

MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1993

23RD BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES

STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

The first regular monthly meeting of the 23rd Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford was held on Monday, December 13, 1993, in the Legislative Chamber of the Board of Representatives, Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, Connecticut.

The meeting was called to order at 8:17 p.m. by President Mary Lou Rinaldi after both parties met in Caucus.

INVOCATION was given by Rabbi Ely Rosenzveig, Congregation Agudath Sholom 301 Strawberry Hill Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902

"Almighty God, we invoke Thy blessings on the occasion of this, the first regular meeting of the City of Stamford's 23rd Board of Representatives. Confer upon us wisdom, oh Lord, the wisdom to know whence we came and wither we are going.

"An apocryphal story is told of a Rabbi who is passing through a field. He saw a very old man planting an oak tree. The Rabbi asked the old man, 'Why are you planting that tree, you surely do not expect to live long enough to see the acorn grow into an oak tree?' 'Ah,' replied the old man, 'My ancestors, they planted trees not for themselves but for us, in order that we might enjoy their shade or their fruit.' 'I,' the old man said, 'I am doing likewise for those who will come after me.' All that we do here in the Legislative Chamber lay the provocative and productive seed for the fertile growth of our generation and those that come after. We are like the proverbial old man in the story; thinking, planning, doing, planting for us and our children.

"The first foundation of our work is freedom. We did not originate the idea or ideal of freedom, God did. The Scriptures relate God's summons, 'and you shall proclaim liberty in the land unto all its inhabitants.' It is these words that grace that lofty symbol of our calling, the Liberty Bell. Let us learn them tonight in this peaceful exchange of ideas about the deeper values of our freedom. Let us act after this with good sense, sound judgement and informed counsel. And, above all, let us choose for the future with a mind to justice, equality, truth and peace. With God's good health and let us say, Amen."

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG was led by President Mary Lou Rinaldi.

ROLL CALL was taken by Clerk of the Board Annie M. Summerville. There were 36 members present and four absent. Absent were Patrick White (excused), Gloria DePina (excused), Michael Larobina (excused) and Fred Johnson.

The Chair declared a quorum.

MACHINE TEST VOTE was taken by President Mary Lou Rinaldi. The machine was in good working order.

PAGE was Richard John Zelinsky, son of Rep. John R. Zelinsky, Jr., 11th District served as Page. Richard John Zelinsky was presented a certificate of appreciation for his service.

MOMENTS OF SILENCE:

For the late ISABELLA MANCINI TRUDO requested by Rep. Bobby Owens, 3rd District. "Mrs. Trudo died at the age of 99, just two months short of her 100th birthday. She was the wife of the late Thomas Trudo. She is survived by three daughters, Victoria Passaro, Julia Truglio and Maria Cortese; two sons, Matteo and Antonio Trudo; 14 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. My sincerest sympathy to the members of Mrs. Trudo's family."

For the late ANNA AGNES RADUAZZO requested by Rep. Gerald J. Rybnick, 4th District. "Anna Agnes Cyboski Raduazzo was a lifelong resident of Stamford. She died at the age of 81. She is survived by two sons, Michael J. and Louis P. Raduazzo; a sister, Helen Memale and three grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Louis M. Raduazzo. My sincerest sympathy to the family of Mrs. Raduazzo."

For the late LILLIAN M. BROWN requested by the 23rd Board of Representatives. "Lillian M. Brown passed away on November 7, 1993, at the age of 83. She was born March 5, 1910, in New Haven and was the mother of Louise B. Sabia who is the wife of City Representative, Ron Sabia. Mrs. Brown was a Stamford resident for 55 years and was a bookkeeper at Tom Brock Associates for 12 years prior to her retirement in 1971. She was a member of the Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Springdale and a member of its Altar Guild. She is also survived by a granddaughter, Heather L. Bachman of Stamford and a grandson, Brian R. Sabia of Wallingford. She was predeceased by her husband, William L. Brown and a son, Richard L. Brown. Lillian Brown was an outstanding citizen of the 15th District and the City of Stamford. She will be greatly missed."

For the late SANDRA R. TEICHMAN requested by Reps. Ellen Mellis and William Belcher, 13th District and Maria Nakian, 20th District. "Sandra R. Teichman, wife of Marc Teichman, Chairman of the Stamford Personnel Commission, and mother of Lori and Adam, died on November 25, 1993. Her untimely death is sadly noted. To Marc, Lori, and Adam, we extend our deepest sympathy and condolences. For so many, Sandy will be remembered for her dedication to all the students whose world she entered and whose horizons she broadened. Her welcoming smile, warmth, and caring will be deeply missed by all, students, parents, fellow colleagues, and friends, whose path she crossed. We share your pain and loss. And, we wish you solace in your cherished memories of your beloved Sandy, your wife and mother."

