

FEBRUARY 2, 1953

The regular meeting of the Board of Representatives was held on Monday, February 2, 1953 at the Burdick Junior High School Auditorium.

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 by John L. Cameron, President.

Reverend R. C. Lamar of the First Presbyterian Church gave the invocation.

Mr. Cameron welcomed spectators present, including students from the High School and three visitors from Germany who are members of a group visiting Stamford under sponsorship of the Stamford Forum for World Affairs and the Community Council.

Roll call was taken by the President. Those absent were Theodore Donohue, Clifford Waterbury, John Canavan, John Sandor, Joseph Zdanowicz and Vito Longo, making an attendance of 32 present, six absent, with two vacancies.

Helen Bromley MOVED, seconded by George Connors, that Charles Kirkwood, a senior member of the Stamford High School, be permitted to address the Board. The Motion was CARRIED.

Charles Kirkwood described a project adopted by the history classes which will set up a mock session of the Board of Representatives on March 7, 1953. He explained that Committees were being formed similar to those of the Board and requested cooperation from the Committee Chairmen who will be consulted by members of the project. The explanation by Charles Kirkwood was greeted by applause from the Board. Stephen Kelly MOVED, seconded by Robert Lewis, endorsement of this project and recommendation to Committee Chairmen to cooperate with the students. James Mulreed commended the recognition by the students of their future responsibilities as citizens in the community. The motion was CARRIED.

FISCAL COMMITTEE

Helen Bromley MOVED the approval of the emergency appropriation of \$1000. to cover a deficiency in the General Election expense account, seconded by George Connors and CARRIED by all members present voting "yea".

Helen Bromley MOVED suspension of the rules for other items submitted by the Board of Finance, seconded by Patrick Scarella and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Helen Bromley MOVED approval of the emergency appropriation of \$2500. for maintenance of patrol cars, seconded by Patrick Hogan.

Robert Lewis questioned this move, pointing out that he had understood that the department had sufficient funds for the remainder of the year and recommended looking into this further.

Helen Bromley withdrew her Motion, seconded by Patrick Hogan.

Leon Staples MOVED approval of the emergency appropriation of \$250. for medical examinations, in connection with the Personnel Department's requirements, seconded by Helen Bromley and CARRIED by a vote of 30 "yeas", Karl Young voting "nay".

Karl Young MOVED that this matter be referred to the Fiscal Committee for a breakdown of how these medical charges are made, seconded by John Cook,

Joseph Carlin amended the motion to have this matter referred also to the Personnel Committee. The amendment was accepted by Karl Young & John Cook and CARRIED.

Helen Bromley MOVED the approval of the emergency appropriation of \$5000. for a photostat and microfilm system to be used in the office of the Town Clerk, seconded by Patrick Scarella.

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Upon question raised by Karl Young whether this system would require additional personnel, Patrick Scarella MOVED that we hear from Joseph Toner, seconded by George Connors and CARRIED. Mr. Toner stated that this system would enable a reduction in personnel of two persons, which saving will cover the cost of the machine in one year.

Mr. Cameron asked Corporation Counsel Hanrahan if this process was legally satisfactory and was assured in the affirmative.

Edward Hogan MOVED the question, seconded by Joseph Caputo and CARRIED. The vote on the Motion was taken and the Motion was CARRIED by all members present voting "yea".

LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE

1. Lease with First Presbyterian Church. James Mulreed MOVED that Mayor Quigley be authorized to terminate the lease with The First Presbyterian Church, seconded by Helen Bromley and CARRIED.

2. Re Lease of American Cyanamid Company for Dynamite Magazine on Haig Avenue
The committee accepted the recommendation of the Board of Finance that the Committee review this lease.

3. Heliport. Helen Bromley was asked to read the Mayor's letter to the Board of Finance re the lease with N. Y. Airways, Inc. This matter was referred to the Corporation Counsel by the Board of Finance and no action taken. James Mulreed stated that the Legislative & Rules Committee would like further time before reporting on this question.

Helen Peatt, Chairman of the Welfare & Recreation Committee, read the recommendations of her committee that the Magee Avenue Tract being considered as a Heliport, be set aside for recreational purposes as a fair ground or for any other outdoor activity. Her Committee feels that there is no other suitable location large enough or near enough to rail sideup with a good parking area.

Patrick Scarella MOVED that this matter be taken out of Committee, seconded by Michael Vitti and DEFEATED.

4. Legislation. James Mulreed reported that the legislative proposals were discussed with our three members of the General Assembly, who assured him that the bills would be introduced and supported.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

David Waterbury, Chairman, referred to Webster Givens who presented a resolution from the Property Owners & Taxpayers league of Northern Stamford, favoring a survey of the present garbage disposal conditions by a qualified engineering commission.

David Waterbury MOVED that the resolution be referred to the Public Works Committee, seconded by Karl Young and CARRIED.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Joseph Carlin, Chairman, read the report and MOVED that it be accepted and placed on file, seconded by Fred Littleworth and CARRIED.

HEALTH & PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Robert Lewis, Chairman, read the following recommendations of his committee:

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1. That the Police Department resume the monthly Red Cross training program.
2. That a letter of commendation be sent to the Stamford Police Department commending Officer Hunt for the apprehension last week of three young people charged with robberies.
3. That a letter be sent to Civilian Defense commending them for the excellent job of alteration work on the Lockwood Avenue Fire House.

James Mulreed suggested that a letter be sent to Chief Brennan and Chief Hickey of the State Police commending the alertness of the departments in apprehending the criminals, but that no names of officers be used.

