



**CITY OF ANSONIA**  
**BOARD OF ALDERMEN**  
*Regular Meeting – April 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. The Pledge was led by Boy Scout Troop 105, Hilltop Hose.

***Roll Call***

The secretary called the roll:

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

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

President Blume declared a quorum of 11 present, 3 absent.

***Consideration of Previous Minutes***

Alderman Jerome Fainer MOVED to accept the minutes of the Public Hearing of March 8 and the Regular Meeting of March 8 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

***Public Session***

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

Joan Radin, 198 Wakelee Avenue

I would like to thank the Public Works Department because they did a wonderful job keeping Wakelee Avenue clear. It [inaudible] to find the five feet in front of my store but they eventually did bring the backhoe or whatever it is and clean it up so that I had a wall of snow about six feet on my sidewalk. It was wonderful that cars could park on the street, so I do thank them for what they did.

The other thing I would like to mention and I have to address it through you to the Chief, I would like to see more Patrol on my side of town. I've had many customers come in telling me they've watched drug drops on Jackson Street, Church Street, Wakelee and Division, Westfield, Hull Street, Hall Street, the Cemetery, all over that area - actually during the day. They have actually come in and told me they've seen them. They took license plates and everything else. I don't know how the Police Department does their rounds or how they go out about the areas, but I would like very much to see them change their areas so they're not in the same time, same place, every day. I would like to see maybe alternating routes or something like that, because we've had too many, and we did have the murder down the block from my store. It makes me very nervous. I do hope that possibly they could just occasionally change the routes so that maybe they're in our area at a little different time than they were yesterday and the day before, just so we can make something. Our neighborhood has gotten very bad; it really has. I can truthfully say I close and I keep my doors locked and I really haven't, thank God, had any problems in my store. But they're there; they're in the neighborhood. As I said, I would truly like to see the Police Department alternate routes. I don't know how you do it, Kevin, I really don't. I would really like to see it different. It seems to be happening during the day down by Griffin Hospital. All over the place. I would appreciate if you could look into it for me. Thank you very much.

Charlene Rosowsky, Property Owner at 163 O'Neill's Court

I'm here with regard to the ongoing problem on the property with the water that we're hoping that people are aware of here. I wanted an update. Also, I brought pictures of the water damage and I'm requesting that once the property is fixed that evaluation is going to be done on the basement of 163 O'Neill's Court with regard to water damage, foundation damage and also mold in that property, because of the water issue that has been going on for probably over 40 years. [She presented the Aldermen with photos]. I'm looking for an update with regard to the other property owner that has now stopped the work.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, with respect to that property owner, they have stopped communication with us after we've had several conversations with them. They've written a letter to me, an e-mail that we either create a commercial property for them or buy the property for \$350,000. This matter is on the agenda for tonight to ask for an appraisal of that property so we can get in there, and if they don't give it to us we're going to go to court to finish the job. We've done three properties already. This is going back to 1995. We've done Duchess, we've done the [inaudible] property, we've done the Spadaro property. This is about a 230-yard section they do not want us to get in there. There had been an agreement that we could do this but now that the owners are elderly and there's a daughter in there, they switched their attention to compensation.

Ms. Rosowsky asked, is she an actual property owner?

Corporation Counsel Blake replied, right now it's still, they are the property owners, but she may have power of attorney. I'm going to offer a letter to get the permission to get an appraisal and offer them, just to get a temporary easement to do the storm sewage thing. We're probably going to go to court because they're probably not going to like what the offer is. Just to let you know, in my 10 years we've never paid anything, because usually in the other properties that we've done already, they actually get the benefit of the drainage that we do the repairs on. So that's usually what's considered the compensation.

Ms. Rosowsky stated, yes, and 30 years ago my father let the City go through the property and did not ask for one dime to fix the sewers and just put the driveway back as it was. That's all that was requested. So I don't understand why these people are being so difficult.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, I don't know either. It was not on our radar because we had thought, based upon the former Superintendent, Mr. Maffeo, he had talked to everyone. This came out of left field.

Ms. Rosowsky asked, what is the anticipated time of this going to court?

