



CITY OF ANSONIA
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Regular Meeting – January 11, 2011

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 - absent
Jason Bender, D2 - absent
Peter Danielczuk, D2 - present
Joseph Jeanette, D3- present
John Marini, R3- present
Robert Beall, D4 - absent

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 9 present, 5 absent.

Consideration of Previous Minutes

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of December 14th Organizational, December 14th Regular, and December 28th Special Meetings if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Public Session

President Blume asked three times if any member of the public wished to address the Board.

Richard Wade, President, Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center

Back on January 5th I submitted a letter to the Board of Aldermen regarding the flooding of 22 Milan Road in Ansonia. The letter, which reads as follows, it's to the Ansonia Board of Aldermen:

Dear Board Members,

I am writing in reference to the Board of Aldermen meeting that took place on December 14, 2010 regarding the property of Louis Mazzerolle at 22 Milan Street with the reference to the alleged flooding of his land due to the expansion of the parking lot near his home. It was noted in the minutes, that a motion was made to use funds from the \$40,000 grant received by the Friends of Ansonia Nature Center Inc. (FANCI) from the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven to amen Mr. Mazzerolle's flooding issue. Donna Lindgren subsequently received a letter dated December 15 stating this position.

I have enclosed a copy of the Terms of Agreement from the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven which states the conditions surrounding this grant. The \$40,000 may only be used to support the start up and first year of operation for a nature based preschool at the Redwing Pond House located at the Ansonia Nature and Recreation Center. These funds cannot be used for any repair or construction to the subject parking lot in accordance with The Terms and Agreement wit the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven.

Respectfully, Rich Wade, President, Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center

The second thing, I have received an agreement between the City of Ansonia and the Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center, regarding the opening of the Redwing Pond House as a nature-based preschool. What I would like is to curtail on signing this until we have counsel review the agreement. Hopefully we can resolve it after we go over the agreement.

President Blume stated, Mr. Wade, can I ask you a question? This parking lot was built - that's City land. Who decided to build this parking lot?

Mr. Wade replied, I understand that was between the Ansonia Nature Center and the City of Ansonia; not the Friends. That money was from the City; not from the Friends.

President Blume stated, I'm just trying to find out who ordered this parking lot built?

Mr. Wade replied, I don't know. It was not the Friends.

President Blume thanked Mr. Wade.

Jim Frolish, Ansonia Police Department Union President

I just wanted to come down and let you know that we are supporting the agreement between us and Seymour to share private duty. The Police Commissioners also support it. I think you have a letter in front of you that states that. I don't know if you have any questions for me pertaining to it.

I just want to let you know that the union is supporting it. I talked to the Union President in Seymour and they are also supporting it.

Alderman Jeanette asked, when you do private duty, for roadwork, do Ansonia officers get first choice for Ansonia jobs?

Mr. Frolish replied, yes. We fill our jobs ourselves first and then if we cant we'll call Seymour. Seymour was the ones that contacted us because they are having a hard time filling their jobs.

Michael Egan, 103 Benz Street

I understand that the budget is something that is being discussed and worked on at this time. I would like to ask each individual here to keep the working people in the City in mind. I notice in the paper where the Education people are asking for a substantial increase which they do every year. I think if you're making the triple-figure salaries that they are, then they're in a little different ballpark than most of the working people are. I hope you keep that in mind. I'm not trying to put anybody in a defensive position. I understand by reading articles in the paper, letters to the editor and stuff that some individuals do get very defensive when the people speak out against the high taxes that we have in this City. I hope that each of you do consider the working retired people - the taxpaying people who support the City. Thank you.

President Blume asked if anyone wished to address the Board. Being none, he declared the Public Session closed.

Public Official Session

Mayor James Della Volpe

Before I start I would like to recognize Dr. Nanavati, a Veterinarian from Seymour and has done much work in the City of Ansonia. He is a humanitarian, he is tremendous with animals, we are very proud of him and I want to recognize him. Other towns and cities have within the Valley. I have this Certificate of Appreciation for the doctor, and I'd like to read it.