Joseph Carlin MOVED acceptance of the report with the three recommendations, excluding names, seconded by Webster Givens. Robert Lewis amended the Motion to include a letter to the State Police Department; also, The amendment was accepted and the Motion CARRIED.

WELFARE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Helen Peatt MOVED the approval of Petition #131 from the Stamford Rehabilitation Center for permission to hold Lily Tag Day on the sidewalks of Stamford on Friday, March 27, 1953 to solicit funds; seconded by Webster Givens and CARRIED.

Helen Peatt reported on the progress of the survey of the Stamford Welfare Department.

Helen Peatt MOVED approval of Petition #132 from the Lions Club to use the Magee Avenue Tract for an exposition and fair from June 18, 1953 to June 28, 1953; seconded by Stephen Kelly and CARRIED.

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

George Connors, Chairman, recommended approval of the following appointments by the Mayor:

1. Jack Flaherty to Hubbard Heights Golf Commission
2. Rev. Paul du Boise to Welfare Commission
3. Samuel Gordon to Planning Board
4. Michael Grzelaczyk to Sewer Commission
5. John F. Power to Board of Taxation

The vote on confirmation of these appointments was taken by written ballot as follows:

1. Jack Flaherty, Hubbard Heights Golf Commission term expiring December 1, 1957 28 yeas, 4 nays
2. Rev. Paul Du Boise, Welfare Commission, term expiring December 1, 1955 31 yeas, 1 nay
3. Samuel Gordon, Planning Commission. Defeated by vote of 14 yeas, 18 nays.
4. Michael Grzelaczyk, Sewer Commission, term expiring December 1, 1957 30 yeas, 2 nays.
5. John F. Power, Board of Taxation, term expiring December 1, 1957 32 yeas, 0 nays.

STEERING COMMITTEE

John Cameron, Chairman, read the report. He also read a letter from B. Fred Smith, Chief and Marshall of the Turn of River Fire Department re conditions in Long View Park. Joseph Carlin MOVED acceptance of the report, seconded by John Coff.

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Joseph Caputo commented for the record that when he went to the Long View Park Development in connection with a review for zoning variances, he found a "sea of mud" which was impassable.

The motion to accept the Steering Committee Report was voted on and CARRIED.

Patrick Scarella MOVED, seconded by Stephen Kelly, that something urgent be done to try and remedy this situation and that strong representation be made to the Mayor to see if police power can be worked to force immediate improvement of the roads for the health and safety of those involved.

A letter from the Corporation Counsel was read which pointed out that since all of the houses have been sold, there is no financial incentive for the developer to fulfill his obligation before the expiration of the performance Bond in 1954. The motion was CARRIED.

James Mulreed MOVED, seconded by Karl Young, that the Corporation Counsel be requested to investigate the assets of the corporation providing the surety to see if they were sufficiently sound at the time the bond was executed to cover the amount of the Bond. The Motion was CARRIED.

PETITIONS

Leon Staples MOVED, seconded by Fred Littleworth, approval of Petition #133 from the Stamford Heart Association, Inc. to erect large wooden heart-shaped signs in the city parks for the Heart Fund Drive during the month of February. The Motion was CARRIED.

Helen Bromley MOVED, seconded by Robert Lewis, the approval of Petition #134 from the American Red Cross to place displays in parks and on public buildings from February 27, 1953 to March 31, 1953. The Motion was CARRIED.

John Cameron read a letter from The Commissioner of Finance re the lease at 303 Main Street.

Leon Staples MOVED, seconded by Harold Clark, suspension of the rules to consider the matter referred to in this letter. The Motion was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Helen Bromley read from the Board of Finance minutes re this lease. Helen Bromley MOVED, seconded by Robert Lewis, approval of the lease with the recommendation that the Mayor report what progress has been made in locating less expensive accommodations. The Motion was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Webster Givens MOVED, seconded by James Mulreed, suspension of the rules to consider a resolution to look into the organization of boards and committees. The Motion was CARRIED by a vote of 28 yeas, 3 nays.

Webster Givens MOVED, seconded by Ralph Nau to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION #157

An apparent need for further consolidation of the City Government in reference to administrative and Legislative Boards and Committees is indicated.

Therefore be it hereby resolved that a committee of five members be appointed by the president of the Board of Representatives to make a thorough study of the present system of City Administration and Government.

William Kaminski MOVED, seconded by Michael Holahan, that the Resolution be referred to the Steering Committee.

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Patrick Scarella, seconded by Robert Lewis, amended the Motion to refer also to Legislative & Rules Committee. The amendment was accepted and the Motion CARRIED.

Peter Somma put into nomination the name of P. Wardham Collyer, 41 Hubbard Avenue, to fill the vacancy on the Board of Representatives in the 5th District, seconded by Helen Bromley. The Chairman asked for further nominations. Joseph Carlin MOVED the nominations be closed, seconded by Karl Young and CARRIED. The clerk was instructed to cast one ballot electing Mr. Collyer unanimously.

David Waterbury put into nomination the name of John Rubino, Fenway Street, to fill the vacancy on the Board of Representatives in the 8th District, seconded by Walter Seely. The Chairman asked for further nominations. John Cook MOVED the nominations be closed, seconded by Edward Hogan and CARRIED. The clerk was instructed to cast one ballot electing Mr. Rubino unanimously.

John Cameron announced that Fred Littleworth would succeed Aage Feldtmose, resigned, on the Legislative & Rules Committee

Joseph Carlin MOVED to adjourn, seconded by Karl Young and CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 P.M.

Very respectfully,

Babette S. Ransohoff
Clerk