

**CITY OF ANSONIA  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN*****Regular Meeting – December 14, 2010***

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***Call to Order***

The Regular Meeting of the Ansonia Board of Aldermen was called to order at 7 p.m. by Aldermanic President Stephen Blume. All those present rose and pledged allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

***Roll Call***

The secretary called the roll:

Edward Adamowski, D1- present  
Robert Duffus, D1 - present  
Jason Bender, D2 - present  
Peter Danielczuk, D2 - present  
Joseph Jeanette, D3- present  
John Marini, R3- present  
Robert Beall, D4 - present

Jerome Fainer, D4 - present  
Spero Jordanides, D5 -absent  
Pasquale Pietrangelo, D5 - absent  
Scott Nihill, D6 - present  
Gene Sharkey, D6 - present  
David Knapp, D7- present  
Stephen Blume, D7 - present

President Blume declared a quorum of 12 present, 2 absent.

***Consideration of Previous Minutes***

Alderman Knapp MOVED to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of November 9 and the Regular Meeting of November 9, 2010 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

***Public Session***

President Blume asked three times if any member of the public wished to address the Board. Being none, he declared the Public Session closed.

***Public Official Session***

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Mayor James Della Volpe

Congratulations once again, President Blume, and good luck to you in the coming year.

We're going to have Ward meetings on January 5 at the ARMS building starting at 7 p.m. for Wards 1 through 5, and on January 6 at Hilltop Hose for Wards 6 and 7.

We have a box on the main level of City Hall for Toys for Tots. It seems to be a little light. Hopefully people can donate toys - there are a lot of needy families in the City of Ansonia. We've been fortunate to donate the ATP building and the Palmer building for Toys for Tots so they can distribute the toys. It's been very light here at City Hall, and hopefully some members of the Board can drop some toys off.

I would like to congratulate the Ansonia High School Football team for the fine season that they had. I would like to congratulate the coaches and all players. We are certainly proud of them even though they fell short in the championship game against St. Joseph's. They certainly made the City proud.

I went before the Board of Education earlier this month and talked about our agreement to have solar panels installed at the Ansonia High School. Those are going to be installed in the Spring. They are not intrusive and there is a cost savings of almost 11 percent. We look forward to more green work within the City. There is an audit being done of all municipal and school buildings - it should be completed by the end of this year. We'll have a report by February or March. There is no cost to the City regarding the solar panels - this project is going to be close to \$800,000 project. It will be great; we'll be able to save money.

Tonight you'll see in Appointments, a School Building Commission is being reinstated. There was a meeting earlier with the Board of Education and members of the Board of Aldermen were there. We discussed the condition of the roof at the Board of Education offices, Prendergast, Mead and the Middle School. We are told that Prendergast is in dire need of a new roof. I think it's very important that this Commission gets reinstated, that they start to meet and act on fixing these buildings. We have a good bond rating right now and should be looking for some creative financing to fund this project.

The Mayor's luncheon will be this Thursday from 11:30 to 1.

There is no bulk pickup for the next three months. Winter is here; I would ask all Aldermen to monitor the roads for snow removal. If there is a problem, please notify Public Works and the Mayor's Office.

This past month we had the Christmas Tree Lighting which was very successful. It seems to be growing each year - more and more people are attending and coming into downtown Ansonia, which is great.

Also, this past month the Armory was in use, the No Vets Left Behind used it for a stand down last Friday. They had close to 1,000 attend from what I was told.

Also, the Northstar Organization, which is a special needs organization for boys and girls within the Valley, used the Armory for their annual Christmas party.

We held a Veterans Day ceremony and Pearl Harbor ceremonies next door in Veterans Park.

Alderman Sharkey stated, while we don't have a bulk pickup, we still see some people that may not know the rules are putting out old sofas and things on the curb. Do we still call Public Works to pick them up?

Mayor Della Volpe stated, obviously we don't want bulk out there during the Holiday season, so we will send Public Works out to pick them up.

Alderman Danielczuk stated, I'll call tomorrow - there's been a couch and loveseat on Beaver Street, just above Santini's, for about a week and a half.

President Blume stated, we spent a lot of time working on this grant for the solar panels, and it kind of died because no money was available. Then all of a sudden it was here again, and it had to be acted on at the last Board of Education meeting, if not we would have lost it. Like the Mayor said, it was about \$800,000. The Mayor was instrumental in making sure that the people were there and the vote went through for this for the kids and for the City. If he didn't do that, we might have lost it.

Mayor Della Volpe wished everybody a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

President Blume thanked Mayor Della Volpe.

