

The regular meeting of the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford was held on Monday, November 14, 1955, at the Walter R. Dolan Jr. High School Cafeteria, Glenbrook. The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. George V. Connors at 8:20 P. M.

INVOCATION was given by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Nicholas P. Coleman, Pastor, St. John's Roman Catholic Church, Atlantic Street.

ROLL CALL was taken by the Clerk. There were 27 present and 13 absent. The absent members were: Joseph Caputo, Mary J. Bankowski, Samuel M. Picciallo, Joseph F. Iacovo, Frank LiVolsi, Phil C. Coulter, William D. Murphy, Edward G. Ryba, Thomas M. Killeen, Dr. Francis V. Dolan, John W. Cook, Thomas J. Topping, and Helen Huben.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: Mrs. Bromley MOVED for acceptance of the Minutes of October 10, 1955. SECONDED by Mr. Vittl and CARRIED Unanimously.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

##### STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

The regular meeting of the Steering Committee of the Board of Representatives was held on Wednesday, November 9, 1955, at 8:15 P. M. in the Mayor's office, City Hall. Those present were: George V. Connors, Chairman, Helen Bromley, Rutherford Huizinga, Stephen Kelly, Dwight Marshall and Paul Plotkin. The absent members were: Joseph Caputo, Alphonse Jachimczyk, William Kaminski, Samuel Picciallo, Irving Snyder and David Waterbury.

The following communications were presented:

1. Letter dated Oct. 13, 1955, from Public Utilities Commission, State of Connecticut, in answer to Board's letter to them., transmitting Resolution No. 203 regarding change in bus service by Connecticut Company. Referred to Mr. Snyder, who introduced this resolution.
2. Letter dated October 21, 1955 from The Junior League of Stamford, requesting permission to use available areas in the city for portable signs to publicize their Follies to be presented on Dec. 2nd. Referred to Mayor Quigley to see if these could not be placed on the City Hall Plaza.
3. Petition (undated) received Oct. 31, 1955, from Mrs. William Karger 155 Waterbury Avenue and signed by 25 petitioners, requesting that flooding conditions after rain storms, affecting Webb Avenue, Waterbury Avenue and Houston Terrace, be remedied. Referred to Public Works Committee.
4. Letter dated November 4, 1955 from Mr. Alanson R. Fredericks, Representative from the 18th District, enclosing copy of communication sent to Mr. Charles White, City Engineer from J. More Greenman and Ernest A. Banker, residents of West Hill Lane and West Hill Road, in regard to a drainage problem of run-off water from West Hill Lane on to West Hill Road, which flows through Mr. Greenman's property, undermining the foundation of his house. Referred to Public Works Committee and Health & Protection Committee.
5. Letter dated November 8, 1955 from Urban Redevelopment Commission,

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in answer to recommendation of Housing Investigating Committee made at the October 10th Board meeting, enclosing copy of resolution that must be adopted by the Board of Representatives in order to set in motion the necessary planning work that will have to be undertaken so that they may comply with the requested action. Referred to Sub-Committee on Zoning & Planning - Mr. Plotkin and Mr. Coulter.

6. Letter dated November 9, 1955 from Mr. DiSesa, Assistant Corporation Counsel, giving ruling on procedure in regard to adoption of the Building Code. Referred to Legislative & Rules Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

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George V. Connors, Chairman

Legislative & Rules Committee

Mr. Paul Plotkin reported on the Building Code. He stated that it would be necessary to file three copies of the proposed Building Code in the office of the Town Clerk and advertise that they are available for public inspection before adoption by the Board. Inasmuch as these will not be available for two or three weeks from the printer, it will have to be re-adopted at a subsequent meeting of the Board.

Sub-Committee on Zoning & Planning

Mr. Plotkin reported on letter dated November 8, 1955 from the Urban Redevelopment Commission, (which was in answer to recommendation of Housing Investigating Committee made at the October 10th Board meeting), enclosing copy of resolution. A copy of this letter was mailed to each member of the Board, with proposed resolution and map of affected area enclosed.

Mr. Plotkin spoke in favor of the proposed project and read the following resolution from the West Side Business Association, requesting favorable action of the Board:

"WHEREAS, The West Side Business Association has long concerned itself with the improvement of living conditions as well as business and trade in the West Side; and

"WHEREAS, the Association recognizes the existence of certain sub-standard, blighted and deteriorated conditions in some parts of the West Side.

"NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the West Side Business Association that the Board of Representatives be urged to approve a resolution authorizing the Urban Redevelopment Commission to apply to the Housing and Home Finance Agency for an advance of funds with which to prepare surveys and plans for an urban renewal project in the West Main Street area.

