

MARCH 3, 1952

The regular meeting of the Board of Representatives was held on March 3, 1952 at Burdick Junior High School. The meeting was called to order by Robert G. Shepherd, President at 8:20 P.M.

Invocation was given by Rev. Jesse L. Anderson of the Maple Avenue Methodist Church.

Roll call was taken with 34 present and 6 absent. The absent members were Theodore Donahue, Joseph Mancysi, Dr. Somma, John Charleson, Vito Longo and Webster Giveus.

John Cameron moved that the minutes of February 4, 1952 be accepted as submitted, seconded and CARRIED.

Babette Ransohoff submitted a correction to minutes of January 7, 1952: Insert the following as a paragraph on page 449 of January 7, 1952 minutes directly before Public Welfare & Recreation Committee:

"Appointments Committee - Approval of the appointment of Elmer Lowden of 60 Iroquois Road for the term of 1951-1956 to the Board of Tax Relief was read by Walter Seely of the Appointments Committee. Elmer Lowden was approved by a ballot vote of 31 in favor, 0 against."

Helen Peatt Moved to approve correction, seconded and CARRIED.

LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE

1. Luders Marine Const. Co. petition

John Cameron read petition from Luders Marine Construction Company re variation in Building Code and stated that in view of the emergency nature of the project and the findings by the Committee after a visit to the plant, the Committee recommends the approval of the variation which the building inspector is prepared to grant under the provisions of Section 103-7 (b) of the Building Code.

John Cameron submitted the following Resolution covering the variation in the Building Code for approval by the Board. John Cameron MOVED acceptance of this Resolution, seconded by James Mulreed and UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

RESOLUTION #130 - Re Petition of Luders Marine Construction Company

WHEREAS the Luders Marine Construction Company has applied for a variation in the building code to permit construction of a boat building shed on its property in connection with expediting completion of a defense contract awarded to it by the Navy, and

WHEREAS said Company has demonstrated that there are practical difficulties in carrying out the provisions of Section 301 of the building code, and

WHEREAS the chief of the fire department has indicated that all reasonable fire precautions consistent with the nature of the business are being taken, so that the proposed variation is not in conflict with the best interests of the public safety, and

WHEREAS the proposed variation is not in conflict with the spirit of the law and there appears to be no question of public health involved or interests of parties other than the petitioner and the public,

BE IT RESOLVED that this Board hereby approves of the variation to be granted by the building inspector under Section 103 Subsection 7 (b) of the building code as stipulated in his letter of February 25, 1952 addressed to this Board.

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2. Sewer Commission

John Cameron read letter from the Sewer Commission asking for clarification of its authority. The Committee reports that a meeting was held and it was concluded that the language of Ordinance 22A together with the provisions of Chapter 33a of the 1949 Supplement to the General Statutes of the State was clear and that no further legislation was necessary. Specifically the Committee feels - 1. It is clear that the Sewer Commission has no responsibility for disposal of storm water except the power given in Section 60a of Chapter 33a, namely the right to prohibit or regulate discharge of storm waters into sanitary sewers. 2. The powers of the Commission with respect to planning new sewers, determining assessments on account of extension of sewers and other authority of the Commission include all those set forth in the said Chapter 33a, but this applies only with respect to sewers to be constructed after January 1, 1951 as provided in Ordinance 22A.

The problem of priority of call on limited engineering personnel available for regular city work and planning work of the Sewer Commission and other city boards was discussed with the conclusion that this was a coordination problem, properly an executive rather than a legislative function.

John Cameron MOVED for acceptance of the Committee's report, seconded by Leon Staples and CARRIED.

John Cameron submitted an amendment to the Hunting Ordinance appearing in the Code of General Ordinances under Chapter 7, Section 1 because the following wording "and provided that no firearms other than a shotgun shall be used for the purpose" appeared in the Advocate printing but was omitted from the Code of General Ordinances, Chapter 7, Section 1.

AMENDED HUNTING ORDINANCE

Be it ordained by Stamford that Sec. 1 of Chapter 7 of the Code of General Ordinances of the City of Stamford be amended to insert after the word "that" in the third line of paragraph (d) the following: "no firearm other than a shot-gun shall be used for the purpose and" so that said section will read:

"Sec. 1. Discharge of firearms prohibited; exceptions. It shall be unlawful to discharge any firearm within the limits of the consolidated city except as follows:

- (a) By peace officers acting in performance of their duties as such or by members of the military, naval or air forces of the United States or of this state, acting in performance of their duties as such.
- (b) By the owner, tenant or authorized agent of such owner or tenant upon his own property for the purpose of extermination of vermin, or animals causing damage to the property, or for the purpose of killing livestock.
- (c) On any shooting range authorized in writing by the chief of police, or if located in Precinct II, by the captain of police of that precinct.
- (d) On any property for the purpose of hunting game, subject to all legal restrictions applicable thereto, and provided that no firearm other than a shotgun shall be used for the purpose and no firearm of any sort shall be discharged within five hundred feet of any dwelling or commercial building or public road, street or highway, and further provided that it shall be unlawful to hunt game, except water fowl on salt water, before 7:00 A.M."

