

Special Meeting May 12, 1954

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A Special Meeting of the Board of Representatives, Stamford, Connecticut was held on Wednesday, May 12, 1954 at the Burdick Junior High School Auditorium pursuant to a call issued by George V. Connors, President.

George Connors read the Call which reads as follows:

I, George V. Connors, President of the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford, pursuant to Section 202 of the Charter, hereby call a SPECIAL MEETING of the Members of the Board of Representatives, for the purpose of considering and acting upon the OPERATING and CAPITAL BUDGETS for the City of Stamford's fiscal year 1954-1955 on Wednesday, May 12, 1954, at 8 P.M. at the Burdick Jr. High School.

I hereby order a copy of this call to be served upon each member of said Board, by an officer of the Stamford Police Department, by leaving a copy of this call at the usual place of abode, at least twenty-four (24) hours before the time fixed for such meeting.

This notice was delivered to each member of the Board of Representatives at their place of abode by a Stamford Police Officer twenty-four hours prior to the meeting and the following is copy of certification of such delivery:

STATE OF CONNECTICUT )  
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD ) ss.

Stamford, Connecticut  
May 11, 1954

Personally appeared

Robert T. Foulds  
Thomas J. Maloney  
David L. McKeithen

regular members of the Police Department of the City of Stamford, who, being duly sworn, depose and state that they made service of the attached call of a Special Meeting of the Board of Representatives, on May 12, 1954, in the manner prescribed in said call.

Robert T. Foulds  
Thomas J. Maloney  
David L. McKeithen

Subscribed and sworn to this 14th day of May, 1954, before me

\_\_\_\_\_  
John M. Hanrahan  
Commissioner of Superior Court

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George Connors asked for nominations for temporary clerk inasmuch as Alphonse C. Jachimczyk, Clerk, was still ill.

Helen Bromley MOVED that William Murphy be nominated to temporary clerk. William Murphy declined saying it would be necessary for him to leave the meeting early to go to work and nominated Hayes Hoyt as temporary clerk, seconded by George Russell and CARRIED.

Roll call was taken by the temporary clerk. There were 33 members present and 7 absent. The absent members list as follows: Irving G. Snyder, Rose Ann Sheridan, Robert Lewis, Phil Coulter, Edward Ryba, Thomas Killeen, Alphonse Jachimczyk.

#### FISCAL COMMITTEE

Patrick Scarella, Chairman, submitted the Fiscal Committee Report recommending various changes to the Capital and Operating Budgets for 1954-1955. Copy of said report is being attached to these minutes for reference.

Patrick Scarella MOVED that the Capital Budget for 1954-1955 be considered first, seconded by Sam Picciallo and CARRIED.

Alanson Fredericks MOVED that except in case of <sup>assent (per minutes 5/14)</sup> adoption, the voice vote shall be deemed a rising vote re the budgets being adopted, seconded by Doris Zuckert and CARRIED.

#### LONG VIEW PARK - item 4, page 4

Patrick Hogan MOVED that Long View Park, item 4, page 4 be considered as a separate item, seconded by James Mulreed and CARRIED.

Mr. Huizinga amended the motion to read that all items be considered as separate items on page 4. Amendment accepted by Patrick Hogan, and James Mulreed.

Considerable discussion followed re past information received at past meetings on this subject in relation to the cost of \$20,000. Whereas previous figures were about \$60,000. or a little more.

Mr. Morrissey was asked to speak on this matter. He stated there was little possibility of collecting anything on the bond which was a realty bond. That the sum asked for will with the use of City employees probably take care of the repair of most of the roads in this area.

Wardham Collyer MOVED to defer action on this item and seconded by John Cock. Motion defeated by 8 - 25.

Patrick Scarella MOVED approval of \$20,000. for repairs to roads at Long View Park, seconded by Helen Bromley and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

BUS STATION \$5,000., item 6, page 4

Patrick Scarella MOVED approval of \$5,000. to erect a bus station on the east side of City Hall, seconded by Alanson Fredericks. Considerable controversy followed but it was generally felt that such a station should not be erected until the routing of traffic had been set. Motion was defeated by a vote of 9 in favor, 21 against.

