

The Adjourned meeting of the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford was held on Tuesday, June 21, 1955, in the Glenbrook Fire House, Arthur Place, Glenbrook. The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. George V. Connors, at 8:25 P.M.

Roll call was taken by the Secretary. There were 29 present and 11 absent. Those absent were: Mary J. Bankowski, Samuel M. Picciallo, P. Wardham Collyer, Joseph F. Iacovo, Phil C. Coulter, William D. Murphy, Edward G. Ryba, Alphonse C. Jachimczyk, Jack McLaughlin, Alanson Fredericks and Hayes Blake Hoyt.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Fiscal Committee:

In the absence of Mr. Picciallo, Chairman, the following report was presented by Mr. Thomas M. Killen, Temporary Chairman:

To: Board of Representatives  
June 21, 1955

From: Fiscal Committee

A special meeting of the Fiscal Committee was held on Friday, June 17, 1955 in the office of the Mayor, City Hall, Stamford Connecticut. Purpose of this meeting was to take necessary action on Fiscal items deferred from the June 6 meeting of this Board.

The following members of the Committee were in attendance: Mrs. Bromley, Mrs. Huben, Mr. Huizinga, Dr. Dolan and Mr. Killeen.

As listed on the agenda for this meeting, the following items were thoroughly discussed and also these items were checked with the Chairmen of the Public Works and the Health and Protection Committees. Therefore, these items as individually presented to this body approval of same as requested.

- (a) \$10,000.00 Department of Public Works for completion of Bridge Street Bridge.
- (b) \$6,000.00 Department of Public Works - Gasoline, Oil and Repairs.
- (c) \$2,000.00 Department of Public Works - Code 414C.15 Light, Water, Power for pumping stations.
- (d) \$4,500.00 Department of Public Works - Covers for 9 Garbage collection trucks.

(e) \$36,200.00 Department of Public Welfare:

Code 460.61	Cash Relief.....	\$28,000.00
Code 461.A	General Hospitals...	8,200.00
		<u>\$36,200.00</u>

131

June 21, 1955

(f)	\$4,325.00	Police Department:	
		Code 430.6 Batteries, Ammo., etc.....	\$800.00
		Code 430.6A Ident. Bureau, Photo supp.....	975.00
		Code 430.12 Radio Maintenance.....	550.00
		Code 430.25 Uniforms & Equipment.....	2000.00
			<u>\$4,325.00</u>

Letters of transmittal from individual department heads, as well as minutes of Board of Finance, approving these items are available with this report. In addition, a report from the Public Works Committee is also available.

Thomas M. Killeen, Temporary Chairman  
 Helen L. Huben  
 R. G. Huizinga  
 Helen J. Bromley  
 Dr. Francis V. Dolan

- (a) Mr. Killeen MOVED the adoption of additional appropriation of \$10,000.00 for Department of Public Works for completion of Bridge Street Bridge. SECONDED by Mr. Vittl.

Discussion ensued as to the reason for the additional appropriation. Mrs. Bromley stated that Mr. Scarella came to their last meeting and explained that there was a shortage on the Bridge Street appropriation. She said this Board should be properly critical of an item of this kind, but stated she was in favor of its adoption. A rising vote was taken. CARRIED unanimously.

- (b) Mr. Killeen MOVED the adoption of additional appropriation of \$6,000 for Department of Public Works, Gasoline, Oil and Repairs. SECONDED by Mr. Topping.

Mr. Snyder asked why they found themselves so far short. Mr. Killeen replied that this was answered in Acting Mayor Connors' letter of March 31, 1955. A rising vote was taken. CARRIED unanimously.

- (c) Mr. Killeen MOVED for approval of additional appropriation of \$2,000 for Department of Public Works, Code 414C.15, Light-Water-Power for Pumping Stations. SECONDED by Mrs. Zuckert and CARRIED unanimously by a rising vote.

- (d) Mr. Killeen MOVED the adoption of additional appropriation of \$4,500 for Department of Public Works for cost of covers for nine Garbage Trucks. SECONDED by Mr. Caputo and CARRIED unanimously by a rising vote.