Certificate of Appreciation

This is to express our deep appreciation for your efforts in assisting the Animal Control Officer, Jean Roslonowski, the Police Department, and the citizens of Ansonia for the past 30 years. Your dedication and humanitarian service to Ansonia provided through your compassion and care for the animals, and without your generous heart would otherwise be cast aside and could never be measured. Dr. Nanavati's charitable work runs far and wide, extended throughout the Valley towns and as far away as Haiti by collecting supplies to ship to earthquake victims. We in Ansonia know what a kind heart and soul you possess and are extremely

lucky to have you as a member of our community. On behalf of the City of Ansonia please accept my heartfelt thanks for your dedication and deep commitment to serving the citizens in such an unselfish and caring manner.

[Applause rang throughout the forum].

Dr. Nanavati thanked the Mayor. He explained that he came here in 1980 and started a practice in Derby in a small shop. From there he moved to Ansonia, and then Seymour. He traveled around to many surrounding communities treating the animals of people that could not afford to pay, and spends a lot of time trying to help the poor.

President Blume thanked Dr. Nanavati.

Mayor DellaVolpe continued. I want to give an update on the snow removal. We've had nine snow events so far this winter season. Our sand and salt balance right now is \$64,597. We started at \$72,000. Our overtime is down to \$16,725 and with the impending storm I'm sure we'll go through that in the next couple of days.

I would like to congratulate the incoming Fire Chief, Ron Burgess, who is here with us. Good luck to you, Ron. [Applause].

I would like to congratulate Mike Eheman for his work for the past two years; he's done a great job. It's my understanding that he's staying on as an Assistant Fire Chief, so we're looking forward to working with him.

Last night I had the pleasure of being at the Ansonia Middle School for the dedication of the cafeteria to Phyllis Hunt. Phyllis Hunt worked at the old Ansonia High School, which is now the Middle School, from the early 60s through 1991. I think it was a wonderful tribute. She had to feed close to 1,200 children at the time with less equipment, less staffing, and less than what we have now. It was a tremendous tribute to her; she's a wonderful lady.

I would also like to commend our Police Chief, our Fire Chief, the Superintendent of Schools, and all the firemen, police officers, emergency service people that responded to the two bomb scares that we had last week at Mead School and Prendergast School. We had a plan and it was well organized and well executed. I'd like to thank you. The boys and girls came out of Mead School and they were escorted down the street with fire officers, police officers and the staff at the schools. They were very orderly. And once they got to Prendergast, we then received a second bomb scare. So now we have 1,400 children out in the playground. They were well behaved. The teaching staff had everything under control. I'm very proud of the work that our people did. We did have a meeting - sort of a debriefing to make sure that we covered everything. There were a few irate parents, but that's to be expected when you're dealing with 1,400 students. Overall it went very well. Like I said, we

had a debriefing and there were some things that we're going to address. We're not going to make it public but there are some things that we're going to take care of. Once again, on behalf of the City, I'd like to thank each and every one of you that participated or were involved.

With the upcoming storm, people have asked if we're going to have a parking ban. We're not going to have a parking ban. We have rules and regulations in place to our parking. It's a very difficult time to make people park their cars in city-owned and/or privately-owned lots. There are very few. In the old days when we had the neighborhood schools and we didn't have so many cars we were able to utilize the schools and park the cars and get them off the street. Nowadays with the two- and three-family homes that we have within our wards it's very difficult because most of them have four to eight cars and there's no place to park them. Lincoln School is no longer there; Peck School is no longer there. It's very inconvenient. If there is an emergency for that individual they would have to go a long way. I think it would be more hazardous if they did park in a lot and they had to walk to it, especially in a storm, if they had to get to work and/or if there is an emergency. So there is no parking ban. I'm hoping, and we put it on our website, that we act as good neighbors. If we have room in our yard to let other people park there. If you know of anybody that's elderly and unable to clear their own driveway or sidewalks or need any type of service, please call the Mayor's Office and/or City Hall or Public Works or the Police Department or the Fire Department because they'll be on duty also, and we'll get out there to help in any way we can.

President Blume thanked Mayor Della Volpe.

Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

I have nothing to report this month.

President Blume thanked Corporation Counsel Blake.