John Cameron Moved that same be printed in the Advocate and that same be approved at the next meeting of the Board of Representatives, seconded and UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

3. PENSION PLAN

John Cameron stated the Committee believed the Stamford Classified Employees' Retirement Plan should be discussed at this meeting to get informal reaction, that arrangement be made for receiving comment from the public prior to formal consideration of the plan at the April meeting. Also because hearings are being held on March 17 and again late in April by the State of Connecticut Retirement Commission on applications of the Social Security Plan, that no action need be taken until the April meeting.

Michael Holahan MOVED that Harold Hodgdon of the Chamber of Commerce be heard, seconded by John Canavan.

The motion to hear Mr. Hodgdon was defeated after it was stated that a public hearing would be held at which time the public could be heard.

Robert Shepherd read a note from Dean Brossman of the Chamber of Commerce stating that a communication from Mr. Walberg of the State of Connecticut Retirement Commission indicating that social security coverage might be jeopardized if not accepted at the Federal level prior to the Board's action on the supplemental plan.

John Cameron then proceeded to read and explain step by step the Proposed Resolution for Establishing a Pension Plan for Classified Employees dated January 22, 1952 (replacing draft of November 12, 1951).

Michael Holahan MOVED that Mr. Hodgdon be heard, seconded and defeated.

Joseph Carlin MOVED to end the debate on the proposed Pension Plan, for this meeting, seconded by Helen Bromley and CARRIED.

Karl Young MOVED to have a special meeting on the Pension Plan after the actuarial study has been made and submitted, seconded and CARRIED.

PUBLIC WELFARE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

1. Girl Scouts Day Camp

Helen Peatt read the report of the Committee, recommending that the Girl Scouts be allowed to run the Day Camp in the same place as last year inasmuch as full insurance coverage is carried by the Girl Scouts. Helen Peatt MOVED that permission be granted, seconded by Joseph Carlin and CARRIED.

2. Ringling Bros. Circus

The Committee MOVED approval of Petition #116 to permit Ringling Bros. Circus to come to Stamford on June 23, 1952. The performance can be held at the filled in area on Magee Avenue where little damage can be done to grounds. Ringling Bros. will post a Bond of \$10,000, for damages and the Lions Club will secure necessary approval of the State Fire and Police Commissioners. The Lions Club will take out Property Damage and Liability Insurance. The Bond is to be held by the Commissioner of Finance until the area concerned is inspected by the Commissioner of Public Works so that all requirements may be fulfilled before releasing the Bond.

Robert Lewis amended the MOTION to read: "No tickets should be sold in excess of the seating capacity".

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Helen Peatt accepted the amendment and the MOTION WAS CARRIED.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

Joseph Zdanowicz reported that the Committee recommended that the request by Mary R. Smith for a right-of-way across Sunset Farm which is city-owned property be referred back to the Planning Board suggesting that a request be resubmitted on a purchase basis.

John Cameron MOVED acceptance of the Committee report and stressed that the easement of way should not be granted without the consideration of purchase, seconded and CARRIED.

Sherman Hoyt of the Planning Board then spoke on the Police and Court Buildings stating the designs and plans were ready for viewing and could be seen any time at the office of the Planning Board. He introduced Mr. Lester Tichy of the Board of Design. Mr. Tichy and Mr. Mills detailed the designs and plans of the buildings to be built on the Hoyt Street property.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

George Lockwood read the letter sent to Personnel Director Weathers by Corporation Counsel Hanrahan on the appointment of policemen and firemen from the Supernumerary list. Mr. Lockwood stated that so many incidents have occurred in the past few months proving that the merit system is being disregarded.

Babette Ransohoff MOVED that the Legislative & Rules Committee or a special committee be appointed to explore and prepare legislation for the next General Assembly which will once again set up the merit system within our Charter, seconded by Robert Lewis.

John Cameron stated it might be possible under Home Rule to draft a bill that may be submitted to the voters on referendum rather than to the General Assembly and MOVED the motion be amended.

The amendment was accepted and the amended motion was CARRIED.

HEALTH & PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Robert Shepherd stated that Robert Lewis will serve as Chairman of this Committee from now on.

Robert Lewis read the report on the investigation of this Committee on the Quonset Huts.

The Committee requests that steps be taken to prohibit the dumping of live garbage on the City Dump. Apparently private garbage collectors are dumping live garbage during nights and weekends when the dump is left unguarded.