Jerome C. Massari, 31 Stillwater Ave.  
William A. Genovese, 215 West Main St.  
Ross P. Lodato, 182 West Main St.



Frank Annetta, 349 West Main St.  
 Leonard D. Gerardi, 241 West Main St.  
 Michael Frattaroli, 23 Dryden St.  
 John J. Peasenelli, 45 Diaz St.  
 Donald F. Zeyina, 17 Shelburne Rd.  
 Frank A. Macari, 22 Ann St."

MR. PIOTKIN MOVED the adoption of the following resolution, as offered by the Urban Redevelopment Commission. SECONDED by Mr. Jachimczyk.

RESOLUTION NO. 205 REQUESTING THE RESERVATION OF CAPITAL GRANT FUNDS, APPROVING THE UNDERTAKING OF SURVEYS AND PLANS FOR AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT, AND THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ADVANCE OF FUNDS.

WHEREAS, under Title I of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, and the Housing Act of 1954, the Housing and Home Finance Administrator is authorized to extend financial assistance to localities in the elimination and prevention of the spread of their slums and urban blight through the planning and undertaking of urban renewal projects; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the City of Stamford, Connecticut Urban Redevelopment Commission prepare surveys and plans, in order to undertake and carry out an urban renewal project of the character contemplated by Section 110 (c) of said Title I, in that certain area, proposed as an Urban Renewal Area, situated in the City of Stamford, County of Fairfield, and State of Connecticut, and described as follows:

Beginning at a point in the South side of Richmond Hill Avenue where said South side of Richmond Hill Avenue is intersected by the West side of Fairfield Avenue; thence Northerly along the West side of Fairfield Avenue to the North side of Stillwater Avenue to Smith Street; thence Easterly along the North side of Smith Street to Mill River Street; thence Southeasterly across Mill River Street to the Northerly side of the Main Street Bridge; thence Northeasterly along the North side of the Main Street Bridge to the Easterly end thereof; thence Southerly along the Easterly line of the Main Street Bridge to its South side; thence Southerly along the Easterly side of the Rippowam or Mill River to the Northerly right-of-way of the Connecticut Turnpike; thence Westerly along said Northerly right-of-way of the Connecticut Turnpike to the West side of Greenwich Avenue; thence Northerly along the West side of Greenwich Avenue to the South side of Richmond Hill Avenue; thence Westerly along the South side of Richmond Hill Avenue to the place of beginning.

WHEREAS, the above-cited Federal law requires as a condition to the execution of a contract for a loan and capital grant for an urban renewal project that the locality present to the Housing and Home Finance Administrator a workable program, as set forth in Section 101 (c) of said Title I, for utilizing appropriate public and private resources to eliminate and prevent the development or spread of, slums and urban blight, to encourage needed urban rehabilitation, to provide for the redevelopment of blighted, deteriorated, or slum areas or to undertake such other feasible community activities as may be suitably employed to achieve the objectives of such a program; and



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WHEREAS, it is recognized that contracts for loans and capital grants for urban renewal projects will require, among other things, (1) the approval of the urban renewal plan by the governing body of the locality in which the project is situated; (2) the provision of local grants-in-aid which may consist of donations of cash, land, demolition or removal work, and the installation, construction or reconstruction of streets, utilities, parks, playgrounds or other improvements or the provision of other public buildings or facilities; and (3) the development of a feasible method for the relocation of families displaced from the urban renewal area.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford:

Section 1. That the proposed Urban Renewal Area described above is a slum, blighted, deteriorated or deteriorating area appropriate for an urban renewal project and that the undertaking by the City of Stamford, Connecticut Urban Redevelopment Commission of surveys and plans for an urban renewal project of the character contemplated by Section 110 (c) of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended and supplemented, in the proposed Urban Renewal Area described above, is hereby approved.

2. That the financial assistance provided under said Title 1 to assist urban renewal projects is needed and that the Housing and Home Finance Administrator is hereby requested to reserve for an urban renewal project in the proposed Urban Renewal Area described above Federal capital grant funds in an amount sufficient to enable the City of Stamford, Connecticut Urban Redevelopment Commission to finance the undertaking of the Project.