For the late LUCY V. COZZOLINO requested by the 23rd Board of Representatives. "Lucy V. Cozzolino was born in New Haven. She is survived by her husband, John Cozzolino of New Haven; a daughter, Maria Nakian, Representative of the 20th District; two sons, John Cozzolino Jr. of Stamford and James Cozzolino of Guilford; and five grandchildren. Our deepest sympathy and condolences to Maria and the family of Mrs. Cozzolino."

For the late THOMAS MORGAN requested by Rep. Joseph J. Vitti of the 8th District. "Captain Morgan was a member of the Stamford Fire Department. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; two daughters, Sharon and Cindy; and a son, Michael. My sincerest sympathy is extend to his wife and family."

For the late JOSEPH MALAFARINA requested by Rep. Mildred Perillo of the 9th District. "Joseph Malafarina was the father of James and Mary Malafarina. I extend my sincerest sympathy to James and Mary."

MOMENTS OF SILENCE: (continued)

For the late JANE WATSON McLEOD requested by Rep. Mildred Perillo, 9th District. "Mrs. McLeod was the mother of William McLeod. I extend my sincerest sympathy to William."

For the late OSCAR SKOVGAARD, JR. requested by the 23rd Board of Representatives.

"Oscar (Skov) Skovgaard died on December 2, 1993, at age 71. His sudden and untimely death is noted with deep regret. Skov was a lifelong resident of Stamford; he owned and operated his family owned wholesale automotive business for 35 years. He had served in the U.S. Navy in World War II in the Atlantic and Pacific areas. He was an active and most valued board member of the Roxbury Community Association. And, he was a founding member of the Roxbury Swim and Tennis Club.

"To Betty, his wife of 49 years, his sons Robert and Charles, and his daughter, Kristie, and their families, we extend our heartfelt sympathy and condolences. His son Robert is a former member of the Board of Representatives. Skov's warmth, caring and friendship will be sorely missed. We hope that time and wonderful memories will ease your pain and loss."

For the late MARK S. SPIEGEL requested by Reps. Ellen Mellis, William Belcher, David Martin, Audrey Maihock, Donald Sherer and Maria Nakian. "Mark S. Spiegel, age 19, died on December 6, 1993, as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident in Florida. His tragic, untimely death is mourned by all who knew him.

"Mark excelled at Westhill High School from where he graduated in 1992. There, he was a member of the swim team and vice president of his senior class. He was a sophomore at the University of Miami, majoring in chemistry, and involved in an honors program at the time of his death.

"To his parents, David and Sylvia, and his brothers, Joseph and Jordan, we extend our deepest, heartfelt sympathy and condolences. We grieve with you. And, we hope knowing that those around you have you in their thoughts and prayers, will begin to lessen your deep grief and pain. We hope that loving, cherished memories of Mark will, in time, replace your hurt and despair."

For the late JOHN H. MENKART request by Rep. Audrey Maihock of the 19th District.

"John H. Menkart, a long-time resident of North Stamford, died December 9, 1993.

"He was a member of several organizations relating to his profession, including the American Chemical Society. In 1971, he was employed by Clairol as senior vice president of Technology, and remained there until his retirement in 1987.

"John was loved and highly respected by a wide circle of friends and business colleagues in Stamford. He had a calm, reassuring manner that endeared him to many.

"Deepest sympathy is extended to his beloved wife, Edith, and his family."

FILLING A VACANCY ON BOARD OF EDUCATION:

REP. STORK "Thank you, Madam President. It is my pleasure and honor tonight to nominate an outstanding citizen of our community for the Republican vacancy on the Board of Education. Milton Thomas has served our city as a member of the Republican Town Committee, the Police Commission, and various other community minded organizations. He has honorably served our country as an officer in the United States Army and currently is a practicing attorney in Stamford. He is imminently qualified to serve as a member of the Board of Education. Therefore, Madam President, I place in nomination the name of Milton C. Thomas II to fill the vacancy on the Board of Education, and I so move."

REP. LOGLISCI stated that he has known Milton Thomas for over 30 years and has found that Milton Thomas is not only a very capable individual but also one who cares about others. Rep. Loglisci said that Milton does not classify or categorize people; every person is an individual worthy of his attention. Rep. Loglisci said that he is confident that Milton Thomas will be a great asset to the Board of Education and will be a champion for all the children in our public school system. Rep. Loglisci was pleased to Second the nomination.

