

We recommend that State Aid for Road Materials hereafter be accounted for. That the Budget list certain specific amounts of road materials, with estimated mileage of roads to be repaired and built, and that from this total the State Aid materials be deducted, and the net amount be requested in the Budget.

We also felt that the Tax Collector's office having to get out one annual set of tax bills, instead of two, which will be mailed in October, and not again until September, 1950, should be able to do with fewer clerks after October, 1949.

Also we fail to see why a teletype in the City Police Department should cost \$480.00 and in the Town Police Department \$525.00.

There were many general items recurring frequently in the Budget which we think could be consolidated at a great saving to Stamford. An example of this is 23 different telephone requests, not including the Department of Education, for \$13,929.00. We suggest coordinating telephone service, many of these telephones being in the same or adjoining building.

We pay \$20,200.00 to private owners for municipal offices. A new municipal building will save this expenditure as well as centralizing the municipal functions.

There are recurring items for Repairs and Maintenance of Equipment, totaling \$16,950.00. In addition we maintain a repair shop and departmental repair men. We think all of this work should be centralized.

Gas, Oil, Grease and Tires occur over and over in many departments. Centralized purchasing and maintenance of automotive supplies would save greatly in this item.

While we had no power to increase the Budget as submitted to us by the Board of Finance, we thought that in at least two items the Board should reconsider its decision to eliminate the requested amounts:

1. On Page 35, all uniforms and equipment for the Fire Department were eliminated, which we think was mistaken for uniforms and equipment for the new men only.

2. The requested \$65,000.00 for an outside re-assessment, which we think would be a good investment for Stamford, producing not only an increased grand list, but a distribution of property values more nearly in accord with present actual values of the property. We think a periodic review of assessments by outside experts is as important as outside auditors for our accounts.

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Michael Laurenno, a member of the Committee, supplemented the report by calling the attention of the Board to the matter of the Deputy Building Inspector, who is to replace the Town Zoning Enforcement Officer, stating that it was felt that he was not necessary.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 21st, 1949

The recessed meeting of the Board of Representatives of Stamford, was held at Burdick Junior High School, Stamford, Tuesday, June 21st, 1949, and was called to order at 8:26 by the President, Samuel F. Pierson.

Upon Roll Call, all members were present except John Gacher, Edward J. Wojciechowski, Vito Longo, Sherman R. Hoyt and Robert G. Shepherd.

The Chair announced that we now have a certified copy of the Budget from the Board of Finance, and read the following certification:

"June 21, 1949.

* RESOLVED that the itemized estimate of expenditures of the municipality of Stamford for the ensuing year, July 1, 1949 to June 30, 1950, amounting to \$7,251,422.66 is hereby approved by the Board of Finance, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said approved Budget be forthwith transmitted to the Clerk of the Board of Representatives for its action thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew H. Kenealy, Chairman

Dr. James J. Costanzo

Nicholas J. Gorman

Charles T. McKean

Walter F. Randall

Ralph A. Shulman

Board of Finance of Stamford, Connecticut

(signed) Matthew H. Kenealy, Chairman,"

The Chair suggested that in the order of business the Budget be discussed page by page, and stated that a few items have been changed by the Board of Finance since the previous night, and that any comments pertaining to these changes can be brought up when they are reached.

James W. Harrington, 9th District, proposed that the Budget should be read through, item by item, then approved, after discussion, but considered by Department, which met with the approval of the Board.

James N. Mulreed, 4th District, moved that we reduce to \$500.00 the appropriation to be used by the Board of Finance for Newspaper Advertising, Stationery, Record Books, etc., and Clerical Help; seconded by John M. Canavan, 11th District.

Michael Laurenno, 3rd District, remarked that he would like to give the Board of Finance the benefit of the doubt as he felt they would wish to set a good example, and that he is in favor of the Budget as it stands in that Department.

Upon vote, the motion was lost.

Leonard DeVita, 5th District, moved that the total appropriation for the Board of Finance be cut to \$700.00, seconded by George V. Connors, 10th District.

