Minutes of the
Legislative & Rules Committee Meeting
For the May 3, 2004 Regular Board Meeting

Date: Monday, April 19, 2004
Location: Board of Representatives Democratic Caucus Room
Time: 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. Present were Committee Member Reps. Nakian, Mitchell, Esposito, Greenberg, Zelinsky and Nowakowski; Representative Adams; President Martin, Clerk of the Board Summerville. Also present were Bill Callion, Mike Freimuth, Rachel Goldberg, Tanya Court, Jacqueline Olsehom, Jim Augustine, Scott Orstad, William Hennessey (attorney for Stamford Health System), Richard Kleindienetos, Ed McCormick, Pam Koproski, Jake Olson and Fred Manfredonia.

Item No. LR26.032 – Proposed Ordinance for republication and final adoption amending Section 220.13 of the Code increasing the exemption and income allowance for veterans.

Chair Nakian called the public hearing to order. No one from the public was present to speak on this item.

Item No.LR26.048 – Proposed Ordinance for public hearing and final adoption concerning gifts from contractors to city officials.

Chair Nakian declared the public hearing open. No one from the public was present to speak on this item.

Item No. LR26.051 – Proposed Ordinance for public hearing and final adoption providing for a tax abatement for property owned by the American National Red Cross.

Chair Nakian declared the public hearing open. No one from the public was present to speak on this item.

Item No. LR26.047 – Proposed Ordinance for public hearing and final adoption regarding Chapter 68,Aircraft, Article I, Helicopters.

Chair Nakian declared the public hearing open. William Hennessey, attorney for Stamford Health System introduced Dr. James Augustine, a board certified emergency room physician, Pam Koproski, Public Affairs Officer for Stamford Health System, Richard Kleindienetos, a representative of Yale New Haven Health System and Ed McCormick, the Emergency Director of Stamford Health System.

Mr. Hennessey reiterated his points made at previous meetings that this ordinance will allow the Zoning Board to establish a special exception where by Stamford Health System could apply for a permit to locate a helicopter landing facility on its property.

The ordinance was reviewed, and upon motion duly made and seconded, was amended to change "life-threatening" in the definition of a medical emergency to "life- or limb-threatening."

Rep. Greenberg moved adoption of the ordinance as amended; said motion was seconded and approved 6-0-0 (Committee Members Nakian, Greenberg, Zelinsky, Mitchell, Nowakowski and Esposito in favor).

LR26.060 – Proposed Ordinance for publication amending the Code of Ethics and other sections of the Code of Ordinances relating to gifts.

A motion to hold this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-0.

LR26.062 – Proposed Ordinance for publication establishing the position of Legislative Aide as an unclassified position.

Fred Manfredonia reviewed the ordinance. He stated that this would be an unclassified position and would be part of the pay plan. Most likely the hourly rate would fall between $21.86 and $26.60 per hour and fall in a Pay Plan Grade 0 or Grade 1.

Rep. Greenberg asked if the person would attend committee meetings. Rep. Summerville stated that the person would attend as necessary and as assigned to facilitate the person's work with the ordinances.

Rep. Zelinsky moved the ordinance; said motion was seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-0.

LR26.049 – Resolution regarding the Stamford Urban Transitway Project.

Lou Casolo and Rachel Goldberg reviewed the results of the public hearing held on April 15. About 75 people attended, but only five members of the public spoke. None of the speakers were against the project. They then discussed the process for condemning properties. Mr. Casolo also referred the members to the Engineering Department's website (**www.cityofstamford.org/engineering/urbantransitway/rightofway/default.asp**) that includes all of the information presented to the Committee. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the rights that property owners had to appeal and negotiate settlements

A motion to approve the resolution was made and seconded; said motion was approved by a vote of 6-0-0

LR26.057 – Review of Chapter 117, Enterprise Zone.

Mike Freimuth appeared before the Committee to discuss this matter. He provided a summary of his comments, which are attached hereto.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.