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Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

There will be no Executive Session tonight. The only thing I have is that list of choices here, when I did the resolution I didn't have the most recent revised front page, but resolution number three on the flood dikes, it should say "revised to December 2010," it says "November." That's the only thing you have to be sure to correct.

President Blume thanked Corporation Counsel Blake.

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Chief Kevin Hale

Just a reminder, Winter Parking rules are in effect - even side of the streets - from December 1<sup>st</sup> through March 30<sup>th</sup>. That doesn't change, this is the second year we've done that so if there are any questions please let your constituents know.

Along those lines again, if when you're out talking to people in your Wards and throughout the City, please ask them if they see something suspicious, to call. We're hearing it again, "We heard something, we saw something, but I don't want to bother you." We're there 24/7, that's what we're there for so please ask and tell them to call us. It may be something, it may be nothing, it may be something. You hear those commercials on the radio now and it's true, let us go out and figure out whether it's worth something or not.

And then later on in your appointments I have got a couple comments to make.

Alderman Fainer stated, I would just like to thank the Chief. Last month I asked him to take care of a couple things for me and he took care of them right away as he usually does and I appreciate it, Chief. Thank you very much.

President Blume thanked Chief Hale.

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Joseph Miller - Comptroller

The audit is winding down. The auditors have been informed that they have to file by December 30<sup>th</sup> because City Hall is closed on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

Saturday I attended a CCM meeting concerning the 2011-2012 budgets. The only thing that everyone agreed upon is we've got challenges facing us. The person leading the discussion said count on a 10 percent reduction in State grants. Utilities are going up, medical insurance is going up, and we're going to have less income from the State of Connecticut. Over the years our undesignated surplus should be 5 percent of the budget and it is. The State would like to see it go higher; tough economic times. So, it's a budget decision that's got to be made, but you're facing a 10 percent reduction in state grants and the ECS grant alone is \$1.5 million.

Happy Holidays people.

President Blume thanked Mr. Miller.

### ***Committee Reports***

#### ***Finance Committee - Alderman Gene Sharkey***

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to pay all bills if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0

Alderman Sharkey stated, we are trying to set the dates for the meeting of the Finance Committee with all the department heads so we can start on our budget process. That probably has to start, I think, the first one is like the 13<sup>th</sup> of January or something. All members of the Finance Committee will be getting the dates and what nights we're meeting and everybody else is welcome to sit

in and hear all of the discussions and the questions that we have of the department heads so I'll make sure Steve gets the dates out to everybody, somehow we'll get it out on e-mail so everybody knows when the dates will be.

Alderman Danielczuk MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Alderman Duffus stated, last night the Salary Committee met and basically what we decided was that we need to make an amendment for the non-salary employees by having a stipend being deleted for those positions so I hope during Communication three I'll clearly take that up and ask that.

Alderman Fainer MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

*Alderman John Marini - Economic Development Committee*

Alderman Marini stated, we will have a draft of the survey that the committee has worked on to go out to all the businesses in Ansonia seeking information, data, to basically build a good database, to understand our business community by the next meeting. We have a final draft, which I've seen. We're going to send the draft to the Mayor and it will be before this Board at our January meeting.

Additionally, we've received the first bit of interest from our film tour that we conducted back in the summer. There is a production company out of New York that is interested in doing something at the Armory and they will be sort of taking a walk through of the Armory tomorrow morning and of course I'll keep you updated.

Alderman Danielczuk MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Beall. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

***Municipal Reports / Annual Reports***

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept all municipal and annual reports, dispense with the reading and place them on file; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

***Tax Refunds***

Alderman Nihill MOVED to grant the refunds for the month of November in the amount of \$1,090.27 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

***Claims***

11-10-770 Cedar Assoc.  
11-10-771 Joseph Simon - Personal Injuries  
12-10-772 G. Warren Lawson  
12-10-773 Dolores Ligouri - Damage from Pothole to Car

Alderman Bender MOVED to forward to Corporation Counsel Blake; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, on the damage from the pothole to the car, my understanding is that this happened on Main Street, which I consider a State road so I think it should be forwarded to the State Department of Transportation, not the City.