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, I'm going to ask for an appraisal now. I'm going to come back the next month. If [inaudible] to go with the appraisal, if not, we should go to court and it's usually a 30-day turn-around by the court to approve what we want to do - a public improvement.

Ms. Rosowsky asked, who will be communicating with me, because I am the property owner; I own that property with my sister.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, you can call me or e-mail, I answer your phone calls all of the time.

Ms. Rosowsky stated, yes, you have.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, just keep calling me.

Ms. Rosowsky stated, it has to be fixed. That property, that particular water issue in that area was taken care of by my brother-in-law with his own equipment to get it off the street so it wouldn't go into the basement.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, I believe the Board of Aldermen are all on the same side - to resolve this problem going back to before 1995.

Alderman Marini stated, if I could address the Board on this. I would like to share your frustration with the status of this. This was actually the first issue I brought up to the Board of Aldermen back when I was elected about a year and a half ago. I brought basically the same pictures, and the petition from the mid-80s that was signed by the residents. Most of the people on that petition

are actually deceased as of this time. I share in your frustration at the pace this has taken to move it along.

From my review, and I understand obviously, that there is property owner involved, they have a dispute and it's snowballing into a legal issue. From my reading of the Charter, specifically the portion that addresses what this Board can do in terms of drainage issues, the Charter says that we as the Board have the ability to take any measure we need to address drainage runoff issues. I believe under the reading of the Charter provision no court action or court approval is necessary for us to step in and do what's necessary to correct a horrible problem on that property that's causing property damage to the surrounding neighbors. I don't even want to know what the estimate of damage is, or who is going to be on the hook for that. Right now I'm more concerned about the residents that have been suffering from that problem since the 80s than I am about anything else. I think if this can Board authorize itself to take those actions, [inaudible], and rectify the problem now, it should.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, If I could just address Alderman Marini's question - we have it in the Charter, but also I have State Statute 48-6 when you want to take people's property. We are. We're taking two properties. We want to put a storm drain in there. I have to follow the 48-6 to do that. I don't believe we can just go in there.

Alderman Marini stated, Kevin, I don't think there's a conflict, I think you're right. If there's a taking there has to be reasonable compensation. We've already established it's already an easement that was granted to the other utility company. So the reasonable value would be zero. And if they do want to come after us after the fact, let them come after the fact. Let's just do what needs to be done and let them have at it.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, my recommendation, though, is to follow this thing. I still don't have a full decision from Mr. D'Amico but I'd rather go this way. It will be quick, and I do not anticipate an adverse lawsuit in terms of what we need to get the improvement done.

Ms. Rosowsky stated, once I determine what the damage is in that basement, I was also told by Steve Blume to submit any reports to him and that the City should be responsible for that.

President Blume stated, submit the claims.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, my recommendation is that if you want to do it now, you could...

Mrs. Rosowsky interjected, what's the point of doing it now because if there's still...

President Blume stated, yes, it could happen again. I've got you in my phone; we're on it. If they let us on their property it would have been done a long time ago.

Ken Plavnicky, 15 Mountainview

Good evening, Mayor Della Volpe, Police Chief Hale, Board of Aldermen and the citizens in attendance. I'm addressing this Board tonight to bring to the attention how I was treated by Steve Blume at last month's Board of Aldermen meeting. I was very offended as a taxpayer of Ansonia by his remarks. In no way should a taxpayer or citizen be treated in that fashion. If he has an axe to grind with me, I would appreciate it if he would tell me publicly, because that is not the first time this had happened.

I am well aware of what it meant to be a volunteer. I voluntarily ran the soccer club for 10 years and also Boy Scout Troop 105 in Ansonia for our children. If you're a volunteer, everything should be volunteer. I would like to thank the Mayor for apologizing to me the next day on how I was treated. I would also like to thank Alderman Marini for knowing how to deal with the public professionally. I would also like to also thank Alderman Nihill for considering my idea about saving the City money on the fire hydrant issue. I was just bringing up a point on how to save the City money and I was very rudely shut down by Steve Blume. I attend these meetings quite often. Steve Blume always has a very rude tone as if he controls the City. And he doesn't. Not in my opinion at least. I can tell you right now that he does not. I do not understand the reasoning behind his election to be president also. Maybe he was against the axe the tax group as we fought to keep taxes down as the majority of the City did not want taxes to be raised or could not afford it. I would like to see a change in our Board, starting with the president. This is another issue that we could be brought up at another time. Getting back to Steve Blume, the talk around town is that he is very disrespectful to the citizens of Ansonia. He is against a few positive projects for this town. He did not want the project for a nursery school at the Nature Center among one of them.