REP. RYBNICK Moved that nominations be closed. Seconded.

PRESIDENT RINALDI called for a vote to close nominations. APPROVED by voice vote with no dissenting votes.

PRESIDENT RINALDI called for a vote to confirm the nomination of Milton Thomas to fill the vacancy on the Board of Education. APPROVED unanimously by voice vote. President Rinaldi, on behalf of the Board, congratulated Mr. Thomas.

MILTON C. THOMAS II approved unanimously to fill the vacancy on the Board of Education due to the resignation of Earl Wunderli (R), term expires. 11/30/94.

STANDING COMMITTEES

STEERING COMMITTEE: Chairwoman Mary Lou Rinaldi.

REPORT. Waived.

REP. BOCCUZZI Moved to waive the reading of the Steering Committee report. Seconded. APPROVED by voice vote with no dissenting votes.

The Steering Committee met on Thursday, December 2, 1993, in the Democratic Caucus Room of the Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard. The meeting was held after the Adjourned Organizational Meeting and was called to order by Chairwoman Mary Lou Rinaldi at 9:27 p.m. The Chair declared a quorum.

STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT: (continued)Present at the meeting:

Mary Lou Rinaldi, Chairwoman	John J. Boccuzzi	Maria Nakian
David Martin	Carmen Domonkos	Marggie Laurie
Donald Sherer	Gregory LaDestro	Jeffrey Curtis
Bobby Owens	Thomas Pia	Audrey Maihock
Robert DeLuca	Michael Larobina	Andrew McDonald
Nicholas Pavia	Ralph Loglisci	John Roman, WSTC
Annie Summerville	Scott Morris	Seth Amgott, Advocate
John Zelinsky, Jr.	Philip Stork	Ellen Camhi
Angela Housey	Ronald Sabia	Gerald Pia
Elaine Mitchell	Gloria DePina	Anne Kachaluba

Note: Many items were Held in Steering because there was not enough time for the Committees to consider the items prior to the regular Board meeting.

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE - The five items appearing on the Tentative Steering Agenda were Held in Steering.

FISCAL COMMITTEE - Ordered on the Agenda were six of the 13 items appearing on the Tentative Steering Agenda; balance of items Held in Steering. Ordered on the Agenda were three of the 12 items appearing on the Addenda; balance of items Held in Steering.

LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE - Ordered on the Agenda were two of the five items appearing on the Tentative Steering Agenda; balance of items Held in Steering.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE - Ordered on the Agenda were the two items appearing on the Tentative Steering Agenda.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE - Ordered off the Agenda was the one item appearing on the Tentative Steering Agenda concerning the Old Town Hall.

PUBLIC WORKS & SEWER COMMITTEE - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda.

HEALTH & PROTECTION COMMITTEE - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda. One item appearing on the Addenda was ordered Held in Steering.

EDUCATION, WELFARE & GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE - Ordered off the Agenda was the one item appearing on the Tentative Agenda concerning student matter at Rogers Magnet School. The two items appearing on the Addenda were moved to the Re-evaluation Committee. Suspension of Rules defeated to place an item on the Agenda re Board of Education policy on out-of-town students.

HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda.

URBAN RENEWAL COMMITTEE - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda.

STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT: (continued)

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda.

HOUSE COMMITTEE - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda.

LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda.

ETHICS REVIEW COMMITTEE - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda.

AUDIT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda.

RE-EVALUATION COMMITTEE - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda. Moved to this Committee were two items appearing on the Addenda under the Education, Welfare and Government Committee concerning phase in and re-evaluation.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda.

RESOLUTIONS - No items appeared on the Tentative Steering Agenda.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business to come before the Steering Committee, upon a motion made, Seconded and Approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

Mary Lou T. Rinaldi, Chairwoman  
Steering Committee

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE - Annie M. Summerville & Scott A. Morris, Chairpersons

No report.

FISCAL COMMITTEE - Carmen Domonkos, Chairwoman

REP. DOMONKOS said that the Committee met on Wednesday, December 8, 1993 at 7:00 p.m. Present were Committee members Gloria DePina, Carmen Domonkos, Ralph Loglisci, Elaine Mitchell, Maria Nakian, Nicholas Pavia, Gerald Rybnick and David Wilk; Donald Sherer was excused. Also, in attendance were Reps. Marggie Laurie, Lucy Corelli, John Zelinsky, Jr., Philip Stork, Audrey Maihock, Robert McLaughlin, John Leydon, Jr. and Annie Summerville.

