Planning and Development Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

10:30 AM in Room 2B of the LOB

The meeting was called to order at 10:36 AM by Chairman, Sen. Cassano, S. S04.

The following committee members were present:

Senators: Cassano S. S04; Champagne D. S35; Cohen C. S12; Somers H. S18

Representatives: Arnone T. 058; Baker A. 124; Carney D. 023; Conley C. 040; D'Agostino M. 091; Delnicki T. 014; Dubitsky D. 047; France M. 042; Gucker K. 138; Haines I. 034; Kokoruda N. 101; McCarthy Vahey C. 133; Michel D. 146; Rojas J. 009; Zawistowski T. 061

Absent were:

Senators: Bradley D. S23; Fonfara J. S011

Representatives: Hall J. 007; Stafstrom S. 1299

Sen. Cassano convened the meeting, greeted those in attendance, and thanked the other committee members and leadership for their support. He stated that it is an important committee and told a brief anecdote about his time as president of Connecticut Conference of Municipalities and his experience working with CCM's prior president, Jacky Durrell, who was also the former mayor of Fairfield, using this as an example of how different regions of the state could come together.

Sen. Cassano then praised the previous Clerk, Wade Packer, and turned the meeting over to his Co-Chair, Representative McCarthy Vahey. She thanked him and the committee, then complimented Wade Packer’s work as well and mentioned that he had moved to a different office. She then opened to Rep. Zawistowski for additional
comments. Rep. Zawistowski said that she would also miss Wade and referred to Clerks as the “glue” that holds committees together. Sen. Champagne then made brief comments, mentioning that this was his first time on this committee but that it was going well and gave his thanks. Rep. McCarthy Vahey then gave her thanks and appreciation, introduced the new Clerk, Camilo Lemos, and gave safety instructions regarding emergency exits from the hearing room.

Rep. McCarthy Vahey then moved on to section III on the agenda, Bills to be Drafted as Committee Bills, and said she would entertain a motion to draft as Committee Bills all items 1-3:

1. [Proposed H.B. No. 6566](#) AN ACT PROHIBITING MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES FROM SERVING ON CERTAIN MUNICIPAL LEGISLATIVE BODIES.
2. [Proposed H.B. No. 6749](#) AN ACT TO REORGANIZE THE ZONING ENABLING ACT AND PROMOTE MUNICIPAL COMPLIANCE.
3. [Proposed H.B. No. 5355](#) AN ACT CONCERNING VOTING REQUIREMENTS FOR ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT TO MAINTAIN WATER QUALITY IN A LAKE.

The motion was made by Rep. Rojas, seconded by Sen. Cassano and passed by voice vote.

Rep. McCarthy Vahey then moved on to section IV on the agenda, Bills to be Reserved for Subject Matter Public Hearing, and said she would entertain a motion to reserve for Public Hearing all items 1-16:

1. [Proposed H.B. No. 5641](#) AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL PARTICIPATION IN THE CIRCUIT BREAKER TAX RELIEF PROGRAM.
2. [Proposed H.B. No. 5702](#) AN ACT CONCERNING QUARRY STANDARDS AND TESTING.
3. [Proposed H.B. No. 6352](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE ZONING OF COMMUNITY RESIDENCES AND CHILDCARE RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES.
4. [Proposed H.B. No. 6552](#) AN ACT CONCERNING EXEMPTIONS FROM CERTAIN HISTORIC PRESERVATION REQUIREMENTS.
5. [Proposed H.B. No. 6561](#) AN ACT DESIGNATING COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS AS COUNTIES.
6. [Proposed H.B. No. 6562](#) AN ACT REQUIRING MUNICIPAL PLANS OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT TO INCLUDE CERTAIN PROVISIONS.
7. [Proposed H.B. No. 6563](#) AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST MUNICIPALITIES IN CENSUS OUTREACH PROGRAMS.
8. [Proposed H.B. No. 6567](#) AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL CHARTERS AND HOME RULE ORDINANCES.
9. [Proposed H.B. No. 6747](#) AN ACT AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE GROVE BEACH POINT ASSOCIATION.
10. [Proposed H.B. No. 6750](#) AN ACT EXPANDING THE DEFINITION OF "RESIDENTIAL BUILDING" IN STATUTES PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN HOMEOWNERS.
11. [Proposed H.B. No. 6754](#) AN ACT CONCERNING REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF BODY-WORN RECORDING EQUIPMENT BY A MUNICIPALITY.
12. [Proposed H.B. No. 6756](#) AN ACT CONCERNING OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION IN CLUSTER DEVELOPMENTS.
13. [Proposed H.B. No. 6761](#) AN ACT ALLOWING MUNICIPALITIES GREATER FLEXIBILITY TO DETERMINE QUALIFYING INCOME LEVELS FOR MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS.
14. [Proposed H.B. No. 6937](#) AN ACT REGULATING SHORT-TERM RENTALS.
15. Proposed H.B. No. 6939 AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MUNICIPAL CULTURAL DISTRICTS.
16. Proposed S.B. No. 766 AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXPIRATION OF CERTAIN LAND USE PERMITS.