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to send Claim 12-10-773 to the State DOT; SECONDED by Alderman Bender. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

***Communications and Late Communication***

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept all of the communications and two late communications, dispense with the reading, and place them on file. If an Alderman wishes one read or acted upon, the communications will be brought up individually in their order on the agenda; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

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**Communication #1**

From: Alderman Gene Sharkey, Chairman, Ansonia Fire Commission  
Re: Appointment - Michael Eheman - 4<sup>th</sup> Assistant Fire Chief

Alderman Sharkey read the communication aloud as follows:

To the members of the Board of Aldermen from the Ansonia Fire Commission, The Ansonia Fire Commission is pleased to recommend for nomination and approval by the Board of Aldermen Michael P. Eheman for the position of Fourth Assistant Chief of the Ansonia Fire Department effective January 1, 2011. Michael Eheman is a dedicated member of the Ansonia Fire Department, he has been a member for many years. He has held several positions in the department and is currently serving as Top Chief of the Ansonia Fire Department. Michael resides at 15 South Cliff Street in Ansonia with his family. He was voted to this position by the membership of the Webster Hose, Hook, and Ladder Company Number 3 to represent their company on June 2, 2010. The Ansonia Fire Commission supports the nomination of Michael P. Eheman as the Fourth Assistant Fire Chief for the City of Ansonia. They request for the Board of Alderman to approve his nomination.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to approve the appointment of Michael Eheman of 15 South Cliff Street as 4<sup>th</sup> Assistant Fire Chief; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

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Communication #2

From: Chief of Police Kevin Hale

Re: Bid for New Digital Recording System

Alderman Nihill MOVED, per the recommendation of Chief Kevin Hale, to award the bid to Business Electronics Inc. The low bidder was not in compliance with the requirements of the bid. SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

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Communication #3

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

Re: Salary Resolutions for Non-Union Personnel

See Late Resolution.

***Late Communications***

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept Late Communications 1 and 2; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer.

***Public Session on Late Communications***

President Blume asked three times if any member of the public wished to address the Board. Being none he declared the public session closed.

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Late Communication #1

From Chairman John Finnucan, Board of Public Works

Re: Bid Award - Scrap Metal

Alderman Nihill MOVED, per the recommendation of the Board of Public Works, to award the bid to Sims Metal Management, the highest bidder for scrap metal - highest bidder meaning we're going to get paid the most - 92 percent of the American metal market value for scrap metal; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

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Late Communication #2

From Mayor Della Volpe

Vehicle Lease

Alderman Sharkey stated, the request is that we lease a car from Fitzpatrick's of Ansonia; leasing a 2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo. The lease would

actually go down in price from \$525 a month that he is currently paying, to \$484 and it's a 36-month lease. I recommend if that's what they want to go with, that's fine. In the past up until this point, we've always purchased a car. I don't know why all of a sudden we're leasing them but when this came up last year it went before the Board of Apportionment and Taxation and they decided to lease it I think. This will be only the second time we've ever leased the Mayor's car.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, ever since 2000 they've been leased.

Alderman Sharkey stated, we purchased them. In fact there's one sitting downstairs that our Blight Officer is driving. This will be only the second time we've ever leased a Mayor's car.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to approve the lease; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp.

President Blume stated, it's good that the Mayor is staying in town with a local dealer.

Alderman Nihill stated, I just wanted to second your thoughts about giving a local business the business from City Hall. I think it's a good idea and also point out that we are going to be saving \$41 a month with the new lease.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Danielczuk).

### ***Resignation***

Letter of Resignation from Michael Savrany, Ansonia Cultural Commission; read aloud by Town and City Clerk Madeline Bottone as follows:

*Please accept this letter as my resignation from the Ansonia Cultural Commission. I will be resigning from the Ansonia Cultural Commission as of January 1, 2011. The reason for my resignation is I have been truly blessed to be a new homeowner in the City of West Haven, Connecticut and in order to avoid any conflict of interest because of my relocation, I feel it is only right to step down as an appointed volunteer to the Cultural Commission. In the year that I have served the people of Ansonia as Chairman, I was fortunate enough to lead a wonderful group of people on the Cultural Commission to a successful year of events. We harvested the many cultures that Ansonia has through music, dance, literature, and lots of planning. I leave you a footprint that will lead the way to the appreciation of the many cultures Ansonia has. Adios, Amigos. Goodbye my friends. God Bless Ansonia.*

Alderman Fainer MOVED to accept the resignation and send him a letter of thanks for his service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

***Appointments***

Town and City Clerk Madeline Bottone read aloud Mayor James Della Volpe's appointments as outlined in his letter of December 14, 2010, as follows:

Community Development Forum

Alderman Marini MOVED to reappoint Jackie Blount of 80 Hull Street, reappointment term to expire February 28, 2011; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to appoint William (Peter) F. Gray of 27 Hoinski Way, Williams replacement, term to expire February 28, 2011; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Fair Housing Committee

Alderman Fainer MOVED to appoint Michele Gandy of 15 Tomlinson Street, appointment to fill a vacancy, term to expire February 28, 2011; SECONDED by Alderman Beall. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 1 No (Duffus).

