



Legislative & Rules Committee – Board of Representatives

Benjamin Lee, Chair

Elise Coleman, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Tuesday, August 18, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: This meeting was held remotely on zoom.com.

The Legislative & Rules Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Lee and Committee Member Reps. Fedeli, Florio, Jacobson, Lion, Miller, Nabel and Zelinsky. Absent was Rep. Coleman. Also present were Olympia Della Flora, Associate Superintendent for School Development, Stamford Public Schools; Dawn McGinn, Chartwells; and Michael Johnson, Sullivan & LeShane.

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Invitee(s) or Designees
1. LR30.070	<p>ORDINANCE <u>for publication</u>: Concerning Polystyrene and Retail Vendors. 06/05/19 – Submitted by Rep. Jacobson, de la Cruz, Kolenberg, Lion, Cottrell and Zelinsky 06/18/19 – Held by Committee 6-0-0 07/23/19 – Held by Committee 6-0-0 08/20/19 – Held by Committee 6-0-0 09/17/19 – Held by Committee 6-0-0 10/22/19 – Held by Committee 6-0-0 11/12/19 – Held at Steering 12/09/19 – Held at Steering 01/13/20 – Held at Steering 02/18/20 – Held by Committee 7-0-0 03/30/20 – Held by Committee 7-0-0 04/14/20 – Held at Steering 05/11/20 – Held at Steering</p>	Approved, as amended, 7-0-1

Committee members discussed the impact of the proposed ordinance on Stamford Public Schools with Ms. Della Flora and Ms. McGinn. Items discussed included the following:

- The schools have been doing grab & go meals since March 12, which don't use trays
- Prior to Covid, the schools were using 1 million trays per year in the elementary schools; there will be no trays at the beginning of the school year since the cafeteria will not be used
- There is inventory on hand
- The cost to change to non-styrofoam trays is an additional \$60,000 per year (each tray is an increase of \$.06).
- The schools are also trying to increase participation in the school lunch program

- The school system would like to move toward sustainability, but the cost is not insignificant
- SPS would need to do a timeline to determine a reasonable time frame to make this shift
- The increased cost is relevant to the next budget cycle
- The increased cost would be an operational cost and might not necessarily be passed on to the child; the District makes the decision regarding the cost of meals
- The next fiscal year begins July 1, 2021

Mr. Johnson reviewed the [proposed changes](#) he submitted – exempting raw meat and tightening the definition of retail establishments (these recommendations are based upon the older draft).

Committee members continued to discuss the [proposed revised ordinance](#) (based upon the Norwalk ordinance):

- The exemption for meat sold from a butcher case would include meat prepared by and packed by a butcher at a counter
- A City of Stamford department or facility would include the Stamford Public Schools
- The ordinance should make clear that items sealed prior to sale are not included (eg. packages of Styrofoam cups)
- The violation amounts are fair

A motion to amend Item No. 1 to adopt the the [proposed revised ordinance](#) (based upon the Norwalk ordinance) was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Lee, Fedeli, Florio, Jacobson, Lion, Miller, Nabel and Zelinsky in favor).

A motion to amend Section 183-4.A to add the following language was made and seconded:

- 4, Polystyrene Food Service Products or Polystyrene Loose Fill Packaging that are sealed prior to receipt by the Retail Establishment.

This motion was approved by a vote of 5-3-0 (Reps. Lee, Fedeli, Florio, Jacobson and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Lion, Miller and Nabel opposed).

A motion to amend Section 183-7 as follows was made and seconded:

Sec. 183-7. – Effective date.

This article shall become effective six months following its effective date, except that this ordinance shall not apply to Stamford Public Schools until January 1, ~~2025~~ 2023.

This motion was approved by a vote of 6-0-2 (Reps. Lee, Fedeli, Florio, Jacobson, Lion and Miller in favor; Reps. Nabel and Zelinsky abstaining).

A motion to approve the ordinance, as amended, for publication, was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 7-0-1 (Reps. Lee, Fedeli, Florio, Jacobson, Lion, Miller and Nabel in favor; Rep. Zelinsky abstaining).

Chair Lee adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Benjamin Lee, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).