Police Chief Kevin Hale

I met with the Mayor today, I met with Mike Schryver today to talk about the parking ban, and we agreed that it creates more difficulties in a storm. Officers have been out in the past 48 hours tagging and removing cars that have been snowed-in. We've been working on that all along. Now that we're getting these big storms you really see them. They cleared out quite a number yesterday and a number more today. People have been pretty cooperative and pretty receptive to that for the most part.

As an update on the incidents at the two schools last week, it was a coordinated effort that went pretty well. We did an after action meeting yesterday to discuss it. We went through what's good and what can be better, and what to do in the future should it ever happen again. All in all that came together

pretty well. Moving that amount of students and staff in an orderly fashion over a period of a couple of hours showed that everybody was cooperating.

President Blume stated, this agreement between Ansonia and Seymour - the advertising. It says "we estimate that the cost of publishing the agreement each time in a daily paper is \$1,000." How many times does it have to be published?

Chief Hale replied, there are minimum requirements and they are legal notices. I know when we go out to bid, and Joe could probably answer this better than I can, but they're \$500 to \$1,000 just on a legal notice.

President Blume asked, why do we have to publish it?

Chief Hale replied, it has to be treated as an Ordinance.

Mr. Frolish stated, there is up to five times they publish it. I don't know how big the agreement is, but whatever was decided, that's how big the agreement is.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, I believe at least two times it will have to be "as is" in the paper. We do that with all of our ordinances, and it's very expensive. The Ordinance Committee has to do it, we have to go there and go to the Board of Aldermen to get it approved, just like we do an ordinance, this will go to the same board.

Alderman Sharkey stated, that means to adopt this you're going to publish it twice.

President Blume thanked Chief Hale.

Joseph Miller - Comptroller

If you opened up your mailbox today, you received two copies of the audit. The first one is the state single audit that pertains to the grants that we get from the federal and state government. Next is the big audit of the City, the Board of Education and the WPCA.

Budget meetings have started; I'm sure Alderman Sharkey will have more to say. The tentative budget has to be published on February 3rd, talking about The New Haven Register. The Finance Committee has to turn the tentative budget over to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation on Tuesday, February 8th at your meeting because of the Charter change. The timetable has moved up as far as the Board of Aldermen goes, yet the Board of Apportionment and Taxation has until the third Monday in May to set the budget.

President Blume thanked Mr. Miller.

Donna Lindgren, Director, Ansonia Nature Center

I received a letter from the Board dated December 15th following your meeting on December 14th. In your meeting, your president was, having paid a visit to the neighbor to the Nature Center, said I should be sent a letter.

I was to say the least surprised and dismayed when I received it. Not one of you called me, or asked for an appointment, or came to see the Nature Center as far as I know. I've taken the trouble to take some photographs with my staff of the parking lot in question and I would like my letter read into the record, please.

Ansonia Board of Aldermen,

In response to your letter of December 15, 2010, I would like to make several points relating to the complaint made by Mr. Mazerolle at 22 Milan Street and reported by Board President Stephen Blume at your last meeting on December 14, 2010.

On the day that Mr. Mazerolle flagged me down in the street to look at the water in his back yard, it was raining heavily, and flood warnings were issued for the State of Connecticut and beyond due to remnants of Tropical Storm Nicole that drenched the state. (I've enclosed a report from the weather service and the news media in your packet)

Please bear in mind that the once rare "hundred year storms" are now taking place much more frequently due to global climate changes presently occurring, and this fact may be important to keep in mind regarding water-related issues in the future.

The Ansonia Public Works Department, at my request, (at my request), and in preparation for the installation of spilt-rail fencing, recommended grading the site which would do two things; level the uneven surface and simultaneously remove the aggressive growth of Artemisia (sp.), a declared invasive plant species, per the State of Connecticut. In the process, they also moved a large old tree, which had been cut up by the Public Works Department and placed there several years previously.

Incidentally, it is no accident that both the park's vehicular parking areas are of pervious gravel surfaces. The fact is that unpaved surfaces control storm water runoff and prevent flooding by absorbing storm water and preventing non-point source pollution.