Rep. Domonkos placed items 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 on the Consent Agenda. All Secondary Committees concurred or Secondary Committee reports were waived.

1. \$ 16,200.00 - DEPARTMENT OF TRAFFIC AND PARKING - CODE 281-1110 SALARIES - additional appropriation to fund salary of one (1) additional traffic violation officer commencing December 1, 1993. Officer will be assigned to a staggered schedule to cover serious gaps where traffic violations have been observed. Request by Mayor Stanley J. Esposito, 10/25/93. Board of Finance approved 11/15/93.

Above also referred to TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

HELD IN COMMITTEE

FISCAL COMMITTEE: (continued)

2. \$ 13,465.00 - PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT - YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU GRANT CODE 93-666 - additional appropriation for Friday Night Youth Program at Yerwood Center coordinated by Youth Services Bureau. This program is state funded.

93.666.1130 part time	\$ 7,072.00
93.666.1201 overtime	2,281.24
93.666.1310 social security	715.52
93.666.5150 professional consultants	1,300.00
93.666.2930 supplies	<u>2,096.24</u>
	\$13,465.00

Request by Mayor Stanley J. Esposito, 10/25/93. Board of Finance approved 11/15/93.

Above also referred to PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE.

APPROVED ON CONSENT AGENDA

3. \$ 82,772.00 - NON-CITY SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES - CODE 540.5501 CONTRACTED SERVICES - additional appropriation for crime prevention component of drug enforcement program. Housing Authority, under subcontract with city, will contract with police department to work with residents of Vidal Court; tenants will be taught crime prevention techniques, etc. Request by Mayor Stanley J. Esposito, 10/25/93. Board of Finance approved 11/15/93.

Above also referred to EDUCATION, WELFARE AND GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.

APPROVED ON CONSENT AGENDA

4. PROPOSED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES REGARDING AN IMMUNIZATION SERVICES EXPANSION GRANT. Submitted by Mayor Stanley J. Esposito, 10/15/93.

APPROVED ON CONSENT AGENDA

5. PROPOSED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT AND THE CITY OF STAMFORD FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE STEWART B. MCKINNEY TRANSPORTATION CENTER RAIL TRAIL PHASE I. Submitted by Mayor Stanley J. Esposito, 11/1/93.

APPROVED ON CONSENT AGENDA

6. PROPOSED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR A HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANNING GRANT. Submitted by Mayor Stanley J. Esposito, 11/ 5/93.

APPROVED ON CONSENT AGENDA

FISCAL COMMITTEE: (continued)

REP. DOMONKOS Moved the Consent Agenda. Seconded.

PRESIDENT RINALDI called for a vote to approve the Consent Agenda. APPROVED by voice vote with no dissenting votes.

7. PROPOSED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR A GRANT TO PLANT TREES ON GOVERNMENT LAND. Submitted by Mayor Stanley J. Esposito, 11/4/93.

REP. DOMONKOS said the Committee voted for approval. She moved for approval. Seconded.

REP. MAIHOCK said that she felt there should be some input on the accountability of the program. She felt that we can do without the program as she believed it could be handled through the Parks and Recreation Department.

REP. DOMONKOS stated that this was the third year for the grant. She said that the state developed the grant to provide small businesses the opportunity to share in the work and in economic development; for that reason, the city's Parks and Recreation Department was not doing the planting, and Mr. Elkins, Director of the Department, indicated that he has only two people doing that type of work where previously there were five.

REP. LOGLISCI wanted it noted that this was a matching grant and it will cost the city \$25,000. He said that the people used to plant the trees were not local people; one contractor was from East Haven. He said that he would vote for the program and favors local people to receive the contracts.

REP. DOMONKOS said the work goes out for bid and if an out of town company receives the bid, that is part of the procedure. She said the money is already in the budget; no money is added for the program.

REP. ZELINSKY said that he spoke to Mr. Elkins at the meeting and was told by Mr. Elkins that representatives can contact him as to where trees can be planted in their districts.

PRESIDENT RINALDI called for a vote to approve the tree planting resolution. APPROVED by voice vote with one no vote, Rep. Maihock.

8. \$ 9,500.00 - HAZARDOUS MATERIAL PLANNING - CODE 454.5150 PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANTS - additional appropriation to implement and maintain Emergency Communications Center during incident responses and to assist planning for regional Haz-Mat response. This is fully reimbursable by a state grant. Request by Mayor Stanley J. Esposito, 11/30/93. Board of Finance approved 12/9/93.