CAPITAL BUDGET 1954, 1955

Patrick Scarella MOVED approval of the Capital Budget for \$2,813,360. (deleting the \$5,000. not approved for the bus station), seconded by Helen Bromley and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 33 members present voting yea.

OPERATING BUDGET 1954-1955

Patrick Scarella MOVED to consider the Operating Budget 1954-1955, seconded and CARRIED.

CHAIRS - MAYORS OFFICE - \$600.

Discussion re need of chairs and price was questioned. Patrick Scarella MOVED approval of \$23633. including chairs seconded by Samuel Picciallo and CARRIED by a vote of 21-11.

Paul Plotkin MOVED that whenever there is a cut recommended or a question on an account that we vote on that item first and that we vote on the larger sum first, seconded by Hayes Hoyt.

William Kaminski MOVED to amend the Motion that we vote on the separate item only when a question has been asked. Amendment accepted by Paul Plotkin and Hayes Hoyt and UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Hayes Hoyt and Joseph Iacovo asked that it be stated in the minutes that they were in favor of the chairs but voted negatively inasmuch as they did not approve of the method in which this was handled.

ELECTRIC TYPEWRITER - Dept. of Law - \$400.

After debating the absolute need for this machine which can make as many as 16 copies at a time and save endless copying, Hayes Hoyt MOVED approval of the \$400. seconded by William Kaminski and CARRIED by a vote of 21 - 9.

Telephone accounts in the various departments have been cut slightly, overcoming the cut recently allowed by the Federal Excise Tax cut.

A small amount was deducted from several of the Stationery & Postage accounts which should not put a particular hardship on any department.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Patrick Scarella stated the Fiscal Committee recommended a cut of \$41,300. in the operating budget of the Board of Education and although they are aware they cannot make specific cuts in items, they suggested a list ~~in the fiscal committee to be diverted over a three year period.~~ *of items to be deferred. (see minutes 4/7/54)*

A long discussion followed, some for and others against the proposed cut.

Samuel Picciallo MOVED approval of \$4,530,000.00 (the amount approved by the Board of Finance and the larger sum), seconded by Patrick Fortunato and CARRIED by a vote of 22 - 10.

Patrick Hogan MOVED seconded by James Mulreed to adjourn until Thursday, May 13, 1954 at 8:00 P.M. and defeated by a vote of 12-18.

Patrick Scarella MOVED seconded by Samuel Picciallo for a recess for 5 minutes, seconded and CARRIED.

George V. Connors recalled the meeting to order. The following members left after the recess - William Kaminski, Katherine Kaminski, William Murphy, Mary Bankowski, Martin Cash and Joseph Caputo making a total of 27 present.

CIVIL DEFENSE - Salary

Helen Bromley MOVED that a recommendation be sent to the Board of Finance that the salary item under Civil Defense be put on a retainer basis and not subject to Civil Service.

GARBAGE COLLECTION - Sewage

Patrick Hogan brought up the following question stating that until Section 620.2 has been complied with, there is a question as to the legality of collecting taxes for service that will be rendered on account of garbage collection.

COST OF LIVING - 1954 1955 -- \$89,250.00

Patrick Scarella read the Fiscal Committee report recommending the deferral of this item of \$89,250., asking that cost of living index increment be calculated from July 1953 to October 1954 and each year thereafter arrive at a comparable 12 months figure.

There was considerable discussion of the figures shown in the Fiscal Committee report re reclassification and normal salary increments being any part of the Cost of Living Bonus.

Mr. Hyizinga <sup>increase</sup> stated <sup>inquiry</sup> that the employees were actually receiving \$525. in one year's <sup>(see minutes 4/11/54)</sup> It was pointed out by Paul Plotkin as untrue that part of this sum was not approved when first presented and therefore became retroactive to January 1, 1953. Therefore January 1, 1953 thru June 30, 1955 is actually 2½ years covering this said sum of \$525.00

Dr. Dolan MOVED, seconded by George Russel that Mr. Weathers, Personnel Director be heard on this matter. CARRIED

Mr. Weathers stated that the change in salaries under Reclassification Plan of \$169,000 and the normal salary increments under the adopted reclassification plan amounting to \$107,091 has nothing whatsoever to do with the Cost of Living Bonus of \$178,500. that was adopted January 4, 1954. Mr. Weathers stated further that the \$178,500. asked for in the 1954-1955 budget as well as the \$89,250.00 simply indicates by the latter figure that an additional cost of living index increment from July 1953 to October 1953 is apparent and is now being asked for to take care of the cost of living rise in costs. That postponement of action on this item of \$89,250.00 will only mean when figured at a later date that the amount will be greater and will again be a retro-active item.