Paid for with a Connecticut State grant and in cooperation and conjunction with our grant writer/administrator and Public Works Department the improved and newly-delineated parking area was ordered to service three groups of park users; the Ansonia Community Organic

Gardeners, the staff, parents and visitors to the Redwing Pond House, and Ansonia Nature Center trail users. (See enclosure 2&3).

If the alleged water problem on the Mazerolle property can be attributed to the Nature Center's grading and fence installation, I am confident that the Ansonia Public Works Department has the means, equipment and talent to solve the problem. For instance, a rain garden can be installed to intercept any runoff, or a simple berm installed and planted with shrubs and/or trees, or as a last resort a swale can be fashioned or a drainage system, using a perforated pipe. I can offer my service for plans for a rain garden if you would like, and you can see one located adjacent to the Redwing Pond House.

Also, please be advised that the \$40,000 grant recently received by the Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center, Inc. will not be used to satisfy this complaint as suggested in your minutes of December 14, 2010. The purpose of the grant is for the exclusive use of the Friends.

*Sincerely,
Donna Lindgren, Director Ansonia Nature and Recreation Center,
aka the woman that controls the water at the Nature Center.*

I have been working there for 30 years. I think I am owed an apology. I don't think I've done anything wrong. I did this in cooperation and conjunction with our Public Works Department and the grant writer.

President Blume stated, let me ask you a question. Who gave you the power to do that? That is City land.

Mrs. Lindgren replied, I am the Director of the Ansonia Nature Center.

President Blume stated, that's right. And that land belongs to the City.

Mrs. Lindgren replied, that's correct.

President Blume stated, you had no business...

Mrs. Lindgren interjected, and I was hired to manage the Ansonia Nature Center.

President Blume stated, not to build a parking lot. That at least should have gone to the Mayor's Office. It didn't even go there. And Mike Schryver is also to blame; he had no business doing it. Second of all, it did cause a problem, a rain problem, on that man's property. It was raining the day I went there.

Mrs. Lindgren stated, I don't believe that.

President Blume stated, well I was there. It's a flood. His land was flooded.

Mrs. Lindgren stated, I've been there 30 years. The whole State of Connecticut was flooded.

President Blume stated, I saw it. We could argue all day long. First of all, you didn't have any right to build a parking lot on that property, to expand it or anything else. Very simple. That is City land and you needed to come here.

Mrs. Lindgren stated, I disagree with you.

President Blume stated, we can have Corporation Counsel Blake give us a ruling on this. It's ridiculous.

Alderman Marini stated, I'm just a little confused. I know at our last meeting when we talked about sending a letter, I specifically mentioned that we need to also contact Donna and the Nature Center to make sure we're just not sending off a letter and leaving them in the dark. I know I was assured that we would be doing that. It seems like we're hashing out what should have been done at a meeting between last meeting and this month now, here. It seems like that suggestion I made didn't go anywhere. I mentioned we needed more than a letter and it seems like there was no follow up there; we didn't do that.

Mrs. Lindgren stated, when the Redwing Pond House was constructed 14 years ago, there was a parking lot installed. All we did this time was delineate the parking area by putting in a split-rail fence.

President Blume stated, you made the parking lot larger toward the back.

Mrs. Lindgren stated, it was always the same size.

Alderman Marini stated, I think we should clarify this Board's position. I obviously think we need to work with the Nature Center to resolve it, and I think we need to work with Public Works to identify if there's a problem, and if so, how to fix it. I don't think it's appropriate to take funds or propose that funds be taken from the grant. It's not in the parameters of what the grant's there for - it's not what we should be aiming for. I think the Board needs to clarify what its position is and what we're asking.

President Blume stated, we can't use the funds; we know that. Public Works has to fix it. It's more work for them. I don't think it should have been done in the first place.

