



CITY OF ANSONIA BOARD OF ALDERMEN Regular Meeting – April 10, 2012

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.

Roll Call

The secretary called the roll:

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

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

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

Alderman Madigosky MOVED to DEVIATE FROM THE AGENDA for a presentation; SECONDED by Alderman Marini. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

President Sharkey called on Alderman Marini to say a few words about several Ansonia students that won first prize in a business competition. Starting Monday they will enter into the National Competition. We have with us tonight Alex Westine, Daniel Kiley, Vladimir Jatsiv, and Darby Caneen. I don't see Karen Phipps, but I do see Mrs. Sara Crooks.

Alderman Marini stated, this is a team of students that competed in a business competition at Fairfield University. They competed against 16 other teams including teams from Fairfield and from Trumbull, and they finished number one. I am sure I speak for the rest of the Board when I say we are extremely proud of our wonderful student and their wonderful instructors. Many of these students are actually members of our Junior Economic Development Commission that our Chairman, Vin Scarlata, helped set up. We are absolutely delighted to see their success and wish them good luck with everything in the future. We have letters of commendation that the Mayor's Office has put together for each of the students.

Mayor Della Volpe presented the students with their letters of commendation, stating, thank you President Sharkey and I would also like to thank Alderman Marini for inviting the students of Ansonia. We are extremely proud of your accomplishments.

Mayor Della Volpe read aloud the Certificate of Recognition as follows:

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 16, 2012, Junior Achievement of Western Connecticut held a business competition at Fairfield University. A four-member team representing Ansonia High School won the competition. Daniel Kiley, a senior, was a vital member of that team.

WHEREAS, Daniel and his teammates had spent a significant amount of time and energy preparing for the competition, and their efforts have paid off greatly. Along with winning the competition each member of the team received \$1,000 for their college fund.

WHEREAS, the City of Ansonia recognizes the nation's most precious commodity is our youth, and that the accomplishments and achievements of our youth are to be acknowledged and commended by Ansonia and all of its citizens.

NOW THEREFORE I, James Della Volpe, Mayor of the City of Ansonia, speaking on behalf of the entire community, congratulate the four of you.

[Applause rang throughout the forum.]

Consideration of Previous Minutes

1. Special Meeting of March 13, 2012

2. Regular Meeting of March 13, 2012

Alderman Marini stated, during our debate at that meeting, a comment was made by one of our audience members, a member of the Board of Apportionment and Taxation regarding the budget process in our City Charter. He commented that it was adopted in the early 1900s by the city of New York and that that process was copied by Ansonia for our own purposes, and that was done for the purpose of making things less political.

I want to note for the record, and it's information that I'll be glad to share with the board later, New York at that time, through a little bit of research, was going through a very tumultuous ordeal. There were many critics of the way New York conducted its budget process in the late 1800s and early 1900s essentially allowing an executive group of unelected officials to make budget decisions.

I have here a Law Review article from Fordham which talks about the legal history of budgeting in New York City and among other things it refers to the problem of elected officials not having enough participation in the budget process. And for the record...

President Sharkey interjected, can I ask you to do this either under New Business or something?

Alderman Marini stated, I would like to make the note for the record because there is an inaccuracy in what was said. The inaccuracy is New York City no longer has that budget process. The process has been completely changed and it is now a system where the elected council of New York City sets the budget, subject to the Mayor's review, oversight and approval. So that system is no longer valid for New York. Moreover, I think the review of other towns in Connecticut shows that Ansonia is one of the only towns that has a system where elected officials do not approve or set the budget. Just to note that for the record.

President Sharkey stated, we adopted our budget in February. Part of our adoption had budget recommendations for the Board of Apportionment and Taxation. They have still not received these. Can we get our recommendations sent to the members of the Board of Apportionment and Taxation?

Alderman Radin MOVED to accept the minutes; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Public Session

Elizabeth Meisner, owner of Crave Restaurant

I am asking for your permission to use the parking lot that is adjacent to Crave for a Cinco de Mayo celebration. Maybe we will bring a little bit more cultural awareness to the celebration, make Ansonia a little bit more culturally diverse. We're going to have live music, and it's going to be roped off. There will be barbecues and fun, healthy stuff. My clientele as most of you know is a higher end clientele, so it would draw in a non-rowdy crowd. I believe you have paperwork on it, and with all due respect I will say that it will be conducted in a very professional and upscale manner.

Edward Musante, 138 Old Ansonia Road

I was here in March about the raising of the curbing 3 Castle Lane. It is still the same way. They haven't done anything. I called O&G. O&G has been open. He owns a business and he can't come to the meeting. plus, the water ruined his driveway.

President Sharkey stated, I'm sure it's on the list of projects to be done. We will make another note of it to Public Works.

Randy Carroll, 40 Fourth Street

I am on the Conservation Commission, and I go to Fountain Lake every weekend. Are dirtbikes permitted on the paths at Fountain Lake?

President Sharkey replied, no.

Mr. Carroll continued, the whole place is being torn apart by dirt bikes. Somebody has a hunting stand up in the tree there and there are shotgun shells all over the ground by the upper Lake. I pick up trash every weekend is there any way to get another trash receptacle by the fishing dock? There is not one there now.

President Sharkey replied, we will make a note of it and ask Mr. Schryver what he can do.

Mr. Carroll asked, what about the dirt bikes? The trails are being destroyed. I talked to one person and he's up there every weekend on Saturday, and they are from Naugatuck. They are up by the upper Lake, not the bottom pond. That whole area is being completely torn up by dirt bikes.

Chief Hale will take a look at it.

Adam Sardinha, 91 Jewett Street

First of all, I would like to thank you for giving me the support in my Eagle project. I have decided to switch it over to building a sign for the Ansonia Library Board.

(Alderman Duffus arrives at this point, 7:11 p.m. - 12 present, 2 absent)

I found out that I will need to get a fee waiver on the building permit.

President Sharkey stated, I don't think we can do that under public session, but we can take it up under New Business. I think that's an appropriate request, but we just can't do it until later in the meeting.