At last month's meeting I had a question about saving money for the fire hydrants and right away Gene Sharkey replied, "you did not address it to me." I want to hear a response from Alderman Marini because he's the only one that's truthful about caring about these citizens of Ansonia. However when I stated this, Steve Blume very sarcastically said, "You have to address me." But he also said he could address who he wants. This does not live up to our democratic principles. I think we should spend money where it is needed. Maybe a new PA system at Jarvis Stadium. Or the wonderful Nature Center for a new nursery school. I still believe we shouldn't spend our tax money for paying volunteer firemen to shovel out fire hydrants. They are volunteers so everything they do should be volunteer. Steve Blume interrupted again and stated, "You don't direct me, I'll direct you." Is a public official supposed to talk to a concerned taxpayer like that? Taxpayer voices shall not be silenced.

I would highly recommend that there should be a change at the top of this Board. He has been quoted as doing this for a long time. But how is it that there has been no positive change to the City since then? Is he the reason for the businesses moving out of town? They can't afford the tax? I am thinking of opening up a business here, but I will not have to if I have to deal with his attitude. Behind me are some of the people that can't believe how I was treated at a public meeting. They are here, some of our future taxpayers of Ansonia.

One last thing I would like to address the Board is, Alderman Marini said, "Let's not be silent about knocking down Riverside Apartments." This Board should wake up and get the project under way immediately. I grew up in Bridgeport and Father Panik Village was larger, and was knocked down a lot quicker than Riverside. Let's make some noise before we lose the money that Steve Blume says, "We don't have the money anyways." Thank you guys.

Alderman Jeanette stated, Ken, did you say Mr. Marini is the only one that cares about this town?

Mr. Plavnicky replied, in my opinion, yeah. That's my personal opinion.

Alderman Jeanette stated, okay, Ken. I volunteered a lot of time for this town...

Mr. Plavnicky interjected, how I was treated... how I was treated with ax the tax and everything, he's the only one that gave me respect basically.

Alderman Jeanette stated, well, you didn't come to anyone else. All right?

Mr. Plavnicky stated, sure I did.

Alderman Jeanette continued, Number one. Number two, there's a lot of volunteers on this Board.

Mr. Plavnicky stated, good.

Alderman Jeanette stated, we're volunteering tonight and we do care about the City and we love this City.

Mr. Plavnicky stated, sure. Good. Good.

Alderman Jeanette continued, and what we do for this City is for the best of the City.

Mr. Plavnicky interjected, hey Joe, I got a question for you. What did you say to me at the High School when I was passing out a flier about ax the tax? You couldn't take that flier I was passing out why? Because all these people would see you?

Alderman Jeanette stated, no, because me, was in favor of education getting more money. You weren't, and neither was Mr. Marini at the time.

Mr. Plavnicky stated, listen, listen, my kids are in the education system. I'm 100 percent for the education system. No way the ax the tax would want to take a dime.

[Many people speaking at once - in audible].

President Blume called for order.

Mr. Plavnicky continued, no way ax the tax want any money taken away from education. My kids, right here, are in the education system. No way would you want anything taken away from there. If anything take it from the Fire Museum and put it into the education.

Alderman Jeanette stated, you were there for ax the tax. A lot of that went for the money, right? A lot of that...

[Multiple speakers - inaudible].

Alderman Jerome Fainer stated, Mr. President, can we end this? You had your two or three minutes. It sounds to me it's a personal attack. You're not bringing anything else. You had your two or three minutes of public session.

Mr. Plavnicky stated, I'm just addressing Alderman Jeanette, you know, okay?

Alderman Fainer stated, we're not here to read personal attacks on people.