The motion was made by Rep. Gucker, seconded by Rep. Delnicki and passed by voice vote. Rep. Dubitsky commented that just because they voted to take an action on a bill or concept on the agenda today it did not necessarily mean that they supported the bills moving forward further or passing in the future.

Rep. McCarthy Vahey then moved on to section V on the agenda, Bills for Straight Change of Reference, and said she would entertain a motion to refer item 1 Proposed H.B. No. 6549 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DUTIES OF THE STATE'S HOUSING AGENCIES to the Committee on Housing. The motion was made by Sen. Cassano, seconded by Rep. Michel and passed by voice vote.

Rep. McCarthy Vahey said she would entertain a motion to refer item 2 Proposed H.B. No. 6554 AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL LIABILITY FOR CERTAIN INSPECTIONS to the Committee on the Environment. The motion was made by Rep. Zawistowski, seconded by Rep Delnicki and passed by voice vote.


Rep. McCarthy Vahey said she would entertain a motion to refer item 5 Proposed H.B. No. 6744 AN ACT CONCERNING REIMBURSEMENT TO MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE LOSS OF CERTAIN PROPERTY TAX REVENUE to the Committee on Appropriations. The motion was made by Rep. Arnone, seconded by Sen. Cassano and passed by voice vote.

Rep. McCarthy Vahey said she would entertain a motion to refer item 6 Proposed H.B. No. 6938 AN ACT CONCERNING RELIEF FROM CERTAIN UNFUNDED MANDATES TO TIER III AND TIER IV MUNICIPALITIES to the Committee on Finance. The motion was made by Rep. D’Agostino, seconded by Sen. Cassano and passed by voice vote.

Rep. McCarthy Vahey said she would entertain a motion to refer item 7 Proposed H.B. No. 7047 AN ACT PROHIBITING THE REGULATION OF FIREARMS BY MUNICIPALITIES to the Committee on Judiciary. The motion was made by Rep. Michel, seconded by Sen. Cassano and passed by voice vote.

Rep. McCarthy Vahey said she would entertain a motion to refer item 8 Proposed S.B. No. 793 AN ACT CONCERNING SALES OF AMMUNITION OR AMMUNITION MAGAZINES to the Committee on Judiciary. The motion was made by Rep. Michel, seconded by Rep. Gucker and passed by voice vote.
Rep. McCarthy Vahey then moved on to section VI on the agenda, Concepts to be Raised as Raised Bills, and said she would entertain a motion to raise items 1-14:

1. AN ACT CONCERNING MAKING HEALTH CARE MORE AFFORDABLE FOR MUNICIPALITIES
2. AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL DATA REPORTING
3. AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
4. AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCLOSURE OF THE PRESENCE OF DAMS ON PUBLIC LAND RECORDS
5. AN ACT CONCERNING THE UNIFORM RELOCATION ASSISTANCE ACT
6. AN ACT CONCERNING BOARD OF EDUCATION VACANCIES
7. AN ACT CONCERNING THE FILLING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION VACANCIES
8. AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
9. AN ACT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MUNICIPAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL LAND BANKS
10. AN ACT REQUIRING CERTAIN MUNICIPAL NOTICE TO PRIVATE WASTE HAULERS
11. AN ACT PERMITTING BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO USE CERTAIN COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAMS
12. AN ACT CONCERNING THE MUNICIPAL ASSESSMENT OF SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS
13. AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO ORIGINAL BIRTH RECORDS BY ADULT ADOPTED PERSONS
14. AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN GROUP CHILD CARE AND FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES

The motion was made by Rep. Rojas and seconded by Rep. Michel and passed by voice vote.

Rep. McCarthy Vahey then moved on to section VII on the agenda, Concepts to be Raised as Raised Resolutions, and said she would entertain a motion to raise item 1 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT POLICIES: THE PLAN FOR CONNECTICUT 2018-2023. The motion was made by Rep. Michel and seconded by Sen. Cohen and passed by voice vote.

Rep. McCarthy Vahey then announced that the votes would be held open until 4pm and asked the clerk to announce the date and times of the next Committee Meeting and the first Public Hearing, which were scheduled to occur at 10AM and 11:30AM respectively on the following Wednesday, February 13th, in room 2B of the LOB [note: the Public Hearing was later rescheduled slightly to 11:15AM].

A motion was duly made and seconded at 10:48AM to recess the meeting until 4pm, at which point it was promptly adjourned.

Edward Waters Camilo Lemos
Assistant Clerk Committee Clerk