Above also referred to HEALTH AND PROTECTION COMMITTEE.

HELD IN COMMITTEE

FISCAL COMMITTEE: (continued)

9. \$392,825.00 - BOARD OF EDUCATION, AMENDMENT TO CAPITAL PROJECTS BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1993/94 FOR PROJECT CODE 810.049 MODULAR CLASSROOMS - additional appropriation to purchase four modular classrooms; two at Roxbury Elementary School and two at Newfield Elementary School. To be financed by bonds. Adoption of resolution regarding funding to be financed by bonding, to be financed temporarily and/or permanently by borrowings, as to which the City expresses its official intent, all as more particularly stated on Exhibit A. Request by Mayor Stanley J. Esposito, 11/20/93. Planning Board approved 12/1/93. Board of Finance approved with recommendations 12/9/93.

Above also referred to EDUCATION, WELFARE AND GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.

HELD IN COMMITTEE

10. REVIEW CURRENT FINANCIAL STATUS OF STAMFORD EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (SEMS). Requested by Rep. David Martin, D-19, 11/23/93.

REP. DOMONKOS said that present at the meeting were Michael Davidson, Director of SEMS; John Marsalisi, Andy Pecora and Rick Miller. Rep. Domonkos said that SEMS has a back log of old bills from the former administration which have been difficult to collect. She said that when the first contract was prepared, members of the Board were concerned about the bills that were difficult to collect and what manner was going to be used. Rep. Domonkos said that SEMS came up with an idea that after the bills were turned over to the collection agency, to go further, to attach peoples' wages or place a lien on their property.

Rep. Domonkos said that the Committee emphasized that would cause a city resident not to call an ambulance if in need of one because of being afraid that if they could not pay the bill, an attachment or lien would be placed against them. Rep. Domonkos said that the contract states that if SEMS has difficulty in collecting and comes back to the Board, then there is a problem with the contract; this puts SEMS in a difficult situation.

Rep. Domonkos said that the Committee preferred that SEMS not go that far in trying to collect the old bills; SEMS indicated that the collection rate for the new bills is good and they do not depend to a large extent on the money from the collection of the old bills. She said that the Committee indicated that SEMS use the collection company and not attach peoples' wages or place liens against any houses; this was strongly suggested to SEMS, however, SEMS is an independent Board.

LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE - Maria Nakian, Chairwoman

REP. NAKIAN turned the report over to Rep. Martin who conducted the Committee meeting in her absence.

LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE: (continued)

REP. MARTIN said that the Committee met on Monday, December 6, 1993 at 7:00 p.m. Present were Reps. Carmen Domonkos, Elaine Mitchell, John Leydon, Jr., John Zelinsky, Jr., Audrey Malhock and David Martin; also, Harold Bernstein for item 1 and Dr. Joel Berns for item 2.

1. (L&R23.02) FOR PUBLICATION - PROPOSED ORDINANCE CONCERNING TAX ABATEMENT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 210 FIFTH STREET OWNED BY CONGREGATION AGUDATH SHOLOM. Requested by Harold F. Bernstein, Esq., Zone & Bernstein, 123 Prospect Street, Stamford, CT 06901, 11/10/93.

REP. MARTIN said that the Committee voted 6-0-0 for approval. He said that the property was being used as a house for the new Rabbi; the property has been ruled tax exempt by the Assessor and taxes are being abated along with any interest charges, etc. from the period of time that it was first purchased and removed from the tax rolls. Moved. Seconded.

REP. DeLUCA asked what the total tax abatement would be?

REP. MARTIN said that the abatement for one period of time is \$2,178 and for another period of time \$3,267 plus any interest.

REP. DeLUCA asked if it were possible to learn the amount of tax abatements given in the last 12 months.

REP. MARTIN said that he would get the information requested by Rep. DeLuca.

REP. DeLUCA said that he always votes against tax abatements and with revaluation coming, perhaps, it is time to go to non-profit organizations to see if they can make some contributions to the city because the residents and homeowners are really going to pay heavily when the new tax bills arrive as commercial and condominium property values are going down. Rep. DeLuca said that the time is coming when tax abatements are stopped.

REP. MARTIN said that there were many different types of tax abatements and in the two items on this evening's Agenda, these properties are granted tax exempt status by the state legislature and awarded through the city's assessor and by law, the city cannot tax them. Rep. Martin said that the tax abatement is from the day they buy the property until the property is official off the tax rolls. Rep. Martin said that there was merit to Rep. DeLuca's suggestion.