Mr. Huizinga pointed out that the \$178,500. approved January 4, 1954, plus \$178,500. and \$89,250. proposed for approval in the 1954-1955 budget makes a total of \$446,250. being appropriated to be paid by the taxpayers in one year.

Alanson Fredericks questioned whether this was not taking care of a retroactive period and whether these sums would not bring the cost of living bonus up to date. Mr. Weathers informed him that this was the story, whereupon Mr. Fredericks MOVED the question.

Paul Plotkin MOVED approval of \$89,250.00 for the Cost of Living Bonus, seconded by George Russell and CARRIED by a vote of 21 in favor, 6 opposed. George Connors read a resolution re approval of the Capital and Operating Budgets of 1954 - 1955.

Helen Bromley MOVED approval of this resolution, seconded by Patrick Scarella and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, 27 members present voting yea.

Resolution #175 - Adoption of the Operating and Capital Budgets from July 1, 1954 to June 30, 1955.

WHEREAS the Board of Finance has transmitted to the Board of Representatives its recommended budget for the City of Stamford for the ensuing fiscal year commencing July 1, 1954 and ending June 30, 1955 for final action thereon by the Board of Representatives.

BE IT RESOLVED BY STAMFORD that the itemized estimate of receipt and expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year 1954-1955 in the budgets as submitted by the Mayor and as acted upon by the Board of Finance and as finally acted upon and considered by the Board of Representatives in the amount of

\$10,787,345.99 Operating Budget  
\$2,813,360.00 Capital Budget

1,182

be and is hereby accepted, adopted and approved and specific appropriations are hereby made for each of the several items in the amounts appearing in the columns of the budgets under the heading of "Board of Representatives" recording the approval or other action of this Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the projects contained in the Capital Budget are to be financed as follows:

	\$482,260.00	Current Taxation
	<u>\$2,331,100.00</u>	Municipal Bonds
TOTAL	\$2,813,360.00	

Dated at Stamford, Connecticut this 14th day of May 1954.

James Mulreed MOVED to adjourn the meeting, seconded and CARRIED. The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 A.M.

Respectfully submitted

Hayes B. Hoyt  
Temporary Clerk

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Report of the Fiscal Committee of The Board of Representatives covering the following City of Stamford Budgets for the fiscal year 1954 - 1955:

1. Operating Budget
2. Capital Projects Budget
3. Board of Education Budget

The prediction that "a rise in the tax rate for the year 1954-1955 is inevitable" has not only been stated by the Mayor, but also by the Board of Finance when they submitted these budgets to the Board of Representatives.

In spite of this prediction the Fiscal Committee approached the tremendous task of reviewing these budgets with one thought in mind, namely, - - - "It is our responsibility to approve the absolute minimum appropriation in each individual account, which is necessary to provide the taxpayers of the City of Stamford with the kind of schools and public services they demand, and to which they are entitled in exchange for the taxes they pay."

You will find that, with a few exceptions, most of the reductions recommended by this Committee have been comparatively small, so small that we honestly believe no department head will have any difficulty adjusting the costs of the operations of his department so that they fall within the recommended budget, and at the same time provide the necessary services required by the taxpayer.

The budgets which have been requested by the Mayor, reduced and approved by the Board of Finance, have been further reduced by the recommendations of the fiscal committee as follows:  
(see attached Schedule A).

Capital Budget

After careful consideration of all the capital projects, it is the opinion of this committee, that no further reduction should be made in any of the appropriations approved by the Board of Finance.

Board of Education Budget

The reduction of \$41,300 in the operating budget of the Board of Education, in the opinion of this committee will in no way incur any hardship in the operation of the Board.

