

MAY 4, 1953

The regular meeting of the Board of Representatives of Stamford, Connecticut was held on Monday, May 4, 1953 at Burdick Junior High School Auditorium. The President, John L. Cameron, called the meeting to order at 8:15 P.M.

Invocation was given by Rev. Walter R. Schneider of the Stamford Baptist Church.

Roll call was taken by the Clerk, and there were 24 members present, 16 absent. The absent members were Paul Plotkin, Michael Vitti, Clifford Waterbury, P. Wardham Collyer, John Charleson, John Rubino, John Canavan, William Murphy, Joseph J. Zdanowicz, Dr. Francis Dojan, George Russell, Harold Clark, Karl Young, Jr., Edward Hogan, John Cook and John Sandor. The following members arrived later - Paul Plotkin, William Murphy, Joseph Zdanowicz, Dr. Francis Dojan, George Russell and Harold Clark making the total 30 present, 10 absent.

Re acceptance of the minutes of April 6, 1953, on Page 581, next to the last line of the last paragraph, Mr. Cameron requested that the word "co-insurer" be changed to "co-insured". *noted*

On Page 580, Mrs. Bromley requested under item six, second paragraph, that the words fiscal matters be changed to read "Tax Department" to follow the wording of the bill submitted to the General Assembly. *noted*

Walter Seely MOVED to accept the minutes of April 6, 1953 with these corrections, seconded by Joseph Carlin and CARRIED.

FISCAL COMMITTEE

1. Helen Bromley MOVED approval of the emergency appropriation of \$1000. for Sunset Home for clothing and medical supplies, Code 462.6B, seconded by Patrick Scarella and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY - all members present voting "yea". ✓
2. Helen Bromley MOVED approval of the emergency appropriation of \$350. for Registrar of Voters to cover a deficit in General Election Expense Account, seconded by George Connors and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY - all members present voting "yea". ✓
3. Helen Bromley MOVED approval of the emergency appropriation of \$10,361.76 for Social Security for a deficit for the fiscal year 1952-1953 as outlined by Commissioner Morrissey, seconded by Patrick Hogan and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY - all members present voting "yea". ✓
4. Helen Bromley MOVED approval of the emergency appropriation of \$317.50 for Salary Code 200.1 for the Board of Representatives for adjustment in reclassification and for overtime as detailed in letter to Mr. Weathers, seconded by Joseph Carlin and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY - all members present voting "yea". ✓
5. Helen Bromley MOVED for Suspension of the Rules so that items passed at the May 1st meeting of the Board of Finance might be considered this month, seconded and CARRIED.
6. Helen Bromley MOVED approval of the emergency appropriation for pension for Francis Lyden in the sum of \$418.75 for the balance of fiscal year 1953, seconded by Patrick Hogan and UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, all members present voting "yea". ✓
7. Helen Bromley MOVED approval of emergency appropriation of \$1000. for Code GG-488 for Medical and Doctor's Bills, seconded by Stephen Kelly and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, all members present voting "yea". ✓
8. Helen Bromley MOVED approval of inter-department transfer of \$577.10 from SUNDRIES to Code 450.9 Special Professional and Other Services to cover bill from Case, Lockwood & Brainard for printing of legislative bills and now over a year old, seconded by Ralph Nau and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. *

MAY 4, 1953

9. Helen Bromley MOVED approval of inter-department transfer of \$135.00 from SUNDRIES to Code 300.5 Telephone in the Mayor's Office covering additional telephone costs, seconded by Patrick Scarella and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE

1. James Mulreed, Chairman, presented a Resolution regarding establishing of building lines on each side of Broad Street from Atlantic Street to Greyrock Place. James Mulreed MOVED adoption of the resolution, seconded by Patrick Hogan, and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, all members present voting "yea".