Committee Reports

Fire Committee - Alderman Gene Sharkey

As the Mayor mentioned, due to the storm that they're predicting, two to three inches possibly an hour starting at midnight, I'd like to let people know that all

the fire houses will be manned from 10 o'clock on tonight until the storm is over.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

ARMS Committee - Alderman Jerome Fainer

For the year 2010 we dispatched a total of 2,736 calls. We transported 1,888 calls. We were very busy. I'd like to let the City know that our new ambulance arrived today. It's here for a couple of hours and it will go to get the radios installed. I'd like to thank the Mayor, Board President Stephen Blume, my fellow ARMS Commissioner Alderman Scott Nihill, and Jared Heon for all the hard work it took to get that ambulance here. I'd like to thank the members of the Board of Apportionment and Taxation. We really appreciate it. We really needed the ambulance. As you see we're quite busy and we do need the ambulance. As far as the storm goes, we only had one crew on for the overnight to 6 a.m. I assigned another crew for tonight. Thank you.

Alderman Danielczuk MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Finance Committee - Alderman Gene Sharkey

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to pay all bills if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Sharkey stated, as Mr. Miller mentioned, we've started the budget hearings, meeting with all the people. It's very important that all the committee members please attend the meetings. The schedule is out. We are meeting again Thursday night and again the following Monday at 6 o'clock. It's very important. Contrary to some people that think we just give away the City and just pass out this money, we really don't. We really try to come up with what we consider a good budget for the Board of Apportionment and Taxation to then take and work further on.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman John Marini

President Blume stated, Alderman Marini, I've asked our Comptroller to put a list of all of the meetings in your mailbox. I know I told you about the first one but didn't know that you didn't get the rest. It's in your mailbox today - the list of meetings and what time.

Alderman Marini stated, regarding the Finance report - I think it's great that we're going over the budget now and certainly I think the Finance Committee is

going through these budgets to make sure we're doing right by the City's residents. But I think it would be great if we could go one step beyond, if the Finance Committee and this Board as a whole identify ways to save beyond just making sure the budget is as tight as possible. I know when the budget came up last year, one of the things I said was we need to take a look at innovative ideas for savings. All the members of the Board should contribute to that.

In terms of what we can look at, I think there are certain things that other cities have done that we might want to follow to see if we can adopt. There are two things I've been thinking about recently. First, the idea of a furlough day. Many cities do it. They don't want to close down the entire City for the entire day, so there's the idea of staggering furlough days between departments. If you have four furlough days out of a year, it's a tremendous saving - \$30,000 to \$40,000 a day each time we do it - that could be in someone's job, that could mean the Senior Center gets more money. It's a tremendous saving for something that may easily be coordinated. The other thing that may be trickier would be insurance and healthcare. I know that Anthem is what covers the City and Education - but they are really two different plans. Might there be benefits to looking at a consolidation and savings. The other thing is co-pays. This might be a third-rail thing to talk about, but I believe the co-pays in the City are about \$5. The average in the private sector \$10, \$15, \$25 and sometimes far over. I think an increase in the co-pays, even a modest increase from \$5 to \$10 or \$15 would see tremendous savings throughout the City, and maybe even the Board of Education. These are ideas that if we don't address them, I don't know who will. Certainly if there were a dialogue among members of this Board to figure out and identify, are these ideas worth pursuing, are there other ideas, and sort of see what we want to propose. It's not just a budget we're putting together, it's within our power to put any recommendations out there to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation or to the City, that we think would benefit the residents and would keep down costs for our next budget. So we don't have to be so narrow with just the budget.

Alderman Sharkey stated, John, that is a great suggestion about the insurances. We have discussed that before and talked about it, and our problem seems to be that when we're talking Board of Education, and the others, all of their things are covered by union contract. What we need to do is to stop, and start over. We need to put everybody under one umbrella; everybody have the same co-pay, everybody have the same. What they do is, it's all negotiated. The Board of Education sits down and they negotiate, well, we're going to raise your co-pay by \$5. Well that may not happen with Public Works or that may not happen with Police. Some place that we put them all under, we have to get all these unions to agree to go with the same insurance carrier, the same program, the same everything. Yes, it would be an enormous savings. But how we get them all to agree to do this can only be done in negotiations. It's something we definitely have looked at. When you increase your pool; you increase your savings. You have more people covered under the same program.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, along that line, we have two negotiations coming up - one with Police and one with City Hall. Also, at the Council of Governments, I've been working with the Mayors trying to get a consolidation among the four cities to try to combine and go to the same insurance carrier, this way we have more numbers, besides the City workers and Board of Education workers, but to have the combination of all four cities/towns which will give us a bigger pool and more of an advantage with the insurance carriers. We have been working on this. As a matter of fact, Shelton and Ansonia have combined the same insurance broker and are trying to get Derby and Seymour to get involved. We are working on those things and I understand what John's saying, and what Gene is saying. These are cost-saving measures that we have already started and we're looking into.