This committee is cognizant of the fact that the Board

has in operation a well-planned system for improving and maintaining its plant. By reducing its total request of \$4,501,857 by less than one per cent, we do not mean to infer that even this small amount is not needed, but rather that a portion of the projects planned for completion this coming year be deferred until next year. We refer specially to the following projects:

1. Conversion of coal to oil burning furnaces	\$21,250
2. Installation of Lockers	13,650
3. Installation of Fluorescent Lighting	9,560
4. Sanding and repairing floors	14,000
5. Stage Curtains	5,300
6. Soundproof Corridor Ceilings	8,600
7. Replace outmoded Furniture	37,441
8. Resurface Playgrounds	10,305
9. Asphalt tile in H.S. Office & Library	2,100
10. Inter-communication system(Cloonan)	5,000
	<u>\$127,206</u>

The reduction recommended, will permit the completion of two thirds of these projects, deferring until the following year the remaining one third.

Operating Budget

The total recommended reduction in appropriations of the operating budget is \$113,872. Of this amount \$24,622 represents elimination of minor office equipment, reduction of telephone appropriations due to reduction of Federal Excise Taxes; and also in other instances, the amount of unused funds in various accounts originating from appropriations of the previous year, indicated in our opinion that the requested appropriation could be somewhat reduced. \$5,760 of the above mentioned \$24,622 represents a reduction in the staff of the Welfare Department, one case worker and one typist. This reduction was specifically recommended in the Welfare Department survey (see page 20 and 21 of the published survey). Also, \$2,000 of the above mentioned amount represents a reduction in the Springdale Fire Co. budget, due to items not needed since they are constructing a new building and are planning to sell the existing building (\$1,700); also bonding and legal fees (\$300).

The largest single item contained in the total recom-



mended reduction is the \$89,250 appropriation for the 1954-1955 Cost of Living Bonus. This committee is mindful of the fact that no City employee is overpaid. However, it is also aware of the fact that if this appropriation were granted, it would be the fourth general salary adjustment within a two year period.

1. Re-classification of salaries at the time the new salary plan became operative (\$169,000).
2. Normal salary increments under the plan (\$107,091).
3. The 1953-1954 cost of living bonus granted this year under emergency appropriation (\$178,500).
4. The 1954-1955 cost of living bonus referred to above (\$89,250).

Also, the one appropriation of \$178,500 which was recently voted by this Board refers to "1953-1954 cost of living" bonus, and the \$89,250 refers to "1954-1955 cost of living" bonus. When actually these two bonuses were computed, one on the basis of the cost of living index increment for a period of 30 months, January 1951 to July 1953; and the latter (\$89,250) was computed on the basis of the cost of living index increment for a period of less than 5 months, July 1953 to October 1953. It is the opinion of this committee that the Personnel Commission compute the cost of living index increment on October 15, 1954, which would then cover the period July 1953 to October 1954, and then each year thereafter arrive at a comparable 12 months figure.

By this procedure the employees would receive the cost of living bonus to which they are entitled, on a retro-active basis in the same manner the \$178,500 was approved, and the taxpayers would not be asked to pay for two cost of living bonuses in one year.

	<u>Mayor's Request</u>	<u>Approved by Board of Finance</u>		<u>Recommended by Fiscal Com.</u>	
		<u>Reduction</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Reduction</u>	<u>Total</u>
Capital Budget	\$3,205,515.00	\$387,155.00	\$2,818,360.00		\$2,818,360.00
Board of Education Budget	4,675,470.00	132,313.00	4,543,157.00	41,300.00	4,501,857.00
Operating Budget:					
General Government	1,097,279.82	29,719.55	1,067,560.27	3,450.00	1,064,110.27
Debt Service	1,236,468.51	23,110.00	1,213,358.51	-	1,213,358.51
Welfare	357,961.30	25,034.80	332,926.50	5,910.00	327,016.50
Protection	1,817,144.12	106,678.46	1,710,465.66	10,660.00	1,699,805.66
Public Works	1,524,761.60	23,410.00	1,501,351.60	4,590.00	1,496,761.60
Recreation	156,598.45	-	156,598.45	12.00	156,586.45
Others	282,750.00	1,500.00	281,250.00	89,250.00	192,000.00
TOTAL	\$6,472,963.80	\$209,452.81	\$6,263,510.99	\$113,872.00	\$6,149,638.99
GRAND TOTAL	\$14,353,948.80	\$728,920.81	\$13,625,027.99	\$151,172.00	\$13,469,855.99