



Legislative & Rules Committee – Board of Representatives

Phil Berns, Co-Chair

Susan Nabel, Co-Chair

Committee Report

Date: Tuesday, April 26, 2022
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: *This meeting was held remotely.*

The Legislative & Rules Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Co-Chairs Berns and Nabel and Committee Member Reps. Boeger, Cottrell, Florio, Matheny, Miller and Sherwood. Excused was Rep. Jacobson. Also present were Reps. de la Cruz, Morson and Sherwood.

Co-Chair Nabel called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. LR31.024	RESOLUTION <u>and public hearing</u> ; Approving a Purchase and Sale agreement between the City of Stamford and Crescent Housing Partners, LLC for the Sale of 35 Crescent Street. 03/23/22 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons 04/12/22 - To be Considered by Planning Board 04/13/22 - FAILED in Board of Finance	No Action Taken
2. LR31.018	APPROVAL; Amendment to the Board of Representatives Rules of Procedure to Amend Section II.B.1 to Establish a Postage Allowance to Facilitate Representatives' Broader Communication with Constituents. 02/09/22 – Submitted by Reps. de la Cruz, Morson and Sherwood 03/01/22 – Held by Committee 8-0-0 03/29/22 – Held by Committee 7-0-0	Held 8-0-0

Committee members discussed this proposed amendment to the Rules. Items discussed included:

- This process needs to be confirmed with the Board office
- Since there is no line item for postage in the current budget, this would need to be included in next year's budget
- It is not clear that quarterly means one time per year, rather than four times per year
- It needs to be clarified who will be reviewing the content
- Maybe rather than including the entire process in the rules, it should be more generic, stating that there will be a postage allowance

A motion to hold Item No. 2 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Berns, Nabel, Boeger, Cottrell, Florio, Matheny, Miller and Sherwood in favor).

- 3. [LR31.006](#) APPROVAL; Amendment to the Board of **Approved 7-1-0**
 Representatives Rules of Procedure to Amend
 Section II.B.1 to Remove Reference to Mailing
 Allowance.
 12/08/21 – Submitted by Rep. Sherwood
 12/28/21 – Held by Committee 6-3-0
 01/25/22 – Held by Committee 9-0-0
 03/01/22 – Held by Committee 8-0-0
 03/29/22 – Held by Committee 7-0-0

Committee members discussed whether to remove this language, which currently refers to a non-existent postage allowance or to move it to the Pending Agenda until Item No. 2 is concluded.

A motion to hold Item No. 3 was made, seconded and failed by a vote of 3-5-0 (Reps. Boeger, Cottrell and Florio in favor; Reps. Berns, Nabel, Matheny, Miller, and Sherwood opposed).

A motion to approve Item No. 3 was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 7-1-0 (Reps. Berns, Nabel, Boeger, Florio, Matheny, Miller and Sherwood in favor; Rep. Cottrell opposed).

- 4. [LR31.015](#) APPROVAL; Amendment to the Board of **Failed 2-5-1**
 Representatives Rules of Procedure to Amend
 Section V.B.5 to remove the Requirement for
 Approval by the Majority and Minority Leader.
 02/08/22 – Submitted by Rep. Sandford
 03/01/22 – Failed in Committee 3-5-0
 03/07/22 – Recommitted by Full Board
 03/29/22 – Held by Committee 7-0-0

Committee members discussed Item No. 4. Items discussed included the following:

- This item will bring the motion to limit debate into conformance with Robert’s Rules
- This might increase the chances of limiting debate
- This would take the minority party out of the equation if the Board is lopsided as it is now
- What if the majority and minority leader were to change
- This change would depersonalize the issue

A motion to approve Item No. 4 was made, seconded and failed by a vote of 2-5-1 (Reps. Nabel and Florio in favor; Reps. Berns, Boeger, , Matheny, Miller and Sherwood opposed; Rep. Cottrell abstaining).

- 5. [LR31.020](#) APPROVAL; Amendment to the Board of **Failed 3-5-0**
 Representatives Rules of Procedure Section V.B to
 Prohibit any Motion to Move the Question or Limit
 Debate Until Each Person Seeking to Speak is
 Given Two Minutes to do so.
 03/07/22 – Submitted by Reps. Berns
 03/29/22 – Held by Committee 7-0-0

Rep. Berns stated that he has removed his name as the submitter from this item because he feels it will result in limiting debate.

A motion to approve Item No. 5 was made, seconded and failed by a vote of 3-5-0 (Reps. Nabel, Cottrell, and Florio in favor; Reps. Berns, Boeger, , Matheny, Miller and Sherwood opposed).

6. [LR31.016](#) APPROVAL; Amendment to the Board of **Held 8-0-0**
Representatives Rules of Procedure Section IV.A.1
to add new Subsection g. to Vote on the Consent
Agenda all at Once.
02/09/22 – Submitted by Reps. Cottrell and Ley
03/01/22 – Held by Committee 8-0-0
03/29/22 – Held by Committee 7-0-0

A motion to hold Item No. 6 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote (Reps. Berns, Nabel, Boeger, Cottrell, Florio, Matheny, Miller and Sherwood in favor).

Co-Chair Nabel adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Nabel, Co-Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).