Ed Norman, 51 Grove Street

Good evening. I'm a member of the Board of Apportionment and Taxation. Although I didn't come to speak on my discussion last month and I will address the comments tonight. I don't think there were any inaccuracies in there. I think what the alderman spoke tonight only fortified what I said. Our section of our Charter was based on the New York City charter, and at the time the Board of Apportionment and Taxation was an appointed board. Ours is still an appointed board. Changes may have been made since then in New York City, but again, I think there were a lot of problems and a lot of tumult over the

politics behind it back in New York City. But that wasn't my point. The Board of Apportionment and Taxation piece of the Charter was adopted in 1906 and it was based on that New York City charter that was an appointed board at the time and I think it has held up for the city of Ansonia through that time. So as far as inaccuracies, I'm not sure what he is referring to but that was what I presented. There was a lot of political trouble in New York and there is still a lot of political trouble in New York, but that's not for us to worry about here in Ansonia.

The things that I did come to address tonight, is that Communication #5 is for the Economic Development. What they are proposing to do is build a website. First of all, I know that the money has not been appropriated for this. The chairman came to address us in he had one proposal. We did recommend that any time you have one proposal for something of this magnitude it had to come before this board to waive the bidding process. So I guess that is what he's doing in this communication. But today, when I picked up the communication with the contract behind it, there seems to be some very large missing items in here. This is only for the design of the website; it is not to provide a website. There are no accommodations for ongoing maintenance, no accommodations for DNS, which is domain name server, which is "Ansonia.com" or whatever it is. Those are names that you have to purchase from what they referred to as a hosting operation and you would actually need their servers to host the site. We don't have any accommodations here to host your own website. I don't think this really portrays what they're trying to do and there will be a lot of costs associated going forward, above and beyond. One of the worst things you can have is a website that outdated. If you ever go anywhere and look at a website and its old information, there's no accommodations. From what I read here, we would have to provide that administrator to keep it updated. We don't have the facilities or the talented personnel needed to do that. We don't even have, the basis of the domain name is an IP address. You would have to go out to an agency to reserve that IP address so that when you put in the name "ansoniaeconomicdevelopment.com", it would be directed to that hosting site, to that website so to speak. There is a lot of work that really has to be done on this, and the bottom line, the funds aren't even there yet. We have not approved it, there is still debate amongst my board as to how we mix expense items and personnel because that's what the debate is here. It's a salary surplus, I believe the money would be well spent looking for an economic development director or bringing a consultant to tell us how we should go forward. It looks like they need a lot of consulting and a lot of expertise in actually building that website that is not in here. This is more of a marketing package, with a website tied into it.

The other thing is, on your agenda under appointments, I am a member of the School Building Commission, and I'm up for reappointment tonight. I think it's a very well-run board, very nonpartisan, we've got some very large projects such as the roof project underway right now. I would thank you and encourage you that I look forward to being reappointed. Thank you.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to close the public session; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Public Official Session

Mayor James Della Volpe

We have reached an impasse on Police negotiations. As we have sent the negotiations up to the Board of Mediation and Arbitration and we're waiting for them to assign an arbitrator for the arbitration and/or mediation.

Also, Public Works negotiations will be starting in the next several weeks.

Recently we've been working very closely with the Woodbridge Avenue restoration committee and the Valley Community Foundation in regard to the plaques that were stolen at the Woodbridge Avenue Monument. I'm glad to say that the Woodbridge Avenue committee has raised \$5,000, and the Valley Community Foundation is going to match that with \$3,500. So we are at \$8,500 which should cover all four plaques at this point in time. We are extremely proud of the residence of Ansonia and the Valley for coming out and supporting this effort.

President Sharkey asked, the money that was sent directly to the Valley Community Foundation, did they match those funds?

Mayor Della Volpe replied, they matched those funds and they added on additional funds. It was a three town system between Ansonia, Derby, and Shelton. We received the most money out of all of the money that was raised. There was \$6,000 that was going to be given out by the Valley Community Foundation.

I would like to thank the Aldermen who attended Governor Malloy's Town Hall meeting on education last Thursday night. As a result of that, the Governor has invited me up to his office to have a discussion in regard to education and hopefully, economic development here in Ansonia. I am looking forward to sitting with the governor on Thursday afternoon.

Vin Scarlata of the Economic Development Commission and I went with President Anita Bonicky of Housatonic Community College through the ATP and Palmer Building and we're looking at that as a possible satellite location for Housatonic Community College. It would be a great addition to downtown and also would be of benefit to the students of the Valley that would be able to attend this community college. We are also going to be contacting other community colleges and hopefully Post University to see if they would be interested in looking at our sites for possibly conducting courses there.

We held interviews with potential hauling companies for curbside trash/recycling pickup. Recommendations will come from the Board of Public

Works in May. The recommendation will come here to the board and you'll have the information prior to the meeting.

Also, the Ansonia Housing Authority is interviewing for their Executive Housing Director. They had 100 applicants and they have it down to five. They'll be conducting interviews in the next two weeks. Also, they sent all of the paperwork, and I'm waiting for approval from HUD in Hartford for the remainder of the demolition/rehabilitation at Riverside Drive.

Finally, just to support Adam Sardhina - at there used to be a beautiful sign that sat on the lawn at the Ansonia Library. It was a beautiful sign that was done in blue, it said "Ansonia Public Library," and unfortunately several years ago it was vandalized and we've been unable to replace it. Hopefully the Board of Aldermen will support this project.

Alderman Fainer stated, ever since I've been on this Board we have been selling that building over there. Now, I guess, he's quoted at the Governor's thing that we're going to buy the other building? Since when are we buying that one?

Mayor Della Volpe, we are in the process of trying to end the contract with the people we have a contract with. Hopefully that will be done tomorrow night and then we will have it back in our ownership and can do what we want with it.

Alderman Fainer stated, yeah, but I mean what other building are we going to acquire here?

Mayor Della Volpe stated, we just have the ATP and Palmer building.

Alderman Fainer stated, it says the City is getting receptive to acquire the other building over there. I don't understand.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, there are some buildings Farrell has for sale that might be part of what was meant to be said. There is another project in the works for East Main Street from the Farrell process lab up until the engineering building. That's something that's in the works - we're waiting to hear how the State reacts to that also. Hopefully I'll be able to talk to the Governor about that.

President Sharkey thanked Mayor Della Volpe.

Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

Main Street Development Corporation, they own several buildings on Upper Main Street, that was in bankruptcy. It was sold last week to a new developer I think from New York or New Jersey. As part of that we were able to get \$90,000 back in taxes and fees that were owed to us. They were trying to not have to pay that but we should see those funds shortly.

