



CITY OF ANSONIA BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Regular Meeting – December 13, 2011

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Ansonia Board of Aldermen was called to order at 7 p.m. by Aldermanic President Gene Sharkey. All those present rose and pledged allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. The Pledge was led by the Champion Ansonia United 12 and Ansonia United 14 Cheerleaders.

Presentation – Ansonia United 12 Cheerleaders and Ansonia United 14 Cheerleaders

President Sharkey congratulated the Cheerleaders, stating, you have again made the City of Ansonia proud. We have a tradition, it seems when we enter something we win, as recently as our football team and going back to even when I was in school, it was always a winning town. Some people call us “Title Town” and the tradition continues.

State Representative Linda Gentile presented citations to each of the Cheerleaders as follows:

Ansonia United 12 Cheerleaders

Jazmine Cavallaro
Ally DiMauro
Maria Guzman
Elisabeth Molnar
Tache Rose
Jada Veson
Payton Westine

Libby Cavanaugh
Lilia Garcia
Asjha Jones
Keara Padin
Abby Rugar
Alonna Smith
Olivia Stanley

Gianna Dilorenzo
Imani Garcia
Josenia Lopez
Lexi Rogers
Nevaeh Sorrentino
Grace Simon
Tamaya Upchurch

Ansonia United 14 Cheerleaders

Tatyannah Haynes
Taylor Healey
Dejah Tinney
Melanie Danka
Tamarrah Haynes

Gianna Crisante
Adreena Mills-Cox
Olivia Rogers
Senia Chrzanowski
Lillian Cassetti

Aiyanna Menna
Davina Robinson
Aryanna Torres
Ashley Williams
Jennifer Cassetti

Roll Call

The secretary called the roll:

Edward Adamowski, D1- present
Robert Duffus, D1 - present
Charles Stowe, R2 - present
Philip Tripp, R2 - present
Joseph Jeanette, D3- present
Patricia Macero, D3- absent
Robert Beall, D4 - present

Jerome Fainer, D4 - present
Howard Madigosky, D5 - absent
Joan Radin, R5 - present
Scott Nihill, D6 - present
Gene Sharkey, D6 - present
David Knapp, D7- present
John Marini, R7 - present

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

Consideration of Previous Minutes

Alderman Nihill MOVED to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of November 15, 2011 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Public Session

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

President Sharkey asked if any member of the public wished to address the Board.

Jeannie Reichelt, 7 Reichelt Terrace

The main reason for my being here tonight is I would just like to discuss the 24-hour parking ban that we have here in the City of Ansonia. Yes, I did state that my street address is number seven, as there seems to have some confusion with the winter parking ban in our city. On December 7th, approximately 4:20, I was issued a parking ticket in front of my home. I was home approximately eight minutes when the officer appeared and issued a ticket. I had asked the officer to reason for the ticket and his response was I am parked on the wrong side of the street. This is all new to me because I had thought that this parking ban that we always had from 12 to 6 was still in effect. He said the parking ban is from December to March, parking is only permitted on the even side of the street, and is enforced twenty-four hours a day.

I, as well as many of the Ansonia residents, were unaware of the change. Even though I understand now, it took effect some time ago. I was still under the assumption of the old ban, as I said, rotating sides each month. I went onto the Valley Independent Sentinel only to find that the officer was incorrect and the parking is on the odd side. I, as well as others, were ticketed erroneously.

The irony of this is if the Ansonia Police Officers are misinformed, what about the average citizen who is ignorant to this ridiculous ruling. I think if this ruling is crucial to Ansonia, like Seymour, they should put notification on the windshields of vehicles as they do for the street sweeping and Memorial Day Parade prior to the ban. And what a safety hazard it is to have people cross and park only on one side during the winter, during the day. Streets such as Clifton Avenue, Wakelee Avenue, North Main Street, and other busy thoroughfares, I think it's a very serious thing. It could become a life-threatening experience trying to cross these streets, especially Clifton Avenue, even if you don't have arms filled with groceries or children. Funeral Homes, Churches, little businesses, as well as our homes, are being the victims of this strange and unfair ruling. And viewing the fact that this issue seems to be confusing both for the citizens and the Police Department, I really suggest that the Public Works, the Police Department, the Mayor, and the Aldermen just revisit this, what I consider to be, inappropriate ordinance.

It's most understandable when a weather-related incident is approaching, but is there a crucial need? And I know that there is a crucial need to keep the streets clear and passable, however these occurrences during the winters are few and I don't understand the necessity or the logic for a 24-hour parking ban on one side of the street. After discussing this issue, I went and I asked many residents and businesses and I had become vividly aware that few understand what is required with this ordinance. I am really urging all of you to reconsider this issue. One other thing is I am not, in no means, putting down the Ansonia Police Department; this is really not my intention. Thank you very much.

Ron Glander

I reside in Litchfield and I am a property owner in the City of Ansonia. I am the manager of a company that owns two properties down here. They're both located on Hodge Avenue. I am not a landlord by trade, the properties were owned by my family since 1920.

The house is 186 Hodge Avenue and 184 Hodge Avenue is the building lot next door to it. My grandmother was living there, she's 92 years old, the house was falling apart, it was an eye sore and she didn't want to go in a nursing home so my family and I decided to step forward since her children were not taking care of the property and to make the improvements and let her reside there for the rest of her life. My mother quit her job, she moved in there to take care of her so we wouldn't have to go to a nursing home.

When I bought the property, there were \$82,000 worth of back taxes, which I paid. I also put another \$190,000 into the home alone, just to bring it up to code. It was inspected, Fire Marshal, the whole deal. The place was quite a nightmare. In your packet, the first two pictures are not why I'm here. That is a picture of the house the way it was before. Unfortunately my printer broke down this afternoon. That's why some of these are in color and some are in black and white; I could not provide a picture of the house next door.

There are pictures of the land associated with it. Basically what happened was, I was served a blight notice by Mr. Tanner back in October. On September 19th, I received a call from Mr. Tanner explaining to me that he had received complaints about overgrowth and that I needed to have it brush hogged and at least twenty feet from the road. I explained that although I disagree that a vacant building lot with natural vegetation could be called blight, I would have it brush hogged. Everything seemed fine, I contacted Cutting Edge Landscape and asked for an estimate to brush hog approximately the first 60 feet from the road, which was more than Mr. Tanner requested. A few days later, I received the estimate, agreed to have the work done, and I agreed to have the work completed. It was supposed to be completed that week, however it rained every day. Cutting Edge got behind on their schedule, and the next week he was on vacation. He came back and he brush hogged the property. There was a section on the right hand side which he said he couldn't get to, it was dangerous, there were rocks and stumps in there so that one section wasn't done.

On September 30th, I went to Ansonia to meet with the new tenant I had moving in. While I was there, the residents from 176 Hodge Avenue approached me. They're the big stick in the mud for me. They told me that an Alderman had stopped by campaigning inquired about the lot. He recommended they contact the blight officer to file a complaint. I told him I already knew about the call, I wished they had contacted me first and I was going to have the lot brush hogged. They seemed relieved, as was I, until Mr. Mazzaco stated, who is the resident of that property, that if I just sold him the lot, this would all go away. My response was, "make me a reasonable offer and I'll seriously consider it." After all, he has the only house on the street with no driveway, he approached my grandfather in the 70's to buy the lot and he didn't want to sell it to him. He never made me an offer; so when I got home later that morning the phone was ringing, it was Mr. Tanner. I told him of my contact with Cutting Edge and that it would be taken care of as soon as Cutting Edge returned to town. He told me he appreciated my responsiveness and looked forward to having the mowing completed. I thought everything was fine.

Now jumping to October 16th, two weeks later, it was a Sunday morning, I was not home and the state police show up at my house with a State Marshal to serve me a blight violation notice. State police, on a Sunday morning in my neighborhood to serve me a blight notice; the ordinance is clearly stated, certified mail, return receipt. I couldn't figure out what was going on. I wasn't even home and my wife called me and told me what happened and I said it's got to be a misunderstanding. So I went home, I read the letter from Mr. Tanner, now the letter includes other violations other than the overgrown brush. The notice now stated that I had a motor vehicle, and it is inhibited by rodents, feral cats and other animals, along with a foul odor. I immediately called Mr. Tanner's office and left a message on his voicemail.

The next day, Monday morning, I drove to Ansonia. I went to see what the big deal was because I thought it had been taken care of. While there, the residents of 176 Hodge Avenue approached me again; I was not that friendly this time, I

told them to stop coming onto the property or I'd call the police to report them as trespassers. This was the last thing I had wanted to do but I was done trying to accommodate them. I think what happened was when I moved in, you could see from those pictures there, the house next door was a disaster, they see I have a Litchfield address and they just want me to keep going and going and going. According to Mr. Tanner's letter, there was a car on the property and it wasn't abandoned. I had let the tenant on the first floor park the car there. I told her that they wanted it gone, it was removed from the property within 24 hours. My next stop was to see Mr. Tanner.

When I introduced myself to Mr. Tanner, he indicated that he got my voicemail and was going to return my call and not to worry that the 14-day period to request an appeal began when I was served, not the date of the notice. The date of the notice was October 3rd, I received it October 16th. Our conversation began civilly, however it didn't end that way. Other than the fact that the notice included items that we never discussed, I wanted to know why he had to send a State Marshal to my home, on a Sunday, in front of my neighbors to serve me rather than send notice via certified return receipt as clearly stated in the City's blight ordinance section 13.51. This was perplexing to me, based on the cost alone. How much does certified mail cost, maybe five bucks? And he sent a State Marshal over an hour away on a Sunday? I don't know who's footing the bill but I am a taxpayer in this town and I think it's absurd. He told me it was easier for him so he didn't have to keep track of signatures and that "it was pretty effective, I got your attention, didn't I?" I was livid. I told him he didn't have to send a State Marshal, especially on a Sunday for the neighborhood to see and that I was responsive to his previous calls, therefore, there was no need for his intimidation tactics. He replied that he could serve notice in any manner he chose. I know that is totally wrong. We disagreed and things got worse.

My next big question was regarding the filing of the notice against the deed. Two weeks before I had even received notice, he filed against the deed on that property, notice of violation. Clearly that is slander of title. He again stated that it was for effect in this and to get my attention. Well, I believe it was more in alliance with harassment and bullying by a rogue town official that does not follow the laws of the land to protect citizens from people like Mr. Tanner. He is an over-zealous, self-ordained keeper of the anti-blight. Nowhere in the ordinance does it grant Mr. Tanner any obligation or authority to file without merit, cause, or prematurely. In fact, my attorney's investigation into this, has concluded that what Mr. Tanner did is in fact called Slander of Title which by Connecticut law permits the courts to award me up to three times of my legal fees. I actually believe Mr. Tanner's act was calculated to cause personal distress and infamy to me in my neighborhood and is clearly harassment. Mr. Tanner then took me upstairs to the land records office and began taking copies of the field cards of the property.