RESOLUTION #160 Building Line on Broad Street from Atlantic Street to Greyrock Place

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford hereby declares its opinion that public welfare, safety and necessity require that a building line be established on each side of Broad Street from Atlantic Street to Greyrock Place and further declares its intention to establish such a building line.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Representatives in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 64 of the Stamford Charter hereby requests the Mayor in cooperation with the Commissioner of Public Works, the Commissioner of Finance and the Planning Board to cause a report to be made upon the establishment of such a building line on Broad Street from Atlantic Street to Greyrock Place.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT fifty per cent (50%) of the cost of establishing such building line shall be assessed against the property owners benefited thereby and fifty per cent (50%) against the community at large.

2. Traffic Situation at Broad and River Streets

James Mulreed MOVED that a letter be directed to the Planning Board seeking advice on any plans or recommendations their board may have to alleviate the traffic situation on this street intersection, seconded by Stephen Kelly and CARRIED. George Connors reported that the Mayor, the traffic engineer and Bloomingdales' representatives were conferring on the matter.

3. House Bill #327 Placing the Controller under the Merit System

James Mulreed MOVED that a letter of commendation be sent to Representative Madeline Weir for her alertness in finding the substitute bill entirely changing this Board's intent and on making a motion so the substitute bill was by-passed in its position on the agenda and eventually an amendment being passed so that the wording of the original bill was adopted by the house, seconded by Robert Lewis and CARRIED.

4. S.B. #775 - Permitting Cities to Establish Parking Authorities

James Mulreed stated that the Senate Bill #775, a general enabling act applying to all cities, did not contain the following provisions approved by the Board in the proposed substitute S.B. #645 to apply specifically to Stamford:

1. A provision that the Chief of Police shall be designated as the traffic authority,
2. That all employees of the Authority shall be subject to the merit system provisions of the Charter.
3. That all liabilities of existing parking facilities be assumed by the Authority.
4. That the Authority be subject to the provisions of Section 204.2 of the Charter.

MAY 4, 1953

Mr. Mulreed stated that on April 21 S.B. #775 was passed by the House of Representatives. This bill, which is a state-wide enabling act, is much broader in its scope and much more adaptable to the needs of Stamford than was the original S.B. #645, but does not contain all the provisions of the amended substitute bill deemed necessary by this Board. While your committee is doubtful of the passage of the amended substitute bill, it recommends no deviation from the desire expressed at the last meeting of this Board on substitute #645.

Helen Bromley MOVED, seconded by Fred Littleworth, that notice be given to our Senator and two Representatives reaffirming the action taken by the Board at its April 6th meeting re substitute S.B. #645 to establish a parking authority recognizing that the enabling act S.B. #775 does not include

1. That the personnel employed by the traffic authority be under the merit system of Stamford.
2. That the traffic authority will not assume the liabilities of existing parking facilities.

and the Board feels that both of these provisions are essential to Stamford's best interests. The motion was CARRIED by a vote of 28 "yeas" and one "nay". John Cameron voted "nay".

There was much discussion on the final wording of Helen Bromley's motion which was amended by James Mulreed. The final wording as adopted above was adopted after James Mulreed MOVED, seconded by Patrick Scarella, that the clerk reword the motion.

Joseph Carlin MOVED for Suspension of the Rules to reconsider the storing of dynamite magazines on Haig Avenue, seconded by Patrick Scarella and CARRIED.

Joseph Carlin reported that Ralph Vick would be willing to move the present building farther away from the homes and he believes in so doing he would again obtain the lease from American Cyanamid. Mr. Cameron stated he was under the impression that the American Cyanamid would only be interested in quarters farther removed from nearby dwellings and that it would be necessary to find a new location for a building to store dynamite magazines. Joseph Carlin MOVED that a letter be sent to the Mayor asking him to give the matter of dynamite storing magazines consideration and to submit his report to this Board for the June meeting, seconded by Patrick Scarella and CARRIED.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

Joseph Zdanowicz, Chairman, submitted the committee's report:

1. Joseph Zdanowicz stated, although the gift of land at Laddins Rock had been accepted, the map on file bears no title, no metes or bounds and no information except a red penciled line dividing the outline of a tract and labeling one tract 27 acres. Mr. Leon Tuttle is endeavoring to complete a description of the tract involved, which will be delayed inasmuch as there is no definite information as to where the Thruway will go. The committee has no report to make.