Leon C. Staples, 7th District, stated that if we reduce these amounts too drastically there will be repeated requests for additional funds, and that he wants to be able to make a Budget that will stand the test for a year, whereupon James N. Mulreed, 4th District, remarked that he disagreed with Mr. Staples, saying that, "the proper way for us to handle this situation and the proper way to arrive at the tax to be laid is not to do a haphazard job, but do our job as we see it now and upon that basis the tax will be levied".

Upon vote, the motion was carried.

Michael Wofsey, 1st District, moved that we recommend to the Mayor that the Plan Commission, Zoning Commission, Board of Appeals and Board of Representatives be housed together and share one secretary; seconded by Daniel Miller, 16th District, and carried.

Upon motion of Michael Wofsey, 1st District, seconded by Daniel Miller, 16th District, IT WAS VOTED to set the salary of the Secretary of the Zoning Commission and Board of Appeals at \$2,400.00.

Daniel Miller, 16th District, moved that the Budget of the Board of Selectmen, as approved by the Board of Finance, be approved by this body, which motion was duly seconded. After discussion as to the advisability of granting this

Budget, and the statement by Michael Wofsey that the Selectmen do have a Constitutional job, the motion was carried.

Leon C. Staples, 7th District, moved that the Mayor's Office Budget, as approved by the Board of Finance, in the amount of \$14,878.52, be approved by this Board, seconded by Sewell H. Corkran, 18th District.

The matter of the Mayor's salary was raised, several expressing the opinion that we should request the \$9,000.00 salary previously recommended by this Board. Louise T. Seeley, Chairman of the Fiscal Committee, reminded the Board of the recommendation from her committee concerning the elimination of the Clerk in the Mayor's Office. Helen Bromley, 20th District, opposed elimination of the Clerk from that office because of the consolidation of the two governments, in which James W. Harrington, 9th District, concurred.

Michael Wofsey, 1st District, stated that if we eliminate this Clerk in this Department, the total government has lost a clerk, and suggested that the appropriation be left where it is. It was further suggested that the advisability of having the file clerk in the office of the Department of Finance, rather than the Mayor's office, be taken up in the Steering Committee, and included in the Supplemental Budget.

At this point Michael Wofsey, 1st District, suggested a point of procedure to be followed, which met with the approval of the Board, stating that many unconscionable cuts have been made by the Board of Finance which have met with various degrees of indignation. "As we go along each member should make a star or other distinguishing mark opposite those items upon which approval has been withheld, and these items should be referred to the Steering Committee for study, they to report back to this Board as to the request to be made to the Board of Finance, or to the Mayor to make to the Board of Finance. We then should then make up a Supplemental Budget and press for it".

James N. Mulreed, 4th District, stated that he was opposed to this body approving the item of \$8,240.00 for the Mayor's salary, when, as a matter of fact, we do not approve. "I am in favor of approving such items as we do approve and asking the Board of Finance to reconsider those items we disapprove of before final approval of the Budget as a whole".

Leon C. Staples, 7th District, remarked, in part, that from his experience you can submit and re-submit to the Board of Finance and get nowhere.

Catherine B. Cleary, 8th District, stated that she feels strongly as Mr. Mulreed does, and that "we should be able to get our opinion in there and our suggestions should be considered."

Louise T. Seeley, 1st District, remarked that she would like to speak very strongly in favor of Mr. Staples' opinion on this matter. "This Board of Representatives corresponds to a Town Meeting. I think we can make suggestions to the Board of Finance, but I think we are entirely out of order in usurping their judgment. We should take their figures, accept, reduce or throw them out."

Michael Wofsey, 1st District, offered the following amendment to the motion, which was accepted by Mr. Staples, maker of the motion: "excepting that no action be taken on the salary of the Mayor." The motion, as amended, was adopted.

Daniel Miller, 16th District, moved that the Parking Meters Budget, as approved by the Board of Finance, in the amount of \$12,569.50, be approved by this Board, seconded by James W. Harrington, 9th District,

Helen Bromley, 20th District, offered the following amendment: "excepting that we do not approve the item of zero under General Expenses, Repairs, etc.",

which was accepted by the maker of the motion, and the motion, as amended, was carried.