- (e) Mr. Killeen MOVED for approval of additional appropriation of \$36,200 for Department of Public Welfare:
- |  |             |                        |                    |
|--|-------------|------------------------|--------------------|
|  | Code 460.61 | Cash Relief.....       | \$28,000.00        |
|  | Code 461.A  | General Hospitals..... | 8,200.00           |
|  |             |                        | <u>\$36,200.00</u> |

SECONDED by Mrs. Kaminski. Mr. Huizinga remarked he had asked at the Fiscal Committee meeting why the Department of Public Welfare could have overspent such large sums and wondered if some of these were outstanding bills that had to be paid and questioned the fact that this Department had spent more than was appropriated. He said: "It doesn't make sense that the Commissioner of Finance passes out money for items when this money has not been appropriated and these funds are then taken out of Surplus".

Mr. Mulreed said this money must have been appropriated at some time, or it would not have been available.

Mrs. Bromley explained the meaning of "General Fund" and stated that there is a State law that makes it mandatory that a city must honor any and all bills of the Welfare Department or the State pays the bill and collects from the City - that a city is on an accrual basis and that it may end up with either a surplus or a deficit.

Mr. Mulreed said he disagreed with Mrs. Bromley and that when the Department head makes out his budget for the following year that money is in the General Fund to take care of it.

Mrs. Bromley clarified this by saying that money in the General Fund is anticipated to a certain extent. She said that Mr. Huizinga was right in saying that the Welfare Department should have come in much sooner requesting the additional sum of money.

Mr. Killeen replied that the Welfare Department had originally requested the additional amount, but that it had been cut from their budget request, even though they knew they were going to need the full amount requested.

Mrs. Zuckert spoke, saying this is properly a bookkeeping question and that money assigned for each department should be kept for that department.

Mr. Mulreed said that this is an appropriating body for the various expenditures of the City and that if any department spends more money than is appropriated by this body that we get billed from the State. Rising vote taken on Mr. Killeen's motion. CARRIED unanimously.

(f) Mr. Killeen MOVED for approval of additional appropriation of \$4,325 for Police Department as follows:

Code 430.6	Batteries, ammunition, inhalator, supplies.....	\$ 800.00
Code 430.6A	Identification Bureau, Photographic Supplies.....	975.00
Code 430.12	Radio Maintenance.....	550.00
Code 430.25	Uniforms & Equipment.....	2,000.00
		<u>\$4,325.00</u>

SECONDED by Mr. Caputo. Mr. Mulreed asked if these bills had been paid from Surplus Funds. Mr. Killeen said he did not think these bills had been paid as yet. CARRIED unanimously by a rising vote.

Mr. Killeen offered Mr. Picciallo's apologies to the Board for his inability to attend the last meeting and this meeting.

June 21, 1955

Personnel Committee:

Dr. Dolan, Chairman, read the following letter and enclosure from Mr. John E. Sotire, Chairman, Personnel Commission:

June 21, 1955

Dr. Francis V. Dolan  
Chairman, Personnel Committee  
Board of Representatives  
Stamford, Conn.

Dear Dr. Dolan:

Attached hereto please find copy of letter sent to the Mayor, requesting additional funds for the 1955-56 salary account covering the position of Personnel Director.

It is our sincere desire that the Board of Representatives go on record as approving the action taken by the Personnel Commission and requesting the Mayor to approve the special request for additional funds.

Yours very truly,

JES:js

Enclosure 1

John E. Sotire  
Chairman, Personnel Commission

The following was enclosed:

June 21, 1955

Subject: Special Request for Additional Funds

To: Mayor Thomas F. J. Quigley,

In accordance with Section 619 as amended, of the Stamford Charter, a special request for additional funds of \$1,200.00 is hereby requested for Account No. 731.1, Salaries, Department of Civil Service, for the fiscal year 1955-56.