Helen Bromley MOVED, seconded by William White and CARRIED that this matter be referred back to the Planning & Zoning Committee for a later report.

2. Re: New Street connecting Hoyt and Morgan Streets

Mr. Zdanowicz reported that the committee visited the area and that such a proposal would include the taking of land from about eight land owners, plus numerous engineering problems involved. The committee recommended that an estimate be obtained from the City Engineer of the total cost.

William Kaminski stated he had checked into this matter and that it was his

MAY 4, 1953

understanding that some of the property to be used for the highway was a gift, and recommended that we find out if the road is to be constructed now or at some future date as part of a long-range program. He felt it might be wise to acquire the property now even if the development were not immediate.

Joseph Zdanowicz MOVED that an estimate of costs be obtained from the City Engineer re original cost, survey and damages, drainage, etc. for the construction of this proposed roadway, seconded by Patrick Scarella.

James Mulreed amended the MOTION that we also ask the City Engineer for an estimate of the cost of the projected extension of First Street to meet with Strawberry Hill Court, which is outlined in dotted lines on the same map, because it is the expression of this Board that a street from Washington Avenue to Hope Street will benefit the city more than the proposed highway from Hoyt Street to Morgan Street. Amendment was accepted and the amended Motion was CARRIED.

3. Joseph Zdanowicz stated that the committee recommended that the tract of land accepted by the City of Stamford on August 7, 1950 by Resolution #92, being a triangle at Lawn Avenue and Main Street, be checked by the Corporation Counsel and that legal transfer of the property be made and so MOVED, seconded by Helen Bromley.

James Mulreed stated that he recalled, on this gift of land at Lawn Avenue and Main Street, that we decided that this triangular piece of land could be well used for improving the entrance to Lawn Avenue.

Paul Plotkin MOVED to substitute the following Motion - That the Corporation Counsel check to see and to determine the conditions of this gift of land at Lawn Avenue and Main Street. The amended motion was accepted by Mr. Zdanowicz and Mrs. Bromley and CARRIED.

4. Joseph Zdanowicz reported there are a number of roads before the committee for acceptance but that the committee is unable to check and report recommendations until letters of approval are received from the City Engineer.

HEALTH & PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Robert Lewis, Chairman, submitted the report of the committee. Joseph Carlin MOVED that the letters from Chief John B. Brennan and Dr. Paul V. Brown on the Pickwick Ice Cream Company be read, seconded and CARRIED.

Joseph Carlin MOVED that we hear from Mr. Shulman representing the Pickwick Ice Cream Company as a school and health hazard, seconded by Patrick Scarella and MOTION DEFEATED by a vote of 8 in favor, 20 opposed.

The committee reported that the letters from Dr. Brown and Chief Brennan clearly indicate that they do not believe there is any health or traffic hazard at this time. The owners of the Pickwick Ice Cream Company have shown every effort to cooperate with all city departments. The committee reported that this matter is one within the jurisdiction of the Zoning Board.

James Mulreed MOVED acceptance of the Health & Protection Committee's report, seconded by William White and CARRIED.

WELFARE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Helen Peatt reported that the American Legion had to have the Board's permission for their carnival on private grounds since a license was required.

MAY 4, 1953

1. FETITION #138 - American Legion Carnival

James Mulreed MOVED that the Board grant permission to issue a license for the Carnival to be sponsored by the American Legion on private property on Shippan Avenue, seconded by Webster Givens and CARRIED.

