



Special Outside Counsel Committee – Board of Representatives

Jeff Curtis, Chair

Committee Report

Date: Thursday, January 12, 2023

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Meeting held remotely

The Special Outside Counsel Committee met at the above date and time. In attendance were President Curtis and Committee Member Reps. Berns, Bewkes, de la Cruz, Fedeli, Miller, Nabel, and Sherwood. Absent was Rep. Stella. Also present were Reps. Adams, Baxter, Campbell, Cottrell, Garst, Matheny, Mays, Moore, Morson, Patterson, Pavia, Shaw, Summerville, Tomas, and Watkins, and Patricia Sullivan, Esq., Cohen & Wolf.

President Curtis called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Possibly in Executive Session:

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. OC31.001	REVIEW; Status of High Ridge Real Estate Owner, LLC v Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford. 05/04/22 – Submitted by President Curtis and Rep. Nabel 05/31/22 – Held by Committee 8-0-0 6/13/22 – Moved to Pending	Held 8-0-0

Ms. Sullivan explained that this action was begun in 2018 with a complaint and then proceeded through the trial court to the Supreme Court which took about 2 years. The case was bifurcated into the petition part and the substantive part – whether the Board properly overturned the decision of the Zoning Board. The Board was successful in defending the first part in the Supreme Court and in early 2022 the Supreme Court issued an opinion that the petition was valid. The case is now back in the Supreme Court for the substantive issue. The next steps would be briefing by the parties on the substantive issues. There was a status conference this morning before Judge Lee and there will be another conference on February 23rd to determine if discovery has been completed.

A motion to go into executive session to discuss a pending litigation was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. All members of the Board of Representatives present and Attorney Sullivan went into executive session at 6:07 p.m. (Reps. Campbell, Mays, and Sherwood joined the meeting during executive session).

The committee came out of executive session and 6:54 p.m. President Curtis announced that no votes had been taken in executive session.

In response to questions from the committee, Ms. Sullivan noted that to date, \$192,000 has been spent by the Board of Representatives on the High Ridge litigation.

A motion to hold Item No. 1 was made, seconded, and approved by unanimous voice vote. (Reps. Curtis, Berns, Bewkes, de la Cruz, Fedeli, Miller, Nabel, and Sherwood in favor).

President Curtis adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Curtis, President

This meeting is on video ([Pt. 1](#) & [Pt. 2](#)).