On the tax lien property at 15 Dwight Street, one of the owners redeemed the property, so the City got their taxes and reimbursed of all costs and fees.

On the O'Neils Court issue - there is a pretrial April 11th. We will probably be in front of you in Executive Session next month depending on what transpires this week.

President Sharkey thanked Corporation Counsel Blake.

Tara Kolakowski, Acting Personnel Director

You have my report in front of you. If anybody has any questions I am here to answer them. The Mayor kind of went over APD - we're in arbitration. The Public Works contract is coming up.

President Sharkey thanked Ms. Kolakowski.

Chief Kevin Hale, Ansonia Police Department

We are continuing our motor vehicle enforcement program, you will see the officers throughout the community.

We have one officer, Officer Lessard, will be released to solo duty next week. He has completed his 480 hours of Field Training. Officer Castille is currently in training; he started about three weeks ago. Officer Edwards is in the Milford Police Academy and should be getting out in August.

We will be conducting a Sergeant's exam to fill an opening on May 8th. Hopefully at your June meeting we will have somebody here for you.

Alderman Radin stated, I have had two or three people approach me about line painting in the street. They always do it around the schools, but there are areas where the lines are completely worn off - East Main Street where Julia Day Nursery School is going toward Spector's. There used to be center lines on the road and they're all worn out.

Chief Hale stated, we contract that out. They can't paint in winter; they may be out doing that now. We received some additional funding from Apportionment and Taxation to do the entire length of East Main Street, Division Street hill, there are a number of streets.

Alderman Radin stated, Wakelee Avenue had lines on it too. Somebody commented to me that it was difficult to see on a foggy night without the lines on the road.

Chief Hale stated, we will prioritize the roads, but it really comes down to funding.

Alderman Fainer stated, I would like to thank the Chief; we were working together on out of state registrations. I had a meeting with the Mayor on that and somebody told me I'd be lucky if I found 12 in the whole town. I found 12 in my neighborhood. I wish the other Aldermen would be aware of these out of state plates and inform Kevin, and he sends his guys out and gives them their 60-day countdown or whatever it is. There's a lot of them out there and that's tax dollars we're losing.

Alderman Sharkey stated, at the public hearing tonight we were talking about roaming dogs and also cleaning up after dogs. I made a comment that I'm aware of how many roaming dog calls the Police Department is answering every day. Can you comment on that? We're going to take this up later tonight.

Chief Hale stated, we actually have somebody looking at that now - all of 2011 and 2012 to date. When we get the complaints we generally follow up [inaudible] officer will issue a warning or write tickets. We'd like to get a better handle on where, specific areas that we're having this issue, because we're seeing a lot. I would guess over the past year there were hundreds of complaints. We're trying to get a better handle on the numbers. Once we have that I can let you know where we are.

President Sharkey stated, I felt that if we adopt that section of the ordinance tonight it will be another tool that you people can use.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee - Alderman

1. Authorization to Pay Bills

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.

ARMS Committee - Alderman Scott Nihill

In March ARMS was dispatched to 216 calls; transported 155 patients and 72 of them required advanced medical care with a medic. They provided mutual aid 19 times to Derby and once to Shelton and we passed once on a second and one on a third call. We collected \$56,623.61 to the City.

Before you is Communication #4. I want to again commend Jared Heon, Chief of ARMS - he worked diligently in looking at the billing company that we had. We recently experienced a lot of difficulties and we weren't getting the bang for our buck with this company. He researched and went to bid for a new billing

agency, which included some performance provisions. I guarantee we will be able to collect more money for the City that unfortunately this other company we had failed to get for us. If we could consider a bid waiver tonight, I will discuss that further when the communication comes up.

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

Economic Development Commission - Alderman John Marini

First of all I want to make clear to the board that it is the #1 priority for the board to prepare the groundwork for the hiring of a new Economic Development director; a new Economic Development staff member the Economic Development Commission, including its chairman, Vinny Scarlata, and myself, has been working with the Mayor's office in terms of coming up with committee that will be tasked with interviewing and vetting prospective applicants for that position. In addition to that, the idea has been proposed to not only look for an Economic Development director, but also consider the hiring of a consulting firm to perform a definitive study of Ansonia in terms of what we have to work with. In terms of where the group has been getting its advice, we had the privilege of being able to pick the brain of an Ansonia resident and Shelton Economic Development director, Jim Ryan, and he shared with us things that Shelton does on a yearly basis, and ideas that Shelton has successfully implemented along those years. Nothing is finalized, although the group is hoping to put a board together and be in a position to field applications and start looking at candidates by the end of summer. It is a top priority in this, that this is the consensus-building experience, that we have as much of the city on board as possible with this decision, which is the purpose of conducting an interview process which will hopefully expose us to a lot of applicants, a lot of different ideas, and a lot of different directions the city can take. It is absolutely vital that process be not only observed, but participated in by as many facets of the city as possible, including this board, Planning and Zoning, Apportionment and Taxation, and everyone in the state, including non-elected officials, or non-appointed officials, our community leaders and our residents. So that is a major project going forward, and I certainly understand the concerns that Mr. Norman, the Apportionment and Taxation member, expressed. I would say we are completely on the same page. I think we all need to be on the same page.

There was a question made in terms of money - where is the money going to come from? Of course status the budget proposed for next year in Economic Development, as the Finance Committee members of this board know, and as Apportionment and Taxation knows, as this was explained at their last meeting, that the \$100,000 budget is going to be preserved next year for the purposes of funding in Economic Development director and of course a consultant if we do go ahead with that. What is interesting to note, of course, is that there is a sum of money that the Economic Development Commission is trying to take advantage of right now. That is the unexpended money, salary money, from our

former economic development director. There is slightly less than \$80,000 right now sitting in the salary line item that, if it is not expended by June of this year, it would drop to the bottom of the economic development budget and fall back into the city's general fund. Essentially, the money would still be going back to the city but would not be able to be taken advantage of by the Economic Development Commission. The Commission felt very strongly that this might be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for economic development that has never had a substantial budget beyond the salary line item. We would like to take advantage of that and invest in Ansonia, invest in economic development projects that could make a difference for the city. Our Economic Development Commission put together several projects, and proposed them to Apportionment and Taxation at the last meeting. The consensus appeared to be that the Board was enthusiastic to go ahead with certain projects, had reservations about others, and asked the Board to sort of tie up the details and come back at the next meeting. One of those proposals was a website and I want to explain a little bit about that.