I couldn't understand why he was doing this, but it soon came to light. Mr. Tanner proposed that the lot was actually not a lot because a field card from who knows when indicated a structure was there at some point in time in the

past. I told him I didn't feel this was relevant as the property has never had any utilities, there has never been a curb cut and there is this so-called structure as he indicated was a garage or out-building of some sort. I stated my disagreement with him and then asked him to remove the recording from the deed. He told me it was not a lien and he had every right to record the notice. We disagreed; I then asked what would make him happy. He told me, "I want you to clear the entire lot from property line to property line and landscape it." I about fell over; how can anyone request that reasonably; a reasonable person would never request that. I told him he was being unreasonable and there was no way I was going to agree to such an unreasonable request. Mr. Tanner replied, "Well that's what it will take." I again asserted the notion of reasonability to him, but he was not willing to take the road of sanity. I then inquired as to the feral cats and rodents as he took several pictures and there was no evidence of wild life in them. He told me he didn't, in fact, see any such thing but stated, "the overgrowth provides shelter for them, so you have to clear it. And I could smell them." "You could smell them?" I asked. He said, "Yes," and I laughed out loud. I tried not to, but it was just hysterical and I asked him if he was a feral cat scent expert. He ended the conversation with, "I am done with you, hire a lawyer," so I did. But not before leaving a message in the Mayor's office for him to call me.

Now back to the feral cats and rodents; where I live, bears come walking through my property from the land behind me. Would it be reasonable for me to ask my neighbor behind me to clear her 870 acres so that her bears don't come through my property? No, it is obscene; it's ludicrous. They scare my children and they scare me, but the forest does provide them shelter and it'll only seem logical that they might venture out periodically or even venture to this part of their daily walk through their territory. However, it would be totally unreasonable for me to ask my neighbor to clear all the vegetation to within 12 inches; they would laugh in my face because it is not reasonable. Perhaps a better explanation to the cats is that two cats live in 186 Hodge Avenue and the residents to the left has bowls of food outside for their cats. Also, a reasonable person might conclude that feral cats and rodents don't mix. If there were such a feral cat smell as Mr. Tanner suggests, a reasonable person would conclude that there wouldn't be any rodents left. Now I am not a feral cat expert, but I do believe cats, in general, eat rodents. Therefore, it is highly unlikely the rodents reside alongside feral cats. At least a reasonable person might come to that conclusion. So now I am back at my lawyer's office, I give him the information, give him a copy of the notice, and he was more astounded at Mr. Tanner's disregard for the process than I was. But then again I have never encountered this before. We discussed my options which included filing suit for various reasons but in the end he convinced me to simply request a copy of the ordinance and go from there. A letter was sent to Mr. Tanner requesting the same. A few days later Mr. Tanner sent a copy of the ordinance but did not give any written...

President Sharkey interjected, Mr. Glander, I'm going to have to cut you off here. We do have a time limit on how long a speaker can speak. We normally go three minutes and you have gone way over that.

Mr. Glander stated, oh, I'm sorry; I didn't know that. Can I just have one more minute to finish up? This has been very trying for me and it's cost me thousands of dollars. A couple things on this, he told me that he didn't have to give me names on this and in this great country of ours, the laws permit us to confront our accusers, which cannot be done if Mr. Tanner does not provide the names. Next, the blight notice copies I received from Mr. Tanner were stamped and recorded. I asked him for other copies of blight notices that he has served other people in this town. Not one of them was recorded stamped in the town records; not one of them was served via State Police. I simply asked to have it removed and to have this taken care of. The Town Counsel has yet to provide any information to my lawyer, which has been requested several times. I spoke to the Mayor on a few occasions; he didn't seem to understand why this was still hanging out there. I wish I had more time.

President Sharkey stated, okay, I'm going to have to stop you know.

Mr. Glander stated, in my closing, please sir...

President Sharkey stated, you'll have to stop there.

Alderman Marini stated, I will meet with you later on this week. I'm sure some of the other Aldermen will be more than happy to take the time to meet with you and talk further about this.

Alderman Fainer stated, can I just make one correction to your statement? You keep saying State Police. State Police don't.

Mr. Glander stated, he showed up in a State Police car and a State Marshal was in the car.

Alderman Fainer stated, the State Trooper doesn't serve.

Mr. Glander stated, sir, if you look in the file, sir, it's signed by the State Marshal.

Alderman Nihill stated, sir, you mentioned our City Counsel. Attorney Blake, are you representing the City in this matter?

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, my firm is. He does have counsel; we've been talking to his counsel, Mr. Ryan.

Alderman Fainer stated, hasn't the Zoning Officer been [inaudible]?

President Sharkey stated, I would recommend, we have heard your statement. It is presently in litigation with the City.

Mr. Glander stated, it's not in litigation. Nothing's been filed.

President Sharkey stated, you've hired an attorney. You're dealing through an attorney. We have our attorney and his firm representing the City of Ansonia.

Mr. Glander stated, your attorney hasn't said anything to my attorney. We have not received one correspondence from your attorney. That is why I'm here.

President Sharkey stated, I would recommend to the other Aldermen that we don't make a statement at this time. I'm sorry, your time is up.

Mr. Glander stated, you know, this is just ludicrous. Absolutely ludicrous. You say that we're in litigation. Nothing has been filed in court. That attorney - have you sent any letters to my attorney, sir?

President Sharkey stated, yesterday on the telephone with me you told me you spent thousands of dollars on your attorney fees.

Mr. Glander stated, correct. I have. It's over a thousand dollars right now. But because we haven't received any correspondence back; it's one letter after another.

President Sharkey stated, I think we've heard everything we can hear tonight. We also need to hear from Mr. Tanner on this.

Mr. Glander stated, okay.

President Sharkey thanked Mr. Glander.

Mr. Glander stated, please, if this is not resolved really soon, because tomorrow they said they're going to file a lien against my property, this will go to court.

President Sharkey thanked Mr. Glander.

Mr. Glander stated, absolute joke.

President Sharkey thanked Mr. Glander.

Edward Musante, 138 Old Ansonia Road

The back of my house is on Castle Lane. I have a petition I gave to the Mayor and my Alderman that Castle Lane is not safe enough, it's not wide enough. Kids have to walk almost a mile and a half to go get a bus. For Mr. Patel at house number three, I called Public Works for him a couple of times because when it rains, his catch basin is not clean and it goes down to his first step on

his house and his driveway is already getting ruined there because the catch basin overflows and just goes over the curb. The curb was supposed to get raised and they never did it because that is Seymour, but Ansonia maintains it. There's a petition I gave to Mr. Della Volpe and Mr. Stowe; I have 180 people that signed on it. Roads are not safe up there because in the first part of Castle Lane, when one car comes in, you have to wait until he gets down to the back half. Two cars can't come together in the first half.

President Sharkey stated, I don't understand what you were asking about Castle Lane.

Mr. Musante stated, we're trying to throw Castle Lane away. Castle Lane is unsafe up there. The first part of Castle Lane, you can't get two cars coming opposite at the same time. One car has to sit down in the back half; it's not wide enough, there's too many cars up there and they are trying to put up the 23 homes up there and that's not going to fly the way that is. The Town of Seymour already found out and they're not going to widen the road right there for him.

President Sharkey stated, can I tell you that that has already been rejected by Planning and Zoning? The whole subdivision has been rejected.

Alderman Stowe stated, I think his concern is that they are liable to appeal it and try to get it in. That is his concern, so he gave a petition to the Mayor and he's just concerned. That's what I get out of that.

Alderman Duffus stated, they should have a right to have a petition, but Planning and Zoning already rejected it.

Mr. Musante stated, I gave Mr. Mayor 108 on there.

President Sharkey stated, I am sure he will take care of that with Public Works.

Mr. Musante stated, thank you.

President Sharkey stated, and to all the Aldermen, when issues arise that are in your Wards, feel free to contact Public Works. Rather than wait and bring them here, call up Public Works and say there's a problem. I drive around the City of Ansonia now constantly telling them to pick up leaf bags, pick up this, there's problems on Howard Avenue, there's problems every place I drive so I call them in.

Mr. Musante stated, I called Public Works about house number three, I called them twice and they said it's on the list and they never came up there.

President Sharkey stated, well it might help if someone from that Ward calls it in.

Steve Sentimentis, Woodbridge Avenue

I believe sir, you have my file, you sir. My last time file that I left here for someone to check it out. Woodbridge Avenue. Did you examine the file?

President Sharkey stated, our regular secretary isn't here today and I'll bet it became part of the minutes.

Alderman Stowe stated, he was here in October and he forgot to come back to the November meeting, because I think maybe the day was changed. I believe he had some type of a folder from the building department that he gave to Mr. Blake, I believe. I was here, I wasn't an Alderman at the time but I was here and the words were, "We're going to look into this, come back next month and we'll tell you what we found out."

President Sharkey asked, was this the sewer backup you were talking about?

Alderman Stowe stated, no, a neighbor added onto the house without a permit and then it ended up that he got flooded. I don't know exactly what...

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, I am familiar with Mr. Sentimentis' case; they put the addition above him. He has water coming into it, I have had Mr. Crabtree look at it, I had the building inspector look at it and they said there was nothing that could be done. The only thing that we figured out was that he didn't have a certificate of occupancy for the addition. We went to court for that; he did eventually get a certificate of occupancy and we went through the case. Other than that, there is nothing that the City can do for the problem that he has with the neighbor above him in terms of the runoff. I've gone through Zoning; I've gone through the building department.

Alderman Stowe asked, are there any suggestions you could give him, Mr. Blake?

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, I went to the Zoning officer, the Building inspector, the City engineer, they have all gone up there. And they looked at it from the City's standpoint; there's nothing that the City can do to correct the problem based upon that. It's a civil matter between the two property owners. I have told Mr. Sentimentis this several times. We did try to make an attempt to get the gentleman to do something by going to court. He was able to get the certificate of occupancy that he was missing.

Alderman Stowe asked, did you understand that?

Mr. Sentimentis replied, yes, as a matter of fact I have to add something from the beginning. The man who bought the house above me, the house was very small with one bedroom, one full bathroom and a living room. Three rooms only and he bought it for a very cheap price because the house was so small

and he built two extra bedrooms; now it's three bedrooms according to your records, and two full bathrooms and he has no drainage. I mean, I called the City of Ansonia negligence to give this man a license to sell his house when it was illegally built. I mean I get 80 percent of his water in my basement. I have pictures taken in color. Big eight by ten, I am into my ankles with water. So I called Mr. Blake's office four times in the same day, he remembers the day, and the fourth time that I called, his secretary said to me, "he is not at the office, leave him a message." The fourth time I got mad and I said I know he is there and I slammed the telephone on her. He knows that. Within seconds later she calls me back and says, "he doesn't want to talk to you," and she shut the phone on me and I said AH-HAH so he is there. So now I have a problem with Tanner myself at first. When I went down I was calm and I said you know, I have a problem and I explained to him that I was getting water in my basement because this guy didn't make no gutters, and his deck is extremely over the line. I mean what does he care, he is a builder, he wants to sell the house fast and get out; he went way over the line on the deck. The deck is illegally built. So anyway, I said to Tanner I am going to sue City Hall for negligence and he said to me, "If you said that at first, I wouldn't even talk to you." I said oh well that's a nice person to talk to. So I think I have said it all. There is tens of thousands of dollars worth of damages to my driveway alone. It's like a map, I have pictures of it; how it was before. The first year it started to crack and I didn't know why. It's because the waterfall comes through, under the blacktop and breaks it up into so many pieces. It's worthless, why spend so many thousands of dollars getting a new one if the problem above won't be corrected. I tried to get in touch with Fox News, CNBC, NBC news over the phone and they said, "oh that's no big deal." Well now I am thinking I have to send them the file to examine page, by page, by page to get justice somewhere. This is not justice.