Sewell H. Corkran, 18th District, moved that we approve of the Budget for the Department of Finance, Office of Commissioner, as approved by the Board of Finance, in the total amount of \$12,216.00, seconded by James W. Harrington, 9th District. Michael Wofsey, 1st District, inquired about the \$7,500.00 request for Certification of Loans which had been eliminated by the Board of Finance, and Louise T. Seeley, explained that the Commissioner of Finance had told her that this was always included in the cost of the bonds themselves and there has never been a separate item for it. Upon vote, the motion was carried.

James W. Harrington, 9th District, moved that this Board approve the Town Hall Maintenance Budget, in the amount of \$36,665.83, as approved by the Board of Finance, which motion was duly seconded.

Michael Wofsey, 1st District, offered the following amendment to the motion, seconded by Stephen E. Kelly, 12th District, which the maker of the motion would not accept, "except to strike out the last item on the page in the amount of \$3,880.00 for Superintendent of Building and Information Clerk, thereby decreasing the total salaries item at the top of the page to \$20,335.83." Upon vote, the amendment was adopted. A further amendment was offered by George W. Lockwood, 14th District, seconded by Patrick J. Hogan, 10th District, as follows, "and that we reduce the fuel oil item to \$3,458.22". This amendment was also adopted, following which the motion, as amended, was carried.

At this point Catherine B. Cleary, 8th District, called the attention of the Board to the item on Page 18 of the Budget under Town Clerk Salaries breakdown for cleaning offices, in the amount of \$156.00. Michael Wofsey, 1st District, explained that the custodian in the Town Clerk's office does different work and that there are important and valuable books as well as secret books in the vault there, which require special attention.

A motion made by Louise T. Seeley, 1st District, seconded by Hunt Sutherland, 17th District, to delete \$630.00 from the Budget of the Probate Court, as recommended in the report of the Fiscal Committee, was so amended as to nullify it. James N. Mulreed, 4th District, then moved that the appropriation of \$3,378.88 by the Board of Finance for the Probate Court, be approved by this body, seconded by Catherine B. Cleary, 8th District, and carried.

Daniel Miller, 16th District, moved the approval of the Corporation Counsel Budget, as approved by the Board of Finance, with the exception that we withhold approval of the elimination of the item of "Secretary" at \$2,300.00, and the reduction to \$12,500.00 of the item "Settlement of Claims Not Arising out of Contract." Motion seconded by Michael Wofsey, and carried.

James W. Harrington, 9th District, moved that the amount approved by the Board of Finance for the Tax Collector's Office Budget, being \$80,715.52, be approved by this Board, seconded by Hunt Sutherland, 17th District.

Michael Laureno, 3rd District, explained that it was his understanding that an error had been made by the Board of Finance in the elimination of the item in the amount of \$3,077.58 for General Clerk", and offered the following amendment, which was accepted by Mr. Harrington, "except that we withhold approval of the \$3,077.58 item for General Clerk, which was eliminated".

A further amendment was offered by Michael Wofsey, 1st District, that the word "Deputy" before "Tax Collector" be changed to the word "Assistant" wherever it appeared, which amendment was accepted.

The motion, as amended, was voted upon and adopted.

James W. Harrington, 9th District, moved the approval of the Town Clerk Budgets, as shown on pages 18, 19 and the top of page 20 of the Budget, as approved by the Board of Finance, seconded by Sewell H. Corkran, 18th District.

James N. Mulreed, 4th District, remarked, in part: "You will notice in the Budget of the Probate Court that there is no salary item, yet this Town Clerk's office is supposed to be carried on a fee system the same as the Probate Court." He read to the Board salary items appearing in the Budgets on pages 18 and 19 of the Mayor's Proposed Budget, stating that they totaled \$30,080.99. "All of these are salary items in an office which is conducted on a fee basis. I am opposed to such an expenditure as this."