The Personnel Commission and the Examining Committee selected to hold the competitive examination for the position of Personnel Director to fill the existing vacancy had agreed to advertise the position at the established salary range of \$6300 to \$7500 per annum, with the provision that the maximum rate may be paid immediately to a fully qualified candidate.

The 1955-56 Budget, as approved by the Board of Finance for the salary of Personnel Director is \$6300, or the minimum rate for this position.

1434

June 21, 1955

890

In view of the fact that an eligible register has been submitted by the Examining Committee to the Personnel Commission with candidates possessing the necessary qualifications as set up for this position, coupled with the fact that the eligible candidates are not interested in appointment at other than the maximum rate, it is requested that you give earnest consideration in approving the request for additional funds to bring the appointing rate up to the maximum salary grade rate; that is, \$7500.

This action will insure the appointment of a candidate possessing the outstanding qualifications as required for this position.

JES;js

John E. Sotire,  
Chairman, Personnel Commission

MR. RHOADES MOVED that this Board record itself as generally in favor of having the salary for Personel Director increased to the \$7500 level. SECONDED by Mr. Huizinga.

Dr. Dolan said the only reason one of the candidates, who has had 30 years in Civil Service Work, is willing to take the job, is because he will receive a pension from the State of New York and this will enable him to accept a salary as low as \$7500.

Mr. Killeen said his personal feeling is along the lines of Mr. Huizinga's statement. He said the Board of Finance should not cut the salary when it had been advertised that the city wanted a man of exceptional ability and background and would be willing to start such a man at the maximum rate for the position.

Mrs. Zuckert said she recalled the advertisement, but did not recall the wording.

Mr. Snyder said he is opposed to the motion on the basis that he fails to see why this body should appropriate this money if the advertisement stated a salary of \$6300 to \$7500 and can understand why the Board of Finance would expect a man to be started at the lower salary. He stated that if the salary for this position is not enough, then it is up to the Personnel Commission to set the proper wage rate. He said he knew nothing about the qualifications of any of the candidates for the position.

Mr. Mulreed said he is in favor of sending a letter to the Board of Finance to emphasize the Boards desire that the salary be appropriated at \$7500. He said the Board of Finance was well aware that the starting rate was \$6300 and said that it was not uncommon to start a man at the top of the salary range when he possessed exceptional qualifications for the position. He further stated that this was probably just a misunderstanding on the part of the Board of Finance.

Mr. Kaminski said he was in favor of sending a letter to the Mayor and agrees with Mr. Mulreed that the Board of Finance might be confused as to what the salary should be. He said he knew the Board had gone on record as being in favor of having the best man available for the job

June 21, 1955

and the practice of starting a qualified person at the top rate is done in industry and there are numerous occasions when men are hired at the top of the salary range. He said the Board of Finance might be confused as to what the starting range is supposed to be and that the salary is based upon the qualifications and ability and should naturally be at the top of the salary range for a qualified person.

Mr. Cook said he was in favor of the motion. A rising vote was taken on Mr. Rhoades's motion. CARRIED with 27 in favor and 2 opposed.

#### Steering Committee:

Mr. Connors, Chairman, read the Committee report. No action was taken, as everything had been acted upon or referred to Committees.

#### Petition No. 197:A

MR. KELLY MOVED for SUSPENSION OF RULES in order that he might present a request to the Board from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Sergt. Frank Ahner Post No. 241, dated June 14, which arrived too late for the regular meeting of the Board on June 6th. This dealt with a request for permission of the Board for the John C. Ward Shows, Inc. to come to Stamford the week of July 11th. SECONDED by Mr. Kaminski. CARRIED by vote of 28 in favor and 1 opposed.

MR. KELLY MOVED the Board grant permission for this show, subject to the approval of the Chief of Police. SECONDED by Mr. Longo.

Mrs. Bromley stated that she does not approve of these matters being taken up by the Board at the last minute.

Mr. Snyder asked Mr. Kelly how much money these shows really made for those sponsoring them and what his experience had been.

Mr. Kelly refused to go into this, explaining that this was not the proper business of the Board to inquire into confidential matters of this sort.