Alderman Marini stated, Mr. President, what I'm concerned about here is that violations to the Zoning Code have resulted in the damage to his house and I'd like to at least clarify that to either get that off the table or to deal with it. Now, if there's a violation of the Zoning Code that resulted in the water flow being altered and doing damage to his home and property, then we have a situation with that and the other individual, the neighbor, should be made to put it back the way it was. Now, of course, if it ends up that the alterations didn't alter the water, then we have different situation and it does become, unfortunately a matter between you and your neighbor. I would like to see that clarified, though.

President Sharkey stated, I agree.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, several years this has been going on with me and Sentimentis and the town; we have met several times on this. We had the building department, the Zoning officer, the City engineer, they looked at everything and they could not find anything wrong. The only thing that was missing was the gentlemen that built the addition didn't have his certificate of occupancy. We had hoped to use that to try to get him to do something for Mr.

Sentimentis. He when and got counsel, he got what he needed in court, which was the certificate of occupancy. Mr. Behun went through the house and gave the gentlemen the certificate to occupy the back of the house. The building department, the Zoning, and the City engineer, from the City standpoint, there is nothing that they could find to be done to go to court with. We would have gone to court for Mr. Sentimentis; we did not just drop this unlike what Mr. Sentimentis was saying. But we went with what we could only go with and that was resolved. You are more than welcome to look at the files, John.

President Sharkey stated, if he had done it without a building permit, without going to the building department, he would have never gotten a certificate of occupancy. But, he must have at least gotten a building permit, I presume.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, he got a building permit I believe, but then he went a little bigger than what he was allowed to do.

President Sharkey asked, could you please write it all out for us, give us timelines, give us what has happened, give us the City's response, try and lay this all out for us so it makes some sense rather than doing he said-he said back and forth and all. It is very hard to follow this. So, please, lay it all out, have it in paper for us, I am going to ask you to please have it for next month's meeting if you could so that we can all see it and we can all address this. Also, the only thing I could figure out that happened to your file is our secretary is not here. We will contact her and we will try and find it; but we personally don't have it.

Mr. Sentimentis asked, how far is the deck supposed to be from the borderline?

President Sharkey replied, that we won't know until we see the building permit; we will find out from the building department what the permit said, what he was given permission to do. We'll actually have the Zoning enforcement people to put it all down for us on paper so we can all see it.

Mr. Sentimentis stated, thank you sir. One more question about the problem. The drain pipe, I met the man personally because he is my next door neighbor, and I was there talking to this builder, his name is Stanley. He is a very happy person, he came in and his son was working on the house to enlarge it. I said, "Stanley, you are doing a beautiful job" From the drain pipe coming down into those grille, I don't know the name of it; the water goes down. There is a pipe no more than 3 inches going into the ground into a dead end. So all of the water that comes down from the whole house is going into the pipe and then backs up downhill into my house, my house is downhill. So I took pictures and I am into the ankles with water. I am not too healthy, I am over 71 years old, but I have a heart problem also. You want proof? My cardiologist is in Bridgeport. I have a bad heart. I can't sleep nights because I have no justice. I believe City Hall made the mistake for giving the man the right to sell the house without saying, wait a minute here lets see how big the property is - you've got to cut that off. This happened to me back in 1960 when I owned a

house in West Norwalk. I had to cut the porch down, that's the way I bought the house. But somebody squealed, which I didn't know and then I had to cut it down. Now it is going to be very hard to convince that man who owns the house, you have to cut so many feet off the deck. Thank you for listening.

Alderman Stowe asked, what year was it when this builder built this house?

Mr. Sentimentis replied, it was close to four years ago.

Alderman Stowe asked, and he sold it already and somebody else is living in it now?

Mr. Sentimentis replied, yeah, well the Polish guy had it, Stanley. He owned it and then he sold it to Bolorino. Bolorino now says he's going to have a lawyer to fight the builder and I said, he can't do anything to the builder. He said, "why?" I said, "I had six homes one time, and every single one of them says inside, 'as is'; you buy it as is and when you signed that, it's finished and you can't do anything."

Alderman Stowe stated, have some patience, Mr. Sentimentis.

Mr. Sentimentis stated, thank you, sir.

President Sharkey stated, we will try to get some answers for ourselves so that we could have an understanding.

Mr. Sentimentis stated, thank you, thank you everybody.

Liz Vannostrand, 5 Clark Street

I have gotten some information about the sewage problem on Locke Street. I understand there has been a video done though I don't think anyone has seen the results of that yet, they're going to get back to me on it. Also, I have mentioned, too, the deterioration of our street really could be addressed and Mike Shryver has gotten back to me and I just wanted to make sure to thank our Aldermen, Charlie Stowe here, and Phil Tripp for helping me out on this issue. I believe we've been put on a maintenance schedule to have the sewer drains cleaned out and until they could get the results of the video, I guess. And then hopefully in the spring they're either going to put some sort of a pipe liner or address the issue and I'd just like to say thank you for getting it done and staying on top of it.

President Sharkey stated, former President Blume called that very next day, we have an engineering concern called United International. They came out, I'm pretty sure, within days or very soon thereafter and they ran a camera through the whole neighborhood. We haven't seen the results of it yet. They will tell us if there's any break, if there's any backup. In the past we've found some places where pipes have separated and they've dropped, and once one drops then

there's a problem. So, at least that will locate what the problem is. They haven't given it back to us yet. We'll ask Public Works for the results of that.

Ms. Vannostrand said, that would be great because I definitely would be interested to know that. Though I live at 5 Clark Street, the problem with the pipe, because it's happened a few times, it wraps around onto Locke Street and that's always where I see that sucker truck come out and try to fix the problem. So, I guess that's all I have to say about it except for, I look forward to it being fixed permanently.

I'd also like to say, congratulations to this gentleman on Castle Lane for having that voted down and staying with it because my sewage problem, had they built that area, would have drained down to an already existing problem. So, if there ever is an appeal, please, don't hesitate to call me because I will come - I don't want it coming past my house. Thank you.

Ken Plavnicky, 15 Mountainview Road

Congratulations, again, to all the newly elected Aldermen. A couple things I have to say is congratulations to the boys and all the coaches, Alderman Nihill, I see him out there every week doing a good job with the team. Congratulations on the win and everything for your son. It was very nice to see that up in Uconn.

Also, for the Redwing Pond House, I went to the grand opening and that was very, very nice to see that for the three and four year old kids.

Also I'd like to say lastly, the budget time is shortly coming up, and we have to try to keep it down for people that are having a hard time paying taxes and whatever way we can tweak it, we have to tweak it. I mean, we need money in education, we need money in Public Works and I know I am not going to be liked by saying this, but I believe that some of the money should be taken away from the fire and be put in the Education and the Public Works as they need the money more than anybody, in my opinion. Thank you.

President Sharkey asked if any other member of the public wished to speak.

Mr. Glander requested a copy of the video.

Alderman Nihill stated, that is not our video, sir.

President Sharkey stated, can I ask who is videotaping?

[Unidentified speaker] Fox News. Fox Connecticut.

President Sharkey stated, okay, because we were talking tonight about going forward with a video taping policy. We don't have a policy in effect for a private citizen to be doing it but, being the fact that it is Fox News, we haven't addressed that yet so continue. Mr. Glander, I would direct you to talk to Fox News about it.

President Sharkey asked if any other member of the public wished to address the Board.

Mr. Glander asked, can I have one more minute; give my closing statements?

President Sharkey stated, no.

Alderman Stowe stated, have patience, sir.

Ms. Vannostrand stated, if it's not too much, can I address one more issue?

President Sharkey stated, it's up to the Board if they wish to open it up again.

Alderman Marini MOVED to reopen the Public Session for one last speaker; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Liz Vannostrand, 5 Clark Street

Ms. Vannostrand stated, it's just something I have been thinking about over the last few days with the way they stole the plaque from our area. If they were going to be looking for funds in our neighborhood, I would ask that perhaps they would consider the men and women in our neighborhood that have been there for only 10 or 20 years, maybe they could help foot the bill by having their names with the plaque too when that problem is resolved. It's just a thought.

Mr. Glander asked to speak again.

President Sharkey stated, no.

Mr. Glander stated, the floor was opened back up. I didn't open it up.

Alderman Marini stated, I did make it for just one last speaker, though. Like I said sir, my offer still stands.

Alderman Stowe stated, have some patience, sir.

Mr. Glander stated, I just can't believe it. You opened the floor for one other person but I can't get my peace in?

Alderman Marini MOVED to reopen the Public Session for one other last speaker; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski		X	
Duffus		x	
Stowe	x		
Tripp	x		
Jeanette		x	
Macero			
Beall		x	
Fainer		x	
Madigosky			
Radin	x		
Nihill		x	
Knapp		x	
Marini	x		
Sharkey		x	
TOTALS	4	8	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION FAILED by a vote of 8 No and 4 Yes.

Mr. Glander stated, it's a disgrace.

Public Official Session

Mayor James Della Volpe

First of all I would like to, once again, congratulate the 12 and 14 year old cheerleaders on their National Championship. I'd also like to congratulate the Ansonia High School football team on winning the Class M title, Coach Brockett and his staff and all of the players, and Alderman Nihill is part of that staff. It's their 17th title and they set a state record this year by winning 14 games in one season.

Certification on Phase 2 and 3 of the flood levies has been sent on time to the Department of Homeland Security, better known as FEMA, for their review and approval.

Good news, Moody's has upgraded the City's bond rating from A1 to AA3 to help [inaudible] savings and help generate lower interest costs every time the City issues bonds. Speaking of Webster Bank, they said that to get an upgrade during this current economic environment was truly amazing. I would like to commend our Finance Department.

I would like to thank Steven Davis for donating the upright piano and Flo Cammileri for donating the six and a half foot Christmas tree to the Ansonia Community Action Center. I think that was a very great gesture on their part.

The City of Ansonia held a tax sale on December 8th. There were 12 properties up for sale. Two properties were not bid on; those properties were located on Ells Street. Four properties, people came in and made arrangements to pay the taxes prior to the sale. The City required \$67,000 and there were six properties that were bid on and the City took in \$142,000 on the sale. So, all in all, it was a good deal for the City; we got back taxes from these properties and they're also going to be put back on the tax rolls.

As we all know, recently there was a theft up at Woodbridge Avenue Memorial in regards to two plaques. I have been talking to Peter Jovachino who is here with us tonight of the Woodbridge Avenue Memorial Committee and he's talked about, I know there's going to be discussion tonight in regards to a reward, but I think Peter would rather have it replaced if we can start a fund for replacement. I have received calls as far away as Bristol from the American Legion post up in Bristol wanting to have a fundraiser, which I am going to attend and I'll give notice out to everybody letting them know when it's going to be. We're going to get in contact with them and get together and try to raise some money and I've also directed Corporation Counsel to contact our insurance carrier because it is on City property and we want to see if we can get insurance money for that.

