

B-1/T

April 11, 1956

TO:-

The President of the Board of Representatives
The Fiscal Committee of the Board of Representatives
Members of the Board of Representatives.

The Board of Finance transmits herewith to the Board of Representatives the Operating Budget, the Capital Budget and the Budget of the Board of Education for the fiscal year 1956-1957.

The budgets submitted to the Board of Finance for 1956-1957 contained requests for appropriations substantially in excess of appropriations approved for 1955-1956. The increase in requested appropriations over last year amounted to \$2,040,501.97, and an analysis of the increases is set forth below:-

	<u>Appropriations 1955-1956</u>	<u>Mayor's request 1956-1957</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Percentage of Increase</u>
General Government	\$ 1,100,915.46	\$ 1,255,239.54	\$ 94,374.08	4.6
Debt Service	1,336,500.23	1,408,022.33	71,522.10	3.5
Education	4,930,632.00	5,365,137.87	934,505.87	45.8
Welfare	345,207.50	369,764.00	26,456.50	1.3
Protection to Persons & Property	1,820,211.50	2,009,773.72	240,567.22	11.3
Public Works	1,431,143.00	1,620,258.00	149,110.00	7.3
Recreation	290,348.40	351,268.60	60,920.20	3.0
Others	182,000.00	645,046.00	463,046.00	22.7
	<u>\$11,554,118.09</u>	<u>\$13,594,615.06</u>	<u>\$ 2,040,501.97</u>	<u>100.0</u>

The largest request for an increase was made by the Board of Education, whose request for an additional \$934,505.87 over last year's appropriation accounted for 45.3% of the increase. The second largest requested increase was for salaries of municipal employees. The additional appropriations requested for this purpose were \$452,041.06, and this accounted for 22.2% of the increase. Of this

amount, \$101,321.44 was appropriated after the passage of last year's budget so that the net increase requested for salaries of municipal employees is \$31,219.32. The requests for increased appropriations for Protection to Persons and Property and for Public Works were also significant, though not to such an extent as the two items previously mentioned.

It is evident that the task confronting the Board of Finance this year was much greater than it has been in past years. At no time before has such a large increase been sought within one fiscal period, and our Board, mindful of its duty to provide for the fiscal needs of the City within its ability to pay, examined and studied individual as well as departmental requests with great care. This was necessary because the approval of the budget as submitted without any reductions would have resulted in a tax increase of approximately 6 mills. Such an increase in a single year would be unduly burdensome to homeowners, many of whom carry mortgages and will be required also to pay special assessments for sewers. Such an increase would have a great impact upon other property owners, upon business and upon industry. Our city depends upon all of these groups for its tax revenues and such a large increase might very well prove disastrous. Since we do not wish to curtail essential services, nor to hamper the residential and commercial growth and the industrial development of our city, our task was not easy.

We present for your consideration the following budgets for operating expenses, for education, and for capital projects, which budgets have been reduced below the requested amounts, as follows:-

	<u>As Requested</u>	<u>Approved by Board of Finance</u>	<u>Reduction</u>
Operating Budget	\$ 6,321,404.36	\$ 5,973,372.46	\$ 348,032.40
Education	5,365,137.37	5,337,275.00	527,912.87
Total Operating	12,186,592.73	11,310,647.46	875,945.27
Debt Service	1,403,022.32	1,371,076.35	36,946.00
Total Operating and Debt Service	13,594,615.05	12,681,723.79	912,891.27
Capital Projects:-			
City	2,532,000.00	1,656,300.00	875,700.00
Parking Authority	225,475.00	225,475.00	--
Totals	\$16,352,090.06	\$14,563,498.79	\$ 1,788,591.27

Although this Board made significant reductions in the budget, the level of spending continues to increase. This, of course, is to be expected because of the continual growth of our city with the resultant demand for increased governmental services. Nevertheless, the problem confronting our Board is to keep expenditures within the city's ability to pay and to prevent uncontrolled increases in expenditures, lest they result in financial difficulties to our city, and to

its individual taxpayers.