President Blume thanked Mayor Della Volpe.

Alderman Scott Nihill - Police Committee

There is a communication before us. I was at the meeting. It was discussed with the Chief, the Commission and the Union President. Every body is behind the approval of this communication. If I can answer any questions when we bring it up I'll be more than happy to.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman John Marini - Economic Development Committee

First thing to report is the Business Survey, which the commission has put together and approved. We do have a final copy, which will be in the Aldermen's boxes this week. The plan is to send the survey out to around 500-600 business owners in this month. The survey, which we've honed within the commission and also the Mayor's Office asks for basic information from merchants and Ansonia business owners to give us a better understanding of the business community and giving us a better idea of how to better serve them and work for them.

Secondly, an update about the film that we had at the Armory this past week - this goes back to the film tour we had in early September of 2010 where we invited the Connecticut Department of Film, Television and Digital Media down to the City to tour various locations with the intention of attracting the interest of the film industry. We're really getting more eyes to look at our unique facilities. About three or four weeks ago I received a call from a New York production company Decoupage Productions. They were taking a look around Connecticut for a facility, a location that would be good for their film. It's an off-Broadway play that is being adapted into a film and will be distributed by Michael Eisner, the former Disney CEO, a web-television distribution company. They were specifically looking for a military facility of some sort, because that's the backdrop they wanted for the film. They were looking at a lot of

different armories in Connecticut for this purpose. They were directed toward Ansonia by Mark Dixon, who was the photographer on the film tour that we took in September. He showed them the Ansonia Armory, they saw the pictures online, they came to the City and were met by myself, the Mayor, representatives from Public Works, the Economic Development Commission. They fell in love with the facility and we were able to work out an agreement where they would be able to use the Armory as the exclusive location for the filming of this film for four days, from the 6th to the 9th on the condition that they pay all costs associated with the Armory's use for utilities to personnel. And we were able to arrive at an agreement that they would use Ansonia merchants and businesses for their needs during the production as far as practical and as much as possible. Additionally, Ansonia is going to be given credit in the film - the Armory and the City. The production started on the 6th and concluded the 9th. By all accounts it seemed to go very smoothly. The completion of the film will be completed in the next month or two. Right now it's not known what venue it's going to be shown in, but the thought is it may be viewed on cable TV. It's exciting for the City that we attracted that attention and the hope is that future film production companies will see Ansonia as a place with unique locations, and maybe more importantly that investors out there will sort of learn more about what we have to offer and in the future say a facility like the Armory - what its future is. We may be able to get an investor onboard with the goal of rehabilitating it as a community center or something that would benefit the City. It's all about attracting positive attention and bringing business to the City.

President Blume thanked Alderman Marini and commended him for a job well done.

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Danielczuk. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

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 Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Tax Refunds

Alderman Nihill MOVED to accept the report of the Tax Collector and grant the refunds for the month of December in the amount of \$532.33 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

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 9-0.

Communication #1

From: Rich Wade, Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center
Re: Redwing Pond House

Alderman Sharkey stated, I think we've covered this communication. My only question is, Mr. Wade, are you asking us to table the agreement, which is Communication #4, until your lawyer looks at it?

Mr. Wade replied yes, the agreement.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept the communication and place it on file; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Communication #2

From: Donna Lindgren, Director - Ansonia Nature Center
Re: Redwing Pond House

Alderman Nihill stated, the letter has already been read into the record by Mrs. Lindgren. .

Alderman Nihill MOVED to place the communication on file; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Nihill stated, I don't know if it's the Recreation Commission or the Board of Aldermen should go up there and take look at it and come to a resolution with Public Works to have it taken care of before we have any other issues with the property owner.

I think they had good intentions about improving the facility. Maybe we need some better communication between all parties, and make the Public Works Superintendent aware if there are any more improvements like that anywhere else, maybe better communications before the construction is undertaken.