Mr. Plavnicky stated, I'm just saying how the President of the Board of Aldermen treats some of the citizens, okay?

Alderman Fainer stated, you had your speech. Thank you.

Mr. Plavnicky stated, thank you Mayor, thank you Chief, thank you Mr. Marini.

Randolph Carroll, 40 Fourth Street

I wasn't going to get up and speak, but with what just happened, you know, I've been coming here for 20 years. I can disagree with anyone on this Board but there is no way that I'm going to go attack anybody. I had gone to the Police Commissioners' meeting with Kevin, and the same gentleman has ripped them apart one side and down the other. This is not a forum for personal attacks for vendettas or any other garbage like that. If you disagree, pull somebody aside, talk to them. We've got little kids here. We've got the Boy Scouts here. In my opinion that's appalling. Thank you.

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

### ***Public Official Session***

---

Mayor James Della Volpe

Thank you President Blume, members of the Board, just to let you know on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to noon we're going to have a Neighborhood Clean Up Day in the City of Ansonia. We've recently received a request from Big Y - their employees are willing to join us. We're looking for sites throughout the City and will be coordinating with the Department of Public Works and once we find out what neighborhoods we're going to clean up we'll let you know. Hopefully each and every one of you will volunteer.

At the Quinlan State Forest, Department of Environmental Protection has notified me that they're having a Timber Harvest. They're taking down a lot of trees and they're going to put them up for sale, they're doing this so that they can have new growth within the forest. That has started and Department of Environmental Protection will notify me exactly when the sale will be.

The negotiations between the City Hall Union - we set the ground rules and we're going to start negotiations the third week of April. Police negotiations - we're going to set the ground rules within the next two weeks and we'll be negotiating with them. I will keep the Board up to date as to what's going on.

In regard to the Regional Mental Health Board, we're looking for a representative - if you know any citizen that would like to volunteer to serve on that Board, please notify my office.

I apologize because I do have to leave because I'm going to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation because they're in the process of setting the budget. I'll entertain any questions at this time.

---

Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

The Tax Collector is working on more tax sale liens in May - about 24 properties. It's a quick way to get the taxes into the City.

With the Zoning Officer, there's a lot of litigation going on. Of course of lot of times the people don't show up from the other side. Mr. Tanner has brought in about \$30,000 since he's been in, in the last month or so. It is paying off to have someone full time available. He gets a lot of complaints but he's there to address the people. That has helped.

White Hills - it was a three-house subdivision up on Woodbridge Approach. They were at Planning and Zoning this month and agreed to be a two-family

subdivision, but also with some land restrictions there so there won't be an extension into the back of the properties.

I do have some other issues that I can bring up as they appear on the agenda tonight. Thank you.

---

Police Chief Kevin Hale

Just a reminder - the winter parking has ended and cars are allowed to be parked on both sides of the street.

We've been pretty busy not only with routine calls for service, but there have been a couple of major cases in the past four to five weeks. We've been working diligently on that seven days a week making progress, but I can't say much more than that.

To address Mrs. Radin quickly, they are random patrols to begin with; we don't have specific ones on certain dates and times. I will make your concerns known to the Supervisors tonight so they can address that to the Officers.

Finally, our Annual Awards Ceremony is Tuesday May 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at Ansonia High School. The Aldermen will receive an invitation. It is open to the public; everybody is invited as well.

That's it; I will answer any questions the Aldermen may have.

Alderman Nihill stated, I would like to thank the Chief for his Officers' prompt attention to the unregistered trailer that was parked illegally and removed. Thank you.

President Blume thanked Chief Hale.

---

Joseph Miller Comptroller

The progress on the budget for 2011-12 is still a work in progress. They are meeting in the Erlingheuser Room tonight as I speak to set the mill rate. The public session I believe is May 9 with the final session the following week. That's all.

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 Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

### *Personnel and Salaries Committee - Alderman Gene Sharkey*

Alderman Sharkey reported, the Personnel and Salaries Committee met on March 30<sup>th</sup> and acted on a revised job application for the Water Pollution Control Authority and voted to bring it to the full Board tonight to act upon this revised description. That will be Communication #2 that we'll take up later.