Despite our attempts to limit expenditures, the budgets which we have submitted are greater than those of last year. A comparison follows:-

	Appropriated 1955-1956	Approved by Board of Finance 1956-1957	Increase Over Last Year
Operating Budget	\$ 5,286,930.86	\$ 5,973,372.46	\$ 686,441.60
Education	4,930,632.00	5,337,275.00	406,643.00
Total Operating	10,217,612.86	11,310,647.46	1,093,034.60
Debt Service	1,336,500.23	1,371,076.33	34,576.10
Total Operating and Debt Service	11,554,113.09	12,631,723.79	1,127,610.70
Capital Projects:-			
City - New	1,215,700.00)		
- Carried Over	755,000.00)	1,656,300.00	(314,400.00)
Parking Authority		225,475.00	225,475.00
	<u>\$13,524,313.09</u>	<u>\$14,563,498.79</u>	<u>\$ 1,039,185.70</u>

The Capital Budget is to be financed, as follows:- \$225,475 by Bonds of the Parking Authority, \$1,239,000 by Bonds of the City, and \$417,300 by current taxation.

As a result of the increased appropriations, it will be necessary to finance the budgets through increased taxes because the expected increase in revenues to be obtained from the increased Grand List of about \$10,000,000 will not be sufficient to meet the increased appropriations. Nor will the additional estimated increased revenues to be obtained from other sources be sufficient to meet the increased appropriation even when added to the revenues to be obtained from the increased Grand List. It should be noted that the estimated increase in revenues from other sources over 1955-1956 is expected to be \$30,351, of which amount state aid to education accounts for \$261,420.

In view of the fact that revenues have not kept pace with requirements for the increased demands for appropriations, it is expected that the tax rate will increase approximately two mills.

In making its decision, this Board attempted to exercise its powers wisely and prudently and to resolve them in a fair and just manner. We suggest, in the future, that the tax rates necessary to support the proposed budgets be forwarded by the mayor in his letter of transmittal so that this data can be available at the time of the public hearings upon the budgets.

Salaries

Two years ago, and again last year, this Board indicated its opinion that the city's salary structure needed a thorough study and

1717

review to bring salaries in line with changing conditions. This year, an item of \$612,275 is involved in the Mayor's budget for Salary Adjustments which "envisions the elimination of this (the cost of living bonus) program and provides for an 18% increase on the basic salaries with a minimum increase of \$156 over the present base plus cost of living bonus". Subsequently, the Mayor, through the Corporation Counsel, has authorized an amendment to the budget, increasing its appropriation request to \$631,546 in order to make the minimum increase \$300 over the current salaries adjusted for cost of living instead of \$156.

The impact on the tax rate of an appropriation of this amount is grave. It must be remembered that the provision for cost of living adjustment in the budget submitted last year covered only a \$10 adjustment. The additional \$105 was through an appropriation made after the fiscal year began and becomes a charge against next year's taxes.

We have approved an appropriation of \$560,000 for salary increases, an amount sufficient to replace the \$315 cost of living adjustment with a salary increase of 15%, subject to a minimum increase of \$315 and a maximum increase of \$915, in addition to normal increments. In taking this action, we want it to be clear that this does not constitute the action required by Section 402 of the Charter to change the salary of any individual official or imply appropriations to departments as required by Section 405 in excess of the specific salary appropriations shown in the budget under the respective departmental appropriations. It is the thought of this Board that after your Board has taken final action to establish the amount available for salary adjustment, requests should be made by the Mayor or the Personnel Commission, as the situation may require, for transfer from the general appropriation to the individual departmental appropriations, including the usual breakdown by specific positions, so that each recommendation can be properly acted on. The new salaries should be effective with the beginning of the new fiscal year.

It should be noted that there was no clear indication of how the proposed schedule is to be applied to part-time or seasonal employees, although the requested amounts did include all employees, and this will have to be clarified.

We noted in our examination of the various departmental requests instances where double increments were requested and other variations not in accordance with the salary schedules of the Classified System. In those instances, this Board reduced such appropriations to conform to the salary schedule.

New Personnel

In view of the increased demands for expenditures, we have attempted to limit additional personnel without stifling the needs created by the growth of our city with the resultant demands upon it for increased services.

A reduction in the amount of \$10,644 was made in the Ferguson Library budget to eliminate some of the new personnel requested. The appropriation for the Assessor's office allows the

addition of one bookkeeping machine operator at \$2,460, but \$2,000 was eliminated from the appropriation for part-time personnel. It is the belief of this Board that the addition of a bookkeeping machine operator should reduce the requirements for part-time personnel.

The request for an increased appropriation for overtime for personnel at the Incinerator Plant has been reduced by \$5,000 as the addition of new personnel last year when the Incinerator began a three shift operation should reduce the overtime requirement. The Board suggests that the overtime policies at the Incinerator Plant be reviewed by the Public Works Department and be limited as much as possible.

