

MARCH 1, 1954

683

The regular meeting of the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford, Connecticut was held on Monday, March 1, 1954 at the Burdick Junior High School Auditorium. George V. Connors, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:10 P.M.

Invocation was given by Dr. B. A. Galloway of the Bethel A M E Church.

Roll Call was taken by the Clerk. There were 40 members present.

George Connors submitted the minutes of February 1, 1954 for approval.

Vincent Vitti MOVED that the minutes of February 1, 1954 be approved as presented, seconded by Irving Snyder and CARRIED.

Fiscal Committee

Patrick Scarella MOVED that various emergency appropriations approved by the Board of Finance at their meeting of February 26, 1954 and their adjourned meeting of March 1, 1954, be considered under Suspension of the Rules, seconded by Helen Bromley and CARRIED.

1. Patrick Scarella stated that an emergency appropriation for a pension for Chief Victor Veit, retired Chief of the Stamford Fire Department, is requested in the sum of \$2,291.63 for the balance of the fiscal year 1953/1954, based on an annual pension rate of \$5,000.

Rutherford Huizinga MOVED approval of \$2,291.63 for Chief Veit's pension, seconded by Patrick Fortunato and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Patrick Scarella submitted an emergency appropriation of \$4,000. for restoration and repairs to the concession house at Cummings Park.

Rutherford Huizinga MOVED that it be referred to the Fiscal Committee, seconded by Thomas Topping.

Irving Snyder MOVED that the motion be amended to include referral to the Welfare & Recreation Committee as well, following procedures of an adopted Resolution #154 that on items over \$2,000. be referred to two committees.

Mr. Huizinga and Mr. Topping accepted the amendment and the amended motion was CARRIED.

3. Patrick Scarella MOVED that the renewal of the lease between the City of Stamford and the State of Connecticut for a section of the Rippowam River to be used by the State in stocking fish be approved, seconded by Helen Huben and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Patrick Scarella MOVED approval of an emergency appropriation requested for pension for the widow of the late Lieut. Charles A. Engstrom of the Police Department in the sum of \$1,460.25 for the balance of the fiscal year 1953-1954, based on the annual pension of \$3,504.60, seconded by Robert Lewis and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Patrick Scarella MOVED approval of the emergency appropriation requested in the amount of \$40,000. to be applied to Code 412F, Street Lighting of the Public Works Department. This sum is to cover installation of new lights and street lighting for the City of Stamford for the balance of the fiscal year 1953-1954.

Mr. Topping MOVED that this item be referred to the Fiscal Committee for further study. However, after some discussion of the urgency and need, Mr. Topping withdrew his motion.

MARCH 1, 1954

The original motion was brought to question and CARRIED by a vote of 29 yeas, 10 nays.

6. Patrick Scarella MOVED approval of the emergency appropriation requested by the Registrar of Voters, Code 100.53, General Election Expenses, in the sum of \$3,300.32 for itemized bills of last October 1953 election, seconded by Helen Huben.

Patrick Scarella MOVED to hear from Lawrence Haggerty, Registrar, who is in the audience, seconded by Helen Bromley and CARRIED.

Mr. Haggerty stated this sum covered items of expenses entailed at the last October election and it was only being presented now as some of the bills came in late. When asked if it had to be passed at this meeting, he hesitated and said it could probably wait another month.

James Mulreed MOVED that it be deferred and referred to the Fiscal Committee seconded by Thomas Topping. Motion defeated by a vote of 14 in favor, 25 opposed.

The original Motion was brought to question and CARRIED by a vote of 32 in favor, 7 opposed.

7. Patrick Scarella MOVED approval of the emergency appropriation requested in the amount of \$1,350.00 for the printing of 500 copies of the City Charter, 400 copies to be printed, collated and bound in book form and 100 copies printed, collated and punched for loose leaf binder use, seconded by Samuel Picciallo and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Helen Bromley questioned whether or not it was necessary for the Board to act on the Supplemental Resolution to the Bonding Resolution which the Board of Finance adopted at its meeting on Friday, February 26, 1954.

Patrick Scarella MOVED to hear from Corporation Counsel John Hanrahan, seconded by Samuel Picciallo and CARRIED.

John Hanrahan, Corporation Counsel, stated that certain wording ~~had been omitted~~ from the original Bond Resolution adopted by the Board of Finance and that action on this change was only required by the Board of Finance; that the wording in the Resolution by the Board of Representatives was complete and it is not necessary for any action to be taken by the Board of Representatives on this supplemental resolution submitted to the Board of Finance.

Legislative & Rules Committee

Paul Plotkin, Chairman, submitted the committee report recommending three ordinances for publication and for adoption at the next meeting.

Paul Plotkin submitted the following supplemental ordinance "An Ordinance Concerning Driving Instruction" and moved its approval for Publication prior to the April meeting when it will be considered for adoption, seconded by Irving Snyder and CARRIED.