President Sharkey asked, can you describe this when we get to it on the agenda - it's Communication #5 and we can discuss it then.

Alderman Marini stated, I'll just say briefly that the website idea, you know, people have in mind what a website is, it maybe looks pretty and people see it, but the Economic Development Commission is planning to do a lot more. The number one priority here is selling property. It's advertising, getting investors into the City whether it be Main street or elsewhere. We've seen solid examples in other communities that have new technologies, social networking, where the Internet can be used to list developable properties, to advertise those properties, to sell those properties. That is what's at the heart of this website - a vehicle to sell properties. We'll get into the nuts and bolts of what the proposal is, but I believe we're not out of step at all with what the Board of Apportionment and Taxation has recommended. The Board of Apportionment and Taxation wanted to make sure that this money would be expended by June, but it seems like unless we get a bid waiver, that would be impossible. So we'd like to go back to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation to report that the bid waiver was achieved. The Board of Apportionment and Taxation had actually extended the option to Chairman Scarlata to sort of ask to go ahead and have the money approved, but he wanted to hold off until this loose end could be tightened up.

President Sharkey stated, John, you're arguing Communication #5 again.

Alderman Marini stated, no, Mr. President, I'm explaining Economic Development business.

President Sharkey stated, I understand that but during your report you're talking again why we should approve Communication #5.

Alderman Marini stated, Mr. President, you are the President, you are the neutral moderator. You are not the emcee of this Board. Please let me continue my communication. You have no more power, no more authority to talk than any member of this Board. You have to respect my turn as I have to respect your turn.

President Sharkey stated, John, I did. And when I was talking you jumped right in and talked right over me. I sat here and listened.

[Both Aldermen speaking at the same time.]

President Sharkey continued, you're doing it again. This is not a court of law.

Alderman Marini stated, it is governed by Robert's Rules, Mr. President. You have not read Robert's Rules.

President Sharkey stated, I realize that. I spoke and I waited until you took a breath and I said something.

[Both Aldermen speaking at the same time.]

Alderman Marini stated, I will stand up.

President Sharkey stated, John, you are doing it again.

Alderman Marini stated, I will recognize Robert's Rules by standing up and giving my update on Economic Development, Mr. President, so it is clear that a breath does not indicate a chance for you to jump in. Now, the next item is a grant program that we have put together. This is a program which I think is probably the most controversial, because there is a substantial opportunity, but a possibility that we're not going to be able to expend the money in time. This is why I think Mr. Norman said there were some serious issues. This is, I think, the biggest one. The grant program that we're proposing is essentially to use about \$45,000-\$50,000 that we would hold out to businesses and basically say, "if you have a project that meets standards that the Commission puts together, for rehabilitation and improvements of your storefront, then we would allow you to go ahead with the improvements, and reimburse you up to \$2,000 for that project." We pitched the idea to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation, We refined it afterward with the assistance of Bill Purcell from the Chamber of Commerce. But the problem is, can we actually expend the money by June? It seems like if we were going to get the full benefit from a project like this, we would need to extend the application period for a period of time, perhaps even into the fall. That's the problem because the Board of Apportionment & Taxation wants to see the expenditure, the money to be essentially tied to vendors by June. So that's one thing we were still working with them on, and were hoping to get a resolution.

Finally, the last project were looking at, and this is completely disconnected from the money scenario, is the idea of inviting more investors, advertising more for Ansonia. The idea of conducting an open house essentially, for Main Street and for our available properties. Getting people from Fairfield County, from up in Hartford, that may never have heard of Ansonia or our properties. We could take them through the ATP building, the Palmer building if indeed that does fall into our hands. Places like the opera house, places like Fountain Lake. A guided tour to say, this is what Ansonia is, this is what we have to offer. To get them to the table and get them interested.

Those are the projects and I think there's a lot more detail which is why, Mr. President, I wanted to go over the website here. It all ties into a fundamental campaign that Economic Development is working on. Now I will conclude my update, and yield the floor.

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

Riverwalk - Alderman Gene Sharkey

We have one that we were working on, which is putting the cameras on the Riverwalk. We are going to hold off and do nothing until the contractor is finished working. We are almost there. He still has to put the cupola on the pavilion and he has to put the lightning rod up. When he is through we will move forward.

We have a meeting here tomorrow at 6 p.m. with Energy District Group and representatives of CCM. I sent an e-mail asking everybody to attend. That is a very important committee and we are going to talk about our oil to gas conversion. We'll talk about solar energy. We talk about the need to put a new heating plant in the Police Department. All of this needs to be discussed with the representatives of CCM, which is the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities. .

An update on the Riverwalk - since Derby has banned dogs, I don't think we've seen any. On the first day or two we had loads of dogs, but since then, I can't comment, I'm not the dog warden, but I haven't heard any calls. I haven't seen any dogs at either one.

Alderman Knapp stated, a couple of Saturdays ago, I was going by and I saw a table set up. I think it was People's United Bank sitting there at the entrance with a little card table and basket. Who gave them permission to do whatever they were doing there?

President Sharkey stated, I don't think anybody gave them permission. I think we need to form a Riverwalk Committee comprised of certain members of the Board of Aldermen and other people at large. In Derby, you need approval of

the Riverwalk Committee, for example if the high school is running a fundraiser they would have to get approval there.

Alderman Knapp stated, I would like to see that free and clear of all kinds of solicitors. People should be able to go there and enjoy it without being harassed.

President Sharkey stated, without us setting something going forward either as an ordinance or as a committee, right now I don't think we can ban them. I don't think there's anybody they have to ask permission of.

Alderman Nihill stated, I think that would fall under jurisdiction of the Recreation Commission, just like every other park. Corporation Counsel Blake, wouldn't that fall under the spectrum of the Recreation Commission?

Corporation Counsel Blake replied, not sure about that one. It could be under the Police Department as to whether they need a license to set up like that.

President Sharkey stated, let's think in terms of going forward informing something because I would hate to see us ban the Girl Scouts if they want to sell cookies or something. But before you know it, were going to have everybody setting up a table. We really need to do something.

Alderman Stowe stated, it requires more research.

President Sharkey stated, yes, I think we should take it under advisement, look at it. I don't think the Recreation Commission had anything to do with building the Riverwalk.