PRESIDENT RINALDI called for a vote to approve for publication, the proposed ordinance concerning tax abatement for property at 210 Fifth Street owned by Congregation Agudath Sholom. APPROVED by voice vote with four no votes, Reps. DeLuca, Perillo, Vitti and Corelli and Rep. Sherer abstaining.

2. (L&R23.04) FOR PUBLICATION - PROPOSED ORDINANCE CONCERNING TAX ABATEMENT FOR PROPERTY ADJACENT TO 3096 HIGH RIDGE ROAD, SIDE W, CARD 242, LOT C OWNED BY STAMFORD LAND CONSERVATION TRUST, INC. Requested by Dr. Joel M. Berns, Vice President, Stamford Land Conservation Trust, Inc. 22 First Street, Stamford, CT 06905, 11/16/93.

LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE: (continued)

REP. MARTIN said that the Committee voted 5-0-1 to approve item 2. He said that the property was given to the Stamford Land Conservation Trust and was deed restricted so that it could not be used for any type of development. He said that the tax assessor has ruled the property tax exempt and the ordinance provides for abatement from the date of purchase until so ruled. Moved. Seconded.

REP. LOGLISCI asked if this was done mostly so there is no development on the land and if most of the properties are wet lands?

REP. MARTIN said that this property may be a little under or over six acres and there are some wet lands; it is one acre zoning and perhaps five lots can be had on this property.

REP. LOGLISCI asked if the decision of abatement is that of the tax assessor?

REP. MARTIN said that it is the decision of the tax assessor but state law mandates that certain properties are tax exempt and it is the assessor's responsibility to apply the state law. Rep. Martin said that if the assessor believes that the property is not conforming to state law, he can rule against it.

REP. MAIHOCK said that there was discussion at the meeting as to whether the property would be available for public use? She said that she heard that the driveway was shared and she did not think that to be a convenient arrangement. She said that she was not in favor of the tax abatement.

REP. ZELINSKY said that the property was seven acres with a small pond that is wet land on the property; the Committee was told that 20% of the property is wet land and the remainder could be built on. Rep. Zelinsky said that he asked the representative from Stamford Land Conservation to send to the Board, a list of all their properties, the locations and the type of access to these properties so the public can know and use these properties for their enjoyment.

REP. DeLUCA asked if in the future, this land could be built on; could the owners come back, pay their back taxes and build on the land?

REP. MARTIN said that in the past, one issue made with the Land Conservation Trust was that they deed restrict their properties; that is that once the deed restriction is on, it can never be developed; never is a long time but certainly not within two or three years and without significant legal issues. Rep. Martin said that Land Conservation objective is not to develop the land; they do nothing with the land and the land is available to the public but they do not develop it for the public. He said the land is deed restricted and it is virtually impossible for them to develop in the future.

PRESIDENT RINALDI called for a vote to approve for publication, the proposed ordinance for tax abatement for property adjacent to 3096 High Ridge Road owned by Stamford Land Conservation Trust, Inc. APPROVED by voice vote with eight no votes, Reps. Perillo, DeLuca, Pia, Maihock, Conti, Vittti, Sabia and Loglisci.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE - John J. Hogan, Jr., Chairman

REP. HOGAN said that the Committee met on Wednesday, December 8, 1993. Present were Reps. Philip Stork, Robert McLaughlin, Angela Housey, John Zelinsky, Jr., Joseph Vitti and John Hogan; excused were Reps. Michael Larobina and Kit Martinsen. Also, attending were Commissioner Patrick O'Connor, Labor Negotiator Ray Grebey, Lou Calabrese, President of the Retirees Association and William Buchanan, a member of the Association.

1. APPROVAL OF SALARY RECOMMENDATIONS PER SECTION 5-10-3(b) OF THE CHARTER TO AMEND THE PAY PLAN FOR CLASSIFIED AND UNCLASSIFIED ADMINISTRATORS AS OUTLINED IN LETTER OF 7/22/93. Submitted by Sim Bernstein, Personnel Director, 7/22/93. Personnel Commission approved 7/21/93. Board of Finance approved 9/9/93. (This is a resubmission)

HELD IN COMMITTEE

2. APPROVAL OF PENSION INCREASES TO RETIREES IN THE CITY'S CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT FUND (CERF) PLAN. PLAN CALLS FOR A GRADUATED RATE BEGINNING WITH A 5% INCREASE FOR RECENTLY RETIRED PERSONS AND EXTENDS TO A 15% INCREASE FOR THOSE WHO RETIRED PRIOR TO 1968. Pension fund is overfunded. All unions involved approved the plan. Submitted by Mayor Stanley J. Esposito, 10/28/93. Board of Finance approved 11/15/93.