School Building Commission (two-year terms)

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to appoint Tara Kolakowski of 14 Farrel Drive, term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Danielczuk. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Alderman Marini MOVED to appoint Robert Evans of 2 Glen Ridge Drive, term to expire December 31, 2012; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Alderman Danielczuk MOVED to appoint William Nimons of 85 Pulaski Highway, term to expire December 31, 2012; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to appoint John Lawlor of 8 Michael Street, term to expire December 31, 2012; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Alderman Danielczuk MOVED to appoint George Boath of 10 Dempsey Court, term to expire December 31, 2012; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to appoint Gale Banks of 39 Elm Street, term to expire December 31, 2012; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to appoint Ms. Fran DiGiorgi of 6 Elliott Road, term to expire December 31, 2012; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Alderman Marini MOVED to appoint Edward Norman of 51 Grove Street, term to expire December 31, 2012; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to appoint Richard Sturges of 25 Crestwood Road, term to expire December 31, 2012; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to appoint John Marini of 6 South Cliff Street, term to expire December 31, 2012; SECONDED by Alderman Beall. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Marini).

Alderman Nihill MOVED to appoint Eugene T. Sharkey of 4 Pin Oak Lane, term to expire December 31, 2012; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Sharkey).

Alderman Knapp MOVED to appoint Stephen Blume of 58 Hoinsky Way, term to expire December 31, 2012; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Blume).

#### Ansonia Police Department

Chief Hale stated, tonight is an important night for the Police Department and for the City and you may not know why but I'll explain it to you in a minute. We recently completed a promotional testing exam for the position of Sergeant, and Jen Pella, standing before you tonight, finished number 1 and it was the Mayor's decision to send her name to you for appointment tonight. Jen has been on the job for 8 years, she served 4 years as School Resource Officer at Ansonia High School and did a phenomenal job up there. She is a certified POSTC Instructor; she is also one of our lead forensic investigators when it comes to sexual assault cases, very difficult cases. I'm very proud to stand here tonight and talk about Jen to you. If you don't know her, you need to get to know her; she does a terrific job. She's a dynamic individual. I'm very proud to have her name in front of you tonight and this will be the first time in the history of the City that a woman is appointed to the rank of Sergeant. So I think it's a big night and I certainly hope for everybody's approval for Jen.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to approve the appointment of Officer Jennifer Pella as Police Sergeant; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Applause rang throughout the forum.

***Resolutions***

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## Resolution #1

Re: Authorize Mayor to execute documents to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

Alderman Nihill MOVED to adopt the resolution and authorize the Mayor to sign any and all documents for the State of Connecticut DEMHS; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

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## Resolution #2

Re: Authorize Mayor to execute and file appeal with the Connecticut Department of Economic Development to undertake Ansonia Nature and Recreation Center Project

Alderman Fainer MOVED to adopt the resolution; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

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## Resolution #3

Re: Adoption of Resolution and Maintenance Manual for Flood Protection Works

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, again, the last paragraph should say "December," not "November."

Alderman Nihill MOVED to adopt the resolution; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

***Late Resolution***

Alderman Nihill MOVED to accept Late Resolution #1; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

***Public Session on Late Resolution***

President Blume asked three times if any member of the public wished to speak. Being none, he declared the public session closed.

Alderman Sharkey explained, last month we adopted the resolution, this same resolution, but I think it covered 41 people we were taking about and I think we estimated about \$16,000. We went back and revisited this and we removed numerous people from that resolution. This is a much-pared down resolution from where we were before. We eliminated everybody that was covered by this original resolution of which I have a copy, which is seven pages long. We took out all the people covered by stipends. Now what a stipend is, is if you work one minute or you work one hundred hours, you get the same pay.

So those people were included by mistake in our resolution last month. So what we did was went back and took that out. We're not giving 3 percent raises to everybody that's covered by a stipend. So I don't have a figure of how much this is worth but it's worth much less than the one we did last month. We met as a Salary Committee last night, went over each and every person that is covered by stipends and we took those all out and the only thing we want to do is go forward with this per diem. So I make a motion we adopt this amended resolution.

And also, we had three people that were not covered by this. We have the Secretary of Board of Aldermen, we have the Secretary of Planning and Zoning and we have the Secretary of Apportionment and Taxation. Some haven't had a raise in 3 years. So, we want to make sure those people are considered in here and the only raise they would be getting was 1.5 percent, the same as we gave the others. They're included in this resolution.

