

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES, STAMFORD, CONN.

The first meeting of the Board of Representatives of consolidated Stamford was called to order by Mayor George T. Barrett on April 15, 1949 at 8 P.M. at Burdick Junior High School. All members, of the Board were present except Horace Woodbury.

The first order of business was the swearing-in of William Adriance as a member of the Board by Mayor George T. Barrett.

The Mayor asked for nominations for a temporary chairman. Sherman Hoyt was nominated by Michael Wofsey, seconded by William Adriance. James Mulreed was nominated by George Lockwood and seconded by Edward Wojciechowski. Sherman Hoyt was elected 22-16, 1 member not voting and one member absent.

Mr. Hoyt, as acting chairman, asked for nominations for temporary clerk. Catherine Cleary was nominated by David Waterbuty and seconded by James Mulreed and elected unanimously. Nominations were then taken for President of the Board. Samuel F. Pierson was nominated by Daniel Miller, seconded by Sewell Corkran. Michael Laurenno was nominated by Patriet Scarella, seconded by Eugene Kaminski. It was moved and seconded that the vote be by roll call. Samuel Pierson was elected 22-15, 2 members not voting and 1 member absent.

Samuel Pierson read the "Councilman's Prayer On Taking Office" by M. Tellefson. It was moved by Louise Seeley, and seconded, and unanimously adopted that this statement be incorporated in the permanent minutes of this meeting.

A COUNCILMAN'S PRAYER ON TAKING OFFICE

By M. Tellefson

DEAR LORD, at this, the outset of a new experience and a new service, cleanse my heart and mind of all malice, all hatred, all jealousy that might linger there as a result of a bitter campaign or my own intolerance; let me approach my duties with an open mind and a friendliness toward all my fellow workers; let me recognize that the service that I am now entering upon is a sacred trust dedicated to the advancement of the greatest democracy in the world the abiding hope of all mankind; let me humbly recognize my own shortcomings and my inexperience in the technical and complicated ramifications of government, and let not my ego or self-conceit retard me from utilizing to the fullest knowledge and experience of those long in the public service; let me not forget that the organization in which my fellow citizens have placed me is one that has grown and developed through sacrifices and the labors of many faithful who have gone before; let me quickly recognize that my greatest contribution to the public service will not be by extravagant promises to reform mankind, or to disrupt the orderly processes of existing things, but rather by a patient and intelligent application of the principles of Thy Golden Rule.

Let me stand as the Rock of Gibraltar against the approach of evil influences and give me strength, dear Lord, to resist all temptations to corrupt practice of every kind. Grant that I may so conduct myself that I may have the confidence of my fellow workers and the respect and love of those under my supervision. In my contacts with my fellow citizens, who are my employers, endow me with a little of the wisdom of Solomon, the patience of Job, and the kindness of Jesus, and when my service has been called to a close, grant me that supreme satisfaction of knowing in my own heart, whatever be the cause of my removal from service, that I have served honestly, faithfully, and well.

The foregoing prayer for newly elected councilmen, by the City Attorney of Culver City Calif., appeared originally in Western City for August 1948, in an article entitled "When a Man Becomes a Councilman." Reprints are available from Mr. Tellefson.

The chairman called for nominations for permanent clerk. Babette Ransohoff was nominated by Louise Seeley, seconded by Ralph Nau. George Lockwood was nominated by George Connors, seconded by Stephen Kelly. Michael Wofsey withdrew his motion for a rising vote and Babette Ransohoff was elected by roll call vote of 22-15, 2 abstaining and 1 absent.

Michael Wofsey moved, Leonard DeVita seconded, the motion that the chair appoint an organization committee of 12 to meet Wednesday night, April 20th, and report back to the Board of Representatives on Thursday night. The majority and minority leaders of the parties were asked to submit names. The motion was carried unanimously. Daniel Miller, Republican, and Michael Lauren, Democrat, submitted the following names:

Republicans: Daniel Miller, Louise Seeley, Michael Wofsey, Sewell Corkran, Helen Bromley, Sherman Hoyt; Samuel Pierson, ex-officio.

Democrats: Patrick Hogan, James Mulreed, Joseph Zdanowicz, Stephen Kelly, Michael Lauren.

Following discussion on the number of committee members from each party, it was moved by Patrick Scarella, seconded by Patrick Hogan, that a committee of this kind shall have an equal number of Democrats and Republicans (5 of each) with the president serving ex-officio. In the discussion that followed, Patrick Hogan stated that since the Democrats represent the greater population, they should have equal membership on this committee. Leonard DeVita maintained that the customary party procedure provides that the majority party have the majority members on any committee, and Louise Seeley concurred, pointing out that this procedure is followed in the General Assembly and in Congress. The previous question was voted and passed and the motion was defeated 22-16, 1 absent and the president not voting.

A motion was made by James Harrington, and seconded, that each member of the Board be given a copy of the new charter, free of charge. This was passed unanimously.

It was moved by John Cameron, seconded by Hunt Sutherland, that the president recess the meeting until Thursday, April 21st, at 8 o'clock, to reconvene at Burdick Junior High School. The motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

BABETTE S. RANSOHOFF, Clerk.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21st, 1949

The recessed meeting of the Board of Representatives of Consolidated Stamford was held at the Burdick Junior High School on Thursday evening, April 21st, at 8 o'clock, with the President of the Board, Samuel F. Pierson, presiding.

