:30 p.m. – By Webinar

Vice Chair Morson reported that the Public Safety & Health Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Stella, Vice-Chair Morson and Committee Member Reps. Phil Berns, Campbell, Camporeale, Graham, Pavia, and Pollack. Also in attendance were Reps. Adams, Boeger, Tomas, and Walston; Lou DeRubeis, Director of Public Safety, Health and Welfare, and Gene Dohmann, Police Captain. Absent or

excused was Rep. Roqueta.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| 1. PS31.059 | ORDINANCE for <u>public hearing and Final Adoption</u> ; concerning an amendment to chapter 72 Alcoholic Beverages, Section 72-2, Sale and Consumption on Municipal Property
11/27/24 – Submitted by Rep. Boeger
11/27/24 – Approved by Committee 7-0-1
12/16/24 – Approved by Committee 8-0-0 | APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA (<i>Rep. Adams abstained</i>) |
|-----------------------------|--|---|

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item 1, was made, seconded and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE:

[Attendance & Votes](#)
[Minutes & Video](#)

Jennifer Matheny, Chair
Daniel R. Sanford, Vice Chair
Meeting: Thursday, December 19, 2024
7:00 p.m. –By webinar

Chair Matheny reported that the Parks and Recreation Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Matheny, Vice-Chair Sanford, and Committee Member Reps. de la Cruz, Gilbride, Kuczynski, and Weinberg. Also in attendance were Land Use-Urban Redevelopment Chair Sherwood, Co-Chair Tomas and Committee Member Reps. Adams, Campbell, Camporeale, Mays; and Melanie Hollas, Parks & Recreation Commission Chair. Absent or excused were Reps. Grunberger, Saftic, and Summerville.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. PR31.038 | RESOLUTION; A Resolution of the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford Supporting the Zoning of City Parks as Dedicated Parkland
11/25/24 – Submitted by Reps. Tomas, Sherwood and Matheny
12/16/24 – Approved by Committee 6-0-0
Secondary Committee: Land Use/UR Committee | APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item 1, was made, seconded and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Megan Cottrell, Chair
Ramya Shaw, Vice Chair

Chair Cottrell reported that there was no meeting of the Education Committee and no report.

**HOUSING/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE:**

Mavina Moore, Co-Chair
Rob Roqueta, Co-Chair

President Curtis reported that there was no meeting of the Housing, Community Development and Social Services Committee and no report.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: **David Watkins, Chair**
 Terry Adams, Vice Chair

Chair Watkins reported that there was no meeting of the Transportation Committee and no report.

STATE & COMMERCE COMMITTEE: **Fred Pierre-Louis, Chair**

Chair Pierre-Louis reported that there was no meeting of the State and Commerce Committee and no report.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

OUTSIDE COUNSEL/HIGH **Jeff Curtis, Chair**
RIDGE LITIGATION COMMITTEE:

President Curtis reported that there was no meeting of the Outside Counsel/High Ridge Litigation Committee and no report.

MINUTES

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | APPROVAL; December 2, 2024, Regular Board Meeting
Minutes. | APPROVED BY
A UNANIMOUS
VOICE VOTE
<i>(Reps. Berns,
Sherwood and
Curtis abstained)</i> |
|----|---|--|

A motion to approve Item No. 1 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote

ADJOURNMENT: President Curtis adjourned the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

This meeting is on [video](#)