President Blume asked, Mr. Mayor have you talked to Mr. Schryver? Are there any plans in regard to the parking lot?

Mayor Della Volpe replied yes, we've talked. We're going to wait until the weather clears up. We're going to put a swale and pipe with rocks over it. Hopefully that will divert the water away from his property.

President Blume stated, so, it's taken care of.

Communication #3

From: Nicholas Amico, President, Board of Police Commissioners

Re: Agreement between the City of Ansonia and the Town of Seymour

Alderman Sharkey stated, this has been researched quite thoroughly by the Board of Police Commissioners and it's something that they feel is needed.

President Blume stated, this has to go to the Ordinance Committee first.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, because it's an inter-municipal agreement, the Statutes say it has to go just as a town or city would adopt an ordinance. So in our City, ordinances have to the Ordinance Committee, and do everything under Section 148 of the Charter. The Town of Seymour, I don't know how they do it but they have to do the same procedures too.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to send Communication #3 to the Ordinance Committee; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Communication #4

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

Re: Nature-based Preschool at Redwing Pond House

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, I think the best course of action is to empower me to discuss with them and their attorney any changes and come back the next month in Executive Session to discuss any changes to this agreement. We still need, because we're leasing the property to them for \$1, I need an 8-24 referral from Planning and Zoning to get that out of the way.

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to send Communication #4 to the Planning and Zoning for 8-24 referral; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to empower Corporation Counsel Blake to meet with the Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center attorney to negotiate any changes and report back to the Board of Aldermen in February; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Resignation

Town and City Clerk Madeline Bottone read aloud the following Resignation:

Dear Mayor Della Volpe:

After thoughtful consideration, I have decided to tender my resignation as Fifth Ward Alderman, effective immediately. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve in your administration since 1999. The City of Ansonia has progressed under your tremendous vision and leadership and I wish you continued success in all that you hope to accomplish for the betterment of the citizens of Ansonia. I have enjoyed the time I served the citizens of Ansonia, especially those of the fifth ward. Thank you for your support and encouragement during my public service.

Sincerely,

Pasquale Pietrangelo

Alderman Fainer MOVED to accept the resignation of Alderman Pasquale Pietrangelo and send him a letter of thanks for his service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp.

Alderman Fainer stated, I enjoyed working with Patsy.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Appointments

Town and City Clerk Madeline Bottone read aloud Mayor James Della Volpe's appointments as outlined in his letter of January 5, 2011, as follows:

Board of Apportionment and Taxation

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to reappoint Richard Sturges of 25 Crestwood Road, term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Fainer MOVED to reappoint Joseph Confinante, Jr. of 147 Myrtle Avenue, term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Danielczuk. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to reappoint Michael T. Smerznak of 22 Buswell Street, term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Danielczuk MOVED to reappoint Stephen J. Strumello of 45 Bassett Street, term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Board of Assessment Appeals

Alderman Danielczuk MOVED to reappoint Louis Macero of 55 Hubbell Avenue, term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Susan A. Nargi of 8 Benz Street, term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Fainer MOVED to reappoint Patricia Fers of 28 West Brookside Avenue, term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Ellen Troy of 19 Chester Street, term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Nicholas T. Macero, Jr., of 5 Bennett Terrace, term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Board of Ethics

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to reappoint James H. Murphy of 98 Rockwood Avenue, term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Bruce R. Goldson, Sr. of 29 Glen Drive, term to expire 12/31/2014; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Board of Library Directors

Alderman Marini MOVED to reappoint Margaret Sullivan of 98 Brook Street, term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Danielczuk. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Danielczuk MOVED to reappoint Marcia Dobrowski of 9 Arlene Drive, term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to reappoint Karen Phipps of 27 Johnson Street, term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to reappoint Robert Martino of 28 LaRovera Terrace, term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Board of Police Commissioners

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to reappoint Nicholas Amico, Sr. of 22 Sobin Drive, term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Ann Marie Pitney of 159 Pulaski Highway, term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Francis Tyszka of 18 Shortell Drive, term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Community Development Forum

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Jacqueline Blount of 80 Hull Street, term to expire 02/28/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Commission for Elderly Services

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to reappoint James Hubbard of 10 Harris Road, term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Roy Cinquemani of 120 Prindle Avenue, term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Cultural Commission

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Judy Nicolari of 167 Pulaski Highway, term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Historical Commission

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to reappoint Eileen Krugel of 36 Cedar Street, term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Fainer).

