

DECEMBER 1, 1953

A Special Meeting of the Board of Representatives of Stamford, Connecticut was held on December 1, 1953 at the Burdick Junior High School pursuant to a call from the Mayor.

The meeting was called to order at 8:18 P.M. by Mayor Quigley.

The "Call" issued by the Mayor was read by Mayor Quigley.

"Stamford, Connecticut - November 27, 1953 - I, Thomas F. J. Quigley, Mayor of the City of Stamford, pursuant to Section 304.5 of the Charter, hereby convene the members of the Board of Representatives elected on November 3, 1953, for the purpose of organization on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1st, at 8 P.M. in the Burdick Jr. High School.

I hereby order a copy of the foregoing call to be served upon each member of said Board, by mailing a copy of this call to the residence of each member, at least 72 hours before the time affixed herein for said meeting. Thomas F. J. Quigley, Mayor."

The following elected members of the Board of Representatives, elected to serve from December 1, 1953 to December 1, 1955, were given Oath of Office by Mayor Quigley inasmuch as they were unable to be present at the inauguration earlier in the day: Edward G. Ryba, Stephen Kelly, Vincent J. Vitti, Dwight Marshall, Robert Lewis.

The Mayor then expressed his congratulations to each and every member of the Board, his willingness to cooperate at all times, that our oath of office gives us all the same obligation to the people of Stamford. Anything we do must be on an over-all picture which will contribute to the betterment and progress of the City of Stamford. Please feel free to come to see me at the City Hall at any time.

The Roll Call was taken by the secretary. There were 39 present, and one absentee. The absentee was George Russell who is in the hospital. The members present list as follows: Irving Snyder, Joseph Caputo, William Kaminski, Mary J. Bankowski, Patrick Scarella, Vincent Vitti, James Mulreed, Samuel Picciallo, Wardham Collyer, Joseph Iacovo, Martin Cash, Rose Sheridan, Robert Lewis, Doris Zuckert, Phil Coulter, David Waterbury, Patrick Fortunato, Paul Plotkin, Patrick Hogan, George Connors, William Murphy, Edward Ryba, Stephen Kelly, Thomas Killeen, Alphonse Jachimczyk, Katherine Kaminski, Dr. Francis Dolan, Frank Longo, John Cook, Thomas Topping, Helen J. Peatt, Norton Rhoades, Jack McLaughlin, Helen Bromley, Karl Young, Jr., Hayes Hoyt, Helen Huben, Rutherford Huizinga, Dwight Marshall.

The Mayor then asked for nominations for Temporary President.

William Kaminski nominated Paul Plotkin as Temporary President.

Joseph Caputo MOVED that nominations be closed, seconded by John Cook and CARRIED.

The Mayor was requested to cast one ballot and so elect Paul Plotkin as Temporary President.

Paul Plotkin took the Chair.

Paul Plotkin asked for nominations of Temporary Clerk.

William Kaminski nominated Mary Bankowski, seconded by Joseph Caputo.

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Robert Lewis nominated Helen Peatt, seconded by Thomas Topping.

Phil Coulter MOVED that nominations be closed, seconded by Dwight Marshall and CARRIED.

Karl Young MOVED the vote be cast by secret ballot, seconded by Robert Lewis. The temporary president declared the motion Carried on a vote of 20 in favor of the motion, 19 opposed.

Mrs. Mary Bankowski was elected temporary clerk and took the Chair.

Paul Plotkin, Temporary President, asked for nominations for President.

William Kaminski nominated George Connors for President,

Helen Bromley nominated Robert Lewis for President.

Joseph Caputo MOVED, seconded by William Murphy, that nominations for President be closed.

Patrick Scarella MOVED that a Roll Call vote be taken, seconded by William Murphy.

Helen Bromley cited that Section 202.4 of the Charter stated that this Board was to be organized according to the rules of the General Assembly of Hartford, which was further amended by House Bill #329, Spec. Act #322 of the 1953 General Assembly stating this Board has the right to set up its own rules and regulations. Helen Bromley further cited that there appears in the Journal of the General Assembly for 1953 a paragraph stating the method of electing the Speaker of the House is by ballot. Helen Bromley then read the dictionary definition of ballot.

Considerable discussion ensued re the meaning of the word "ballot"; the proper method of election of officers which by past precedent has always been by secret ballot and the Rules of Procedure as adopted by this Board having been set up like those of the House of Representatives at Hartford.

Patrick Scarella and William Kaminski favored the Motion, whereas Helen Bromley, Mrs. Hoyt, Joseph Iacovo and James Mulreed opposed the motion.