Alderman Nihill stated, they are in charge of all the parks and fields in the city.

President Sharkey stated, I agree with you, I don't think they set the rules like when we banned dogs and all. Let's look at it and find out which one it comes under. We'll have somebody take a good look at it.

Municipal Reports / Annual Reports

Alderman Madigosky MOVED to accept all municipal and annual reports, dispense with the reading and place them on file; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill. 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 \$926.39 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Accidents and Claims

None presented.

Communications

Alderman Fainer MOVED to accept all of the communications, place them on file, and take each one up in its order on the agenda; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Communication #1

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake
Re: Ansonia Housing Authority Audit

Alderman Fainer MOVED to grant authority to the Ansonia Housing Authority to hire the auditing firm of Maletta and Company to conduct the audit of Phase One of the Capital Improvement Grant Agreement between the City of Ansonia and the Housing Authority at a cost of \$1,750; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Communication #2

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake
Re: The Epicure LLC (Crave Restaurant) Hold Harmless Agreement

Mayor Della Volpe stated, the Mayor's Office is in support of this. I checked with the Director of Public Works and there should be no problem.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, I'm not sure of the exact hours, that's being worked out with Crave. Just to let you know, I do have the insurance agreement. I also advised the owner that she needs to go to the Police Department for any permits and permissions there. She is going down to the Building Department to see if there are any permits she needs there. She has and will be going to the Health Department. I think in terms of liability, I am satisfied that we will be protected.

Alderman Marini MOVED to accept the Hold Harmless Agreement between The Epicure, LLC, d/b/a/ Crave Restaurant and the City of Ansonia for their event to be held on May 5, 2012; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

RESOLUTION# 3

Alderman Knapp MOVED to DEVIATE from the Agenda to act on Resolution #3; SECONDED by Alderman Mott. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

RESOLUTION #3

WHEREAS, the Epicure, LLC, dba Crave Restaurant (hereinafter "Crave") wishes to hold a portion of its Cinco de Mayo celebration in the municipal parking lot located on Railroad Ave., Ansonia, Connecticut on May 5, 2012;

WHEREAS, the municipal parking lot located on Railroad Avenue, Ansonia, Connecticut is under the control of the City of Ansonia;

WHEREAS, Crave will provide liability insurance, name the City of Ansonia as an additional insured, obtained any and all other necessary permits and authorizations necessary to hold this event as well as to return the parking lot to the same condition as it was in at the commencement of the event;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Ansonia hereby provides permission for Crave to utilize the municipal parking lot located on Railroad Avenue, provided any and all of the conditions have been met, and that the Mayor of the City of Ansonia is authorized to enter and to execute the hold harmless agreement.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to ADOPT Resolution #3; SECONDED by Alderman Stowe. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Communication #3

From: Comptroller Joseph M. Miller, Jr.

Re: Waiver of Bid Process to Approve Contract for Hiring Michaud & Accavalo for City Audit

Alderman Stowe MOVED to waive the bidding process and approve a contract and the hiring of Michaud & Accavallo for the annual City Audit for June 30, 2012. SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Communication #4

From: Chief Jared P. Heon - EMS Account Executive

Re: Awarding of Bid for Ambulance Billing

Alderman Nihill stated, this did go out to bid. We received two bids. The packages were reviewed and EMMS was the only company that met all of the criteria. They are a local company. Jared did a lot of research. We had a lot of complaints with the old billing company. People were calling there and there was nobody there to answer the phone amongst other issues. Other communities using EMMS are very satisfied. There are performance incentives built into their contract.

Alderman Stowe MOVED to award the bid for ambulance billing to Emergency Medical Management Solutions of Beacon Falls; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Communication #5

From: Chairman Vin Scarlata, Economic Development Commission

Re: Bid Waiver for Website Design and Development

President Sharkey stated, the Economic Development Commission is requesting a bid waiver for website design and development. I believe it's a \$15,000 fee paid in three installments. When signed, an initial payment of \$5,000 would accompany that. You've heard Mr. Norman's comments that no money has been allocated to this yet.

Alderman Marini stated, that is accurate. We are not asking the Board to enter into a contract tonight. We couldn't because the funding has not been approved. That needs to happen at the next Board of Apportionment and Taxation meeting, which is next Monday.

The Commission is looking for a bid waiver for this so it can go back to Apportionment and Taxation to report it is achieved, and then could hopefully get approval from them. I can't speak for Apportionment and Taxation, they've given sort of a tentative approval - they have spoken positively of it but have not voted on it. I couldn't possibly put words in their mouth except to say that if we voted to approve a bid waiver here tonight and they denied it the issue would be moot. We wouldn't be telling them what to do or stepping on their toes.

You see it is \$15,000 and we've heard it's a website. We talked a little bit before about the driving purpose of it - a way to market Ansonia. SandorMax is essentially a marketing firm - they don't just put websites together; they put marketing campaigns together. The Commission found them by looking at the Town of Newtown's website. They have a very good integrated approach - not only a nice website but also good cooperation with property owners and industrial parks and retail vendors. They had fact sheets, interesting graphical layouts and they were communicating in different ways - using social media in order to advertise properties. We initiated contact with them, and since found out the City had actually looked at SandorMax for doing the City of Ansonia website.

We looked at not only building a website for Economic Development, but building up a whole marketing approach for Economic Development. We want it to be a vehicle where we can feature Fountain Lake, properties on Main Street, where we are able to communicate efficiently with any investor out there through a website like this. It includes conferencing with Economic Development and other parts of the City to put a strategy together, implementing the strategy in a website, the creation of promotional materials

such as pamphlets, fact sheets, that you can use not just on the Internet but you can print out to give investors. It would also include training. A big part of what was brought up was, who is going to run a website? This website is personally designed so that the members of the Economic Development Commission or any staff members would be trained to operate it. It's a very user-friendly system and from the people that we've talked to personally, not through SandorMax, but personally in Newtown, a lot of people that have no more technological experience than we do are able to maintain the site themselves, upload information. It's how SandorMax sets it up; it's kind of clever. They're using existing databases and making things very manageable for a novice. What it does not include is the price for a domain name. That is an ongoing fee that is not astronomical - at most it is probably \$100 a year in order to reserve the domain name, similar names, to prevent piracy and in order to ensure that site going forward year after year. We may have to ask for that money from the Board of Apportionment and Taxation, we may have to ask for another \$200 once we figure out exactly what that maintenance cost will be. All we are looking for tonight is the green light to go forward and tell Apportionment and Taxation that the bid is waived, so if you allow us to do it we can expend the money by June. Essentially, we don't want to lose the money. I think Apportionment and Taxation is, to be fair, debating the idea of using what was a salary line item for expenses like this. That is their decision to make. I can say that we have gone a long time without spending our Economic Development money on Economic Development. \$15,000 compared to hundreds and hundreds of thousands of dollars that we've paid over the last decade, I think this money can go far. I think it can be put to a good use and I think we will see a tangible result. The Commission wants to use this to tie together with other efforts like I mentioned - an open house. We've been taking little steps with the film industry trying to get new eyes to see things. The whole idea is to push it further, give our properties and our strengths a platform to be seen. That's it.

