

BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES
FISCAL COMMITTEE REPORT
For Meeting August 4, 1952

At a meeting of the Fiscal Committee held on August 1, 1952 the following action was taken:

1. Emergency Appropriation of \$1880 for construction of an extension to the storm drain on Crosby Street. Since the Planning Board in its letter to the Mayor on July 21st recommended that in accordance with Sec. 611.5 of the Charter voted to recommend that the Capital Projects Program be amended to include this extension of a storm sewer on Crosby Street in the amount of \$1880 as estimated by the City Engineer, our committee recommends its approval.
2. The Fiscal Committee recommends that the City buy only that portion of the Shiela Martin property, namely 12-14 acres which would be necessary to house the proposed new school with adequate playground facilities. Our attitude is predicated on the belief that our present and proposed recreational areas should be improved before any new acreages are acquired. It is our feeling that Vidal Park should be completed without further delay; Cummings Park and Pavilion should be improved and repaired; Southfield Point Park should be properly developed; and Woodside Park and Dyke Park land areas be utilized to their fullest extent.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen J. Bromley, Chairman
J. Carlin
J. E. Charleson
Patrick Hogan

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The regular meeting of the Board of Representatives was held on Monday, August 4, 1952 at 8 P.M. at the Burdick Junior High School Auditorium. The meeting was called to order by President John L. Cameron.

Invocation was given by Father Doran of St. Maurice's Church.

Roll call was taken by the Clerk. There were 27 present and 13 absent. Arriving later were Theodore Donohue, Paul Plotkin, Patrick Scarella, Michael Holahan, John Canavan, George Russell, Edward Hogan, Ralph Nau and Katherine Kaminski, changing the attendance record to 36 present and 4 absent. The absent members were Joseph Mangusi, Harold Clark, John Sandor and Catherine Cleary.

John Cameron submitted the minutes of the Special Meeting of June 16, 1952 and the regular meeting of July 7, 1952 for approval of the Board.

Leon Staples MOVED acceptance of the minutes of June 16, 1952, seconded by Joseph Carlin and CARRIED.

James Mulreed stated there were two corrections in the minutes of July 7, 1952 and MOVED the changes be made. On Page 505, next to the last paragraph, delete the words "already built".

On Page 509 change paragraph before STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT to read "John Cameron read the report on the decision of the Appeals Board on the matter of Mr. Hemming's appeal and stated that said decision would be on file in the office of the Board of Representatives". The motion was seconded and CARRIED.

Joseph Zdanowicz MOVED that dashes be inserted in place of commas in describing certain properties on the list of City-owned property for sale on page 508. List of changes are as follows:

33, 34-35)	Coolidge Avenue
36-7-8-9)	
67-68, 69, 70)	Halloween Blvd.
71-72)	
119, 120-121)	Harbor Street
250-251)	Hope Street
73-74)	Kenwood Road
12-13)	Fourth Street
91-96, 103)	Keith Street
106)	

Motion covering changes was seconded by John Cook and CARRIED.

The minutes were approved as amended.

FISCAL COMMITTEE

Helen Bromley, Chairman, submitted the report of the Committee.

Helen Bromley stated the Committee approved the emergency appropriation of \$1880. for the construction of an extension to the storm drain on Crosby Street and that same be added to the Capital Budget for 1952-53. Helen Bromley MOVED to amend the Capital Budget for 1952-53 by \$1880., seconded by Joseph Zdanowicz and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Joseph Carlin MOVED the approval of the emergency appropriation of \$1880. for the storm drain just mentioned, seconded by John Canavan and carried by a vote of 18 in favor, 8 opposed.

Helen Bromley stated that no action could be taken on the \$4607. emergency request for Classified Employees Retirement Fund as same had been deferred by the Board of Finance.

Helen Bromley MOVED, seconded by Joseph Carlin, to Suspend the Rules to add the lease for office space at 303 Main Street to the Agenda. Motion denied by a vote of 11 in favor, 13 opposed.

Helen Bromley MOVED Suspension of the Rules to add the letter from the Planning Board and Mayor to the Agenda on the purchase of the Sheila Martin property, seconded and CARRIED.