Mindful of the needs of the Engineering Bureau for additional personnel, but mindful, also, of the fact that the Engineering Bureau has not been able to take on its full complement despite the allowance for additional personnel last year, this Board has appropriated sufficient funds for one senior engineer but has eliminated the requests for a junior engineer and one engineering aide. Eliminated from the Park Commission's request was \$600 from the amount requested for a secretary, as this Board believes that the secretary should be started at the minimum salary for the position. In addition, the request of \$3,430 for a mechanic was denied, and the appropriation for seasonal help was reduced by \$6,000.

The request of the Police Department for \$3,450 for salary of one maintenance man was denied. The appropriation for Special Police was reduced by \$3,000 since the Park Department has requested a similar appropriation for this purpose, and such amounts should not be duplicated. Sufficient funds have been granted to permit the addition of three new patrolmen instead of the twelve requested.

The request of the Fire Department for \$2,340 for an additional clerk was denied as this Board is of the opinion that the Fire Department has sufficient clerical help. The request for \$4,680 for a captain was also denied. The Board of Recreation's request for seasonal employees was reduced by \$5,535.05.

In those cases where appropriations were granted for additional personnel, the Board granted its approval after careful study of the needs of the department, giving due consideration to the requirements of other departments and the need for such additional personnel and to the fact that the overall budgetary requirements have increased materially. Nevertheless, in those cases, we were of the opinion that such additional personnel needs should not be deferred longer if essential services were to be rendered properly.

Pensions

The comments made by this Board last year about the mounting requirements of the Firemen's and Policemen's Pension Fund are still applicable, and nothing further will be said. Although the

appropriation for the police pension fund is less than last year, this is due to a technicality of the Charter. Nevertheless, the actual pension roll continues to increase. The Classified employees' Pension Plan includes appropriations for the plan itself and for social security requirements. We have appropriated the requested amounts, although they may not be sufficient in view of the new salary schedule. Our Board does not have the power to increase the requested appropriation.

Debt Service

The charge for debt service has increased, but the increase of \$31,576.10 is considerably less than last year's increase. The appropriation approved was \$36,946 less than requested. Of this amount, \$7,450 is due to principal on Bell Street Parking Lot and \$596 is for interest thereon, these being obligations of the Parking Authority. Bond expense was reduced by \$5,000 and interest on the 1955-1956 Capital Budget was reduced by \$23,900 because of a duplication in the schedule.

Board of Education

The requested appropriations sought by the Board of Education amounted to \$5,950,462.87. This was reduced by our Board to \$5,325,000, which represents a reduction of \$625,462.87. Despite this reduction, the appropriation for 1956-1957 represents an increase of \$409,000 over 1955-1956. It is the opinion of this Board that this appropriation will be sufficient to meet the needs of the Board of Education for the 1956-1957 fiscal year and that there are sufficient funds to carry out an adjustment in salaries as well as the other requirements of the school system. While this Board recognizes that it has no control over the allocations of funds within the Board of Education Budget, it wishes to emphasize that it does not intend that the reduction in the appropriation be borne exclusively by non-salary accounts, but that the reduction be allocated reasonably and equitably over all of the accounts.

It should be noted that there will be increased revenues due to the increase in state aid to education and that the estimated amount of this increase over last year is \$261,420, which, together with an estimated increase in the revenues to be obtained from the cafeteria program of \$46,361, totals \$307,781. This is short of the increase in the approved budget.

The majority of the Board of Finance, one member dissenting, believes that fluctuations in the revenues to be derived from state aid to education should have no bearing on the evaluation of the budget of the Board of Education which should be considered entirely upon its own merits. The Board of Finance believes that Stamford should provide adequate funds for the proper operation of the Public School System, irrespective of the source of the funds. This has been the policy of this Board in the past. Therefore, the majority are of the opinion that any increase in state aid to education should not be considered solely allocable to the educational program, since

the needs of that program have been met and faced in the past regardless of the amount of state aid. If such needs had not been amply met, the majority would, of course, recognize the justness of the minority viewpoint. Therefore, if state aid is increased, our Board considers that such sum should be received into the general revenues for the relief of the Stamford taxpayers.