2. FETITION #139 - Stamford Musicians' Protective Association
for Carnival on Yale & Towne Property

Helen Bromley MOVED that the Board grant permission to issue a license for the Carnival beginning May 14th to be sponsored by the Stamford Musicians' Protective Association on private grounds of Yale & Towne, seconded by George Connors and CARRIED.

3. Helen Featt reported that on May 13th a meeting will be held at the Mayor's Office for the purpose of meeting with Mr. Page who will submit his final report on the survey of the Welfare Department.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Joseph Carlin, Chairman, submitted the committee's report stating that the Personnel Commission recommends to the Trustees of the Pension Plan of the Classified Employees, under Section 5A, that all personnel eligible for retirement be retired at the end of the fiscal year of the City within the minimum requirements of said section of the various employees. Exception to this policy may be made on recommendation of the Personnel Commission and the department head by the Trustees. All requests for extension must be received by the Personnel Commission not later than May 15, 1953 and any such extension is to be limited to a period of one year.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LONG VIEW PARK DEVELOPMENT

James Mulreed, Chairman, submitted the committee's report. In summation the committee states a possible solution to the problem on Long View Park, having the concurrence of the Commissioner of Finance and Corporation Counsel, would be for the property owners at Long View Park to accept a special assessment, along the lines of a sewer assessment, to cover any costs in excess of any settlement which might be made with the Longview Corporation. If the owners would agree to such an assessment, details might be worked out to their satisfaction. Mr. Mulreed stated that this information had already been given the Long View Park Association and the only reply from the Association stated they would await action of the Board of Representatives. The committee feels they have nothing further to recommend at this time.

Babette Ransohoff asked if more accurate costs could not be ascertained at the time the bonds were issued to developers.

Patrick Hogan MOVED that the committee report be accepted, seconded by Joseph Carlin and CARRIED.

William Kaminski stated that the City cannot assume the responsibility for fixing the roads as there are other legal problems involved. Babette Ransohoff MOVED that the Planning Board and City Engineer be urged that serious consideration be given to the amount of funds requested for performance bonds in order that assurance may be given the City that there will be sufficient funds to carry out the requirements of the City in construction of roads, seconded by George Russell and CARRIED.

Webster Givens MOVED that the Special Committee for Long View Park remain intact until the matter is settled.

MAY 4, 1953

Dr. Somma and William Kaminski spoke in favor of having the developers prepare the roads before subdivision and sale of land.

James Mulreed and Harold Clark felt that this would stifle building in the City of Stamford.

Helen Bromley MOVED that the Special Committee of Long View Park be commended on the work they have done, seconded and CARRIED. Helen Bromley stated that she hoped the Long View Park Association would follow the suggestions of the committee.

STEERING COMMITTEE

John Cameron submitted the Steering Committee Report. Joseph Carlin MOVED acceptance of the report, seconded by Ralph Nau and CARRIED.

Helen Bromley MOVED that the request from the Planning Board to meet with department heads in October in preparing projected plans for the 1954-1955 Capital Budget be denied in view of election in November 1953 and the inauguration of new board members, and that same be postponed until after December 1, 1953, seconded by Helen Peatt and MOTION DEFEATED by a vote of 12 in favor, 14 opposed.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Three letters from the Mayor covering various appointments were read and referred to the Appointments Committee for action at the June meeting:

Dr. David P. McGourty to Zoning Board of Appeals - Term to expire December 1, 1957.

Alphonse C. Jachimczyk to Town Housing Authority - Term to expire December 1, 1953

Michael Laureno to the Planning Board - Term to expire December 1, 1957

COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER BOARDS AND INDIVIDUALS

1. Patrick Scarella read the proposed resolution re Business of Board Members at Legislative and Judicial Hearings and MOVED its approval, seconded by William Kaminski and CARRIED by 21 members voting "yea" and 6 members voting "nay". The dissenting members were Helen Bromley, Leon Staples, David Waterbury, Helen Peatt, Ralph Nau and Webster Givens,

RESOLUTION #161 - Resolution on Business of Board Members at Legislative and Judicial Hearings.