Also, having said that, to replace the plaques; the Vietnam Plaque would cost \$4,695 and the World War II plaque would cost \$4,695 for a total of \$9,390. So, we're going to start a fundraiser out of the Mayor's Office; it's not just going to be the Mayor but it's going to be the Woodbridge Avenue Memorial and the Aldermen also. I will contact everybody and let you know the instructions.

In regards to our Active Military Christmas Fund List, we had 10 names and I'd like to just give you the names it's Michael Gokee, Sean Boulay, Cheryl Jacobs, Jonathan Hubbard, Angela Con, Steven Lidem, Crystal Yagovance, Terrance Hubbard, Matthew Davila, and Alan Poulin. We're going to send a card and a check out to these individuals who are serving our country and I think it's always a great gesture during the holiday season to do that.

I'd like to let you know about the Mayor's Christmas Luncheon, which will be Thursday December 22 at 11:30. I think that's all I have for now. I want to entertain any questions that the Board may have.

Alderman Knapp stated, Mayor, a couple of folks up here have asked about Maple Street Bridge. Any idea?

Mayor DellaVolpe replied, I was told December 16th which is coming up this week, Friday. Let's hope that happens.

Alderman Tripp asked, Mr. Mayor, do you have the details on naming the bridge after General Brian Phipps?

Mayor Della Volpe replied, I'm glad you brought that up. I know the Chief was going to discuss it. There is going to be a ceremony Friday, I'll let the Chief get into it more but there is going to be a ceremony this Friday at the Armory.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, I forgot to do this in support of the Nature Center. It's my pleasure to present to the Board of Alderman this evening, a calendar of the Ansonia Nature Center. This calendar is for the Aldermanic Chambers and I'd like to read a brief announcement from the Nature Center:

"This Nature Center 2012 calendar has been created to share the beauty of an Ansonia treasure. Located at Deerfield Lane in Ansonia, the Center serves the Valley and surrounding communities by providing various onsite nature programs for children, adults, and families, as well as for schools with nature activities and enhances their science programs. The calendars were developed as a celebration of the Ansonia Nature Center. A picture of its activities and programs and a memorial for the four volunteers who have devoted so much time and dedication to the Nature Center. These four are Rolf Smith, Jane Cahill, Bill Lingdren, and Eileen Sapiente. Designed by Marge Cusik, the calendar is being distributed free to a number of various schools, city governments, libraries, and other community organizations. These calendars were developed and paid through the generosity of John Bach and John Adzima in appreciation of the value of the Nature Center, its offerings and caring staff. No costs were incurred by the friends of the Nature Center, the Nature Center itself, or the City of Ansonia. Additional copies of the calendar may be purchased for \$21 by calling the Ansonia Nature Center."

Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

O'Neil's Court - we are off all the private property. We've got about 200 feet left of the top of the street to finish. Public Works will do it this week unless there's bad weather. The contractor that was working on it had to get moved to another project.

The Energy Improvement District met this week and we had a contract with Trans Canada, which has expired. They had made a vote to ask the Energy Consultant to try to work to get a better pricing on the heating of the City buildings. So, hopefully soon we'll be in front of this Board to ask you to approve a contract.

Other than the things in executive session, a few months ago there was a methadone clinic that wanted to move across the street; I think it was 156 or 154 Main Street. That did not happen, I think the landlord decided to not have them go in there but that resulted in an investigation that was going to be started at the U.S. Department of Justice. We got notified this week by the

United States Department of Justice that they are not going to proceed with the investigation; to them it's a closed matter. I have nothing else, thank you.

Chief Kevin Hale, Ansonia Police Department

We are still working on a number of major cases and the theft of the memorials is right up at the top. We're working with neighboring towns Derby and Shelton who've suffered losses over the weekend; Waterbury and New Britain has been hit. So we're sharing information and trying to get to the bottom of this. Again, I ask people to be ever vigilant; it's not enough to have a few officers out there. We need people paying attention to the neighborhood so I try to stress this as often as I can.

The issue was brought up on the winter parking rules earlier and those tickets were issued in error; the officer made an error. They should have been corrected; if they haven't then please have the neighbors bring them in. But they were made in error. We did do a study on this, it was with Public Works and the Police Department and the Ordinance Committee on this Board have moved back and forth and Tara was on that Committee as well. Winter parking, and it's actually working better now, from our perspective and Public Works. We're not flipping back and forth at the beginning of every month, we're issuing less tickets. Which, to me, is an indication that people are complying - it is the same rule from December 1st through March 31st. We have tried the partial day strategy before and it doesn't work because this is something you can't just turn off and on when there's a storm coming four or five days out. We do issue warnings for the first five or six days and this year I think it was five days of cars that were in violation and warning sheets put on the windshield to tell them what the rules are. So, again, this is something you did look at. If you want to look at it again, that's fine but again this isn't something I think that you can just say, we'll not issue tickets because it's 50 degrees in December because in January it doesn't matter. We know we've been fortunate but we're going to get hit here at some point.

President Sharkey stated, just restate, if you will, where we do the odd/even side is where the majority of months are right?

Chief Hale replied, no, it's where the year begins.

Alderman stated, so then this is the odd side because it's 2011, that's what I wanted to make sure.

Chief Hale stated, there was some debate on that back and forth and we thought that was the best resolution. We do not enforce this when businesses are open; we do not enforce this on Main Street or on Wakelee Avenue in certain areas. Obviously we're not going to hurt local businesses for that reason.

Getting back to the ward situations, we're also out there now looking for cars that appear to be abandoned. There's a lot of cars parked in Ansonia at any

point during the day so if you see some, or if somebody tells you a car has been in the same place for a while, even if it's registered, if it's inoperable then it can't be there. It has to be registered and operable to be parked in the City street. So we'd really like to know that; we'd rather get rid of it now than 12 hours before or after a snowstorm. It's just that much easier now.

Also, in your wards when you're out talking to people, I've said it before, nobody knows their neighborhoods and wards like the people who live there and the people who've lived there a long time and I can't tell you how many times we'll go to a call after the fact and somebody said "I saw something," or "I heard something but I didn't call because I didn't want to bother you." That's why we're here, it is not a bother, please call. We want to know about it; let us determine whether it's the importance of something. If something's out of place, please let us know.

Finally, this Friday at 1 o'clock at the Ansonia Armory, there will be a ceremony for General Brian Phipps, the Route 8 overpass on Hull Street is being named after General Phipps to remember a good friend of ours for many years as a long standing Police Commissioner, he was a great guy. He was a football coach for 30 years, a Patriot and good family man so that is Friday at 1 o'clock at the Armory. So, all are invited.

Alderman Tripp, yes, I would just like to dovetail with the Chief; I was fortunate enough to serve under General Brian Phipps. He was both a battalion commander of the 102nd Infantry, which included Ansonia and he was also the Brigade Commander of the 43rd Infantry Brigade, so I just wanted that part of the record that it was an honor and privilege to have served under him. That's all I wanted to say.

Alderman Jeanette stated, Chief, are there any leads on those plaques?

Chief Hale replied, we've got some information; we're still digging. These things are fairly easy to get rid of. There are businesses out there that will not abide by the rules and just take whatever you bring in so we're dealing with that. So, I'm assuming that the turnover was quick and Derby and Shelton are seeing the same; we're going to keep pushing.

Alderman Radin stated, I mentioned when I was a part of the audience about the cars parked on High Street and coming down here tonight, I know that there are three cars parked there and they are parked less than 10 feet from the corner. There's also a fire hydrant right at the turn in the road there. They just park there all the time and I think it's a bad location, plus they're not parked the actual 25 feet from a corner or from a fire hydrant.

Chief Hale replied, that night I went home that way to look and there appeared to be the one car that had the big Marine Corps sign on the back; that car was where it should have been; it was proper distance from the corner. The officers

are aware and I believe tickets have been issued before but I will pass that along.

Alderman Radin stated, I went right by it tonight and that car was there and he was parked alright but there was a car parked right in front of him which was less than 10 feet from the corner. What I'm saying is that the fire hydrant is right there, right around the corner and it is very dangerous.

Alderman Knapp stated, I was just going to say, before I came down tonight, I think it was in a Waterbury cemetery, two bronze statues disappeared.

Alderman Fainer stated, I'd just like to thank the Chief along the lines of the abandoned cars. I had some in my neighborhood, I called them up and they took care of it right away. People think the red tag goes away because they rip it off but it doesn't. The next day the Chief gets them out of there and like the Chief says, once it starts snowing then they're going to become a pain in the neck. You could see if its in your neighborhood, you know which cars are there and the Chief took care of it right away, thank you Chief.

Tara Kolakowski, Government Liaison, Acting Personnel Director

You have the Communication #5 in front of you tonight and myself, Fran Teodosio, Labor Counsel, the Mayor, worked very diligently on this with the Union and the City Hall employees and they were very responsive, very wonderful. Everybody took into consideration the fiscal responsibilities of the citizens and the residents and we look for your support to pass it this evening.

Donna Lindgren, Director, Ansonia Nature Center

I'd just like to add a little bit to what the Mayor said about the new calendar. I hope you all get a chance to look at it; it does really depict the Nature Center and speaks very well for it. However, in addition to that, I want to thank publicly all of the Boards and Commissions that have worked so hard to get that Red Wing Pond House ready to open. The grand opening for that building is scheduled for Friday, December 30th between 1 and 6 p.m. If you haven't been there lately you should come and see it and the opening, actually, with kids there will be on January 3rd. So hopefully some of you or most of you will come to that. See you there, thank you.

President Sharkey thanked Ms. Lindgren.

Alderman Marini congratulated Ms. Lindgren on the calendar.

Committee Reports***Economic Development Commission – Alderman John Marini***

First, I had mentioned in the last meeting that ESPN had an interest in filming a commercial somewhere in Ansonia regarding one of their shows called NFL 32. It would be a promo for the television show that would run on their network. We invited them down for a tour. Alderman Phil Tripp, along with the Mayor went around to both the Armory and to Copper and Brass and the people from ESPN gave me a call back later about two days after. They said they were very impressed with Copper and Brass; that it really was the backdrop they were looking for. So we got them right in touch with John Barto and Ray McGee. I spoke with John Barto, he told me they came back to the location again last Friday. They were equally impressed and he believes it is going to go forward sometime in the spring. So while we won't be able to take in a fee for this, it's certainly not on City property, it still is something to attract attention, some notoriety for the City and my goal is to interest anybody and everybody in the properties that we have in Ansonia.