The Committee recommends the replacement of the old inhalators with new resuscitators; also that 50 feet of hose be ordered for the resuscitators for the two station wagons as well as additional mico units and masks to be carried in a separate kit to be used in emergencies when people are not easily accessible.

Patrick Hogan MOVED that the last two items be accepted but that the investigation of the quonset huts be placed on file until Mr. Mulreed submits his report of the Housing Committee, seconded by William Kaminski and CARRIED.

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Robert Lewis added that letters had been received from the Police and Fire Departments on the training programs and will be on file at the Office of the Board of Representatives.

FISCAL COMMITTEE

Helen Bromley MOVED approval of the inter-departmental transfer of \$350. from Sundries to Code 200.3 Board of Representatives covering cost of 200 additional copies of Building Code and mimeographing work. These Building Codes are sold at \$2.00 a copy and money will eventually be returned to the General Fund, seconded by J. Zdanowicz and UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Helen Bromley MOVED to approve the inter-departmental transfer of \$450 from Sundries to the following codes as requested by the Planning Board - \$200. Code 620.3 Office Supplies; \$50.00 Code 520.10 Subscriptions and Misc. and \$200. to Code 520.11 Maps and Prints, seconded by Joseph Carlin and UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Helen Bromley MOVED approval of emergency appropriation for \$4600. for the Police Department, Precincts #1 and #2. The breakdown is as follows: \$250. Code 430.12 Radio Maintenance for Station and Cars; \$250. Code 433.12B Radio Maintenance for Station and Cars - Precinct #2; \$3000. Code 430.17 Maintenance Patrol Cars, Cycles, etc. (including Gas & Oil); \$600. Code 433.12 Maintenance of Cars, Precinct #2 and \$500. 433.17 Gas, Oil & Tires, Precinct #2

Lt. Engstrom was asked to speak and was questioned why the original request for the emergency appropriation was \$7,775. when it would seem they could get along with \$4600. Also he was asked why transfers could not be made with so many unencumbered accounts in the Police Department. Lt. Engstrom stated he was not in a position to discuss this.

Robert Lewis stated that Resolution #126 had not been followed and the other Committee interested in appropriations over \$2000. had not been advised. He was told that this was an oversight of the office and it would not reoccur.

Robert Lewis stated he had been advised by Chief Brennan that the Police Dept. could get along until April if necessary and MOVED to defer action until April for further study.

After a discussion he amended his motion to allow only \$500. for Gas and Oil, other items to be deferred until April. This motion was defeated by a vote of 11 in favor, 21 opposed.

A vote on the entire amount of \$4600. was then taken and CARRIED by a vote of 26 in favor, 5 opposed.

Helen Bromley MOVED approval of the emergency appropriation of \$3820.48 requested by Hubbard Heights Golf Club for Code 413A.1 Salaries, inasmuch as the discrepancy of this account was explained at the time the Budget was discussed last year, seconded by Edward Hogan and UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Helen Bromley MOVED approval of emergency appropriation of \$2500. for the Medical Account, Code 488.24, covering medical costs for city employees and is a must, seconded by George Lockwood and UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Helen Bromley MOVED approval of the emergency appropriation of \$325., Code 719.13, covering additional cost in premium in the Police and Fire Insurance Account, seconded by Joseph Carlin and UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

HOUSING COMMITTEE

James Mulreed extended thanks for the cooperation which had been extended by

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the Housing Authorities and stated that he believed it would be unnecessary to exert powers given under Section 204.2 of the Charter.

The report submitted stated that most of the occupants of the Quonset Huts and High Ridge Road were satisfied and existing complaints could be easily rectified. The Town Housing Authority feels that there is a definite need in Stamford for this type of housing until some other project is built and to demolish the units would only increase the hardship of many of our citizens.

The Housing Committee will submit its recommendations at a later date.

STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

The report was submitted by Robert G. Shepherd, President.

The letter of Resignation from the Steering Committee and Fiscal Committee by Theodore Donahue was read and accepted. Appointments made by Robert Shepherd are as follows:

Stephen Kelly on the Steering Committee to replace Theodore Donahue.

George Lockwood on the Fiscal Committee to replace Theodore Donahue.

At the request of Robert Shepherd the Board stood for a moment of silence in memory of Mrs. Webster C. Givens, wife of Webster C. Givens, a member of the Board of Representatives.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

The letter from Mayor Cugley appointing John G. Moore to the Sewer Commission to replace Edmund E. Brady, Jr. who has resigned was read and referred to the Appointments Committee.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER BOARDS AND INDIVIDUALS

Robert Shepherd reported that he and Helen Peatt, Chairman of Public Welfare & Recreation be given permission to meet with N. J. Gorman, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Finance re setting up a professional survey of the Welfare Department.