Alderman Duffus asked, have you ever considered something like a smart phone application? Is that part of your charge as well for the future? Websites are not going to help you out going forward. You need to start looking toward actual, because everyone's using their cell phone nowadays and aren't really using the laptops any longer. Are you looking toward that as well?

Alderman Marini replied, I think using social media is a way for it. I think the website is the home base for that. That is not something that SandorMax offers, but they do offer the databasing, so someone that goes to the website, they put their e-mail in and they're able to be put on the list. So now you have anybody, say, there is a link for the Opera House, say hypothetically we come to a point where we want to market that property to be invested in, to be made over. They come, they see it, they put their name into something, the box will pop up, you enter your e-mail address and now you're on a mailing list. We know who you are, we are able to communicate with you. That is rudimentary, that's nowhere near a smart phone application, but at least we're starting to get our feet wet. That is something that's really interesting; I hope down the road we're able to

get to it. This is sort of starting off. Right now Economic Development does not have a web presence. What we want to use this site for is to aggressively get out there and solicit business, to use it as a vehicle to sort of go after investors rather than what it is now, which is a great resource for existing businesses.

Alderman Fainer stated, it's April. We still have another Board of Apportionment and Taxation meeting this month. We can encumber money before June and it doesn't go away. For us to waive a bid on something that the Board of Apportionment and Taxation hasn't even approved yet, and there are other numbers in here, you know, it's a good idea but, there's time. It's not life or death before June, before the fiscal year is over. You could go to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation this month and see if they'll give you the money, then just have it encumbered by June. It's not going to go away. It's not a life or death thing. There's a proper way to do it - go to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation this month and see if they'll give you the money. You've got to give them some more answers like Eddie was saying before. What's the hosting fees, what's this, what's that. We had the circ on our own homepage already that they're offering to put. I mean there's some stuff on ours that you guys seem to ignore that it's there already. I just can't see us waiving a bid on something that they haven't even approved the money for. It's not like next month or next week the fiscal year ends. I mean, we've got two or three months left before the fiscal year ends. They approve it, then come back to us. I'm not shooting down the thing, I just want to do it the right. The money's not even approved yet and we're waiving bids on something.

Alderman Stowe stated, Mr. Marini, how many scheduled Board of Apportionment and Taxation meetings are left that Economic Development is going to be able to discuss with Apportionment and Taxation?

President Sharkey replied, three.

Alderman Marini stated, they'll be able to go to any regular meeting. There are three more meetings. The Commission went to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation and discussed it with them. We talked about the bid waiver. They really would be going back to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation without much having been done, without getting the bid waiver. I really would hate to send them back and basically be in the same position where the question is, well, if we approve this, are you guys going to be able to encumber it by June. It seems like we just did a loop. Say Monday comes and the money's approved; we'll just be back here again asking the exact same thing.

Alderman Fainer stated, yeah but the money is approved. They haven't given up the money yet. Why should we approve something. And you say you think they are all for it.

Alderman Tripp stated, basically what we're talking about, the goal and the end state, that this is only a part of, is the revitalization of Main Street, Ansonia. I don't think there's anybody in this Chamber that's against the revitalization,

the rebirth of Main Street, Ansonia. This is a part of that total process. While there are those that might want to sharp shoot the details, this concept is sound. My only input here would be, I would ask that this Board of Aldermen do something tonight. Jerome, you pick it, I'll back you up. As long as we do something to move the football down the field, because right now I'm getting the feeling we're stuck on our own 20 yard line just slopping around in the mud. I would like to see this move forward down the field.

Alderman Knapp stated, it just seems to me that the Economic Development Commission, and I agree with Mr. Tripp, I don't think there is anybody in this room that doesn't want to see Economic Development going forward. I would just think that it seems like we're doing a shotgun approach here. I would think that hiring the Executive Director, Consultant, sitting down with the Commission, putting together a plan, a game plan, a master plan, business plan, whatever you want to call it, and then going forward. You know, "we're going to do a web page", "we're going to give away grants", we're going to... Where is the master plan? Where are we going? What do we want to accomplish? Where do we want to be? I didn't get the warm fuzzies when Mr. Norman was sitting up here that the Board of Apportionment and Taxation was teetering on making the decision. I could be wrong.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, I certainly agree with the concept and I understand the motive behind the revitalization. We are in the process of hiring a consultant. Whether the consultant would agree that this website would be the proper one, I don't know. It's up to the Board. That's my position.

Alderman Marini stated, I have to say that the large part of that, I sort of agree. An ideal world we'd be able to put everything in a specific order and it would work out wonderfully. The problem is, we have an opportunity here, possibly, to take some of what is a total of \$80,000 and use it for Economic Development. There is likely, and I would say it's an impossibility that an Economic Development Director or staff member would be hired by June. This is a process that has to go on long, because if it's done in a short window we won't have the consensus to make it count. So the thing is, if we can't encumber the money by June, we lose it. So it's an opportunity, it's \$80,000, it is an opportunity we lose. That is the reason it looks like we're putting this step before the Economic Development Director. We have looked hard for a firm that we have confidence in, one that's gotten results for other towns, one that even our town has taken a look at and was impressed by. I trust the members of the Commission. We put them together and it's been a little over two years since we restarted the Commission. I have faith in the people that are there and the decisions they can make. I have faith in the decisions that this Board can make. We don't have to wait for a white knight to come in - there is going to be no white knight to come in and say look, I have a magical formula of Economic Development. That person doesn't exist. Even Jimmy Ryan from Shelton sort of agreed, this is a team approach. When we get a new Economic Development Director, he's not going to be the hero. He's going to be a staff member that we're going to have to work with. We are going to have to put

together a team from this Board, from Economic Development, from Planning and Zoning - a team that's going to work together to get it done. There's no magic bullet - we all have to be the magic bullet.