WHEREAS, from time to time, it has become necessary for members of the Board of Representatives to take time out from their daily employment in order to attend legislative hearings of the General Assembly at Hartford and judicial hearings before the various courts and administrative boards of the State of Connecticut, upon matters which affect the welfare of the city, and

WHEREAS, there is no provision for compensating these men for their reasonable expense of travel and lost time while on such activities,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Representatives, that whenever a member or members of this body are authorized by it to appear in its behalf before any legislative or administrative body of the State of Connecticut, or are required, pursuant to a subpoena or other legal order, to appear before any court or administrative agency of this State in their official capacity as members of this board, the reasonable expenses of their travel and time lost from their employment, as certified by the president of this board, be compensated for from the contingency fund of the City of Stamford.

MAY 4, 1953

2. James Mulreed introduced an Ordinance to Change the Limit for Purchases Requiring Sealed Bids from Two Hundred Dollars to Five Hundred Dollars.

"BE IT ORDAINED BY STAMFORD that Section 7 of Chapter 6 of the Code of General Ordinances be amended to read as follows:

Section 7. Purchases requiring sealed bids - generally. All single purchases in which the amount of the expenditure is estimated to exceed five hundred dollars shall be let by sealed bids."

James Mulreed MOVED that this Ordinance, as amended, be published and considered at the June meeting, seconded by Helen Bromley and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, all members present voting "yea".

3. James Mulreed stated that Section 12 of Chapter 27, Article II re Carnivals should be changed slightly and MOVED that same be referred to the Legislative & Rules Committee to be introduced at the next regular meeting, seconded by Patrick Scarella and CARRIED.

4. Paul Plotkin introduced an Ordinance re Ragweed and MOVED its publication so that same may be considered at the next meeting, seconded by George Russell.

James Mulreed stated he felt it was another ordinance which was not enforceable.

A vote was taken on the Motion to introduce the Ordinance re Ragweed for publication and declared CARRIED.

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING RAGWEED

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF STAMFORD THAT Chapter 13 of the Code of General Ordinances of the City of Stamford be amended by adding a new section as follows:

Article IV - Ragweed. Section 26. Each owner or occupant of land shall cut down and destroy all ragweed growing thereon or in the highways and streets adjoining the land so owned or occupied so as effectually to prevent the ragweed from blooming. The Commissioner of Health shall supervise the enforcement of this section, and on violation thereof, he shall proceed under the provisions of Section 420, Chapter 42 of the Charter of the City of Stamford, to abate the nuisance existing by reason of such ragweed, and in addition thereto, he may bring an action at law in the name of the City of Stamford, through the Corporation Counsel, in behalf of the City of Stamford to recover the expense of the abatement.

BUS SITUATION

James Mulreed MOVED that the Chairman request each member of the Board be designated as a committee of one to investigate the bus service in their own particular district and to report back to this Board at its next meeting whether or not the service is inadequate, seconded by Stephen Kelly and CARRIED.

George Connors MOVED that this Board request the Mayor to make available to us the results from his conference with the Connecticut Bus Company, seconded by William Murphy and CARRIED.

John Cameron announced that Dr. Francis Dolan has been appointed to the Legislative & Rules Committee replacing Patrick Scarella; he is also serving on the personnel Committee.

MAY 4, 1953

Mr. William White has been appointed to the Public Works Committee to replace Joseph Mancusi.

John Cameron read the invitation from Helen and Webster Givens to use Cross Roads Farm for the annual picnic and proposed appointing a Chairman of the Entertainment Committee. Stephen Kelly MOVED that Helen Featt be made Chairman, with authority to select the members of her committee, seconded by George Connors and CARRIED.

Joseph Carlin MOVED that the Board accept the Given's invitation with thanks, seconded by Babette Ransohoff and CARRIED.

Joseph Zdanowicz MOVED that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Ralph Nau, and CARRIED. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Babette S. Ransohoff
Clerk