

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD
CITY OF STAMFORD
MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 7, 2016
REGULAR MEETING**

Members Present:

Louis Levine, Member
Richard Rosenfeld, Esq., Member
Nathaniel Bowler, Alternate Member
Ashley Ley, Alternate Member

Members Not Present:

Gary H. Stone, Chairman
Dr. Leigh Shemitz, Member
Stephen Wayne, Member
Bradford K. Spaulding, Alternate Member

Staff Present:

Richard H. Talamelli, Environmental Planner

The Regular Meeting, which was called to order at 7:30 PM by Mr. Levine, Acting Chair, was held in the Cafeteria, Fourth 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:

Budget Considerations:

Staff Member Talamelli addressed the Board on matters pertaining to the EPB's proposed Operating Budget for 2016-17. Mr. Talamelli noted that the EPB, under the provisions of the Ordinance, is expected to prepare and endorse a separate budget for its department. Mr. Talamelli stated that the proposed budget seeks to balance the Mayor's directive for continued fiscal responsibility with the demonstrated needs of the department. He reported that the EPB's proposed operating budget for fiscal year 2016-17 includes only minor increases in two (2) categories to cover proven "shortfalls" including "overtime" to enable the Environmental Analyst to attend the Board's schedule of regular meetings, and "copying and printing" primarily to allow Staff to prepare the documentation and mailings necessary to maintain the City's good standing in the highly valued Community Rating System (CRS) Program.

As part of the budget request, agency Staff carefully documented the Board's work levels, record of achievement, and budgetary needs. Projections indicate that the Board will continue to experience sizeable increases in the level of office activity, the number of large, complex developments, and the number of both

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mandated tasks and non-mandated activities of value and interest to the community. Growth in the private sector continues to increase, and is clearly supported by the fact that regional engineer/land use consulting firms continue to grow their work force, at near unprecedented levels, to respond to the mounting demands for service. A substantial portion of the work generated by these consultants requires EPB review.

Current staffing levels are currently inadequate to service the needs of Stamford property owners in a timely, thorough and professional manner based on the still increasing trends. Accordingly, the budget proposal is accompanied by a request for a "program expansion" to provide an additional "Environmental Analyst."

Motion/Vote: Upon a motion by Ms. Ley, the Board voted to **APPROVE** the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 as outlined on a "Program Detail Report" revised January 4, 2016.

In Favor: Levine, Rosenfeld, Bowler, and Ley
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None
Not Voting: None

Upon a motion by Mr. Bowler, the Board voted to **APPROVE** a request for a program expansion to fund the salary and related overhead costs associated with an Environmental Analyst - EPB.

In Favor: Levine, Rosenfeld, Bowler, and Ley
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None
Not Voting: None

ADJOURN:

Adjourn the Regular Meeting of January 7, 2016.

There being no further business, the Board, upon a motion by Mr. Rosenfeld, voted to **ADJOURN** the Regular Meeting of January 7, 2016.

In Favor: Levine, Rosenfeld, Bowler, and Ley
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None
Not Voting: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Gary H. Stone, Chairman
Environmental Protection Board

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