Section 3. That it is cognizant of the conditions that are imposed in the undertaking and carrying out of urban renewal projects with Federal financial assistance under Title 1, including the requirements of said Title 1 respecting the workable program mentioned above, and that it is the sense of this body (a) that a feasible method for the relocation of families displaced from the urban renewal area, in conformity with said Title 1, can be prepared, and (b) that local grants-in-aid, consisting of donations of cash, land, demolition or removal work, and the installation, construction or reconstruction of streets, utilities, parks, playgrounds or other improvements or the provision of other public buildings or facilities, necessary for carrying out in the Urban Renewal Area the urban renewal objectives of said Title 1 in accordance with the urban renewal plan, can and will be provided in an amount which will not be less than one-third of the net project cost and which, together with the Federal capital grant, will be generally equal to the difference between gross project costs and the proceeds or value of project land sold, leased or retained for use in accordance with the urban renewal plan.

Section 4. That the filing of an application dated November 14, 1955 by the City of Stamford, Connecticut Urban Redevelopment Commission for an Advance of funds from the United States of America in an amount sufficient to enable the said Urban Redevelopment Commission to prepare surveys and plans for an urban renewal

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project or projects in the urban renewal area described above and referred to as the West Main Street Urban Renewal Area, is hereby approved, and that the Chairman of the Urban Redevelopment Commission is hereby authorized and directed to execute and file such Application with the Housing and Home Finance Administrator, and to provide such additional information and to furnish such documents as may be required by said Administrator, and to act as the authorized representative of the City of Stamford, Connecticut Urban Redevelopment Commission.

George V. Connors,  
President  
Board of Representatives

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MR. MULREED spoke briefly in favor of this resolution and said it was the recommendation of the Housing Committee that this be done. He said the need for improvement on the west side was acute and that it has always been an eyesore.

VOTE taken and CARRIED unanimously, that this resolution be approved.

Planning & Zoning Committee

Because Mr. Murphy, Chairman of this Committee, had not as yet arrived, it was decided to return to this later in the Agenda.

Public Welfare & Recreation Committee

Mr. Kelly said he had a request from the Salvation Army which he would bring up under petitions.

PETITIONS:

Petition No. 201

Mr. Kelly presented the following from the Salvation Army, received too late to go to the Steering Committee and MOVED for SUSPENSION OF RULES in order that it be considered at this time. SECONDED by Mr. Jachimczyk and CARRIED unanimously.

THE SALVATION ARMY

20 Beehler Street  
Stamford, Connecticut

November 10, 1955

Board of Representatives  
City Hall  
Stamford, Conn.

Gentlemen:

With the Christmas season approaching, I am writing to ask if you will again this year grant us permission to set up our booth on Atlantic Street, near Liggetts Drug Store, as we have done in years past. We would also



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place Kettle Stands at C. O. Millers, F. W. Woolworths, Fidelity Title & Trust Co. and Ridgeway Shopping Center. We would appreciate it very much if this authorization can be given us.

We thank you for your cooperation in the past and we, certainly would be grateful for the same cooperation this year. As you know, it is by this means that we receive the wherewithall to meet the need of the less fortunate in Stamford at Christmas time.

Awaiting your reply, I remain

Sincerely yours,

John D. Morrison,  
Major

MR. KELLY MOVED for approval of this request, pending the o.k. of the Police Department. SECONDED by Mr. Rhoades and CARRIED unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER BOARDS AND INDIVIDUALS:

MR. ALANSON FREDERICKS presented the following letter, recalling that this Board had appropriated the sum of \$5,000 for the purpose of bringing Jessup Street and Stark Place up to acceptable conditions, and that the delay in doing this work was creating a hardship.

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Alanson R. Fredericks  
100 Broadway  
New York 5, N.Y.

November 4, 1955

Honorable George Connors  
President of the Board of Representatives  
City Hall  
Stamford, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Connors:

I am enclosing herewith a communication received from Messrs. Greenman and Banker, addressed to Mr. Charles White, Chief Engineer, in regard to a serious drainage problem which said letter is self explanatory. This letter was forwarded to me that it be put in proper channels. As you will note, I am sending a carbon with photostats attached to the Mayor's office and to the Commissioner of Public Works. It will be appreciated if you will place this matter on the agenda for the next meeting of the Board of Representatives so that it can be

referred to the appropriate committee or committees of our Board.

You, no doubt, will recall that at the last meeting of the Board of Representatives \$5,00 was appropriated for the purpose of bringing Jessup Street and Stark Place to a condition where such streets would be acceptable by the City. The residents of these streets are extremely apprehensive that this work cannot be accomplished before winter starts, since no work has been done as yet. While I am appreciative of the problems which have arisen due to flood conditions in the City generally, it is necessary that work be done on these streets as soon as possible so that the home owners living thereon will not be confronted with the same problems which they faced in previous winters. Would you therefore be so kind as to take this matter up with Mr. Scarella and with the Mayor.

