



CITY OF ANSONIA BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Regular Meeting – November 13, 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, led by Boy Scout Troop 105, sponsored by Hilltop Hose Company.

Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed in tribute to all Veterans, in honor of Veterans' Day.

Roll Call

The secretary called the roll:

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

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

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

Consideration of Previous Minutes

1. Regular Meeting of October 9, 2012

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

Public Session

Randolph Carroll, 40 Fourth Street

I'm on the Conservation Commission. Up at Fountain Lake they are dirt bike riding and hunting. The Conservation Commission, at our expense, placed signs around the property, I did it myself, and within 24 hours all of the signs were stolen. The second time I paid for them out of my pocket. They were

stolen again. I think that you would want to know that the property at Fountain Lake is being destroyed by dirt bikers - they are all over the property, and it seems that every effort that the [inaudible]. Around Pond 2 and in the woods around Pond 2 - the signs that I placed were all over the woods. One by the water tower, one by the company that is across from Spector, one on the sign that says "Welcome to Fountain Lake." And within 24 hours they were all stolen. They were down. And I put them in with 12-inch nails.

President Sharkey stated, thank you, we will present that information and see if something can be done about it.

Edward Musante, 21 Castle Lane

I'd like to thank the Public Works crew for doing a good job during the storm.

Going down to Public Works, there's an unsafe issue - the pole is leaning real bad. When we get ice and snow it's going to go down. His trucks aren't going to be able to get out and they're going to have a bigger problem.

On Route 8 this morning, traffic was backed all the way up into Beacon Falls. If you send a letter to the State Traffic Commissioners - they can get a sign up there that warns of traffic backups at this exit or this exit. I feel sorry for the people that were going south this morning.

President Sharkey thanked Mr. Musante.

Ken Plavnicky, 15 Mountainview Road

I'd like to compliment Public Works for the work they did after hurricane, they did a real good job.

I was very disgusted and upset last month about the videotape that you guys voted to discontinue it. I mean, I think that's a real good thing to keep transparent and files somewhere, and every other town does it. There was no reason, no money put into it from the town. I'm sure there's a lot of people that don't want to come to the meeting here that they could come, they could watch it on TV rather than come to the meeting, or elderly people who don't want to go out at night. It was just terrible for the way it was done. Thanks.

President Sharkey thanked Mr. Plavnicky.

Alderman Marini stated, to address Mr. Plavnicky's comment, I sort of feel the same way about the vote on the videotape, which is why I'm happy to say that the Ansonia Republicans are going to continue to provide that service for the public. In fact, we've already made available the meeting from October on YouTube, and you can see it on our Ansonia Republican blog, which is Ansoniagop.blogspot.com, or on the Ansonia GOP Facebook page, or on the Ansonia GOP YouTube channel. Starting in January, the Ansonia Republicans

are going to be making that tape available on public access on Comcast as it was by the City for this past year.

Alderman Fainer stated, this sounds like you're getting political in this. How come it couldn't be on Comcast now, this whole year, and now all of a sudden it could be on YouTube, it could be on this, and starting January, what happened to that?

Alderman Marini stated, well, exactly. With getting it on Comcast we still have a problem. We talked to some people that are more technologically savvy and by January we're going to be able to put it on Comcast. Putting it on YouTube and on the Internet was never a problem; that was actually easy. It's just that the majority of the Video Recording Commission that we had over the past year did not want it available. And so, of course, if we were going by the City's recording policy we respected that. But now that it's going to be made available by a private party, it can be on YouTube; it can be on the Internet.

Alderman Adamowski stated, I just have one comment and then I'd like to end the discussion on this, because we don't need to get into a political debate on videotaping. The motion was made by me, and I'm going to explain the reason why I made the motion so that we're all clear. We had set up a Video Recording Committee way back when this was all started. The rules were not followed, the taping of the meeting and everything else that was in those rules, which we can provide a copy for next month if everybody would like to read them, were not being followed. Comcast had only January of 2012 and nothing after. That is why I made the motion to suspend the video recording until we figure out what we were doing with it, and make sure that the rules that we set in place were followed, because if we're not going to follow the rules that we put in place, then we shouldn't make them. That's all.

President Sharkey thanked Alderman Adamowski.

