

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD
CITY OF STAMFORD
MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 9, 2020
SPECIAL MEETING**

Members Present:

Dr. Leigh Shemitz, Member
Ashley A. Ley, Member
Laura Tessier, Member
David J. Kozlowski, Alternate Member
Thomas C. Romas, Alternate Member

Members Not Present:

Gary H. Stone, Chairman
Louis P. Levine, Member
Stephen J. Schneider, Alternate Member

Staff Members Present:

Richard H. Talamelli, Executive Director/Environmental Planner

The Special Meeting, which was called to order at 7:00 PM by Dr. Shemitz, was held in the Training and Conference Room, Sixth Floor, Stamford, Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, Connecticut, 06904-2152. The meeting was video recorded.

MINUTES:

APPLICATIONS AND PERMITS:

SITE PLAN REVIEWS:

SUBDIVISION REVIEWS:

ENFORCEMENT – STATUS REPORTS AND SHOW CAUSE HEARINGS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

Operating Budget Considerations:

Staff Member Talamelli addressed the Board on matters pertaining to the EPB's proposed Operating Budget for 2020-21. Mr. Talamelli noted that the EPB, under the provisions of the Ordinance, is expected to prepare and endorse a separate budget for its department.

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Mr. Talamelli stated that the base operating budget is affected by many elements including the Board's operational needs, the administration's budgetary directives, past account performance, new initiatives, and other related factors. Generally, the proposed budget mimics that prepared in prior years, with minor adjustments to certain line items including overtime, to enable an Environmental Analyst to attend up to three (3) additional meetings per year; advertising and notice, to allow for the notice necessary to implement the Community Rating System (CRS) program; equipment rental/maintenance, to ensure sufficient funds for copier rental and maintenance needs; telephone, to provide service for I-Pads or similar technology; printing/copying, to allow for the printing necessary to implement the Community Rating System (CRS) program, and software/hardware, to facilitate the purchase of I-Pads or similar technology, secure the software necessary to conduct electronic plan reviews, etc.

Mr. Talamelli further reported that the department proposed a program expansion to restore important technical review and inspection capabilities with an additional Environmental Analyst. He noted that an additional Analyst is required to maintain our commitment to serve the public in a prompt and efficient manner given the increasing intensity/complexity of development, the growing demands of essential environmental regulations/programing (such as Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System - MS4 and Community Rating System - CRS) and the City's recent initiatives to improve operational efficiencies. Note that the number of technical personnel linked to the EPB has, historically, eroded from a high of four (4) to the current level of three (3). The expansion will increase work efficiency and responsiveness, and will ultimately, result in both time and cost savings for both the City and its residents.

Further discussion ensued between Staff and Board Members on numerous topics including conservation education, advertising/notice costs necessary to support an anticipated regulation change, the performance of proposed technological enhancements, and the role of the EPB on certain conservation activities/matters.

Motion/Vote: Upon a motion by Ms. Ley, and seconded by Ms. Tessier, the Board voted to **APPROVE** the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21 as described in the documents titled "Fiscal Year 2020-21 (Department Request) Program Detail Report," revised January 7, 2020 (as amended).

In Favor: Shemitz, Ley, Tessier, Kozlowski, and Romas
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None
Not Voting: None

ADJOURN:

Adjourn the Special Meeting of January 9, 2020.

There being no further business, the Board, upon a motion by Ms. Tessier, and

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seconded by Mr. Kozlowski, voted to **ADJOURN** the Special Meeting of January 9, 2020.

In Favor: Shemitz, Ley, Tessier, Kozlowski and Romas
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None
Not Voting: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:32PM.

Gary H. Stone, Chairman
Environmental Protection Board

Minutes: Prepared from meeting notes taken by Richard H. Talamelli, Executive Director/Environmental Planner

January 30, 2020
February 13, 2020