The other note I'd like to make, something I brought up in the past that I think needs to be accentuated here, tonight. As this Board is aware, budget season is rapidly approaching. As we know, tough decisions have to be made to ensure that we maintain the quality of our municipal services without burdening our taxpayers. But in the long run, the only solution to avoid substantial tax increases in the future is to increase the revenue coming into our City. What has been concerning to me, and I've mentioned this in the past to the Board, Ansonia has no comprehensive plan for Economic Development. We don't have a master plan to revitalize our City and to get us to where we need to be five or ten years from now. And I know, as President Sharkey had mentioned in the past, we've had several studies done and preliminary plans drafted. In particular I know that a study was performed by the Main Street Center, in 2009 they did a walking tour with the Valley Chamber of Commerce and our business counsel, and there's also the Center City Plan that was developed about ten years ago and both of those plans and studies give us some very good guidance and they're very good resources. But right now, they're basically sitting around collecting dust and they don't address the crucial zoning changes that we would need to implement today to realize any downtown development or revitalization in the future. And moreover they don't deal with the hard details of how we're going to overcome the obvious obstacles presented by our downtown. It's for that reason I believe that this Board in the next two years must advocate for the creation and implementation of a real economic master plan for Ansonia and I believe that the vacant Economic Development Director position just may provide us the means to achieving that end. As I've discussed with Mayor Della Volpe recently, I'd like to recommend to at least explore filling the position not with a permanent full time or part time employee but rather a temporary consultant. A consultant that would be tasked with a specific purpose of developing a master plan for Economic Development in a defined period of time and in doing so the consultant would be charged with

reviewing past plans, studies, speaking with all City Officials and all Departments, all businesses, property owners, community leaders that customize a tailored plan that we can implement for Ansonia. If the resulting plan that that individual comes up with is acceptable to the Mayor and is acceptable to the sport, we could then hire a consultant or other individuals to implement the plan. I hope to present more details on a proposal like this in the future, I hope to work with all the Aldermen and all of the Departments in Commissions on thinking about this proposal. But in the end I can't reiterate this enough and I'd like to start thinking about this as we begin our new session. Ansonia's future is too important to be left up to chance. We need to develop a comprehensive development plan before the opportunity passes us by.

President Sharkey stated, well said. we have, by the way, another Economic Development Committee here on the Board of Aldermen; several of the members have changed. People have gotten their assignments tonight and we're probably accepting a resignation tonight from Economic Development so we have, probably, two openings on there. It really behooves us to come up with a new Economic Development Commission along with these members that we have here and sit with the Mayor and come up with a good plan.

Alderman Fainer asked, did you get results back from the survey you had?

Alderman Marini replied, yes, we did get results back from the survey and we actually did publish some of them preliminarily on the website. We were planning to do a press release, but unfortunately with the Commission being a little fluxed; they weren't able to effectuate that right away. Still certainly Economic Development is on the up tick as you remember we had five years of completely inactive, non-existent Board. So I am very optimistic about the opportunity to push it even further, to go even farther. And I would also recommend that we not only have this Board sit down with the Economic Development Committee but also get the Economic Development Corporation involved in the mix as well. Really, it's a bunch of diverse elements in the City that have a stake in Economic Development; really everyone across the Board, even Education, Planning and Zoning and we just have to pull these disparate elements together and really work on a plan for the City.

Alderman Stowe asked, do we actually have a town planner for Economic Development?

President Sharkey replied, I don't think for Economic Development but we have a town planner for the Planning and Zoning if that helps out there.

Alderman Stowe asked, is that Oswald?

President Sharkey replied, yes.

Alderman Stowe asked, and who would actually be the person that would do the Economic Planning?

President Sharkey replied, that's someone that we don't have right now.

Alderman Stowe stated, first, you need a planner because the planner needs to take and find out what the zoning regulations are for different areas of the City. Then you need the Economic Development guy because he'll know what businesses he can put where depending on the zoning regulations of each area; whether its historic or its heavy industry, rail, any of that... that's what we have to do and that's what we need. I know we've been talking about regionalizing this but I think 10 years ago I think they tried doing the whole Naugatuck Valley and I think we have some unique situations here with environmental issues and I think we need to be on our own on this. If we get involved regionally I believe the other towns are liable to get a step ahead of us because they don't have the difficult issues that we do.

President Sharkey stated, lets revise the Economic Development Committee of the Board of Aldermen and the Economic Development Commission and start there and hopefully we go forward with an Economic Development person here in City Hall and we start there and we move this forward.

ARMS Committee - Alderman Jerome Fainer

In November, we were dispatched to 232 calls, transported 171 patients, we had the paramedic on board for 72 transports, mutual aid to Derby and Shelton and we collected \$31,067 and no passed calls again.

Fire Committee - Alderman Gene Sharkey

All of our equipment has undergone DOT testing. They have certification for the year that is mandated by the State; every truck has to be gone through and make sure the brakes, the steering, and everything is up to OSHA standards. We're presently in the process of having all of our trucks go through pump testing because those also have to be done. It's something people that have sat in on the Finance Committee have learned by listening to the detailed things that most of what goes on in the Fire Department is mandated and, like all of our ladders have to be OSHA tested, all of our pumps have to be OSHA tested, all of our hose has to be OSHA tested, everything has to be done; those are significant charges for the Fire Department that we incur every year and that's a main part of our budget; the mandated stuff that has to be done. So, we will be going through that again during the budget season.

Finance Committee - Alderman David Knapp

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

Municipal Reports / Annual Reports

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

Tax Refunds

Alderman Nihill MOVED to accept the refund report and pay the refunds in the amount of \$766.23 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Accidents and Claims

11-11-789 Pedro Coviano (Julie Dinardo - Mother)

Alderman Knapp MOVED to refer the claim to Corporation Counsel Blake and the Claims Committee; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Communications and Late Communications

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

Communication #1

From: Chairman Bartholomew Flaherty, Planning and Zoning Commission
Re: Anaerobic Digestion Facility - Favorable 8-24 Referral

President Sharkey read the communication aloud as follows:

“Dear Mr. President and honorable Board Members, Planning and Zoning Commission has made the following decisions in response to your referrals. 1.) Anaerobic Digestion Facility, the commission voted to send a favorable response providing the plans and designs that are presented to the land use Boards for approvals.”

Alderman Fainer MOVED to accept Communication #1 and place it on file; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Communication #2

From: Chairman Bartholomew Flaherty, Planning and Zoning Commission
Re: Release of Performance Bond - Denita Subdivision; Acceptance of Gracie Lane as a City Street

President Sharkey read the communication aloud as follows:

“Dear Mr. President and honorable Board Members, at the last Planning and Zoning Commission meeting the members voted upon the recommendation of the City Engineer, Fred D’Amico, to release the performance bond for the Denita Estates subdivision built on Gracie Lane, Ansonia. Commission also voted upon the recommendation of the City Engineer, Fred D’Amico, the road be accepted as a City street. Mr. D’Amico assures the commission the development has met all requirements of Planning and Zoning Commission for the approved subdivision plans and all of the monuments are installed and this street is ready to be accepted. Thank you for your consideration.”

President Sharkey stated, Alderman stated, I think this also still requires approval of the City Engineer and I think Public Works has to ensure that all the monuments are placed and everything is done.

Alderman Nihill MOVED, per the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission, and contingent upon compliance with all requirements of Section 24.50 of the Ordinance to release the performance bond for the Denita Estates Subdivision built on Gracie Lane, Ansonia; and further,

MOVED to accept Gracie Lane as a City Street; SECONDED by Alderman Stowe.

President Sharkey asked that in addition a letter be sent to the Board of Public Works asking them to expedite this matter or that street is not going to get plowed.

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

Communication #3

From: Superintendent of Schools Carol Merlone
Re: Invitation to Participate in Strategic Planning

President Sharkey stated, the Superintendent of Schools was inviting the Board President and one member to attend their strategic planning sessions to put their budget together prior to it coming to the Board of Aldermen Finance

Committee. I have responded to them, I will not be able to make the meetings. If any member of our Finance Committee wishes to attend those, you have the dates and the times of them. Please let me know, I will send your response that you would be attending them.

Alderman Tripp asked, is that limited to just one of us or all of us combined?

President Sharkey replied, it says they were asking for one, I am not going to be able to attend so I imagine there could be two members.

Alderman Marini stated, Mr. President, I can say that I've talked to our Superintendent within this week and she's very eager to explore a dialogue with this Board. As I have said before I think it's very important, not just around budget time but year round. I certainly encourage any member of the Board to contact her about attending these sessions but to sort of do one better. I have talked to her about the idea of getting the Aldermen into the schools while they're in session. So, we could understand exactly what these teachers are facing in the classrooms, sort of talk to the teachers, have a chance to see things in session. Carol believed that that's a wonderful idea, she welcomes it and, in fact, she is very enthusiastic about the prospect. I would like to ask the Board's permission if I could work with Carol to sort of coordinate a date possibly in late January where this Board will be free to come down during the day and to be taken on a tour by Carol and our school board staff of our school system.

President Sharkey stated, that's fine. Do we have any people volunteering to attend the strategic planning meetings?

Aldermen Tripp and Alderman Marini agreed to do so.

Communication #4

From: Board of Public Works

Re: Bid Award for Gutter Repairs at ARMS

President Sharkey stated, I realize it stretches the meeting out a little bit and in the past we've just approved the Communications. I'd like to read them so everybody understands what we're doing. So, it takes a little bit longer and it's a little tougher on me, but I'd like to read them.

This is from the Board of Public Works; it's the bid award for gutter repairs at ARMS. I can explain during that tremendous ice debacle that we had last year with the build up of snow upon snow upon snow; it completely tore the gutters off of ARMS. They had to send the Fire Department down to help remove the gutters. Otherwise they were going to start tearing the steel sheeting off the roof and the side of the building. So, that was done right after the storms were over.

President Sharkey read the communication aloud as follows:

“Dear Mr. President, On December 6, 2011, at the meeting of the Board of Public Works, the Board voted unanimously to award the bid for gutter repairs at Ansonia Rescue Medical Services to Shoreline Home Improvement, LLC of East Haven at a cost of \$8,000. This award was made contingent upon the approval of your Board. Please consider this.”

It was put out to bid, they followed all of the required procedures, there was only one bidder, this is the only bidder that bid on the project.

Alderman Stowe asked, what was the reason for that? He’s the only one that showed up? I just went through a walk through in Orange and they had about 20 bidders show up. I’m just surprised in this economy that only one bidder showed up.

President Sharkey replied, this was posted, done, and I saw it in the paper, posted in the Register. By the way, this is an insurance claim; we did file insurance for it.

Alderman Nihill MOVED, per the recommendation of the Board of Public Works to award the bid for gutter repairs at Ansonia Rescue and Medical Services to Shoreline Home Improvement, LLC of East Haven, CT at a cost of \$8,000; SECONDED by Alderman Stowe.

Alderman Nihill stated, it was a bid process, and I’m quite surprised as Alderman Stowe that we had only one bidder. We need to move forward with this. I’ve been to ARMS; I’m on the ARMS Commission. Because of this problem it’s creating several other issues down there, so we need to correct this as soon as possible.

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

Communication #5

From: Labor Attorney Francis Teodosio

Re: City of Ansonia UPSEU/Local 424 - Unit 28 Municipal Employees Collective Bargaining Agreement

Alderman Nihill MOVED to discuss this item in Executive Session; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Communication #6

Re: Proposed Video Recording Policy

Alderman Marini MOVED to refer the Proposed Video Recording Policy to the Video Committee for finalization; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp.

President Sharkey stated, Alderman Marini put this together. We do have a Video Recording Committee composed of five people. I'd like to refer this to the Video Committee and get them going on this and have them report back.