Helen Bromley MOVED that a letter be sent to the Mayor recommending that about 12 to 14 acres of the 62 acres be purchased for a school site, which would allow for sufficient recreation space for the school. The Committee recommended against purchasing any additional property for possible park or recreational purposes and emphasized that present recreation sites should be properly developed and maintained. Motion seconded by Aage Feldtmose and CARRIED.

LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE

1. James Mulreed, Chairman, submitted the Committee's report. It was the recommendation of the Committee and Mr. Mulreed MOVED that a proposed amendment of the Charter designed to strengthen the Merit System be published in the Stamford Advocate by August 11, 1952 so that same may be intelligently discussed by the public as well as Board members and necessary changes made and accepted before the September meeting, seconded and CARRIED.

2. James Mulreed requested and so MOVED and it was seconded that the proposed amendment to the Charter giving the Board of Representatives final determination on Zoning matters where the Planning Board and Zoning Boards do not agree be published in the Stamford Advocate by August 11, 1952 and then discussed for action at the September meeting. CARRIED.

3. James Mulreed MOVED and it was seconded that the proposed amendment to the Charter clarifying the procedures in connection with financing the Capital Budget and requests for bonds be published in the Stamford Advocate by August 11, 1952 and discussed for action at the September meeting. CARRIED.

4. John Cameron read a letter from Mayor Quigley recommending extension of rent control.

James Mulreed stated that it was the feeling of the Committee that a public hearing on Rent Control would avail nothing because the issues are clear and no meeting place would be big enough to hold all the people who might want to talk on one side or the other. James Mulreed MOVED, at committee's recommendation, that the following Resolution be published in the Advocate as soon as possible so that the property owners and tenants might contact their representatives during the month of August declaring the pros and cons on said proposed Resolution. It was the feeling of the Committee that the extension of Federal Rent controls from September 30, 1952 to April 30, 1953 would be far more satisfactory than would be the setting up of State controls. The motion was seconded by Patrick Scarella and CARRIED.

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PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY OF STAMFORD:

WHEREAS, there exists in the City of Stamford a substantial shortage of rental housing accommodations which requires the continuance of Federal rent control after September 30, 1952.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS BODY, acting under the provisions of an Act of Congress entitled "Defense Production Act Amendments of 1952" that Federal rent controls shall be continued in the City of Stamford until April 30, 1953.

Robert Lewis spoke in favor of a public hearing. Helen Bromley MOVED a public hearing to be held on Rent Control, seconded by Babette Ransohoff. Motion defeated by a vote of 11 in favor, 22 opposed.

5. James Mulreed reported on the Resolution regarding demolition of part of the Hubbard Heights Club House, but made no recommendation for action on the resolution.

6. James Mulreed MOVED the adoption of Supplemental Ordinance #18 as it appeared in the Advocate on July 29, 1952, seconded by George Connors and UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED. A copy of this ordinance appears in the minutes of July 7, 1952 on Page 500.

PUBLIC WELFARE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Helen Peatt, Chairman, submitted the report of the Committee which recommended that Plan 2 would be preferable to Plan 1 as suggested by Miss Catherine Dunn of the New York School of Social Work in her report covering a three day survey of the Welfare Department. It was recommended that American Public Welfare Association make the survey on the Welfare Department. Mr. Laturney and the welfare Commission have been contacted and they agree that Plan #2 would be the better plan. It was recommended that the president be instructed to write the American Public Welfare Association and attempt to arrange such survey and that the mayor be requested to initiate an appropriation of \$2500. for the purpose. Helen Peatt MOVED to adopt the Committee's report, seconded by Babette Ransohoff and approved UNANIMOUSLY.

HEALTH & PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Robert Lewis, Chairman, advises that the Police and Fire Department's reports on the training program have been received.

The Committee feels that a further study of the Town Linn should be made and that the matter be reported on in September.

Robert Lewis advised that the Mayor had not replied to his letter requesting an appointment re telephone for Precinct II.

Robert Lewis MOVED, seconded by Karl Young, that the report be accepted. CARRIED.

Edward Hogan MOVED that the Mayor be requested to arrange a meeting re telephone before the September meeting, seconded by John Cook.

Robert Lewis amended the Motion that the President of the Board write the Mayor requesting he meet with the Committee and the Chief of Police at his earliest convenience at hours other than regular office hours.

Mr. Hogan accepted the amendment and the Motion was carried by a vote of 21 in favor, 9 opposed.