There was a general discussion on this and Mr. Snyder remarked that it was his belief that 90% of the "take" from these shows goes out of town.

Mr. Topping remarked that this Board should go on record that these applications should be presented to the Board in ample time for the Recreation Committee to consider the request and that they should not come in at the 11th hour for quick action by the Board.

Mr. LiVolsi spoke about the "take" on Carnivals and shows of this sort and said the organization sponsoring these usually gets very little, but the Carnival people assume responsibility for everything and guarantee \$500.

Mr. Russell said they are not trying to deprive the children of the enjoyment they derive from the various amusements, but thinks certain types of shows tend to degrade the community.

Mr. Longo remarked that no one forces people to go these shows, but they go because they want to go.

June 21, 1955

892

Mr. Huizinga stated he definitely is opposed to Carnivals and would rather see a good show come to Stamford once a year than all these second rate shows. He said the discussion was taking up too much of the Board's time and called for the QUESTION.

Mr. Mulreed said he was not in favor of passing the responsibility over to the Chief of Police and MOVED to AMEND Mr. Kelly's motion by removing the words: "subject to the approval of the Chief of Police" from Mr. Kelly's motion.

Mr. Kelly said he did not object to this being taken out of his motion.

MR. TOPPING MOVED to AMEND Mr. Kelly's motion By substituting "under the control of the Chief of Police".

VOTE taken on Mr. Kelly's motion that Petition No. 197 be granted. CARRIED by vote of 19 in favor and 9 opposed.

Mr. Huizinga stated it should be the responsibility of each member of the Board to attend this show and see for themselves what type of shows they are allowing to come to Stamford.

#### Housing Committee:

Mr. LiVolsi read from the report of the old Housing Committee of the Board of three years ago, at which time Mr. Mulreed was Chairman, and said Mr. Mulreed's Committee should be commended for the work they instituted for housing relief. He requested that the name of James Mulreed be added to his present Committee members and that his Committee be increased from 5 to 7 members. He recommended the retention of the Quonset Huts as a temporary measure to help the housing situation until such time as other quarters become available.

Mr. LiVolsi stated that the Chairman of the Town Housing Authority had written to him saying that these Quonset Huts had already been sold to the Barnum Lumber Company of Bridgeport. He said it was expected that the State Legislature would enact legislation that would enable some relief to be extended to those affected by the Thruway, but could not see any immediate relief from any of the projects under consideration. He further mentioned he had contacted the New York office of a Federal Housing Authority in regard to receiving aid to relieve the housing situation and thought builders should interest themselves in the feasibility of building low-cost housing units. He spoke in favor of making available low-interest rate mortgages for those who were unable to finance regular mortgages.

Mr. Snyder read a petition he had presented to the Legislature on behalf of the Shippan Association relative to the abolition of the Quonset Huts and stated that 17 doctors in the community had stated these huts were a health menace.

Mr. Caputo spoke regarding the people in the Quonset Huts and said they stayed there because they could find nothing else available that they could afford.

June 21, 1955

Mr. LiVolsi spoke to Mr. Snyder and asked him why he did not go before the Housing Committee of the Board instead of taking his petition to Hartford and said he could see no valid reason why another year's extension of the Quonset Huts could do any harm and would at least afford some relief of the situation until other units could be built.

Mr. Russell questioned the fact that this condition might go on indefinitely. A long discussion ensued.

Mr. Longo stated he personally knew of 65 families, 95% of whom were veterans, who were being evicted from their homes because of the Thruway.

Mr. Kaminski called for vote to be taken on Mr. LiVolsi's motion.

Mr. Caputo asked Mr. LiVolsi how the Quonset Huts could help the housing situation and Mr. LiVolsi started to explain.

Mr. Huizinga stated that the meeting was out of order - that there is no question before the Board.

MR. LIVOLSI MOVED that his Committee be increased from 5 to 7 members. SECONDED by Mr. Huizinga and CARRIED unanimously.

The President then named MR. MULREED AND MR. SNYDER as additional members of the Housing Committee.