Alderman Marini stated, Mr. President, on the pending Communication, I drafted a Video Recording Resolution that I felt sort of echoed the concerns of our Video Recording Committee - Alderman Beall, Alderman Blume, and myself. We got together about a month and a half ago, maybe a little longer. I know we have passed a resolution to start recording meetings in January. So, I wanted to sort of create a first policy that would be flexible enough to one, pin down our concerns over video recording but on the other hand allow the Video Recording Committee of this Board to sort of make decisions on a month to month basis. Specifically the policy I drafted would give the Video Recording Committee the ability to select what technology they would use, coordinate the dissemination of the video recordings to public access, and to the Internet, and also to assemble a volunteer base that would be responsible for recording these meetings month to month. The intention, of course, is to present this all for the City at no charge. Which is, of course, different from what other cities do. Many other cities do pay for their video recording process. But I am confident that with new technology, it doesn't really take more than a video camera and maybe one or two volunteers to actually get it done on a monthly basis and I am very happy to say I've talked to Public Access and there's no cost associated with that. They even allow free use of their facility for transferring. The only cost I have identified with the procedure is of course payment for tapes. Seed tapes and VHS tapes or public access receives; we want to have a copy of the video recorded meetings on file with our Town Clerk at all times. Of course it does take funds to buy those; especially if we're talking about one or two tapes every month.

So, I'd like to propose, first of all, in my policy it is specified that there is no line item in the budget for this. There will be no money received from the City for this effort, rather the Video Recording Committee is tasked with not only raising the volunteers but also raising the funds and in the hope of getting our model of transparency, I think for the Valley on track, I can report that the Ansonia Republican Town Committee has offered to offer a matching donation towards the Democrat Town Committee of splitting all costs for the tapes and any other cost that may arise for the next two years. I know I would like to be on track to get the meetings filmed by January. Obviously we need the Committee to meet. I'd like to authorize the Committee to meet, to retool the policy and to get video taping in place for our January meeting which I think is completely possible if our committee starts to meet in the next two weeks.

President Sharkey stated, the new committee consists of: Robert Beall as the Chairperson, Aldermen Adamowski, Jeanette, Marini, and myself. So Alderman Beall if you could pull something together; you can contact me and I'll give you everybody's e-mail address. We will pull something together and get a chance to look it over. It is four pages, we need to go through it and take a look

at it. I wouldn't speak for the Democratic Town Committee without them meeting.

Alderman Knapp stated, just so I understand it correctly, we are going to send it to the Video Recording Committee and they're going to....

President Sharkey stated, report back here.

Alderman Knapp asked, they're going to report back here; they're not making any decisions until...

President Sharkey replied, well they're going to look at this for additions, deletions, changes, workability, and they'll report back here.

Alderman Marini stated, our resolution that we passed two meetings ago allows the Video Recording Committee to draft the policy and implement it. Essentially it doesn't need to come back to this Board for approval; they could review the policy, modify it and then commence. And I would say, taking a look at other Valley communities, there have been fights over videotaping meetings. There's been town officials who have been against it and there's been big political backup, but we are setting an example. We are being a role model I believe for transparency in the Valley and in the State by taking the initiative to do it ourselves and I am very proud of this Board.

Alderman stated, that's why we're called 'Title Town'.

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

[NOTE: the following correction to the minutes was made at the January 10, 2012 meeting:

- Alderman Knapp noted that on Page 28 at the bottom, there was a vote taken with regard to videotaping meetings. I just want to, for the record, to say that I was not opposed to videotaping the meetings, I was opposed to sending it to the committee and have the committee to have the authority to make decisions without reporting back to the full Board. That is what I was opposed to. It was a no vote; this is the explanation for the no vote.*

Communication #7

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

Re: Officer Joseph Jackson - CHRO Complaint

Alderman Nihill MOVED to discuss this item in Executive Session; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Communication #8

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake
Re: Letter from Renee Ventre - Regarding rental agreement for Redwing Pond House Apartment

“Dear Board of Aldermen, Please find enclosed for your consideration a letter from Ms. Renee Ventre seeking to reside in the apartment located on the second floor of the Redwing Pond House that is situated on the property of the Ansonia Nature Center. Please place this matter on the agenda for the December 13th meeting. - Kevin Blake”

The letter is from Renee Ventre, “Dear Mayor, I am writing this letter in regards to the vacancy Redwing Pond House apartment. I would like to express my interest in the apartment that is available. I am a lifelong resident of Ansonia; currently a volunteer at the Ansonia Nature and Recreation Center. I was previously employed as Chief Engineer of Maintenance of some major hotels throughout Connecticut and they’re listed. Until I became disabled I am currently on Social Security disability, can still do some maintenance and would be available to do some night watch throughout the park. I am available to do volunteer work throughout the week as I do now. I appreciate my consideration for this opportunity to occupy the Redwing Pond House apartment and be part of the Nature Center Community. Should you desire to speak with me to discuss a rental agreement.”

President Sharkey continued, it lists her cell phone number here, which I won’t read in to the public. I think we need to refer this to the Land Use Committee. I think it’s a good idea, but we need to set some parameters for the Land Use Committee. There has to be some talk about, is there a rental agreement?

Alderman Nihill stated, the Land Use Committee and also Corporation Counsel should look into her request, a rental agreement, what exposes the City to liability, and report back to the Board of Aldermen.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to refer Communication #8 to the Land Use Committee and Corporation Counsel Blake regarding liability and a rental agreement; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Alderman Radin stated, I was just going to say the same thing. I think we need to discuss rental and whether she’s planning on staying there and taking that as part of her, that she would be watching. I don’t disagree with renting it but I think as Alderman Nihill said we have to look into all of the things of our liability on this property.

President Sharkey stated, I think we also have to, if someone is saying they would be available as a night watch, are we accepting their work as a City employee. Are we therefore liable for some benefits? Are we liable for insurance? What happens if that person does say, “well, I was acting as the night watchman when I heard a noise out there and I fell down”? Do we have a

liability issue?

Communication #9

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

Re: River Plaza - 27 Maple Street

Alderman Nihill MOVED to discuss this item in Executive Session; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

[Alderman Duffus left the meeting at this point, 8:30 p.m. - 11 present, 3 absent]

Resignation

President Sharkey read the following resignation aloud:

“Dear Mayor Della Volpe and Alderman Marini, Being a resident and business owner it is with mixed feelings, I must submit my resignation from the Ansonia Economic Development Committee. The demands of my business and personal matters dictate that I make this decision at this time. I wanted to be able to help make a difference in this City, but I cannot be effective if I cannot commit the needed time and effort. Thank you for the opportunity to serve the City. Respectfully, William Luneski, Vice Chairman”

Alderman Marini MOVED to accept, with regret, the resignation of William Luneski from the Economic Development Commission and to send him a letter of thanks for his service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Appointments

Alderman Fainer MOVED to have a Roll Call Vote taken for each individual appointment; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Town and City Clerk Madeline Bottone read aloud Mayor James T. DellaVolpe's appointments as outlined in his letter of December 7, 2011 as follows:

ANSONIA HOUSING AUTHORITY

Alderman Nihill MOVED to reappoint Michael Vacca of 44 Condon Drive; term to expire 10/31/2016; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
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Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

ANSONIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Alderman Nihill MOVED to accept the appointment of James Frolish as an Ansonia Police Detective; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp.

Chief Hale stated Officer Frolish is here tonight. Jim has been with us for 10 years and those 10 years he proved himself to be a determined investigator. He's turned into quite a fine police officer. He's a local guy and not only that but he finished number one in the grueling exam process; it was a very close battle, but he did finish number one. I am very proud of the officer that Jim has become and I am looking forward to your support in getting him to Detective.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT AND TAXATION

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Robert H. Boran of 20 Birchwood Drive; term to expire 12/31/2014; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Jeremiah Kennedy of 12 Jason Wright Drive; term to expire 12/31/2014; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Edward C. Norman of 51 Grove Street; term to expire 12/31/2014; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Sharkey	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Jacques Veillette of 4 Hoinsky Way; term to expire 12/31/2014; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to reappoint Louis Macero of 55 Hubbell Avenue; term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Beall.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to reappoint Susan A. Nargi of 8 Benz Street; term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

Alderman Marini MOVED to reappoint Patricia Fers of 28 W. Brookside Avenue; term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Radin.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions. Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Ellen Troy of 19 Chester Street; term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

BOARD OF BUILDING APPEALS

Alderman Nihill MOVED to reappoint James D. Martin of 144 Platt Street; term to expire 12/31/2016; SECONDED by Alderman Beall.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Alderman Marini MOVED to reappoint David Cassetti of 3 High Acres Road; term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski		X	
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette		X	
Macero			
Beall		X	
Fainer		X	
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill		X	
Knapp		X	
Marini	X		
Sharkey		X	
TOTALS	4	7	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION FAILED 4 Yes, 7 No, 0 Abstentions.

Alderman Marini stated, Mr. President may I say this is obvious political retribution and I am ashamed to see this Board embrace the gutter politics that is destroying this country. You should be ashamed of yourselves.

President Sharkey asked, Can you and I talk about this some other time?

Alderman Marini stated, this is a public meeting, Mr. President. I think the thing speaks for itself.

Alderman Stowe stated, before this gets out of hand, which it's starting to, I would like to ask, what is the reason for this Board to vote against Mr. Cassetti.

President Sharkey replied, reasons need not be given.

Alderman Stowe stated, that's not an open policy, this is the first night and it would be wonderful if we could vote together.

President Sharkey stated, people have a right to vote the way they feel; I can honestly tell you and look everybody in the eye, I served 22 years on Planning and Zoning and the first official night that a Republican Mayor walked in the door, got rid of myself and the vice chairman. I have two witnesses here that saw it and I wasn't allowed to ask why and I never even received...

Alderman Marini stated, the Republicans on this Board have no connection to any Republicans in the past.

President replied, I never even received a letter thanking me for 22 years. People have a right to vote. I could never question those people as to why they've voted against me and that was it.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to reappoint Bruce Robert Goldson, Sr. of 29 Glen Drive; term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Sharkey	X		
Knapp	X		

Marini	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Alderman Beall MOVED to reappoint John T. Finnucan of 22 New Street; term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe			X
Tripp			X
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin			X
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini			X
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	7	0	4

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 7 Yes, 0 No, 4 Abstentions.

[Multiple speakers - inaudible]

Alderman Stowe stated, I'll tell you; that was a big mistake starting off the... It doesn't look good to our citizens here. We are supposed to be working together. We said a prayer, we said a prayer when people got sworn in here, and I personally followed the priest here that said "let's work for this town." That guy worked hard here, and he's always willing to work. And the least you could have done is just give him some kind of explanation if he did something wrong, that's all we asked for. Now we abstain, and we get a comment. I mean, what do you expect? This is just going to deteriorate. Let us abstain.

President Sharkey stated, I would think that any person that voted is willing to discuss with him the reasons they voted, but nobody has ever been questioned in a vote on here as to why they voted the way they did. And we're certainly not going to start it in your first meeting.

Alderman Stowe stated, well I'm new, and I'm not a politician. I'm on training wheels.