Catherine B. Cleary, 8th District, stated, "I feel exactly the same way about this, I do not see why those salaries are listed and paid for by the taxpayer. It is a very lucrative system and we are all aware of it."

Commenting on the salary total, Michael Hofsey, 1st District, said that no Town Clerk takes in that much in fees. "It is not a bad job, but it is not that good. It would be a great disservice to the government of Stamford if we in any way cripple that office."

James N. Mulreed further stated that the Town Clerks in the State have a very strong association which has been able to keep the Town Clerk's offices on a fee basis. Efforts to have a salary for the Town Clerk have been defeated in Hartford. "If the office is conducted on a fee basis, the fees should be sufficient to cover the expense of that office."

Catherine B. Cleary, 8th District, further called the attention of the Board to the \$500.00 item on Page 82 of the Budget (Anticipated Indirect Revenue) for Recording Marriages, Births and Deaths.

Louise T. Seeley, 1st District, stated in part, "In line with Mr. Mulreed's recommendation, I felt that the Town Clerk should be put on a salary in the new Charter and that was how the Charter was first written. Two years later I had better sense. The object of running this office is service to the community, and as long as our Town Clerk's office is run as well as it is run, the particular method of running it under the present Town Clerk is agreeable to me, and I am now quite willing to approve of it."

James N. Mulreed, 4th District, then stated that he wished to register his disapproval of the payment by Stamford for these salaries and hopes that this Board will give some serious consideration to the office of the Town Clerk between now and the time we will consider the next Budget as it is something that will bear investigating.

Upon the call for the question, the motion was carried.

Catherine B. Cleary, 8th District, then said "I agree it is a model Town Clerk's Office and I am not going against the Town Clerk by any means, but a clarification of the office is what we need and I am glad if my remarks have raised a question in your minds."

Catherine B. Cleary, 8th District, then moved the reconsideration of the matter of the \$156.00 item for Cleaning Offices in the Town Clerk Budget, which motion was seconded by John M. Canavan, 11th District, and upon vote, the motion was lost.

James W. Harrington, 9th District, moved the approval of the Registrars of Voters - Election Budget, in the amount of \$12,371.97, as approved by the Board of Finance, seconded by Sewell H. Corkran, 18th District,

Helen J. Bromley, 20th District, offered the following amendment to the motion, which was accepted by the maker of the motion, "except that we reduce the item for Electricity, telephone, stationery, postage, etc., to \$250.00."

Michael Laurenno, 3rd District, proposed an amendment, which was not accepted by the maker of the motion, to reduce the item for salaries for two Deputy Registrars from \$2,570.77 to \$1,000.00, which was duly seconded. Upon vote, this amendment was defeated, and the motion, as previously amended, was voted upon and carried.

James W. Harrington, 9th District, moved the approval of the Veterans' Service Center Budget, in the amount of \$7,753.53, as approved by the Board of Finance, seconded by Patrick Scarella, 3rd District.

James N. Mulreed, 4th District, offered an amendment that approval be withheld on the reduction from \$150.00 to \$100.00, Supplies & Office Expense item, seconded by Michael Laurenno, 3rd District. The amendment was accepted by the maker of the motion, and the motion, as amended, was carried.

At 11:30 P.M. it was duly moved, seconded and carried that the meeting recess at 1:00 A.M.

Michael Wofsey, 1st District, moved approval of the Compensation and Hospitalization Budget in the amount of \$1,000.00, as approved by the Board of Finance, with the exception that we withhold approval of the disallowance by the Board of Finance of the Compensation item in the amount of \$3,850.00; seconded by Sewell H. Corkran, 18th District, and carried.

Hunt Sutherland, 17th District, moved that in accord with the recommendation of the Fiscal Committee, the Budget for the Reserve Fund be reduced to \$10,000.00 from the \$15,000.00 recommended by the Board of Finance; seconded by Babette Ransohoff, 15th District, and carried.

Daniel Miller, 16th District, moved the approval of the Board of Education Budget, as approved by the Board of Finance, in the amount of \$2,949,856.00, seconded by William Adriance, 18th District.