Paul Plotkin called upon Corporation Counsel John Hanrahan to give an opinion on the statement as cited by Helen Bromley appearing in the Journal of the General Assembly of 1953.

Corporation Counsel John Hanrahan, after study, stated that the rule as cited by Mrs. Bromley must be followed and obviously the object of that ballot is secrecy.

Paul Plotkin RULED that Patrick Scarella's motion for a Roll Call vote was out of order.

Helen Bromley MOVED that the vote be by secret ballot, seconded by William Kaminski and CARRIED.

Paul Plotkin, Temporary President, appointed Karl Young, Jr. and William Murphy as tellers.

The ballots were distributed and votes counted and recorded as 21 for George Connors and 18 for Robert Lewis.

Paul Plotkin declared George Connors as elected President of the Board of Representatives for the term of office from December 1, 1953 to December 1, 1955.

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George Connors took the chair, and then read the prayer "A Councilman Takes Office".

Patrick Hogan MOVED that said prayer be incorporated as a part of the minutes of the meeting, seconded by Thomas Topping and CARRIED.

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 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.

George Connors asked for nominations for Permanent Clerk.

William Kaminski nominated Alphonse Jachimczyk.

Helen Bromley nominated Helen Huben.

Joseph Caputo MOVED that nominations be closed, seconded by John Cook and CARRIED.

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George Connors appointed John Cook and Rose Sheridan as tellers to distribute and count this vote.

The ballots were distributed and votes counted and recorded as 22 for Alphonse and 17 for Helen Huben.

George Connors declared Alphonse Jachimczyk as the "Clerk" of the Board of Representatives, term December 1, 1953 to December 1, 1955 by a vote of 22.

Alphonse Jachimczyk took his place as clerk.

Helen Bromley MOVED for a twenty minute recess, seconded by William Kaminski and CARRIED.

George Connors called the meeting to order about 30 minutes later, requesting nominations for Deputy Acting Mayor to take the Mayor's place should the Mayor and the President of the Board of Representatives be away.

William Kaminski nominated Paul Plotkin, seconded by Edward Ryba.

Helen Bromley nominated Robert Lewis, seconded by Karl Young.

Joseph Caputo MOVED that nominations be closed, seconded and CARRIED.

George Connors named John Cook and Rose Sheridan as tellers.

Ballots were distributed and votes counted and recorded as 22 for Paul Plotkin and 17 for Robert Lewis.

George Connors declared Paul Plotkin as Deputy Acting Mayor by a vote of 22 to 17.

George Connors proceeded to read the appointments to the Standing Committees of the Board of Representatives as follows:

William Kaminski was named Majority Leader and Helen Bromley, Minority Leader.

Board of Appeals

Patrick Scarella
Vincent Vitti
Irving Snyder
Joseph Iacovo

Alternates

Dr. Francis Dolan
Samuel Picciallo
John Cook
Phil Coulter

LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE

Paul Plotkin, Chairman
Alphonse Jachimczyk
James Mulreed

Dwight Marshall
George Russell
Jack McLaughlin

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

William Kaminski, Chairman
Edward Ryba
Rose Ann Sheridan

Karl Young, Jr.
Hayes Blake Hoyt

WELFARE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Stephen Kelly, Chairman
Edward Ryba
Katherine Kaminski

Doris Zuckert
Helen Peatt
Norton Rhoades

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PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| William Murphy, Chairman | Wardham Collyer |
| Patrick Fortunato | Joseph Iacovo |
| William Kaminski | |

HEALTH & PROTECTION COMMITTEE

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Joseph Caputo, Chairman | Robert Lewis |
| Mary Bankowski | John Cook |
| Martin Cash | |

FISCAL COMMITTEE

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Patrick Scarella, Chairman | Helen Bromley |
| Dr. Francis Dolan | Helen Huben |
| Samuel Picciallo | Rutherford Huizinga |

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Frank Longo | Phil Coulter |
| Thomas Killeen | Thomas Topping, Chairman |
| Patrick Hogan | |

STEERING COMMITTEE

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Paul Plotkin | Helen Bromley |
| Patrick Scarella | David Waterbury |
| William Kaminski | Dwight Marshall |
| Stephen Kelly | Rutherford Huizinga |
| Joseph Caputo | Irving Snyder |

Helen Bromley asked permission to fill in the names of the republican appointees to the Personnel Committee as well as the Teller and the alternate on Monday, December 7, 1953, the date scheduled for the regular meeting of the Board of Representatives. Permission was granted by Mr. Kaminski.

Helen Bromley MOVED, seconded and CARRIED to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Alphonse C. Jachimczyk
Clerk