Alderman Jay Fainer MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

### *ARMS Committee - Alderman Jerome Fainer*

Alderman Jerome Fainer reported, ARMS for the month of March had 243 calls and had 95 transports. We did mutual aid - six to Derby, five to Seymour and one to Orange without missing any calls. We collected \$51,000.

President Blume stated, calls are up to about 40 calls a month.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Jay Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

### *Economic Development Commission - Alderman John Marini*

The Committee met last week and elected a new president, Sandro Epifano. I'd like to congratulate him on his election, and also congratulations to Pat Henry as the former chairman for his time in the office.

At their last meeting the group talked about different ways to organize forums going forward with the businesses, to get the survey results back in and to start long term planning for programs for businesses.

President Blume asked, Pat's not leaving the board, is he?

Alderman Marini stated, he actually has a personal engagement; he's taking a leave of absence from the Board to fulfill his obligation.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

*Cultural Commission - Alderman John Marini*

They have been in the works with some individuals from New Haven, specifically the New Haven International Arts Festival, to do an event in June that's going to pay tribute to Pierre LaMille (sp?) who was actually the inventor of the bicycle back about 100 years ago or more.

This event is going to be a bike ride from New Haven at the festival they have there, it's going to come down Route 34 into Ansonia. There's going to be a brief ceremony in the park next to City Hall and then the group will be on their way back to New Haven. I'll keep you abreast of the situation as they put the plans together.

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

***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 11-0.

***Tax Refunds***

Alderman Nihill MOVED to accept the report of the Tax Collector and grant the refunds for the month of March in the amount of \$1,784.20 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

***Communications***

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept all of the 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 Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

---

**Communication #1**

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

Re: Proposal for City of Ansonia Workers Compensation Program

The Claims Committee met last week. We interviewed two companies and our choice was to stay with PMA, the existing company.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, I have the agreement. It's going to be three years, and there will be no increase in any of those three years, it will stay flat.

The Claims Committee met Thursday. I need a motion that allows the Mayor to execute the agreement on behalf of the City of Ansonia.

Alderman Sharkey stated, the no increase for three years, is it on their fee to us or is it on the premium?

A representative in the audience replied, it's on the fee, you don't have a premium, you're self-insured.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, yes, we're a self-insured program. It's based on the proposal they submitted at the meeting. No increase for three years commencing July 1<sup>st</sup>.

[Alderman Jeanette left the meeting at this point - 10 present]

Alderman Bender MOVED to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement with PMA for the City of Ansonia's worker's compensation program; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

---

Communication #2

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake  
Re: Secretary/Clerk Position - WPCA

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to accept the changes in the job description for WPCA Secretary/Clerk; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to allow the position for WPCA Clerk to be posted internally and externally simultaneously, upon the City receiving written agreement by the Union representation; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

---

Communication #3

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake  
Re: Property at 59 Pershing Drive - Jorge and Norma Valladares

Alderman Bender MOVED to retain Fred D'Amico to survey the land and to retain an appraiser to survey the costs of doing the storm sewer easement and project; SECONDED by Alderman Jay Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

---

**Communication #4**

From: Michael Schryver, Superintendent of Public Works

Re: Five-Year Road Plan

Alderman Bender MOVED to accept the Five-Year Road Plan ; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

[Alderman Jeanette returns at this point - 11 present]

---

**Communication #5**

From: Comptroller Joseph M. Miller, Jr.

Re: Bid Waiver and Contract Approval for City Audit - Michaud & Accavalo

Alderman Sharkey stated, we have had them previously in the past and are very pleased with their work. Mr. Michaud has worked for years for the City doing this. We've been very pleased with his work and wish to continue it.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to hire Michaud and Accavalo to perform the City Audit; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

***Resignation***

Town and City Clerk Madeline Bottone read the letters of resignation aloud.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to accept the resignation of Sandra Mendyk from the Cultural Commission and to send her a letter of thanks for her service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Jerome Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept the resignations of Tracy Edwards and Hugh Edwards from the Economic Development, Fair Housing and Community Development Commissions and to send them letters of thanks for their service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

***Resolutions*****Resolution #1**

Re: Authorization - Assistance Agreement - Connecticut Small Cities  
Community Block Grant Program