Volunteer Fire Departments

The meritorious service performed by the volunteer fire departments and the public service rendered by their members warrants the continuation of the financial support by our municipality. While the requested appropriations were reduced, they were in excess of the amounts appropriated during the past year, and the following summary indicates the changes:-

	<u>Appropriated 1955-1956</u>	<u>Requested 1956-1957</u>	<u>Approved by Board of Finance 1956-1957</u>
Belltown Fire Dept.	\$17,500.00	\$24,093.30	\$19,250.00
New Hope Fire Co.	21,500.00	40,466.52	26,000.00
Long Ridge Fire Dept.	47,500.00	43,060.00	45,500.00
Springdale Fire Co.	20,000.00	23,000.00	22,500.00
Turn of River Fire Dept.	<u>28,000.00</u>	<u>53,610.50</u>	<u>44,000.00</u>
	<u>\$134,500.00</u>	<u>\$199,230.32</u>	<u>\$157,250.00</u>

Despite the reduction of \$41,980.32 in the requested appropriations, the amount granted exceeded last year's appropriations by \$22,750, which amount should provide for the reasonable needs of the volunteer fire companies.

Included in the appropriation for the Long Ridge Fire Department was \$35,000 required for the completion of its new building. In accordance with the previous policy established by this Board, this appropriation was made upon the condition that title to the building and the land upon which it is located will revert to the city at such time as the premises are no longer used as a fire station.

Our Board wishes to commend the volunteer fire departments for their cooperation in submitting annual audited financial statements. While the data was not, in every instance, submitted in the required form, this matter will be clarified before the next budgetary period.

Stamford Museum

The Board of Finance recognized the increased needs of the Stamford Museum which arose as a result of the move to new quarters. Because of the fact that additional personnel was thereby required,

it was our opinion that this budget should not be reduced to any great extent during this period of transition. Nevertheless, the contemplated expansion of activities is of concern to some of our members.

Rents

Your attention is again directed to the comments made in last year's letter of transmittal to your Board when we noted the large expenditure for rents of departments housed outside of municipal buildings and suggested a study of the feasibility of using Elm Street School for municipal purposes. Account 570.2 Rent Taxation Board was reduced to \$462.39, which reduced amount represents the balance required for the duration of the lease.

Street Lighting

While the street lighting program has improved the appearance of our city and parks, nevertheless, its rate of increase has caused this Board considerable concern. A summary of appropriations for this account follows:-

	<u>Appropriated</u>	<u>Increase</u>
1953-1954	\$132,500.00	--
1954-1955	152,000.00	19,500.00
1955-1956	165,000.00	13,000.00
1956-1957	<u>206,016.00</u>	<u>41,016.00</u>
		<u>\$73,516.00</u>

An amount has been appropriated to provide for twelve times the present monthly average billings. No further appropriations will be made unless proposed extensions of the lighting program are submitted to this Board for advance approval of the costs of such extensions.

Quarterly Allotments

Again, we would call attention to the provisions of Section 485 of the Charter.

Parking Authority and Sewer Commission

While this Board does not possess legislative powers, it, nevertheless, calls to the attention of your Board the fact that the Parking Authority has failed to submit for the second consecutive year a budget as required by Section 582 of the Charter. We would also like to call to your attention that the Sewer Commission has been paying salaries to hired personnel, despite the fact that no funds have been appropriated for this purpose from current revenues.

Veteran's Service

While the appropriation of \$9,390 for Veteran's Service was approved, it is suggested that your Board look into this matter at a future date to determine the necessity for the continuation of such services and the length of time they will be expected to continue. In view of the fact that World War II and the Korean War have both been ended for some time, that our veterans have been re-integrated into the community and that, for the most part, their transitional problems have been resolved, the necessity of continuing this service at a local level for any prolonged period of time should be looked into.

Individual Items by Department

Without attempting to discuss each item of change in the budget, remarks will be directed to a few specific accounts which merit comment. A reduction of \$3,500 was made in the Public Works Department Gasoline, Oil and Repairs Account 417 because of the appropriation of \$3,500 for similar purposes in Account 500.17, Park Commission, which Commission previously operated under the Public Works Department. The appropriation of \$2,000 for New Traffic Lights requested in Account 430.12C, Police Department, was denied, since \$75,000 was appropriated for that purpose in the Capital Budget. This item should be either a capital or operating charge, but not both. Provision was made in Account 440.22A, Fire Department, for three new resuscitators and spare tanks, four self contained breathing apparatus and spare cylinder, four smoke and gas ejectors, and for small tools and equipment.

