

CITY OF NORWALK
SPECIAL MEETING - CONSERVATION COMMISSION/INLAND WETLAND AGENCY
JANUARY 21, 2025

PRESENT: Commissioner Steve Klocke, Chair; Cheryl Brown; Paul Vinett; Kathryn Knight

STAFF: Alexis Cherichetti

OTHERS: Mario Coppola, Esq.; Matt Sapienza, Esq.; Nick Bamonte, Esq.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Klocke called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. It should be noted that this meeting was held on Zoom.com with all participants calling in, separately.

II. ROLL CALL

Ms. Cherichetti called the roll.

III. COMMISSION/BOARD TRAINING SESSION WITH LAW DEPARTMENT

Attorneys Coppola, Sapienza and Bamonte introduced themselves. They indicated they would review Commission authority and duties, Freedom of Information Act basics for meeting procedures, and CEPA environmental interventions.

Mr. Sapienza reviewed the enabling legislation for Conservation Commission and Inland Wetland Agency jurisdiction. He reviewed the relevant sections of Connecticut General Statutes and likewise the applicable sections of City Code.

Mr. Bamonte added detail to a discussion regarding Inland Wetland Agency procedures before covering Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requirements for meeting procedures. He reviewed meeting and hearing notice requirements, public hearings, and the record for decision.

Mr. Sapienza spoke about site meetings, the record and fundamental fairness.

Mr. Coppola continued with a discussion regarding 'conflict of interest' as well as bias and predetermination, and ex parte communication.

Mr. Bamonte reviewed CEPA interventions and procedures for when one is filed.

Commissioners then asked some follow questions regarding property rights, enforcement and procedures.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Conservation Commission

January 28, 2025

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