REP. HOGAN said the Committee vote unanimously to approve the increases. Moved. Seconded.

REP. DeLUCA said that he knows that the money will be coming out of the pension fund, and asked what the impact would be on the pension fund?

REP. HOGAN said that the impact on the fund would be approximately \$650,000. He said that there is a \$17 million surplus.

REP. LOGLISCI asked if there were any other groups coming into the same pension fund?

REP. HOGAN said that there were not. He said that the nurses, teamsters, MEA, dental hygienists are the people coming under this, the Classified Employees Retirement Fund (CERF). Rep. Hogan stated that the other pension funds are not overfunded, and Mr. Grebey at the meeting stated that this was not to set a precedent for any of the other labor negotiations that he is involved.

REP. CORELLI asked what would happen if the fund is not overfunded 10 years from now; will the city have to supply the money?

REP. HOGAN said that if the pension fund 10 or 15 years from now is not overfunded, then the city will be obligated to make up the deficit.

REP. MAIHOCK said that she was also concerned with the future and whether this creates a precedent and how would this be addressed in a future situation if the fund is underfunded? She said that years ago, it was a problem because the pension fund was not funded and the city worked hard to fund it. Rep. Maihock said that with today's economic climate, some companies are not giving pensions and many companies are down-sizing and personnel is being dismissed without realizing the expectation of a pension. She said that it was not general practice for a corporation to provide pension increases after employees have left their employ. Rep. Maihock said she felt that increases in pensions to the retirees was not in the best future interest of the city.

REP. VITTI said that the city has no obligation to negotiate the increases; the agreement has to be voluntary between the city and the unions. He said that in this matter the city and the unions agreed to negotiate the increases and if the police and fire plans come in and are overfunded, the city does not have to negotiate, the city can back out and is not obligated to negotiate. He said that there is not precedent set in giving these increases.

REP. DOMONKOS asked when the last increase was received by the pensioners?

REP. HOGAN said that it was in 1986 and the fund was overfunded then by about \$7 million. He said the pensions were being updated between 5% and 15%. He said that there were only five people in the 15% category and they are between 85 and 90 years of age; they receive on the average of between \$3,000 and \$4,000.

REP. ZELINSKY Moved to amend the plan by adding a sentence reading, "This increase will not continue to be paid, if at a future date, the pension fund is not overfunded." Seconded.

REP. HOGAN said the increases were negotiated in contracts and we cannot change the conditions of the contracts. He agreed with Rep. Zelinsky outlook but disagreed that any changes should be made to the agreements reached between the city and negotiations.

The Second to the motion was withdrawn.

REP. HOGAN Moved for approval. Seconded.

PRESIDENT RINALDI proceeded to a vote to increase pensions to retirees in the CERF plan. APPROVED by 34 yes, one no vote with one abstention. The record will note that Clerk Summerville abstained due to a possible conflict of interest.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE - Gregory LaDestro, Chairman - No report.

PUBLIC WORKS & SEWER COMMITTEE - Bobby Owens & Jeffrey Curtis, Co-Chairmen

No report.

HEALTH & PROTECTION COMMITTEE - Audrey Maihock & Ralph Loglisci, Co-Chairpersons

No report.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE - Robert DeLuca & Thomas Pia, Co-Chairmen

No report.

EDUCATION, WELFARE & GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE - John R. Zelinsky, Jr., Chairman

URBAN RENEWAL COMMITTEE - Michael Larobina, Chairman - No report.

HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - Elaine Mitchell, Chairwoman

No report.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE - Donald Sherer, Chairman - No report.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE - Marggie Laurie, Chairwoman - No report.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

HOUSE COMMITTEE - Gerald Rybnick, Chairman - No report.

LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE - John Boccuzzi & Nicholas Pavia, Co-Chairmen

No report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - William Belcher, Chairman - No report.

ETHICS REVIEW COMMITTEE - Maria Nakian & Gregory LaDestro, Co-Chairpersons

No report.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - John Boccuzzi & Ralph Loglisci, Co-Chairmen

No report.

AUDIT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE - John Boccuzzi & Robert DeLuca, Co-Chairmen

No report.

RE-EVALUATION COMMITTEE - John J. Hogan, Jr., Chairman - No report.

REP. DeLUCA asked if a briefing could be given on what happened at last Saturday's meeting regarding revaluation?

