



Public Safety & Health Committee - Board of Representatives

Jeffrey Stella, Chair

Eric Morson, Vice Chair

Committee Minutes

Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: *This meeting was held remotely.*

The Public Safety & Health Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Stella and Committee Member Reps. Berns, Campbell, Coleman, Pavia, and Pollack. Absent or excused were Reps. Morson, Garst and Roqueta. Also present were Reps. Adams, de la Cruz, Matheny, Sherwood, and Summerville; Mike Toma and Office of Corporation Counsel; Matthew Quiñones, Director of Operations; Louis DeRubeis, Dir. Of Public Safety, Health & Welfare; Kevin Neary, DEEP; Jeff Wilcom, DEEP; Mike Toma, Law Department; and J. Bishop-Pullen, Health Director.

Chair Stella opened the meeting at 6:34 p.m. Chair Stella stated that items nos. 2, 3 and 6 will be held tonight due to the unavailability of invited guests.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. PS31.037	<u>ORDINANCE for public hearing and final adoption;</u> Inoperable Elevators. 03/06/23 – Submitted by Matt Quinones 03/23/23 – Report Made & Held 7-0-0 04/20/23 – Approved by Committee, as amended, 7-0-0	COMMITTEE APPROVED 4-0-1

Attorney Toma received an email from the State's Building inspector who identified concerns with the proposed ordinance in two areas where the wording of the previous draft would cause potential conflict with State law. The wording had required that the maintenance of the elevators would be in accordance with industry standards and that wording would allow an elevator operator to maintain those elevators differently than the actual regulations of the state on elevators. She recommended that the language be changed from maintaining elevators in accordance with industry standards to maintaining elevators in accordance with the State Code on Elevators. The other change recommended by the State was the references to ADA be removed because some buildings do not have to be ADA compliant for various reasons.

A motion to approve the amendments to this ordinance was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 4-0-1. (Stella, Berns, Campbell, Coleman, and Pavia; Berns abstained)

A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 4-0-1.
(Stella, Campbell, Coleman, and Pavia in favor; Berns abstained)

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| 2. PS31.039 | REVIEW; of How the City of Stamford is Handling the Presumed Occupational Cancer within the Fire Department
04/05/2023 – Submitted by Reps. Stella, Curtis, Watkins, Campbell, Baxter, Figueroa, Matheny, Boeger, Pierre-Louis, Pavia, Roqueta, de la Cruz, Tomas, Sherwood and Garst.
04/20/23 – Held | HELD |
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| 3. PS31.041 | ORDINANCE <u>for publication</u> ; Awarding Disability Pension to all Presumed Occupational Cancer Diagnoses in the Stamford Fire Department.
05/03/23 – Submitted by Reps. Stella, Curtis, Figueroa, Matheny, Pavia, Roqueta, de la Cruz, Tomas, Campbell, Garst, and Sherwood | HELD |
| <i>As a Secondary Committee: Personnel</i> | | |
| 4. PS31.042 | REVIEW; The Relocated and Reused Soil Removed by BLT at Harbor Point.
05/03/2023 – Submitted by Reps. Stella and Garst | MOTION TO RECOMMIT TO STEERING 5-0-0 |

¹The Committee discussed with the invited guest from the DEEP the following:

- Complaints received about the soil movement
- Uncovered soil having possible contaminants
- DEEP enforcing proper handling of the soil
- This has been an ongoing issue for years
- Confirmed that Air monitoring is happening
- Continues to monitor and confirm proper handling of soil
- Residents continue to report what they see
- Most BLT issues has been corrected
- Still have Vitti construction site concerns
- BLT does not use Vitti Construction
- Soil meets the residential criteria on the 14-acre parcel
- If soil is being moved it has been remediated/regulated and approved by the DEEP; heavily contaminated soil cannot be moved
- Most BLT sites are in a remediation program which requires an investigation which consists of:
 - Look at the history of the site
 - Based on that information investigate
 - If contaminated soil is found then it requires further investigation and clean up
- Most BLT sites are over seen by a Licensed Environmental Professional
- DEEP does not regulate rock crushing

A motion to recommit this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-0-0.
(Stella, Campbell, Coleman, Pavia and Pollack in favor)

¹ Video Time Stamp 00:19:35 Discussion on PS31.042

5. [²PS31.002](#) REVIEW; Administration Plans to pursue Air Quality Monitoring as Proposed in [Resolution 4081](#). (Previously PS30.092) **REPORT MADE**
- 12/08/21 – Submitted by Reps. de la Cruz and Berns
 - 12/13/21 – Moved to Pending
 - 03/01/23 – Report Made
 - 03/06/23 – Recommitted to Steering at Board Meeting by Unanimous Voice Vote
 - 03/13/23 – Moved to Pending
 - 04/20/22 – Held by Committee 6-0-0
 - 05/18/22 – No Action Taken
 - 06/13/22 – Moved to Pending

Rep. de la Cruz wanted the board to discuss this item because the State reported that Stamford's Asthma's rate are very high. He discussed with the law department and they responded with the attached [legal opinion](#). Rep. de la Cruz said based on their opinion he drafted a [resolution](#) which included having a [program](#) to be vetted by the State so they can proceed.

Director DeRubeis stated that the air quality is top priority. The 30th Board of Representatives passed a [resolution](#) to prepare and seek State approval of an Air Quality Monitoring Program and implement such program. Based on that information previous director Jankowski had established a relationship with the State that led to the current monitoring system which is 10 purple air monitors distributed throughout the City. The monitors are primarily south of Bulls Head, they are updated every 10 minutes and the data is on the public safety website. On May 9, 2023 Stamford was approved for a \$70,000.00 US EPA grant to install 3 monitors in the West Side and South End areas of Stamford. The Monitors are more robust, measures nitric oxide and ozone levels and other additional components not being monitored with the current system. As part of the grant award Stamford has 6 components:

- To establish an air quality working group that consists of neighborhood representatives, community leaders and stake holders.
- Host 3 community meetings prior to roll out and collect feedback and share information.
- Installing the 3 air quality monitors
- Develop an air quality monitoring website
- The outreach and promotion of information in various languages
- Measure project results

6. [PS31.038](#) REVIEW; City of Stamford Court Case and the City's Enforcement Against A. Vitti Construction; An Update on A. Vitti Construction in their Completion of Obtaining a Certificate of Occupancy. (Previously reviewed as PS30.101 and [PS30.068](#)). **HELD**
- 03/06/22 – Submitted by Rep. Stella
 - 03/13/23 – Moved to Pending

² Video Time Stamp 01:29:00 Discussion on PS31.002

Chair Stella adjourned the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Stella, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).