Thank you indeed for your courtesy and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Alanson R. Fredericks,  
Representative 18th District  
12 Deacon Hill Road  
Stamford, Connecticut

Mr. Fredericks stated that this area was once a quagmire, but is now a "well of despond". He said: "I don't know what action this Board can take except to ask the Mayor and the Department of Public Works to give this particular situation immediate attention. We have people living on these streets that are wondering if they will again go through the experience of last year in which case it was practically impossible at certain times for medical assistance or emergency help of various kinds to get through." He read a letter from Mr. Scarella, Commissioner of Public Works, in which he stated that "a small problem of drainage" was holding up this work. Mr. Fredericks stated that this letter was written on November 7, 1955 and he recalled that November 8th was election day and Mr. Scarella was probably busy.

The President said he would look into the matter and bring it to the attention of the Public Works Department.

MR. MULREED: "Since we are discussing this problem, I would like to bring to the Board's attention the fact that we have accepted a city street which is non-existent. It appears on a map and on a map only. It is now contributing to a flood condition. One man, in order to protect his property from flooding, built a dike across the street and another neighbor promptly went out and tore down the dike."

MRS. KAMINSKI presented the following, and asked that they be referred to the Health and Protection Committee and the Welfare and Recreation Committee for attention:

1. It has been brought to my attention through many complaints from the South End taxpayers, home owners and small boat owners, that the high wall at the Dyke Park area is very



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dangerous. They have no protection whatever from a car going over the wall. It has been suggested that cables be put up, or a high fence that would help to keep the children from throwing stones and beer cans into the boat basin area.

2. I would like to suggest that in the future an ambulance and a patrol car be dispatched to the scene of the accident and that all police be instructed with First Aid care of all injured on the highways. That, instead of two patrol cars going to the scene and four policemen and have them all standing around taking down information and let the injured lie in the cold highway or street for 3/4 hour before being removed to the hospital.

Mrs. Kaminski said she had recently been on the scene of an accident to a child on Roxbury Road in which the child had been left lying in the street to her knowledge for three-quarters of an hour before anything was done to help. She said although there were two patrol cars and four policemen blocking off traffic and taking notes, no help was forthcoming for the injured child. She said "I would like very much to suggest that the Health and Protection Committee get in touch with Chief Kinsella and Mayor Quigley to see if the police can be given some first aid instructions in the care of those injured so that they can be taken to the hospital immediately, or at least, given some first aid care. To leave a child lay on the cold street for nearly an hour is inhuman."

MR. COLLYER said he would also like to add another story in regard to the same sort of situation as the first one Mrs. Kaminski spoke of. He said: "At the end of Court Street there is absolutely nothing to prevent a car from driving right into the river". He said he thought this should be investigated and remedied.

#### Planning and Zoning Committee:

In the continued absence of the Chairman of this Committee, Mr. Mulreed suggested that the acceptance of these streets should not be postponed, but that action should be taken, as action had already been extended for one month.

MRS. BROMLEY MOVED that the Board defer the acceptance of these streets until the next meeting.

MR. FREDERICKS MOVED to AMEND that Mr. Murphy file a written report on these streets that the Committee wishes to accept.

MR. MULREED MOVED to FURTHER AMEND that the final date for acceptance of city streets now under consideration by the Committee be extended to the next meeting of the Board.

MRS. BROMLEY MOVED TO FURTHER AMEND that this be considered as unfinished business of this Board.

MR. MULREED MOVED to re-word his amendment that the final date for acceptance of city streets which have already been inspected and found to be in good condition by the Committee, be extended to the next meeting of the Board and be considered as unfinished business to



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be taken up at that time. SECONDED by several and CARRIED unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

MR. SNYDER MOVED that this Board go on record to thank the President, Mr. Connors, for his impartial and fair treatment of all matters that came before the Board. SECONDED by Mrs. Bromley and CARRIED unanimously.

MR. KAMINSKI MOVED that a vote of thanks be given to the outgoing members of the Board. SECONDED by Mr. Rhoades, who said: "I feel that this Board owes a tremendous debt to Mr. Mulreed and to Mr. Waterbury and the others who are going off the Board tonight for the fine service they have rendered through the years they have served on this Board. I wish to express my gratitude to the members who are leaving us tonight for their advice and help which have been very deeply appreciated by everyone, I am sure."

Mrs. Peatt remarked that she had \$26.00 left over from the Picnic fund that she didn't know what to do with.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Fredericks MOVED for ADJOURNMENT at 9:13 P. M. SECONDED by Mr. Jachimczyk and CARRIED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

George V. Connors,  
President  
Board of Representatives