In denying the request for a new combination pumper, the Board suggests that the Fire Department take the necessary steps to obtain the use of the more modern pumper now in the Civilian Defense Department until such time as the 1937 American La France can be replaced.

The assumption of control over the probationary system by the State of Connecticut raised the question of the continuation of the requested appropriation for the two probation officers. Despite the fact that the state has taken over the probationary system, provision has to be made by our City Court for the collection and payment of funds for family support in domestic cases within the jurisdiction of the City Court. Since this Board was unable to determine within the time allowed the exact requirements needed for this purpose, it approved the requests in full, lest it eliminate vital services. It is suggested, however, that your Board obtain more complete data from the officials of the Court as to the exact needs.

Capital Projects Budget

A summary of the Capital Projects Budget as requested and as approved is set forth below:-

<u>Department</u>	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Reduction</u>
Public Works			
1. Sanitary Sewers	\$ 405,000	\$ 375,000	\$ 30,000
2. Storm Drains	492,000	311,000	181,000
3. Highways	269,000	70,000	199,000
Total Public Works Dept.	<u>\$1,166,000</u>	<u>\$ 756,000</u>	<u>\$410,000</u>
Park Commission	232,000	183,300	148,700
Board of Public Safety	75,000	75,000	--
Board of Education	450,000	425,000	25,000
Hubbard Heights Commission	24,000	14,000	10,000
Board of Health	165,000	165,000	--
Ferguson Library	20,000	20,000	--
Welfare Commission	300,000	13,000	282,000
Parking Authority	<u>225,475</u>	<u>225,475</u>	<u>--</u>
	<u>\$2,757,475</u>	<u>\$1,881,775</u>	<u>\$875,700</u>

The Commissioner of Finance, in his excellent analysis of the city's present and prospective financial capacity to sustain new capital projects, dated January 12, 1956, indicated \$2,000,000 as the amount which can be safely expended on Capital Projects during the fiscal year 1956-1957, of which bonds might be issued to finance \$1,500,000. This amount was, accordingly, certified to the Planning Board.

In reducing the amount requested for Capital Projects from \$2,757,475 requested to \$1,881,775, this Board did not consider the city's possible guaranty of bonds to be issued by the Parking Authority as having to be included in, the \$2,000,000 limit. These bonds should be self liquidating and the project is placed in our capital budget only because bonds of the Parking Authority do not appear to be saleable without the city's guaranty, despite the original concept of the authority.

Deducting \$225,475 from the \$1,881,775, the projects to be financed by the city itself would total \$1,656,300, leaving a margin of \$343,700 based on the \$2,000,000 limit.

This margin, we felt to be necessary to allow for possible amendment of the Capital Projects Budget later to reinstate the Convalescent Home Project (\$282,000). The appropriation was limited to money for plans only, because our Board felt there had not been sufficient study of the operation of the facility both from the point of view of costs and the question of where operating responsibility

should be. It may even be that legislative action will be required to clarify this latter point. As to the need of some such facility, we had no question. Postponement for a full year may affect our receipt of Federal funds. We shall, therefore, be glad to consider reinstating the project when the operating questions have been resolved and detailed plans are available.

Of the \$1,881,775, we propose to finance \$417,300 through current taxes, leaving \$1,239,000 to be financed by bonds serviced directly by the city and \$225,475 by bonds serviced through the Parking Authority.

Storm Drains

The Board members feel that the people who have suffered for years with storm water and constant flooding problems should be given relief.

The projects that were approved are projects that were postponed for years. One or more Board members visited proposed storm sewer projects during heavy rainfalls. The Board members would like to see all sections of the city equipped with storm sewers, as funds permit. Generally, however, they felt priority had to be given this year to those sections where serious conditions had existed for the longest time. With the rapid development of the outlying sections of the city, and many requests for sub-divisions, the Board urges that the Planning Board, the Health Officer, and the City Engineer carefully inspect each sub-division, so that developers be required to install storm sewers of sufficient capacity in all sub-divisions. City funds should not be required to correct conditions in new developments.

An over-all survey should also be made of existing streams, brooks and rivers, so that these brooks, rivers and streams may be kept free of debris that restricts the water flow.