MR. LIVOLSI MOVED that the Board go on record as being in favor of extending the time for the demolition of the Quonset Huts for another year, until January 1st. SECONDED by Mr. Kelly and CARRIED by a rising vote of 22 in favor and 6 opposed.

MR. KILLEEN MOVED that a letter of recommendation be written to the Housing Authorities requesting that priority be given to the occupants of the Quonset Huts for new housing.

Mr. LiVolsi stated that he was mis-informed and Mr. Mulreed agreed with him, saying that the local Housing Authority have nothing to say as to who is eligible, as this is handled by the Federal government.

Mr. Kaminski said that a request must come from the local authority.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER BOARDS AND INDIVIDUALS

- (a) A letter dated May 25, 1955, from Helen Givens, offering their place as a site for the annual picnic of the Board of Representatives.

The President named the following as the Picnic Committee: Mr. Cook, Mr. Caputo, Mr. Russell, Mrs. Peatt, Mrs. Kaminski and Mr. Connors.

After some discussion, MR. LIVOLSI MOVED the Board have a picnic. This was SECONDED by Mr. Longo and CARRIED by a rising vote with 18 in favor and 8 opposed.

June 21, 1955

894

BUSINESS ON THE CALENDAR

The President read the following letter:

June 14, 1955

To the Board of Finance, and  
the Board of Representatives

Subject: Flood Control

On Thursday, June 23rd, at 8 p.m. there will be a public meeting in the Mayor's Office, City Hall, to discuss the Flood Control Report, which has been completed by the engineers.

Members of the engineering firm will be present and we would like your Board to be represented.

Very truly yours,

Thomas F. J. Quigley,  
Mayor

MR. HUIZINGA brought up the subject of the recent automobile accident on Long Ridge Road and the bad safety record of Stamford. He stressed the statistics of the State Motor Vehicle Department which revealed the shocking record of 26 accidents a week occurring in Stamford, with a death rate of one every five weeks. He MOVED that the President of the Board appoint a Special Committee of three people to meet to try and find ways and means to cut down accidents in the City of Stamford and to bring back a report at the next meeting of the Board. SECONDED by Mr. LiVolsi.

Mr. Killeen said Mr. Huizinga's motion was a step in the right direction and to a certain extent he agrees with him, but he thought the Board was getting resolution and committee happy, with a great deal of talk and nothing being done and questioned what, if anything, the Board could do to stop accidents in the City of Stamford. He thought the most important way to control accidents would be to grant the Police Department more law enforcement manpower. He said for this reason he was against the appointment of a Committee.

Mr. Kaminski said he agreed with both men, but would support Mr. Huizinga's motion.

Mrs. Peatt stated she felt the Board could do nothing to prevent accidents happening.

Mr. Killeen reiterated the big problem was lack of manpower in the Police Department. Mr. Vitti agreed with Mr. Killeen.

Mr. Rhoades said he would agree to vote for Mr. Huizinga's motion and thought the Board should support legislation in Hartford to raise the driving age from 16 to 18 and thought this would do a lot to help prevent many accidents from happening.

June 21, 1955

There was a long discussion as to the reasons for the increase in accidents.

VOTE taken on Mr. Huizinga's motion that a committee be formed. CARRIED unanimously.

The President said he would name a Committee very soon.

MR. CONNORS told the members of the Board that both he and the Clerk had been served with papers on an Appeal from the Board of Representatives reversal of the Planning Board's amendment of the Master Plan to permit the erection of an apartment house on the Helen W. Smith Estate property. He stated this had been turned over to the Corporation Counsel.

Mr. LIVOLSI MOVED that a letter of condolence and sympathy be written to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Jachimczyk on the recent death of their son. SECONDED by Mr. Rhoades and CARRIED unanimously.

#### NEW BUSINESS

The President stated the next Steering Committee meeting would be held on July 5th because of July 4th being a holiday and that the next meeting of the Board would be held on Monday, July 11th.

MR. PLOTKIN MOVED for adjournment. SECONDED by Mrs. Winsor and CARRIED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

George V. Connors,  
President