Bartholomew Flaherty, 28 Pinecrest Avenue

I am here to commend the Mayor, the Police Department, Public Works, all the emergency personnel who manned the Emergency Center. The phone call I got was very reassuring during the storm. A number of phone calls, my e-mail and phone just let me know what was going on. I thought it was just tremendous, and it worked out smooth as glass. When something works and it's going good then it's time to speak up to it. Mayor Della Volpe you did a tremendous job leading this whole thing. It was very reassuring to hear your voice on my voicemail telling me where to go if I needed a shelter and letting us know what was going on. I understand that UI had a problem in Ansonia, but that's beyond this Board or the Mayor or anybody's control. I thought it was a very good exercise and you should be commended. Thank you.

President Sharkey thanked Mr. Flaherty.

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

Public Official Session

Mayor James Della Volpe

I also would like to commend all City employees and volunteers who were involved with the emergency operations during Hurricane Sandy. Everybody acted in a professional manner, worked well together, communicated with each other in order to provide protective services for our City. It was a long three days at the Emergency Operations Center headquarters, but it was also staffed at all times. The only goal was to make sure that our residents were safe during the storm. Once again, thank you to all of the volunteers and all the City employees for Hurricane Sandy coverage.

Last Wednesday night we had a snowstorm; and all of the power on the West Side of town went out around 7:30. I received a call from Public Works and went up and met Mike Schryver at the Police Department, I went into the Dispatch Center and we had two dispatchers - Kevin Gilbert and Sergeant Jen Guisto - on the phones for ½ hour - 45 minutes because the power was out. They had so much activity; I am so proud of the way they responded to our residents and reassured some of the elderly that things were okay. They called UI right away. I didn't think we'd get any service UI because they were in New Haven still making repairs from Hurricane Sandy, but they sent out a crew over to Riverside Drive. Mike Schryver, and I, and Sean Rowley, a foreman, went down to site; and to see these guys from UI working in the conditions that they were in was phenomenal. I don't know how you do it Joe, day in and day out. They were up in the bucket, snow was coming, wind was blowing in their face, the other gentleman was on the sidewalk with a flashlight shining it up so that you guys could make the repairs. I called Tony Vallillo, the President of UI, and I thanked him. We had power restored within two hours. Once again I'd like to thank UI and I'd like to thank our Dispatch people and Public Works for a job well done last Wednesday night.

I've been working closely with Stan Gorzelany in regard to the motor vehicle taxes. We sent out notices for the first time in several years and I'd like to report to the Board that we have increased our collection rate by almost 50 percent over last year. Last year in October we collected \$50,071; this year we collected \$104,964. That's an increase of \$54,893. The current interest we increased by \$3,312. On our real estate taxes, we increased it by close to \$30,000. Overall our total collections increased by \$88,412.15. We are going to continue to send out notices in regard to delinquent taxes. We're looking at a collection agency at no cost to the City. They will add their fee upon what the residents owe in regard to taxes and their interest that they owe. That is ongoing and that was good news.

The Christmas Tree Lighting will be held on Friday, November 30 at 6 o'clock here in Veterans' Park. All are welcome.

I know Alderman Marini will get into this, the Charter Revision Commission will hold a public hearing on December 3 at 7 p.m. Hopefully everybody will come out and make their comments in regard to what revisions they would like to see within our Charter.

I'll entertain any questions the Board may have.

Alderman Radin stated, Mayor, you got the UI, you got the lights lit down in the parking lot. I was at ARMS at a meeting last week and the 3 sets of lights right along their parking lot - along ARMS' parking lot - are all out. Could they check and see what's causing that, because all of the rest of the lights are on.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, I'll call UI and we'll check it.

Alderman Sharkey asked, where do we stand, can we get an update on securing the note for two dump trucks and the ambulance? We had mentioned that at the meeting last week that we're ready to move forward.

Mayor Della Volpe replied, we've had discussions with Rich Bshara, our Acting Comptroller, and Kevin Blake, but I don't know where we're at. If you want to give me an update.

Mr. Bshara explained, we are waiting on the finalization of the ambulance. We need to be within a two to three week window to go to the bank. Then we should be ready to go. The application is in.

President Sharkey stated, I think we'll have a finalization on that tonight. Thank you.

Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

I have three things for Executive Session. Mr. Sousa and Mr. Teodosio will be here later to go into Executive Session on those matters.