Hunt Sutherland, 17th District, offered an amendment, in accordance with the recommendation of the Fiscal Committee, that "the item 'Operation' be reduced by \$10,000.00", which amendment was accepted by the maker of the motion. After an expression of opinion by Leon Staples that we should give the School Board what it asks for, and a statement by Reginald Neuwein, Superintendent of Schools, that he felt the \$10,000.00 reduction would still allow them sufficient to provide heat, with the proviso that they could come back and ask for more if necessary, the motion, as amended, was carried, making the total Board of Education Budget \$2,939,856.00,

Jeanette Bell, 17th District, in connection with the Budget for Allowances To Volunteer Fire Departments, stated that the Springdale Fire Department covers the largest industrial area of any of the volunteer Departments, and 7000 families, and that there are 58 men who are obligated to respond to fires. "If this were part of the regular Fire Department", she said, "it would require 36 men under 3 shifts at a salary of around \$45,000.00 per year." She also pointed out that it was the only volunteer Department not receiving what it requested, and thereupon moved that the Budget of the Springdale Fire Department be committed to the Board of Finance with the request that it be raised to \$10,000.00, seconded by James W. Harrington, 9th District, and carried.

John M. Canavan, 11th District, moved the approval of the Budget, Fire Departments, Allowances to Volunteer Fire Departments, in the amount of \$36,953.00, as approved by the Board of Finance, excepting that we withhold

approval of the item for the Springdale Fire Department; seconded by several and carried.

In connection with the Budget for the City Health Department, the Chair stated that the Mayor made an additional request for an Assistant Health Officer for \$5,200.00, and one additional Sanitary Inspector, both of which requests the Board of Finance denied. William Adriance, 18th District, remarked that the Commissioner said he would need two nurses and one Inspector for the Town area. Michael Wofsey, 1st District, moved that "we approve the Health Department Budget, as approved by the Board of Finance, reserving the question of health services for the former Town area for our Supplemental Budget"; seconded by Babette S. Ransohoff, 15th District, and carried.

Michael Wofsey, 1st District, moved the approval of the Board of Recreation Budget, in the amount of \$56,800.62, as approved by the Board of Finance, withholding approval of the \$25,000.00 appropriation for Seasonal Staffs. However, after a remark by Helen Bromley, 20th District, that Mr. Hunt, of the Board of Recreation, is apparently satisfied with the budget as approved by the Board of Finance, Mr. Wofsey restated his motion as follows: "Move the approval of the Board of Recreation Budget, in the amount of \$56,800.62, as approved by the Board of Finance," seconded by several, and carried.

At 1:00 A.M., June 22nd, 1949, Leonard J. DeVita, 5th District, moved that we recess until 8:00 P.M. that night at Burdick Junior High School, seconded by Daniel Miller, 16th District, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Babette S. Ransohoff
 Clerk.

* Although the Board of Finance certified the Budget in the amount of \$7,251,422.66, due to errors a second certification reads as follows:

"June 21, 1949

RESOLVED that the itemized estimate of expenditures of the Municipality of Stamford for the ensuing fiscal year, July 1, 1949 to June 30, 1950 amounting to \$7,837,299.38 is hereby approved by the Board of Finance, and be it further resolved that said approved budget be forthwith transmitted to the Clerk of the Board of Representatives for its action thereon.

Respectfully submitted,
 Matthew H. Kenealy, Chairman
 Dr. James J. Costanzo
 Nicholas J. Gorman
 Charles T. McKean
 Walter F. Randall
 Ralph A. Shulman

BOARD OF FINANCE OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22nd, 1949

The recessed meeting of the Board of Representatives of Stamford, was held at Burdick Junior High School, Stamford, Wednesday, June 22nd, 1949, and was called to order by the President, Samuel F. Pierson, at 8:16 P.M.

Roll Call disclosed that the following eleven members were absent: Louise T. Seeley, Edward Wojciechowski, John Gacher, Patrick Scarella, Clifford Waterbury, Walter F. Seely, Catherine B. Cleary, Robert Shepherd, John M. Canavan, Sewell Corkran and Sherman R. Hoyt.