The Chair introduced Rev. Russell M. McGown, who pronounced the Invocation.

Roll Call of members was held, all being present except John Gacher, Horace Woodbury and Leon Staples.

Minority leader, Michael Lauren, asked permission of the Chair for a fifteen minute recess to allow Democratic members of the Organization Committee to meet, which permission was granted.

At the close of the fifteen minute period the meeting was again called to order, the first matter of business being the appointment of the Appeals Board and Alternates.

Mr. Lauren placed in nomination the names of James Mulreed and Stephen Kelly, which nominations were seconded by Mr. Wojciechowski.

Mr. Miller nominated John W. Cook and Sewell Corkran, these nominations being seconded by Walter F. Seeley.

Mr. Wofsey moved that the nominations be closed, which motion was duly seconded and carried.

Thereupon the Chair announced the appointment of:

John W. Cook	James Mulreed
Sewell Corkran	Stephen Kelly

as members of the APPEALS BOARD.

Mr. Lauren then nominated George Lockwood and Eugene Kaminski as Alternates, which nominations were seconded by Mr. Hogan.

Mr. Miller nominated Leonard DeVita and David Waterbury as Alternates, which nominations were seconded by Mrs. Cleary.

Upon motion duly made, seconded by Clifford Waterbury, and carried nominations were closed.

Thereupon the Chair announced the appointment of:

Leonard DeVita	George Lockwood
David Waterbury	Eugene Kaminski

as Alternates of the APPEALS BOARD.

The next order of business was the matter of establishing committees, and the Chair announced that he would entertain a motion as to what committees should be appointed.

Mr. Miller made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wofsey and carried, that the following committees be named:

- Fiscal Matters Committee
- Legislation and Rules Committee
- Appointments Committee
- Public Works Committee
- Health and Protection Committee
- Planning and Zoning Committee
- Public Welfare and Recreation Committee

Mr. Wofsey moved that "these committees, as agreed, consist of five members each, to be named by this body", which motion was seconded by Mr. Cameron and duly carried.

The Chair then announced the following Committee appointments:

FISCAL MATTERS COMMITTEE

Louise T. Seeley, Chairman
John L. Cameron Michael Laureno
Hunt Sutherland Patrick J. Hogan

LEGISLATIVE AND RULES COMMITTEE

Michael Wofsey, Chairman
Leonard J. DeVita James N. Mulreed
Robert G. Shepherd Michael Laureno

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Daniel Miller - Chairman
Walter F. Seely George V. Lockwood
Sewell B. Corkran George V. Connors

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Stearns F. Woodman, Chairman
David Waterbury James N. Mulreed
James W. Harrington Edward Ballo

HEALTH AND PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Leon C. Staples, Chairman
John W. Cook Patrick Scarella
Ralph Nau Edward J. Wojciechowski

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Sherman R. Hoyt, Chairman
Catherine B. Cleary Joseph Zdanowicz
Jeanette L. Bell John M. Canavan

PUBLIC WELFARE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Helen J. Bromley - Chairman
Helen J. Peatt Stephen F. Kelly
William Adriance Eugene Kaminski

The Chair then called for nominations for Tellers.

Mr. Miller nominated Mrs. Jeanette Bell, which nominations was duly seconded by Mr. Corkran.

Mr. Laureno nominated Clifford Waterbury, who declined the nomination.

Mr. Mulreed then nominated Vito Longo, which nomination was seconded by Mr. Scarella.

Mr. Wofsey moved that the nominations be closed, which motion was seconded by Mr. Wojciechowski and carried.

The Chair announced the appointment of:

Jeanette Bell and Vito Longo as TELLERS.

Mr. Miller nominated Walter Seely as an Alternate Teller, which was seconded by Mr. Nau.

Mr. Laurenno nominated Samuel Cook as an Alternate Teller, which nomination was seconded by Mr. Kelly.

Upon motion made by Mr. Wofsey, seconded by Mr. Wojciechowski and carried, the nominations were closed.

The Chair announced the appointment of:

Walter Seely and Samuel Cook as ALTERNATE TELLERS.

Mr. Miller made a motion that the Chairman name a committee to investigate adequate housing for this group, which motion was seconded by Mr. Hogan and carried.

The Chair named Daniel Miller, Chairman; Michael Wofsey, Michael Laurenno and Patrick Hogan as a committee to locate such a place.

Under new business, a letter was read from Mayor Barrett concerning his nomination of Robert Almond as Commissioner of Finance.

Upon motion of Mr. Wofsey, seconded by Mr. C. Waterbury and carried, it was voted that this matter be referred to the Appointments Committee.

A Resolution concerning badges was referred to Mayor Barrett.

A long communication, addressed to a member of the Board of Representatives concerning the misuse and disfiguration of Daskam Park, was described briefly by the Chair

It was moved, seconded and carried that this letter concerning Daskam Park conditions be referred by the President to the proper authority.

Prior to the close of the meeting Mr. Wofsey stated that this meeting has given every indication that the Board of Representatives will be able to administer the affairs of Stamford successfully and make a mark for itself, and quoted Mr. Laurenno as saying that he hoped, and had every reason to believe, this body would itself become Stamford Good Government.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion made by Daniel Miller, and seconded by several, the meeting was adjourned at nine o'clock, the next meeting to take place on Monday, May 2nd, 1949, at eight o'clock at Burdick Junior High School.

Respectfully submitted,

BABETTE S. RANSOHOFF, Clerk