President Sharkey stated, no one has done this.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to reappoint Karen Blake of 19 Birchwood Drive; term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski.

Alderman Nihill stated, I want to duly point out that this is a Republican and I've appointed several Republicans here. I am tired of being accused of party-line voting or garbage politics.

Alderman Stowe stated, I like Mr. Cassetti. I'm not going to throw him under the bus.

President Sharkey stated, that's fine and you had a right to vote

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to reappoint Robert J. Kolakowski of 14 Farrel Drive; term to expire 12/31/2012; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe			X
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			

Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	10	0	1

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention.

Alderman Beall MOVED to reappoint Richard H. McGowan of 16 Bartholomew Avenue; term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe			X
Tripp			X
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin			X
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini			X
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	7	0	4

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 7 Yes, 0 No, 4 Abstentions.

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Alderman Beall MOVED to reappoint Nicholas Behun of 25 Prindle Avenue; term to expire 11/30/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			

Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

COMMISSION FOR ELDERLY SERVICES

Alderman Beall MOVED to reappoint Marcia J. Dobrowski of 9 Arlene Drive; term to expire 12/31/2014; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp			X
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini			X
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	9	0	2

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9 Yes, 0 No, 2 Abstentions.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Elizabeth Wojciechowski of 30 Clark Street; term to expire 12/31/2014; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			

Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

CULTURAL COMMISSION

Alderman Nihill MOVED to reappoint Christine Collicelli of 10 Lindgren Terrace; term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe			X
Tripp			x
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin			X
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini			X
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	7	0	4

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 7 Yes, 0 No, 4 Abstentions.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Alderman Knapp MOVED to appoint Daniel Bogen of 14 Belleview Terrace; Luneski replacement; term to expire 2/28/2014; SECONDED by Alderman Stowe.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			

Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR / PLUMBING / HEATING INSPECTOR

Alderman Nihill MOVED to reappoint Robert J. Dunn of 51 Hubbell Avenue; term to expire 11/30/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer			X
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	10	0	1

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstentions.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to reappoint Randolph Carroll of 40 Fourth Street #10; term to expire 11/30/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Stowe.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		

Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Sharkey	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to reappoint Thomas P. Clifford, III of 10 South Westwood Road; term to expire 11/30/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Beall.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

Alderman Fainer MOVED to reappoint Bartholomew R. Flaherty, III, of 28 Pinecrest Avenue; term to expire 11/30/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Stowe.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			

Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

CORPORATION COUNSEL

Alderman Knapp MOVED to reappoint Kevin M. Blake of 19 Birchwood Drive; term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski.

Alderman Stowe stated, I would like to say something and hopefully my colleagues agree with me. This is nothing personal; this is all political and it has nothing to do with the individual that is getting ready to be read. Abstain.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe			X
Tripp			X
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin			X
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini			X
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	7	0	4

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 7 Yes, 0 No, 4 Abstentions.

GOVERNMENT LIAISON

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to reappoint Tara Kolakowski of 14 Farrel Drive; term to expire 12/31/2013; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		

Duffus			
Stowe			X
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin			X
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	9	0	2

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9 Yes, 0 No, 2 Abstentions.

BOARD OF ETHICS

Alderman Knapp MOVED to appoint Mary Gibson of 16 Arbor Terrace to fill a vacancy; term to expire 12/31/2016; SECONDED by Alderman Beall.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski	X		
Duffus			
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Macero			
Beall	X		
Fainer	X		
Madigosky			
Radin	X		
Nihill	X		
Knapp	X		
Marini	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	11	0	0

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

Resolutions

Resolution #1

Re: Easements with State of Connecticut for Riverwalk

R E S O L U T I O N

By Aldermen Jerome Fainer and Robert Beall of the Fourth Ward.

Resolved,

WHEREAS, the City of Ansonia has constructed a Riverwalk for recreational use by the public; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ansonia proposes to extend the Riverwalk to Pershing Drive; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ansonia requires an easement from the State of Connecticut to construct the extension;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that James T. Della Volpe, Mayor of the City of Ansonia is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the City of Ansonia permanent and temporary construction and maintenance easements with the State of Connecticut pertaining to land located along the easterly side of Pershing Drive in Ansonia, Connecticut.

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

Resolution #2

Re: Memorial Plaques Theft - Monetary Awards for Information

R E S O L U T I O N

Aldermen John Marini of the 7th Ward; Charles Stowe and Philip Tripp of the 2nd Ward; and Joan Radin of the 5th Ward introduced the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen recognizes an increased criminal presence in our neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen recognizes that it must act proactively to combat crime in Ansonia; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen is authorized to offer monetary awards for information leading to the arrest and conviction of criminals pursuant to Section 92 of the Ansonia City Charter; and

WHEREAS, the theft of two memorial plaques from the War Memorial located at the intersection of Woodbridge Avenue and Vesselli Court remains an unsolved crime,

HEREBY BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Ansonia Board of Aldermen, extend a public offer in the amount of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000) for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the theft; and further,

HEREBY BE IT RESOLVED that this award will be split and shared equally in the event that multiple persons furnish such information; and further,

HEREBY BE IT RESOLVED that the award, if any, will be paid from the City's claims budget.

Alderman Marini stated, the recent theft of the memorial plaques is beyond the pale. This City needs to send a strong message that we'll do everything to assist our police in apprehending those responsible and that we will not tolerate this grave insult to our veterans. Now as this Board knows, there are three other resolutions that are still pending before the Rewards Committee, which is the subcommittee of this Board with two members of the Police Commission and two members of the Board of Aldermen. I am asking that this Board of Aldermen tonight send this resolution to join those other three resolutions; that the Board's Rewards Committee be repaneled; and meet within this month's time to discuss parameters for setting a reward and getting all of those resolutions back on track so that we can have a final vote at our January meeting.

President Sharkey stated, okay; we have two members of the Police Commission on there, we had two members of the Board of Aldermen, one of which was not re-elected.

Alderman Marini stated, it was myself and Peter Danielczuk.

President Sharkey asked, do we have another person that would volunteer to go on the Rewards Committee? Alderman Tripp has volunteered to go on it. What we would do is hopefully you two will set up a meeting time somehow with the two members of the Police Commission; I'm pretty sure it was Mr. Goldson and Mr. Tyszka. I'm pretty sure the Chief will be able to get a telephone contact number for you and the four of you, if you would like to sit down and make it, I would be glad to sit in and see what happens. I invite any other Alderman that wishes, even though you're not part of the committee if you'd like to join in and at least observe what's happening.

Alderman Fainer stated, I am all for a reward, I mean, some of the stuff. But President Blume asked you in October, are you going to address this Rewards Committee, and you guys still haven't met. Are you going to meet this time?

Alderman Marini stated, there were other ...

Alderman Fainer stated, so don't blame it on, throw it on us.

Alderman Marini stated, you pointed to one member of a four-person committee. We are also talking about a board that had zero support for this idea the last time that I raised it. Now with three new Aldermen I hope that there's going to be a more receptive Board this time around. I look forward to your support and your vote in January on this resolution.

Alderman Fainer stated, I will look forward to you getting it done. You bring up a lot of stuff but you don't get nothing done. As Chairman of the Ordinance Committee...

Alderman Marini stated, that's a lot of talk for someone who's overseen an Economic Development Board that didn't meet for five years.

Alderman Fainer stated, who? I didn't sit on no Economic Development.

[Note: the following correction to these minutes was made at the January 10, 2012 Board of Aldermen meeting]

- *Alderman Fainer noted that on page 49 of the minutes, it is correctly recorded, the statement was made, but he would just like to let it be known that he was never on the Economic Development Commission and have never overseen it, like the statement that was made.*

[Multiple speakers]

Alderman Marini stated, you are on the Ordinance Committee but I don't remember the Graffiti resolution being pulled from the table either. Where's the activity on that?

Alderman Fainer stated, did we go to the Police Commission?

President Sharkey called for order. Let's be glad this isn't being videotaped tonight.

Alderman Stowe stated, I have a question for the Mayor. I was talking with Pete Giovachino and he made mention that there was some of the studs that went into the memorial seemed to be loose a little bit with the plaques that are still there, and he was concerned. He didn't get up tonight; I saw him, he was here. I'm wondering, what are we doing to protect what we still have, and do we actually have insurance on the memorials.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, the insurance is being addressed by Corporation Counsel Blake. I met with Peter Giovachino afterwards. His concern is the

lights. I'm going to address it with U.I. and have new lighting put up up there. They're putting more secure bolts in so that they cannot take the plaques off. That is being addressed, Charlie.

Alderman Stowe stated, I thank you because I know you are as concerned as anybody about this.

President Sharkey stated, Mr. Giovachino also mentioned that if there was a possibility of rather it being a reward, the money that the Board of Aldermen is talking about putting forth that that put into the fund to replace and purchase the other ones.

Alderman Stowe stated, when the committee meets, perhaps we ought to discuss that and like you said about the other issue, maybe people that aren't on the committee would like to go to it, that particular meeting, to try to resolve.

President Sharkey stated, that's something that the committee could bring back to the Board of Aldermen but he has requested that the money itself be put into, because they have very little funding, to try and replace these. I don't know where the insurance claim is going to go.

Alderman Tripp stated, in this general discussion about the plaques on Woodbridge Avenue, I know I'm throwing a lot of weight on the Chief of Police, I've previously asked for a patrol when the Library closes for the safety of the personnel at the Library. As we're discussing the plaques at the intersection of Woodbridge, is there additional random police patrols in that area now?

Chief Hale replied, we instituted it that day and we continue to do that. Again, we need the neighbors to, not stay up all night and watch, but as they see something please have them call.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, as you know Alderman Tripp, I live there in that neighborhood and I'm the one that found out that the plaques were gone. As you know, my dad and his five brothers were on that plaque so it's very personal to me. I have assurances from the Police Department that they're on patrol. We are trying to do everything possible. I want to replace those as quickly as possible.

Alderman Fainer stated, just so it be known that I'm not against it. As a veteran of four years in the Air Force and two years in Army, all my heart is into them plaques there.

Alderman Jeanette stated, may I ask who is on this Rewards Committee?

President Sharkey stated, Alderman Marini, Alderman Tripp, Police Commissioner Goldson and Police Commissioner Tyszka. I invited anybody else when they set a date to let the rest of the Aldermen know so that we could

go and sit in and have comment. If I knew when it was I would have brought it up because I knew about Mr. Giovachino and his talking about they didn't have the money to do this.

Alderman Jeanette stated, I just want to get involved because my father had a lot to do with the ones in Derby. He worked his tail off for Mr. Witek.

President Sharkey stated, you're welcome to join us also. It was set at the Police Commission meeting that there would be two of each. I don't want to, on our side, put four, five or six and only have two of them. They had two volunteers. They asked several people of the Commissioners. We were at the meeting that night and other ones declined and said they wouldn't join it. They did have two and I don't want to overload on our side, but I intend to go myself.

Alderman Marini stated, we'll have to ask the Police Commissioners when they're available. We can set up a meeting in the next week or two.