**RESOLUTION**

All Aldermen of All Wards introduced the following Resolution:

Resolved,

WHEREAS, federal monies are available under the Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, 42 USC, Section 5301, et.seq., as amended, also known as Public Law 93-383, and administered by the State of Connecticut, Department of Economic and Community Development as the Connecticut Small Cities Community Block Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 127c and Part VI of Chapter 130 of Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of the State of Connecticut, Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to disburse such federal monies to local municipalities; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the City of Ansonia make an application to the State for \$500,000 in order to undertake a Small Cities Community Development Program and to execute an Assistance Agreement;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN:

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for State Assistance imposed by Part VI of Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes; and
2. That the filing of an application by the City of Ansonia in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 is hereby approved, and that Mayor James T. Della Volpe is hereby authorized and directed to file such application with the Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required by the Commissioner to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut financial assistance if such an Agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, rescissions and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the City of Ansonia.

Alderman Jerome Fainer MOVED to adopt Resolution #1; SECONDED by Alderman Bender. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

### ***Unfinished Business***

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, I got a call this afternoon from Attorney Hoyle with respect to the Nature Based Preschool at the Redwing Pond House. He has requested that this be tabled as they need to go to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to table the unfinished business of the Redwing Pond House; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Alderman Marini stated, to address the unfinished business of the Olson Drive/Riverside Apartments issue that I brought up at the last meeting. When we last discussed this, my recommendation was to send a letter to various officials, State and Federal officials, trying to figure out what the hold up was with the go-ahead, the green light, whether it be from HUD or elsewhere with the demolition of the remaining buildings.

Since that time I've had a chance to talk with members of the Housing Authority here in Ansonia and I discovered, interestingly enough it looks like the problem is actually in our own back yard the entire time. The application that we've been trying to get everyone to act on was never submitted. So the Housing Authority for Ansonia has never submitted the actual application for the demolition of the remaining buildings.

I think we need to turn our attention to the Housing Authority in Ansonia. We need to figure out what is happening. We need to get a grip on the situation and we need to make sure matters move forward for the people of Ansonia - both around that facility and in particular inside that facility. I would recommend, if possible, that we call the Authority to appear before this Board next month so we could just get answers to very basic questions - like why wasn't the application filed.

President Blume asked Corporation Counsel Blake, were you aware of that?

Corporation Counsel Blake replied, I know they were having some issues with respect to their architect, but I was under the impression that they were in the process. They may have submitted it already. That was the impression we got from Mr. Finnucan. The project is not dead - the City has \$5 million minus whatever we paid to raze the other buildings to have that done.

President Blume stated, I've been in touch with Blumenthal's Office with a gentleman by the name of Jeff and also with Rosa Delauro. I've talked with both of them and they're willing to do whatever we need to help speed this up. I was not aware the application wasn't filed, though.

Alderman Marini stated, I talked to several members after our meeting and I guess, to shed a little more light, there was a problem with the consultant. They had some issues, and they're actually going through the process now to get a new consultant. The problem is, at our last meeting, we all were under the assumption that this thing was out there and we were trying to get people to act on it, when it turns out that they never informed us that the application hadn't even been sent. So we really need to get up to speed on what's going on and we need to make sure this gets done.

Alderman Marini MOVED to send a letter to Housing Authority Chairman James Tyma to appear before the Board in May to give an update as to the status of the application and the project; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Alderman Nihill stated, we've got some good ongoing work - it looks like our Riverwalk Project is starting to take shape.

Alderman Jerome Fainer stated, going along with the Riverwalk, I think we should have the Ordinance Committee of our Board come up with some ground rules for that before it even opens up. I'd like to call a meeting of my Committee to get that going.

Alderman Sharkey stated, I would like to suggest that we get a copy of Derby's rules and regulations that they have in effect for their Riverwalk. The only problem they're having is with the pets and they made another resolution about the pets down there. We should look at what they've already done, because they have things already established. Rather than rewrite everything we should take a look at theirs and see what we need.

### ***New Business***

None presented.

### ***Adjournment***

Alderman Knapp MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary  
Ansonia Board of Aldermen