Alderman Marini stated, Mr. President, my objection to the underlying resolution stands and that's not on the table today. I just wanted to bring up maybe a point going forward. I think it's important that any time a resolution like this comes up with a price tag on it, that we do have a grip, a very exact grip on what the figure is. I understand it seems the Salary Committee doesn't have the exact number of what the cost is. I think it's very important that we do know what our numbers are and I'm a little disheartened to know that we don't have, after all this time, a grip on what the number is. I would love to be able to compare the number of this amendment versus the number on the old resolution. It seems that we really can't do that without firm numbers. I guess that's a concern going forwards.

Alderman Sharkey stated, it's a concern that the Salary Committee raised last night too. They didn't have it, they estimated the other one to be \$16,000. We're trying to clear this up before the start of the new year because some of these take effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>. I apologize, but I'm not the person in charge of getting the numbers, we are in charge of getting it straightened out. One other thing we discussed as a Salary Committee is that we will visit these at a much earlier date in the future.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED TO ADOPT the amended resolution; SECONDED by Alderman Beall. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Alderman	Yes	No	Abstain
Adamowski			X
Duffus	X		
Bender	X		
Danielczuk	X		
Jeanette	X		
Marini		X	

Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Nihill	X		
Sharkey	X		
Knapp	X		
Blume	X		
<b>Totals:</b>	10	1	1

The MOTION PASSED by a vote of 10 Yes, 1 No, and 1 Abstention.

### ***Unfinished Business***

None presented.

### ***New Business***

Alderman Jeanette asked, is there any way we could look into getting sidewalks along Pulaski Highway and down Hill Street? Can we do anything?

President Blume stated, we could talk to the representatives, I would think.

Alderman Marini stated, there might be a grant.

Alderman Jeanette stated, I'm scared for these kids. Let's keep on going after it, and maybe the State will get sick of hearing us. I see it every day, and it's very scary.

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to send a letter to our State Representatives requesting sidewalks along Pulaski Highway and down Hill Street; SECONDED by Alderman Beall.

Alderman Knapp stated, they've been out and done studies, traffic counts, and all that hocus pocus, Joe.

Alderman Jeanette stated, when somebody gets hurt then they'll do something. And it will be too late.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Alderman Fainer stated, tomorrow night at the Charter Hose at 6:30 there's a block watch meeting. It seems to be going over pretty well since we started it.

Alderman Adamowski stated, the First Ward also started a block watch; we had our first meeting last week. We had a fairly decent turnout so, hopefully we'll do as well as the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward.

President Blume stated, last Saturday morning I was called at 6:30 a.m. I went to Ansonia Nature Center for 7:00, met Louis Mazzerolle in his yard. Ansonia Nature Center received a grant and the Director went out and she had a very large parking lot put in across from the Red Wing House, very large parking lot. As a matter of fact this parking lot goes all the way back to the gardens. I don't know why there is a need for such a large parking lot. The work that was done caused Mr. Mazzerolle's land to be flooded - really flooded. His land is ponded now and I know that if anytime, anybody interferes with the Nature Center there's a hell to pay. It seems this time the Nature Center interfered with him. He has lived there 40 years. I have met with him four or five times over things that are going on at the Nature Center. This is a disgrace. He has some funny looking trees and the water is this high on the trees, I don't know if they're fig trees or some kind of special trees but you could see the land, you don't have to be an engineer. Every time it rains, especially in the winter, it's all going to freeze. So, I would like to have someone make a motion that we send the director of the Nature Center, Donna Lindgren, a letter telling her that she could take some of this \$40,000 that she got and bring somebody in there and, I'm not an engineer, but it seems like they need a trench and a pipe with some holes in it and put the rocks on top of it, whatever has to be done. She needs to keep her water off of this guy's private property, he's a taxpayer, he's a good guy. He went to a lawyer, I told him to hold off on the lawyer. We stopped the lawyer, we don't need any of that. I'm sure we can resolve this without having to go to court or paying a lawyer. So I need a motion to be made, I can't make a motion, to send her a letter from this Board instructing her that ever since she's had this parking lot made, this gentleman's land is under water and she needs to correct this immediately.

Alderman Marini stated, I agree that a letter should be sent, but we should make an effort to sit down with her too. We probably have an obligation to help her figure out what the solution should be rather than just leave it.

President Blume stated, I'm not going to leave it, I'm sure it's pretty simple. The gentleman did approach her and she just...

Alderman Marini stated, this is the same individual, Mr. President, that had a problem with the gating around the garden. So he's actually been [inaudible].

President Blume stated, he's been there for 40 years. He is under a flood.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to send a letter to the Director of the Ansonia Nature Center; SECONDED by Alderman Danielczuk. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

*Adjournment*

Alderman Beall MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary  
Ansonia Board of Aldermen