Economic Development, this is what they came up with. I think they did their homework. You could take a look at the sites, the proposals. My thought is, if it's put off, I don't think it's die right here, but the Commission would like to get going. They would like to get something in the works and for the summer be ready to start getting onto Main Street, into these buildings, and possibly getting some interested people. I understand the need to be cautious, certainly, this certainly can't be pressuring the Board of Apportionment and Taxation, it's their decision.

Alderman Fainer stated, in our day, store owner or business owner, Wakelee Avenue and over there, they seem to be getting left out of the whole picture. You just talked about Main Street. What about the rest of the businesses in Ansonia?

Alderman Tripp stated, we have to start somewhere. I don't care where we start. Just do something. Anything. You pick. I don't care. Do something.

Alderman Fainer stated, I think we should send this back to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation, and if they say "here's the money" I'm all for the waiver of bid.

Alderman Stowe stated, being that I was in business, you can't always do a job listed one through 10. Sometimes five is first, sometimes eight is first. Whatever it may be. But if this doesn't get started, you fall behind again. Now if the economy changes and starts getting better for some reason and we don't conclude with this website that we're looking to do, we will end up falling behind. I sat there, you all were invited to this. I left work to go. I thought this was important enough to be there at 4 o'clock to witness this. It is true. Jimmy said, you've got to work as a team. I have been living in the Valley all my life. I have watched what Shelton has become. He also said in Shelton it has taken 20 years. I've watched that Canal Street - it has changed in the last 10 years like night and day. We need to be a team on this. We have to pull together. This is one item where we need to take politics - and Jimmy said this - you need to put it to the side and work as a team. The more better ideas we have for this the quicker this is going to go.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, you can't vote on anything until there is actually money there. I think you have to be careful. It's up to you whether or not you want to waive the bidding process or you can do request for proposals. If you do something, you have to be careful on what you vote on today is that you're not committing to this contract when there are no funds from the Board of Apportionment and Taxation. That is something that would violate the Charter.

President Sharkey stated, I would like to take your statement and yes we do something tonight. Looking this over, I think there are other questions involved. I think it's a good starting place. I think maybe the ideas that they listed out here, we need to read really in detail. I find that a lot of people know a lot more about websites and computer setup than I do, that's for sure. I take to heart people that work with them and tell me there are ongoing things we have to look forward to. I think maybe we need to come back here afterward with a statement about, what do we need to manage this going forward. We heard about the training and they trained people - how long did it take them to train in Newtown? What was involved in the training to get it done? Then, did they have to hire more personnel? Did they have to get more equipment? I heard from someone that I know who knows more about it than I do that said we don't have the servers available to do this. So we need other information and come back to us.

What I would like to recommend that this Board do is go on record, writing a letter to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation saying they would like this money encumbered, that it's set aside for Economic Development, so it doesn't fall to the bottom line, so we don't have to worry about whether we're rushing to do this \$15,000, if we still want the rest of the \$80,000 or whatever it is. I know that the Board of Apportionment and Taxation has in the past, really looked very negatively on spending salary on equipment things. I know that has happened in ARMS before when they requested, turn some salary in to do it. I know they've looked at it that way. But if we recommend to them that they take this money that's there and before it disappears, before it goes away and before we are worried about it dropping to the bottom and it goes back into the General Fund that we strongly recommend to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation that they encumber the money to set it aside, and then you have until June 30th to put something together to do it. Nobody has to be under pressure.

My recommendation would be to send a letter to them asking them to do it; strongly recommending that we set it aside.

Alderman Marini stated, Mr. President, I think that's an excellent idea as then Chairman Scarlata and the Commission will have something in hand to go back to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation with this Monday. I just wanted to clarify one thing, and I don't want it to be a misperception in terms of just helping out businesses on Main Street, that's something the Commission wants to avoid. I know some of their events are geared toward Main Street but the website would certainly be catering not just to Main Street, but Fountain Lake, which would be a huge part of that, as would areas like Wakelee Avenue and any other vacant property. The same thing with an open house or any other initiative they're taking. The grant program, for example, wouldn't be open to just necessarily Main Street - that could be open to any business in the City. I have heard a lot of people say that before, with anything, Main Street gets the attention and business is just more than Main Street - there are many other areas that need the help and I think they're trying very hard to do that. That idea is excellent.

Alderman Stowe MOVED to send a letter to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation strongly recommending that they encumber the approximate \$80,000 from the Economic Development Director Salary line item in the Economic Development 2011-2012 budget; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Resignations

1. Bill Gallant - Economic Development Commission

Alderman Fainer MOVED to accept, with regret, the resignation of Bill Gallant from the Economic Development Commission and 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 12-0.

Appointments

President Sharkey recommended to the Board that all of the School Building Commission appointments be taken up at the same time. This entire Commission is up for reappointment - they are working very hard and have gone forward with a multi-million project on the roofs, and will be taking up other things. They are all reappointments with the exception of one person, Mr. Fainer, that is a replacement - he will be replacing Alderman Blume. He felt there is no reason for a roll call vote when we know the people there are working very hard.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to act upon all of the Mayor's proposed appointments in one motion unless someone has a problem with that; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to accept all of the Mayor's proposed appointments as outlined in his letter of April 4, 2012 as follows; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill.

Alderman	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski			
Duffus	X		
Stowe	X		
Tripp	X		
Jeanette	X		
Mott	X		
Fainer	X		
Beall			
Radin	X		
Madigosky	X		
Nihill	X		

Marini	X		
Knapp	X		
Sharkey	X		
TOTALS	12		

A roll call vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12 Yes, 0 No.

Economic Development Commission

Keith Murray of 117 Main Street, Gallant replacement; term to expire 2-28-2016.

School Building Commission

Jerome Fainer of 36 Cedar Street, Board of Aldermen representative (D), Blume replacement; term to expire 11-30-2013.

John Marini of 11 Hawley Drive, Board of Aldermen representative (R); term to expire 11-30-2013.

Eugene Sharkey of 4 Pin Oak Lane, Board of Aldermen representative (D); term to expire 11-30-2013.