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING DRIVING INSTRUCTION

ORDINANCE #31, SUPPLEMENTAL

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF STAMFORD THAT Chapter 17 of the Code of General Ordinances of the City of Stamford be amended by adding a new section as follows:

Sec. 23. Driving Instruction. No person shall give driving instruction on any public street, highway, or thoroughfare which does not have sidewalks

MARCH 11, 1954

within the limits of the City Tax District as defined in Section 620.1 of the Charter of the City of Stamford.

This ordinance shall take effect upon the date of its enactment.

Paul Plotkin submitted the following supplemental ordinance "An Ordinance Concerning Kindling Outdoor fires" and moved its approval for Publication prior to the April meeting, but stated the committee would meet again to reconsider changes within this ordinance before its final adoption.

Robert Lewis MOVED to return same to committee without publication, seconded by Patrick Fortunato. After some discussion re hazards if action is postponed, Mr. Lewis withdrew his motion.

The original motion was brought to question, seconded by Stephen Kelly and CARRIED.

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING KINDLING OUTDOOR FIRES -

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF STAMFORD THAT

Section 5 of Chapter 9 of the General Ordinances of the City of Stamford is hereby repealed and the following is substituted therefore:

Sec. 5. Kindling outdoor fires without written permission prohibited.

No person shall, without written permission of the chief of the fire department of the City or of the fire marshal, or of a chief of a volunteer fire company, make or cause to be made within the limits of the City any outdoor fire; but such permission shall not be required for the kindling of a fire in a covered metal container with no opening over one and one-half inches wide or in a fire-place constructed of incombustible material, said fire-place being provided with a flue screen. The person kindling a fire under this section is in no way relieved of legal responsibility if the fire is allowed to escape or causes damage to property of another.

Sec. 5a. Leaving outdoor fires untended.

No person shall leave any outdoor fire untended.

This ordinance shall take effect upon the date of its enactment.

Paul Plotkin submitted the following supplemental ordinance "An Ordinance Concerning Closing of Woodlands" and MOVED its approval for publication prior to the April meeting, when it will be considered for adoption, seconded by Rutherford Huizinga and CARRIED.

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING CLOSING OF WOODLANDS -

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF STAMFORD THAT

Chapter 9 of the Code of General Ordinances of the City of Stamford be amended by adding a new section as follows:

Sec. 13. Closing of woodlands by the mayor.

Whenever it shall appear to the mayor that by reason of extreme drought there is danger of forest fires, he may proclaim that any or all sections of woodland and brush land in the City shall be closed, for such time as he may designate, to all persons except the owners or tenants of such woodlands and their agents and employees. As soon as the woodland shall be deemed free from any danger of fire, the mayor may revoke his proclamation. Any person, except as provided herein, who shall enter upon forest or brush land during the period covered by the mayor's proclamation,

MARCH 1, 1954

shall be fined not less than five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars or confinement in the city jail for not more than thirty days, or both. No permission shall be given under section 5 above during the period of the mayor's proclamation and any permission previously granted shall be automatically cancelled by the mayor's proclamation.

This ordinance shall take effect upon the date of its enactment.

Public Works Committee

Thomas Lonping, Chairman, reported that the committee had met and were considering the cost figures submitted on demolishing the Broad and Bridge Street bridges. The cost of demolishing the Broad Street is estimated at \$12,000, and the Bridge Street Bridge is \$7,000. The committee agreed that a large portion of this could be absorbed if the work was done by the Public Works Department. The bids on the bridges will be given out within the next two weeks.

Health & Protection Committee

Joseph Caputo, Chairman, presented the committee report recommending approval of 75 additional Special Police Badges with assurance from Mr. Flemming Rutledge of the Board of Public Safety that each applicant would be screened, must be a resident of Stamford and have definite need of a badge. He also read letters from the Police and Fire Departments covering their regular monthly report on the training programs.

Joseph Caputo MOVED that 75 additional Special Police Badges be approved, in accordance with request from the Board of Public Safety, seconded by John Cook and CARRIED.

Joseph Caputo submitted for consideration an ordinance re transportation of school children in buses and motor vehicles. Patrick Scarella MOVED that same be referred to the Legislative & Rules Committee for review and consideration, seconded by Frank Longo and CARRIED.

Welfare & Recreation Committee

Stephen Kelly, Chairman, submitted the committee report recommending approval be granted the Girl Scouts use of Woodlane Day Camp, and to grant permission to the Stamford Yacht Club for fireworks on July 2, 1954.

Petition #155

Helen Huben MOVED that permission be granted the Stamford Area Association of Girl Scouts for the use of City property as Woodlane Day Camp for 6 weeks of 1954 as the camping season, with proviso that the usual insurance is carried for liability, etc. so that the City of Stamford will ~~not be responsible~~, seconded by Mrs. Peatt and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. *be protected in minutes 4/5/54*

Helen Huben MOVED that the second portion of the request from the Stamford Area Association of Girl Scouts be referred to the Public Works Department asking them to supply the necessary fill requested by the girl scouts, seconded by William Kaminski and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Petition #156

Stephen Kelly MOVED that the request from the Stamford Yacht Club asking permission to display fireworks on July 2, 1954 (Friday) be granted, seconded by Irving Snyder and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MARCH 1, 1954

687

Appointments Committee

William Kaminski, Chairman, submitted the majority report signed by Rose Sheridan, Edward Ryba and William Kaminski recommending the appointments of Joseph Kinsella as Police Chief and Alphonsus Donahue as member of the Planning Board.