President Sharkey stated, Aldermen Tripp and Marini will get together with them, set a date, and hopefully they will let us know. I would ask one thing also, if everybody here, I have everybody's e-mail address that was a former member of the Board, anybody else that has an e-mail address, if you will get it to the Mayor's Office so when we have things such as this to either Tara or the Mayor's Office so that when we need to send out an e-mail to say, the meeting of the Rewards Committee is Wednesday at 7 o'clock, everybody will get it and nobody can say they didn't know it was going on.

While we're addressing that, I would like to, because we're talking about rewards and thefts and things of importance, I think we're all aware that we now have a copper roof going on the Riverwalk, and I would hate to drive by some day and see those sheets of copper missing. I would like to recommend that our Public Works Committee of the Board of Aldermen work with, I've already discussed this with Michael Schryver, and I have Rich Bshara who is our technology person here in City Hall, I would like to look into the possibility and I don't care if everybody in the world knows it, I'd like to put in a camera on top of the flood control building that would shine on the entrance of the Riverwalk, that would be 24 hours shining on that pagoda down there. I would like that camera also to be able to pick up the intersection at Division and North Division. I can tell everybody right now the camera sitting on Target, Target has some of the best video cameras going on that building. One of their cameras monitors the Bridge Street - West Main Street intersection. And every time someone's been hit by a car out there, and has said, "I had the walk light," or someone said, "I had the red light" when they really had a green light, all the Police Department needs to do, and I'm not telling anything out of school, watch your step running that red light. That red light is being recorded. Every time it changes, by Target. So at any time there's an accident or somebody gets hit or anything going on, they can go right to Target and get the video. We had thought about going to Taco Bell and talking about it, but that isn't a good location for it. I think with everybody running that light, and we're also maybe

going to have a problem with people crossing that street from Derby Riverwalk to Ansonia Riverwalk, we don't want someone saying "I was in the middle of the thing and this guy came down 900 miles an hour and ran me over." But if we had a video camera on the top of our building that we own, and it should be cheap enough to do, so I'd like to empower the Public Works Committee - you all know who you are - I will try and endeavor to get Mr. Bshara together and Mr. Schryver together and let's talk about, we own the building, we own the electricity, let's get a camera, record it and do that.

Alderman Nihill stated, I think not only should we get a camera there, I think we should sit down and look at several other strategic locations in town where we should have cameras. I am speaking of being a Police Officer in Seymour, there are security cameras owned by the town in many locations throughout the town. It was added and they're extremely helpful.

President Sharkey stated, I agree with you Alderman Nihill; you're a member of the Public Works Committee, when we meet why don't you bring up and we'll talk about other locations.

Alderman Tripp stated, I would like to second Alderman Nihill's sentiments. I agree with him totally, word for word.

President Sharkey stated, along that line also, I would like to also empower the Public Works Committee to meet with the same two gentlemen and let's talk about seeing how many of our buildings we can convert to natural gas and get off this oil guzzling. Probably the largest oil guzzler we have in the City of Ansonia is the Police Department. That has to use about 5,000 gallons of oil a year up there. Let's talk about it, people who are in the know, about converting to natural gas. There's natural gas in front of the building, let's find the cost of whatever it is.

Alderman Stowe stated, can't we look into using biomass?

President Sharkey stated, let's talk about it. Also, let's look into our Armory, it's presently on oil. When that burner was put in it was a dual purpose burner. That burner can actually be natural gas. Let's talk to the gas company and see if they'll put a bigger line in. Let's talk about maybe start burning natural gas in the Armory also. I would like to also give the Public Works Committee that charge. We're talking about saving money; let's talk about converting some of our buildings and other ones that we need to do.

Alderman Marini MOVED to refer Resolution #2 to the Rewards Committee and have all of the Rewards Resolutions reviewed and placed on the agenda for the January 2012 Board of Aldermen meeting; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Unfinished Business

None presented.

New Business

(See discussion on Resolution #2).

Alderman Knapp stated, when I was out and about campaigning, especially up in the 7th Ward with the trees and the leaves and out in the road and what have you, some of the old timers up there (with all due respect) - we used to have a truck that used to go around and people used to rake their leaves out to the gutter, and the truck would come around on scheduled routes and suck up the leaves. Is there any possibility of us ever bringing that back?

President Sharkey stated, the truck that's owned by the City was quite old. It's in states of disrepair. It's still parked down there. We can maybe inquire what it would take to get it running. I can tell you the truck right now is inoperable and can't be on the City streets.

Alderman Knapp stated, I was thinking maybe a new machine. I know that now we're talking a person to operate and all those other expenses. If we could just get a ballpark figure on what something like that would cost the city.

President Sharkey, if the Board agrees I will ask Mr. Schryver what it would take to get the truck running, and manned.

Alderman Knapp stated, we're past the leaf season, but maybe for next year. Thank you.

Alderman Radin stated, I've had a few phone calls recently. I think we have a problem with communication. What these people are telling me is they're leaving messages with the secretary or whoever answers the phone at the different places, and they never get a call back. They've called two or three times and somewhere along the line it's getting broken, and I think if it has to be done by paper so send it to them or something, they're not following, somebody is not following through with their job. It's making people very angry. They're saying "I called three or four times, I asked for this person..."

President Sharkey stated, can you be more specific? Where are they calling?

Alderman Radin replied, Public Works was one; City Hall was another one. I can't say - I call City Hall and I did get a call back right away. But I'm telling you what I was told. They told me they called Public Works and they left messages two or three times. They called City Hall, I don't know which department, I can't specify which one. But we need, and I'm not picking on anybody, what I'm saying to you is we need more of a follow through. We need the secretaries or whoever answers the phone to make sure they jot it down - the name, the person, the time. I own a business which requires that kind of thing, you have to talk to your customers, to call back. If they're not available

at that time, make a note when they did call back, if they didn't get the person because we're getting a lot of angry phone calls. I don't think we should because I think possibly we could answer questions and problems without getting into any legal battles. Thank you.

Alderman Nihill stated, I just want to publicly thank Public Works. There was a problem in my Ward. I received a call from a woman who had an issue with some drainage in a stream. I addressed it through the Mayor's Office to Mike Schryver and they went up in a timely manner and addressed the issue. I want to thank them for taking care of that. I'd like to thank Miss Kolakowski for her assistance.

Alderman Knapp asked that the Board of Aldermen send a letter of congratulations to the Ansonia High School football team for a season well done and also to the 12 and 14 Division Cheerleaders for their accomplishments.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to send a letter to the former Aldermen thanking them for their service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Alderman Stowe stated, the Derby Green, their sewage here, there was an amendment in October about giving half of what a single family would pay for, giving half back to them?

President Sharkey stated, that is in negotiation between the Mayor and the Mayor of Derby. I can tell you, they have a new Board of Aldermen in Derby. The Board of Aldermen that was there prior to that was not very much in favor of doing that. They are now becoming more under a State mandate to do something; they need to do something to their sewage treatment plant.

Alderman Stowe stated, I don't want to put words in your mouth, but so if they end up using our facility and paying the amount that was spoken of, is half of that likely to go for credit to the residents?

Mayor Della Volpe stated, we are negotiating but it won't go to the residents. We are in preliminary discussions.

President Sharkey stated, I think, and I don't want to put words in anybody's mouth, but I think a good portion of the money coming in has to go to pay off the bond. The City of Ansonia is coming up with a large amount of money I think comes due in 2012 or 2013. Then the yearly payments start and what they're looking for is to really help the citizens of Ansonia by them not having to come up with that large amount of money. What they would do is, Derby, and I don't want to go on record doing it here. It would be a large cost savings to the City of Ansonia if they do it and the end result would be the citizens of Ansonia would reap the profit. But it's all still in preliminary and they are now becoming more aware of what they have to do. And it's not because of change

of personnel; the State has moved forward on their end. Just like it moved forward here and told us we had to build ours, and did not give us an out. And did not give us any money, either. They told us we had to build it.

President Sharkey stated, I would like to go on record that winter has started and we now have from now until April, we have an ice condition on Hill Street. Everybody needs to be aware. There is water that comes right out of the right-hand side of Hill Street going up just above Berkshire Road. I'm one person that had an accident there years ago. Today has been a complete sheet of ice. It melts, it freezes at night if you go up that hill, it's ice. The Public Works has milled the curb before trying to get the water to go into the sewer. The way the State built the road, they tipped the road this way. So the water comes out of personal property and runs right across the road. The road actually needed to be tapered so it went to the curb. The whole road runs to one side so the water runs across.

I would like to send a letter to Mr. Schryver making him aware that there is an ice condition, daily, on Hill Street just above Berkshire, and they need to address it. Chief, if your officers see that, because it happens overnight every night now, if they see it they may have to start calling out a sand truck. This morning at 9 o'clock there was a complete sheet of ice on Hill Street. Something needs to be done.

Alderman Fainer stated, that's the same thing on Division Street near the hospital.

Alderman Nihill stated, I echo your sentiments, Gene, and I see it every day. Along those lines maybe Mr. Schryver could look at that. I don't know if there's a way to put a catch basin in, right at the curb line or on the grass portion of the easement the City owns there. Maybe a ground drain to catch the water.

President Sharkey stated, problem is, the sewer is uphill of the place where the water comes out. They probably have to extend the sewer line.

Alderman Nihill stated, maybe we could have our City Engineer look at that, because that would be the best cost-effective measure versus sending a salt and sand truck out daily.

Alderman Fainer stated, it's a shame the State spent all that money on that road and left it in that condition.

President Sharkey stated, can we ask in the letter to have Mr. Schryver get back to you on it, Alderman Nihill?

Alderman Nihill replied, yes, sir.

Executive Session

At approximately 9:40 p.m. Alderman Adamowski MOVED to enter Executive Session to discuss the following items:

1. Communication #5 - Municipal Employees Collective Bargaining Agreement (with Mayor Della Volpe, Corporation Counsel Blake, and Attorney Francis Teodosio, and Tara Kolakowski)
2. Communication #7 - Officer Joseph Jackson - CHRO Complaint (with Mayor Della Volpe, Corporation Counsel Blake, Attorney Joseph McQuade, Francis Teodosio and Chief Hale)
3. Communication #9 - River Plaza, Maple Street - blight liens (with Mayor Della Volpe, Corporation Counsel Blake and James Tanner)

SECONDED by Alderman Tripp.

President Sharkey asked that Item #7 be taken up first in the session.

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

Return to Regular Session

At approximately 10:35 p.m., Alderman Nihill MOVED to return to regular session; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Motions from Executive Session

Communication #5
From: Attorney Francis Teodosio
Re: Municipal Employees Collective Bargaining Agreement

Alderman Fainer MOVED to TABLE for the information requested; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Communication #7
From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake
Re: Officer Joseph Jackson - CHRO Complaint

Alderman Nihill MOVED to empower Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake and Counsel McQuade present this evening to proceed further; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to AMEND the motion to state, "proceed further and not to commence with any settlement"; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp. A voice vote was taken and the AMENDMENT PASSED 11-0.

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

Communication #9

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake
Re: River Plaza #27 Maple Street - blight liens

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, for the record, Blight Officer Mr. Tanner was here and invited into the Executive Session while this item was being discussed.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to empower Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake to proceed and to work out a settlement with the individual; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10 Yes, 1 No (Radin).

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary
Ansonia Board of Aldermen