PRESIDENT RINALDI said that she would allow a short briefing.

REP. HOGAN said that he and Rep. Martin attended the session of the Board of Finance Revaluation Committee. Rep. Hogan said that preliminary information was received on the effects of revaluation. He said that he could not give an informative determination on the reval. He said that questions were asked of Commissioner O'Connor and Ms. McGarry from the Assessor's office; it was stressed that the figures were preliminary, the number of appeals is not known yet and how many corrections will be made. Rep. Hogan said the meeting was informational and further information will be forthcoming. Rep. Hogan said that he invited the Reval Committee of the Board of Finance to meet the Board's Committee in order to coordinate the efforts of both Boards. Once again, Rep. Hogan stated that the figures are preliminary.

RE-EVALUATION COMMITTEE: (continued)

REP. DeLUCA said that from a newspaper article, he learned that those present at the meeting went to the Assessor's office to work with the computers and one of the Committee members present was pleasantly surprised that she would only be facing a 4% increase. Rep. DeLuca asked how his constituents can obtain the same type of information as to what their potential increases will be?

PRESIDENT RINALDI said some questions were allowed but the item is not on the Agenda. She said that she will allow a brief response.

REP. HOGAN said that he did not go to the Assessor's office; he only knew what he read in the newspaper and could not make any further comments.

RESOLUTIONS - None.

MINUTES

1. NOVEMBER 3, 1993 REGULAR BOARD MEETING 22ND BOARD.

CLERK SUMMERVILLE Moved for approval of the November 3, 1993 Minutes with the necessary corrections. Seconded.

PRESIDENT RINALDI called for approval of the Minutes. APPROVED by voice vote with no dissenting votes.

2. DECEMBER 1, 1993 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING 23RD BOARD - Not ready.

COMMUNICATIONS

CLERK SUMMERVILLE asked that the new members remain after the meeting; Eva Weller, Researcher for the Board, will be giving out Code books and will assist the members if they have any questions. Clerk Summerville requested that the new members contact the security office to receive their identification badges which should be worn when in the Government Center.

OLD BUSINESS

PRESIDENT RINALDI thanked the following: Rep. John R. Zelinsky, Jr., for providing the delicious food this evening; Rep. DeLuca for arranging the wonderful Christmas Party, it was one of the best and Rep. Corelli for the delicious pastries she provided this evening.

President Rinaldi said that Rep. Gloria DePina's two grandchildren are in Montifiore Hospital in New York suffering from smoke inhalation due to a fire in their home. She asked that all members remember these children in their prayers and wished them a speedy recovery.

REP. ZELINSKY wanted the record to note that Reps. Curtis, Laurie, Loglisci, Morris, Pia and Zelinsky marched in the Veterans Day Parade.

NEW BUSINESS

REP. LaDESTRO said that on the testing of the voting machine at the Board meetings, he said that it takes 10, 15 to 20 minutes to test and that boggles his mind as to why this has to be done. He said that by not testing the machine, the time spent at a meeting can be reduced, and if anyone has a problem with their vote, they can raise their hand. He said that most of the votes taken are voice votes.

Rep. LaDestro Moved to delete the testing of the voting machine from the Order of Business. Seconded.

CLERK SUMMERVILLE said she urged the Board to vote against the motion. She said that those in Leadership positions, as well as Board members, have to answer to Freedom of Information about procedures and the results of the proceedings of meetings. She said that it must be acknowledged what is in good working condition or not in working condition before the Board begins its Agenda. Clerk Summerville said that some votes are very technical. She asked that members defeat the motion.

REP. MARTIN Moved that the motion be Held and be put into the L&R Committee as a Rule Change to the Board's Rules of Order as this has been the past practice for all proposed Rule changes. He said that Rep. LaDestro is a member of the L&R Committee. Seconded.

REP. LOGLISCI asked if this evening, it would take a simple majority and at any other meeting, it would take a two-thirds vote?

REP. MARTIN said that the Rules have been amended to allow amendments through the January meeting; it would still be a simple majority.

REP. LaDESTRO agreed to Mr. Martin's Move.

REP. ZELINSKY asked when the new Board list and Committee assignments will be received?

PRESIDENT RINALDI stated that perhaps within the next month.

ADJOURNMENT - Upon a motion duly made and Seconded and Approved by voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

  
Anne A. Kachaluba, Administrative Assistant  
and Recording Secretary  
23rd Board of Representatives

APPROVED:

  
Mary Lou T. Rinaldi, President  
23rd Board of Representatives  
MTR:ak  
Enclosures