Karl Young, Jr. submitted the minority report of the Appointments Committee signed by Karl Young and Hayes Hoyt stating they did not believe Mr. Kinsella had sufficient technical experience to qualify for the position.

Considerable discussion followed, *all details in minutes 4/5/54 Page 689, paragraph 6* Hayes Hoyt spoke against Mr. Kinsella's appointment quoting excerpts by Chief Gleason of Greenwich and Commissioner Vollmer of Los Angeles, Calif. who believed a Police Chief should have Police experience, *referred to by Robert Lewis also spoke to this cause. not carried*

William Kaminski spoke again in favor of Mr. Kinsella's appointment stressing his administrative ability. Patrick Scarella concurred.

Rutherford Huizinga MOVED that debate be closed, seconded by Phil Coulter & CARRIED.

Rose Sheridan and Thomas Topping, who were appointed as tellers, distributed and counted the ballots. The vote was a tie, 20 in favor, 20 opposed.

A ruling was read by Helen Bromley from Section 43 of the Rules of the Board of Representatives of the State of Connecticut which are the governing rules abided by the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford as follows: "In all cases of balloting the President shall vote; in other cases he shall not be required to vote unless his vote would be decisive. In case of an equal division the question shall be lost".

President George Connors rules that the question was lost.

Samuel Picciullo MOVED for a ten minute recess, seconded by Alphonse Jachimczyk and CARRIED.

George Connors recalled the meeting to order.

William Kaminski stated that all of the members of the Appointments Committee agreed on Alphonsus Donahue as applicant for member of the Planning Board and recommended his approval.

Tellers Rose Sheridan and Thomas Topping distributed and counted the ballots. The vote for Alphonsus J. Donahue, Jr., 336 Ocean Drive West was 36 in favor, 4 opposed. Mr. Donahue was appointed as member of the Planning Board to fill the vacancy of Charles Aosal; term to expire December 1, 1956.

Steering Committee

George Connors, Chairman, submitted the committee report and same will be placed on file in the office of the Board of Representatives.

William Kaminski MOVED acceptance of the report, seconded by Alphonse C. Jachimczyk and CARRIED.

PETITIONS

Petition #157 - Lily Tag Day on April 9, 1954

Stephen Kelly MOVED that permission be granted by the Board to the Stamford Rehabilitation to sell crepe paper lilies on Friday, April 9, 1954 known as Lily Tag Day, seconded by Irving Snyder and CARRIED.

1152

MARCH 11, 1954

Petition #158 - Cancer Drive during April 1954

Irving Snyder MOVED that permission be granted by the Board to Cancer Campaign Chairman, Vernon Frisbie, to install a sign in Bedford and Central Park advertising the Cancer Fund during April 1954, seconded by Helen Bromley and CARRIED.

George Connors read a letter from the Oscar H. Cowan Post re permission to hold a carnival from May 31, 1954 to June 5, 1954 on city owned property on McGee Avenue. William Kaminski MOVED that same be referred to the Welfare & Recreation Committee asking the committee to contact the administration re negotiations of a lease on this property for helicopter landings before permission is granted, seconded by Irving Snyder and CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER BOARDS AND INDIVIDUALS

George Connors read Corporation Counsel John Hanrahan's reply and ruling regarding a recent inquiry made by the Board as to whether or not a classified employee had the privilege of signing a primary petition. Corporation Counsel stated classified employees did not have this privilege, making reference to Section 705 and 743 of the Charter.

It was the general feeling of the Board that this portion of the Charter was taking away the legal right of an individual; that as an individual he should be able to express his opinion.

William Murphy MOVED that this letter be referred to the Legislative & Rules Committee for attention, seconded by Karl Young and CARRIED.

BUSINESS ON THE CALENDAR

Hayes Hoyt was advised that a report had not been received from Mayor Quigley on the Building Lines on Summer and Bell Streets.

NEW BUSINESS

Joseph Iacovo MOVED, seconded by Karl Young that the voter making day be changed to Thursday, March 11, 1954 from 3: to 8: P.M. instead of the third Thursday as is customary because of the Republican party primaries being held on the third Thursday of this March, 1954. CARRIED.

Katherine Kaminski submitted a report on several cases of psittacosis fever which is transmitted by Parakeets. Mrs. Kaminski asked that consideration be given banning the sale of Parakeets in Stamford to avoid the possible spread of this contagious disease through the issuance of an ordinance.

William Kaminski MOVED, seconded by Sam Piciallo MOVED that this be referred to the Health & Protection Committee and the Legislative & Rules Committee for review and consideration. CARRIED.

Karl Young MOVED to adjourn at 11:40 P.M., seconded by Alphonse Jachimczyk and CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,
Alphonse C. Jachimczyk, Clerk