Our Board, by a vote of four to two, approved an appropriation of \$50,000 for the project listed as "Flood Control - Rivers and Small Streams." Mr. Gorman and Mr. Hogan opposed the appropriation, not because of lack of merit in the project, but because it had not been clearly enough defined to know how the funds were to be expended or what the ultimate amount required would be. While recognizing this point of view and also that the extent of the work already done by the Army engineers had not yet been evaluated, the majority of our Board felt some start should be made by the city on the work remaining to be done, and approved the appropriation of \$50,000 (reduced from \$100,000) to permit a start, pending the required study of the larger over-all problem.

Because many of the projects were included by the Planning

Board in this year's budget, in response to public sentiment expressed at the Public Hearing on the original proposed budget, we are not satisfied that there has been opportunity, either by that Board or our Board, for study of the reasonableness of the amounts requested in all cases. We have tried to use our best judgment based on admittedly inadequate data in allocating funds to the particular projects.

Highways

Again, we are presented with requests for appropriations in this category without the information required to be made available under Chapter 64 of the Charter. We have repeatedly called attention to this in connection with the Broad Street extension project. The project has been before us on several occasions before. There has been ample time to have the required study made.

Last year, because we considered it advisable to put the Administration in a position to acquire advantageously land which is vacant but which might be improved with buildings if purchase is delayed, we appropriated \$100,000 despite our general objection to purchasing "by negotiation properties for street extension or improvement until the procedure set forth in Chapter 64 of the Stamford Charter is complied with." Although no official report has been made as to the use of these funds, we understand negotiations have been in process for purchase of several unrelated pieces of property. We, therefore, are refusing to approve the appropriation requested for further funds on such a piece-meal basis, but will be glad to consider an appropriation when the procedure provided by the Charter has been put into operation.

In approving the Research Drive project, the same considerations may apply. We are doing so, however, on the assumption that if any land is required by the city for this project, it will be dedicated by the property owners, or, if not, can be obtained at a nominal cost so that the appropriation will be sufficient to complete the entire project. We have seen no engineering study of the project.

In connection with the project labelled, "Bridge Street - Stillwater Road," funds have been denied, as we feel the balance available from last year's appropriation is sufficient to take care of such work as is necessary to make any minor corrections in these roads which safety may indicate.

Park Commission

Our Board is impressed with the Commission's approach to the development of our recreation facilities. Where appropriations have been reduced or denied, it was with no thought of limiting the Commission's work, but, rather, adherence by majority vote of the Board, to the principle of having specific plans before appropriations are made. Where full appropriations were granted, the vote was not always unanimous because of the basic consideration already mentioned.

On these grounds, funds are provided to raze the Pavilion at Cummings Park, but funds for a new structure are denied until the studies being made are completed.

Mr. Hogan and Mr. Stashenko dissented from the vote to appropriate \$15,000 for "Bridges" in connection with the Cove Island Park Project, suggesting that the survey may show a jetty, rather than the present bridge, to be the most logical means of access to the Island, and, at the same time, create a boat basin in the waters impounded back of the jetty.

The item of \$20,000 for beach construction was reduced to \$10,000 consistent with the appropriation for re-sanding Cummings Park beach.

The appropriation requested for landscaping Springdale Park was denied because of funds already available. The Board will consider a further appropriation if it is convinced of the necessity for it after the existing appropriation has been exhausted.

In connection with Chestnut Hill Park land acquisition, appropriation is again deferred pending detailed plans and, again, with the thought that condemnation should be the proper procedure when and if we determine added land to be needed.

Board of Health

Our Board has approved the appropriation for the new Health Building. It suggests, however, that before authorization of the bonds is requested, study be made to see if there are any other functions which might be included under one roof to use the land available most effectively.

Welfare Department

We have already commented on this. We realize the urgency of the need and have reserved a margin to amend the Capital Projects Budget when the questions raised are resolved.

Parking Authority

Many in Stamford felt, perhaps unrealistically, that Section 592 of the Charter would relieve the city of the necessity of pledging its credit to purchase parking lots. Our Board, Mr. Hogan dissenting, concluded that the appropriation should be made, since it appears that straight revenue bonds of our Parking Authority are not likely to be acceptable in the market. We would urge condemnation, rather than negotiation, as the procedure for acquiring this land also.

Where expenditures of this amount are concerned, negotiated purchases cannot help but be subject to question, even though undeserved.

Nicholas J. Gorman, Jr., Chairman

John L. Cameron

Patrick J. Hogan

Isadore M. Mackler

Russell C. Roberts

John Stashenko

1788