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PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

1. Joseph Zdanowicz MOVED acceptance of that portion of Sylvan Knoll Road known as "Section Two" which has been approved by the Committee, seconded by Helen Bromley. CARRIED.

2. William Kaminski MOVED that the report on "Requirements of acceptance of roads, bond, type, amount, time limit and recall of bond if work is not completed" be turned over to George Russell who requested the report, seconded and CARRIED.

Patrick Hogan MOVED to reconsideration of the report rather than referring it to Mr. Russell, seconded and declared CARRIED.

Joseph Zdanowicz proceeded to read the report from the Planning Board on the question. Report is on file in the office of the Board of Representatives.

3. Joseph Zdanowicz stated that the Committee was of the opinion that it was the function of the Legislative & Rules Committee to evaluate the action of demolition of the building at Hubbard Heights.

John Cook MOVED that a letter be sent by the Clerk to the Building Inspector asking whether the building had been condemned before it was demolished, seconded by Ralph Nau.

James Mulreed amended this Motion to include asking the Fire Marshall whether or not he had ever certified this building as a fire hazard and when, seconded by Patrick Hogan, CARRIED.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

1. Woodledge Road. The Committee reports that storm drains are necessary to relieve this condition but in order to do this it would be necessary to add it to the Capital Budget.

2. Duffy Street. The Committee reports that the fence in question appears to be a boundary line between two pieces of private property and that the ditch could not be found on City property. It would seem if there was any flooding that it would come from adjacent higher property.

David Waterbury MOVED acceptance of the reports, seconded by Dr. Somma and CARRIED.

Dr. Somma MOVED to hear from City Engineer Leon S. Tuttle, seconded by George Connors and CARRIED.

Mr. Tuttle stated that Duffy Street is 75' on one side and when extended by the Sylvan Knoll Corporation was only 50' and the fence was never taken down. Mr. Tuttle was asked by Patrick Hogan if he would recommend the buying or selling of this particular piece of property. His answer was "NO".

Patrick Hogan asked for a copy of Mr. Waterbury's report on Duffy Street be sent to Mrs. Nish who petitioned action. The secretary was so instructed.

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

George Connors, Chairman, submitted the report of the Committee recommending the Mayor's appointments of Thomas Charles Barker to the Zoning Board and Harry C. Smith as a reappointment to the Welfare Commission.

A ballot vote was then taken for Harry C. Smith and counted by Tellers Young and Longo. Reappointment of Mr. Smith of Long Ridge Road to the Welfare Commission with term expiring December 1, 1954 by a vote of 26 in favor, 8 opposed, was approved.

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Mr. Edward Hogan then spoke on appointing members to our various Boards in the City and that careful consideration should be given new applicants to insure that they are capable of fulfilling their duties. He spoke at some length on the appointment to the Zoning Board under consideration and referred to a letter that Mr. Barker had sent to the Stamford Advocate some months back regarding rezoning the northern part of Stamford, pointing out that Mr. Barker had already expressed certain attitudes which might prevent him from being objective as a Board member.

A ballot vote was then taken for Thomas Charles Barker and counted by Tellers Young and Longo.

A recess for ten minutes at this time was ordered by the Chairman following the counting of the vote.

By a vote of 24 in favor, 10 opposed, the appointment of Thomas Charles Barker was approved to the Zoning Board, vacating the post of Mr. Preston Z. Jones, term to expire December 1, 1952. Mr. Barker resides at 15 Willard Terrace, Stamford, Conn.

Helen Bromley MOVED, seconded by John Canavan, that the September meeting be held on September 8, 1952 as the first Monday in September is Labor Day. CARRIED.

SEWER COMMISSION

Mr. Cameron, Chairman, suggested that the first item under #7 on the Agenda, The Sewer Commission, be heard at this time, in view of the hours they had been sitting at the meeting waiting to be heard. There being no objection the suggestion was approved.

The entire membership of the Sewer Commission was present - Mr. Hyer, Mr. Beaudry, Mr. Thorne, Mr. Sclafani and Mr. Moore.

Mr. Hyer, Secretary, presented a lengthy report of the commission's findings and actions since its inception in July of 1951. Steps in awarding contracts were traced.

In summation it would appear that this commission felt delays were being caused because the authority granted it by the ordinance which established it and by the State Statutes was not being properly recognized.