John Cameron MOVED approval and also wished to commend Mr. George Laturney, Director of Public Welfare, on welcoming a survey of the Welfare Department, seconded by Edward Hogan and UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The list of City-Owned property submitted by the Planning Board has been distributed to each member of the Board of Representatives. Inasmuch as no action will be taken by the Board on this list, it was stated that St. Benedict's Church would have no fear of the property at Charter and Cove Road being auctioned and, therefore, the matter was deferred until the Board had the opportunity to study the submitted list by the Planning Board with its recommendations.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Babette S. Ransohoff
Clerk

Board of Representatives
Fiscal Committee Report

At a meeting of the Fiscal Committee held March 1, 1952 with four members present, the following matters were considered:

1. Inter-department transfer of \$350 from Sundries to Board of Representatives for 200 copies of the Building Code. The Code is sold for \$2.00 a copy so this disbursements will be repaid to the General Fund. We approve this transfer.
2. Inter-department transfer of \$450 from Sundries to the Planning Board; \$200 to Code 620.3 for office supplies; \$50 to Code 520.10 for Subscriptions and Miscellaneous; \$200 to Code 520.11 for Maps and Prints. If we are to have a Planning Board that works efficiently we feel that they should be granted this transfer.
3. Emergency Appropriation for Police Department of \$4600 broken down into the following accounts; \$250 for Code 430.12 radio maintenance for station and cars of Precinct #1, \$3000 for Code 430.17 for maintenance Patrol cars, Cycles etc. including gas and oil for Precinct #1; \$250 for Radio maintenance for station and cars of Precinct #2, Code 433.12B; \$600 for Code 433.12 maintenance of cars in Precinct 2, \$500 for Code 433.17 for gas, oil and tires in Precinct #2. The original request for these accounts was \$7,775 but was reduced by the Board of Finance to the amounts just read. In view of Resolution #126 the Fiscal Committee is in a quandary as to whom appropriations over \$2000 should be referred. However, we approve this request with the following comments, (1) in view of the unexpended and unencumbered balances in the budget of both Precincts we are of the opinion that this request could be handled through a departmental transfer and (2) since I was told that the Police Department would be satisfied with this reduced amount, we are curious as to why it requested \$7,775 in the first place.
4. Emergency Appropriation of \$3,820.48 for the Hubbard Heights Golf Club, for Code 413A.1. When the Board of Finance passed on the Hubbard Heights Golf Course budget last Spring, they appropriated \$30,207 for Salaries. It was subsequently discovered that an error had been made and that the correct figure for the salary account should have been \$34,027.48. When this budget was presented to the Board of Representatives the above mentioned error was explained and at that time the Board of Representatives was made aware of the fact that an emergency appropriation would be forthcoming to rectify this error. We approve this amount.
5. Emergency Appropriation of \$2500 for Employees Medical Account Code 488.24. This sum is required to provide for a claim amounting to \$1,125.94 of Edward Malanoski which has been approved by the Compensation Commissioner and the Corporation Counsel. In addition, Mr. Hanrahan has approximately \$300 in claims he is now processing. The difference between these two amounts and the \$2500 requested is an estimate of the requirements for the remaining months since the balance in this account is \$100.76.

We approve this amount.

6. Emergency Appropriation of \$325 for Police and Fire Insurance Account Code 719.13. This amount is required because of an increase in the invoice of the Travellers' Insurance Company. We approve this amount.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Carlin
Michael J. Holahan
Patrick Hogan
Helen J. Bromley, Chairman

March 17, 1952

To: Members of the Board of Representatives

Pursuant to Section 202 of the Stamford Charter, I, Robert G. Shepherd, Acting Mayor, hereby call a Special Meeting of the Board of Representatives to be held on Thursday, March 20, 1952 at 8 P.M. at the Burdick Junior High School Auditorium, Stamford, Conn. for the following purposes:

1. Transmittal of a lease between the City of Stamford and the State of Connecticut on the Rippowam River within Woodside Park.
2. Emergency Appropriation for \$5250. requested by Public Works Department covering costs to repair the bathhouses and the concession stand at West Beach.
3. Transmittal of the Operating Budget, as adopted by the Board of Finance, to the members of the Board of Representatives.

I hereby order a copy of the above call to be forwarded by mail to the residence of each member of the Board of Representatives at least seventy-two hours before the time affixed for said Special Meeting.

Very truly yours,

Robert G. Shepherd

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Robert G. Shepherd
Acting Mayor

P.S. Please bring your Operating Budget with you and try, if possible, to attend this meeting as the figures from the Board of Finance will be read at this meeting.

Robert Shepherd