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to reappoint Loisann Marazzi of 195 Pulaski Highway, term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Planning and Zoning Commission

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Edward Phipps of 118 Myrtle Avenue, term to expire 12/31/2015; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Recreation Commission

Alderman Danielczuk MOVED to reappoint Thomas E. Lynch of 15 Colony Street, term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Danielczuk MOVED to reappoint Sean Rowley of 11 Dempsey Court, term to expire 12/31/2011; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to reappoint Lynda Williams of 2 Dogwood Drive, term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Historic District Commission

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Mary Lou Deptula of 5 Hickory Lane, term to expire 12/31/2015; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Inland-Wetlands Commission

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint John Jones of 92 Ford Street, term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Water Pollution Control Authority

Alderman Danielczuk MOVED to reappoint Gary Merlone of 8 Shortell Drive, term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Alderman Danielczuk MOVED to reappoint John Erlingheuser of 6 Belleview Terrace, Alternate, term to expire 12/31/2014; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint John Sanza of 118 Pulaski Highway, Alternate, term to expire 12/31/2014; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Resolutions

Resolution #1

Re: Nature Based Preschool at Redwing Pond House

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Ansonia is the owner of the Redwing Pond House located at 21 Milan Street, Ansonia, Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, the Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center, Inc., proposes to sponsor and operate a Nature-based Preschool at the Redwing Pond House for an initial period of three (3) years commencing on July 1, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ansonia agrees to lease the Redwing Pond House to the Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center, Inc. to sponsor and operate the Nature-based Preschool upon the parties entering into an Agreement for that purpose; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ansonia desires that the Agreement be reviewed by the City of Ansonia Planning and Zoning Commission under the auspices of Connecticut General Statutes Section 8-24;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Ansonia approve the Agreement with the Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center, Inc. for the Nature-based Preschool upon a favorable approval of the City of Ansonia Planning and Zoning Commission under the auspices of Connecticut General Statutes Section 8-24. Furthermore, Mayor James Della Volpe is authorized to execute the Agreement on behalf of the City of Ansonia.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to TABLE Resolution #1; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp.

It was noted that earlier in this meeting [See Communication #4] this item has been sent to the Planning and Zoning Commission for an 8-24 referral.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Unfinished Business

Alderman Marini stated, we have a longstanding drainage issue on O'Neill's Court that this Board had acted on in hopes of moving it forward and finally resolving it. The City was granted an easement for a limited period of time, I think it was a 90-day easement. Unfortunately, all of the work started, and there was a legal holdup that has frozen work on the project. I am bringing up under Unfinished Business a possible need to extend that easement, as I believe it expires this month.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, the 90 days was for the Spadaro property. That has been completed and our portion. There is a property in the middle that we did have permission, and it's been going since 1981, this O'Neill's Court problem. I've been trying to address it with the property owner and their daughter. Because of some personal issues there it's been canceled two or three times. I plan to, by this week, get a new meeting date with them to bring the City Engineer and the Superintendent of Public Works there to explain what we're doing. Because there are other lines in there, gas lines from YankeeGas, we're just going to run it in the same place that we're running the storm drain that's already there. It's an improvement for their property. The Spadaro property - the 90 days - that has been completed. It was completed last Friday.

Alderman Marini stated, as I understand it, the property owners seem to be the center of the trouble. They agreed to it so we did have an agreement to do it.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, that was done.

President Blume stated, we still have other work to be done.

Alderman Marini stated, well that's the thing, the property owners are sort of the hold-up. They originally agreed. The owners had agreed that the work be done but there was a family hold-up with someone else coming in the picture and saying, wait a minute, I wasn't in on the decision. But the property owners already agreed.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, as of last year we had no problems. This came up. It's a short distance that we're looking to be completed.

New Business

None presented.

Adjournment

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary
Ansonia Board of Aldermen