Patrick Hogan MOVED, seconded by Helen Bromley, to adopt a resolution reaffirming the powers of the Sewer Commission. Patrick Scarella amended this motion to refer this resolution to the Legislative & Rules Committee. The amendment was accepted by Patrick Hogan, seconded and CARRIED.

STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

John Cameron submitted the report of the committee. Mr. Cameron MOVED acceptance of the report, seconded and CARRIED.

PETITIONS

Petition #123A

Helen Pratt MOVED, seconded by Walter Seely, that permission be granted the 740th Tank Battalion of the Stamford Organized Reserve Corps to use Woodside Park for the purpose of tank driving instruction providing no damage is done to the Park, that proper Police protection is furnished and also that Mr. Edward Hunt, Director of the Board of Recreation, is made aware of the afternoons or evenings they are intending to use same. CARRIED.

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Petition #124

Helen Peatt MOVED, seconded by George Connors, that permission be granted the San Manghese Social Club, 107 West Avenue, to commemorate the feast of St. Theodore on August 30, 31 and September 1 for illumination at 107 West Avenue and part of West Avenue; procession with music on Saturday and Sunday and fireworks on Saturday night with the understanding that no aerial bombs are to be used and that ordinances will be enforced by the Police Department with instructions to the Health & Protection Committee to check with the Police Department on such enforcement.

Petition #125

Helen Peatt MOVED, seconded by George Connors, that permission be granted the Kiwanis Club to allow the Mills Bros. to run a circus on September 6, 1952 on the east side of Magee Avenue providing the Kiwanis Club agrees to take out property damage insurance and adequate liability insurance to cover all losses incurred, and the form and content of such insurance and bonds to be approved by the Corporation Counsel and further agrees to provide necessary guards for the grounds and proper police supervision. It was also requested that prices of seats be posted and no seats be sold in excess of capacity for any show. CARRIED.

Petition #126

Helen Peatt MOVED, seconded by Webster Givens, that permission be granted to hold a block dance on Saturday, September 13, 1952 to be known as "Old Settlers Day". Also that permission be granted to erect a flag pole on the green at Saunders' Corner, North Stamford and Cascade Roads, same to be dedicated on September 13, 1952. CARRIED.

Petition #127

Helen Peatt MOVED, seconded by Joseph Carlin, that permission be granted St. Francis Episcopal Church on Old Long Ridge Road to run a fall festival for Saturday October 4th. Permission is granted to rope off Old Long Ridge Road between Rockrimmon and Parsonage Roads from noon until midnight. CARRIED.

John Cameron stated that the Steering Committee had referred the Petition signed by 62 names on the City and Town Dump at Scofieldtown Road to the Public Works Committee and the Health & Protection Committee and a copy was in the hands of the Mayor who was discussing the general question with State authorities.

Robert Lewis stated that ample time must be given to properly investigate this petition and a report would be forthcoming at the September meeting.

FAIRVIEW AVENUE

John Cameron asked that we hear from Corporation Counsel John Hanrahan on the subject of the use of the beach at Fairview Avenue, West, in Shippan.

John Hanrahan spoke at some length on the acceptance of the street by the City and also the rights of the owners to the midway section of that street and the conditional rights of the public to use same as a public beach. It was his feeling that the respective rights of the property owners and of the City would have to be determined by the Courts. He believed that a friendly suit might be arranged between the City and the owners bounding the street property at the street ends, to clarify this issue.

Mr. Hugo Giovannucci and Mr. John P. Cotus, Jr. were granted permission to speak on using the end of Fairview Avenue for fishing and bathing.

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Mr. Gaynor Brennan was then allowed to express his version of the use of this property as a bathing beach and the nuisances created by noise, drifters on his property and parked cars.

Dr. Brown, Health Commissioner, pointed out the State requirements for a public bathing beach. Mr. Mulreed pointed out that the Resolution referred to a public Beach and not a public bathing beach. The Resolution was adopted by a vote of 21 in favor, 4 opposed.

Resolution #146

"That the Mayor and the Chief of Police be instructed to keep Fairview Avenue at both ends open, open to the high water mark, for the width of the street, for use to the extent possible as a public beach."

Meeting was adjourned at 1:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Babette S. Hanshoff
Clerk