Edward Norman of 51 Grove Street, Board of Apportionment and Taxation representative (R); term to expire 11-30-2013.

Gale Banks of 39 Elm Street, Board of Apportionment and Taxation representative (D); term to expire 11-30-2013.

Richard Sturges of 25 Crestwood Road, Board of Apportionment and Taxation representative (D); term to expire 11-30-2013.

George Boath of 10 Dempsey Court, Board of Education representative (R); term to expire 11-30-2013.

Fran DiGiorgi of 6 Elliott Drive, Board of Education representative (D); term to expire 11-30-2013.

John Lawlor of 8 Michael Street, Board of Education representative (D); term to expire 11-30-2013; SECONDED by Alderman
A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED

William Nimons of 85 Pulaski Highway, Board of Education and Resident representative (R); term to expire 11-30-2013.

Robert Evans of 2 Glen Ridge Drive, Resident representative (R); term to expire 11-30-2013.

Tara Kolakowski of 14 Farrell Drive, Resident representative (D); term to expire 11-30-2013.

Historic District Commission

Carol Sardinha of 91 Jewett Street to fill a vacancy; term to expire 12-31-2015.

Resolutions

Resolution #1

Re: Authorize Mayor Della Volpe to Execute Agreement with State of Connecticut for Connecticut Small Cities Community Block Grant Program

Alderman Tripp MOVED to ADOPT Resolution #1; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

RESOLUTION CITY OF ANSONIA

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

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

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the City of Ansonia make an application to the state for \$300,000 in order to undertake a Small Cities Community Development Program and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN:

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for state assistance imposed by part VI of chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes; and
2. That the filing of an application by the City of Ansonia in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 is hereby approved, and that the Mayor James T. Della Volpe is hereby authorized and directed to file such application With the Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required by the Commissioner, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut, financial assistance

if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, rescissions and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the City of Ansonia.

Resolution #2

Re: Fair Housing Policy

Alderman Nihill MOVED to ADOPT Resolution #2; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION
CITY OF ANSONIA

WHEREAS, Paul person or afforded a right to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice; and

WHEREAS, federal fair housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, be given equal access to all housing related opportunities, including rental and homeownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut fair housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression be given equal access to all housing related opportunities, including rental and homeownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

WHEREAS, the city of Ansonia is committed to upholding these laws, and realizes that these laws must be supplemented by an Affirmative Statement publicly endorsing the right of all people to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the city of Ansonia hereby endorses a Fair Housing Policy to ensure equal opportunity for all persons to rent, purchase, obtain financing and enjoy it all other housing related services of their choice on a nondiscriminatory basis as provided by state and federal law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the chief executive officer of the city of Ansonia or his/her designated representative is responsible for responding to and assisting any person who alleges to be the victim of an illegal discriminatory housing practice in the city of Ansonia and for advising such person of the right to file a complaint with the State of Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) or the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or to seek

assistance from the Connecticut fair housing Center, legal services, or other fair housing organizations to protect his or her right to equal housing opportunities.

Resolution #3

Re: Authorize Mayor to Enter and Execute Hold Harmless Agreement and Provide Permission to Utilize Municipal Parking Lot for Holding Cinco De Mayo Celebration

Previously acted upon - See Communications

Resolution #4

Re: Authorize Mayor to Execute and Deliver Agreements to State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

Alderman Nihill MOVED to ADOPT Resolution #4; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

RESOLUTION
2012 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT

RESOLVED, that the Ansonia Board of Aldermen may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that James Della Volpe, as mayor of the city of Ansonia, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Ansonia Board of Aldermen and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

The undersigned further certifies that James Della Volpe now holds the office of Mayor and that he has held that office since 1999.

Revisions to Ordinances

President Sharkey stated, tonight we held a public hearing on all of the ordinances that came forward. I would like to deviate from the agenda to take up those ordinance changes.

Alderman Mott MOVED to ADD TO THE AGENDA THE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES:

Section 2 - 167. Composition oath; removal appointment.

Section 2 - 169. Chief/EMS account executive, department designated.

Section 4 - 6. Removal of animal litter.

Section 4 - 8. Dogs roaming at large.

SECONDED by Alderman Tripp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

President Sharkey asked if any member of the public wished to speak on the proposed revisions. Being none,

Alderman Knapp MOVED to adopt the changes to the ordinances as listed; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12-0.

Unfinished Business

Adam Sardinha Fee Waiver for Eagle Project

Alderman Knapp MOVED to send a letter to the Building Department requesting that they waive all fees concerning Adam Sardinha's Eagle Project - Sign at Ansonia Public Library; SECONDED by Alderman Madigosky.

Lighting - Municipal Parking Lot

Alderman Nihill stated, it is still dark in the municipal lot. I saw Mr. Schryver, he attended our meeting tonight but I couldn't catch him unfortunately. Perhaps Mr. Mayor, you can give him a call again. I don't know what happened.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, Mr. Schryver met with UI at the site. They went over which poles were not lit and made a list. They should be on shortly. UI has a priority list, and it's on the list.

President Sharkey stated, any time you see lights that are out around the City, simply contact UI and ask for Light the Night. All they will ask you for is the light pole number.

Motor Home in Municipal Parking Lot

Alderman Nihill stated, there has been a motor home parked in the municipal lot, I would say for months and months. It has a New York registration plate on it; I don't know if it is legally registered. Could somebody check it out? It has been there - I don't know if it's abandoned - it doesn't move.

Chief Hale stated, we will follow up on it tomorrow.

Catch Basin Installation

President Sharkey stated, Public Works has installed a catch basin at the corner of Hill Street and Berkshire Road where we had the water across the road issue. We will wait and see once it rains, but hopefully that will have alleviated that problem which was a dangerous icing concern in the winter.

Open Space

Alderman Stowe asked, Corporation Counsel Blake, how is the property going for open space?

Corporation Counsel Blake replied, I have not received the appraisal back yet.

Alderman Stowe asked, June 28th is the deadline, so it looks like you're going to make it?

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, I don't have it back yet but I will have it shortly.

President Sharkey asked, do we have a homeless person living in the woods up near John J. Sullivan's? When you're heading north on Wakelee Avenue and you stop for the light, if you look to the right, there's a tent way down in the hole.

Alderman Fainer stated, they're gone. They were there for a while.

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary
Ansonia Board of Aldermen