There are two - Mr. Eheman's case and the Police Union contract.

President Sharkey stated, you have Communication #5, the Police Union contract, and Mr. Eheman's case.

Lt. Wayne Willams, Ansonia Police Department

The Chief wanted me to bring you up to speed on a couple of things. One, we are still in the process of hiring officers and training officers that were funded. We have one seat open for the January class and we're trying to place somebody in. We have two officers in the Academy still, and one that just came out of the Academy and is currently in the FTO program.

We have new vehicles that were funded. We were putting in our order in July; that got delayed a little because they're new vehicles - they don't make the Ford Crown Victoria any more. We are looking at a new hybrid. There were some parts that needed to be made for these vehicles. We expect delivery of these vehicles by the end of the year.

I know Mr. Flaherty mentioned it - our Code Red system during Hurricane Sandy seemed to work very well. I didn't hear a lot of complaints. We had some people that were a little confused as to how the e-mail system was going to work, but I think for the most part we got everything straightened out, and those went out well.

Chief Hale also wanted me to remind you that Winter Parking begins December 1st, because no snow ever comes before December 1st. Parking is on the even side this winter and that ends March 31st. It will be on the even side the entire winter.

Additionally, there will be a Crime Prevention Seminar at Ansonia High School at 6:30 p.m. Thursday. It is for businesses and the public. It goes into some crime prevention techniques for the winter holidays.

Alderman Radin stated, on the corner of Church Street and Wakelee, right by Zani's, the STOP sign is almost completely white and needs to be replaced.

Lt. Williams stated that the Police Department would order it.

Tara Kolakowski, Acting Personnel Director

You have my report in front of you for the month. If there are any questions, I'll entertain them.

President Sharkey thanked Ms. Kolakowski.

Donna Lindgren, Director, Ansonia Nature Center

Good evening. At your October Board of Aldermen meeting I understand there was quite a discussion about idling vehicles at the Nature Center and in other places in the City. I read that Mr. Tripp was interested in asking questions of the Director there so I'm here tonight to answer any questions you may have,

review any issues you may have, and read you a statement, if I may, from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in the State of Connecticut.

Reducing emissions from idling motor vehicles is one of the most important air quality issues in Connecticut today. Because the State is committed to reducing air pollution, protecting our health and improving the environment, no idling is the law. Idling causes air pollution, and idling vehicles [inaudible] air toxins, chemicals, gases and particulate matter into the air contributing to regional [inaudible] and global climate change. There is a very lengthy website on air pollution and idling vehicles and motors as well. If there are any questions, I'd like to turn this over to you tonight for review if you would like to, and I would like to suggest that when there is a Charter Revision if there is one, that we address this issue not only at schools but also in parks.

President Sharkey asked if any Board member had questions of Mrs. Lindgren. Being none he thanked Mrs. Lindgren.

Public Works Director Michael Schryver

Alderman Radin asked, have you spoken with B & J Electric about the fence that is in bad shape on Franklin Street.

Mr. Schryver stated, yes, I did. Mr. Tanner located the owner of that fence and they are in the process of repairing it.

Alderman Radin stated, the other thing is, I was going down Howard Avenue and there were about 20 bags of leaves there. Did anybody call on that?

Mr. Schryver replied, it's possible. We usually pick those up toward end of the week.

Committee Reports

ARMS - Alderman Jerome Fainer

For the month of October ARMS was dispatched to 270 calls. We transported 187 patients, 78 with paramedic. Mutual aid calls - 26 to Derby, 5 to Seymour, 1 to Milford. Ansonia had zero first calls passed, zero second calls passed, and two third calls passed, probably because we are short at least one ambulance if not two. They are doing a heck of a job down there. I commend them all.

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

Finance Committee - Alderman Edward Adamowski

1. Authorization to Pay Bills

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to pay all bills if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

2. Upcoming Finance Committee Meetings

On November 14th at 7 o'clock the Finance Committee will meet for the Tax Incentive Program that we spoke about last month. We are still trying to work on getting a representative from Seymour; I will have that answer hopefully by noon tomorrow. If we cannot get anybody down here to speak with us, we'll probably end up moving the meeting to another date so we don't have to have duplicate meetings.

Alderman Adamowski asked Mayor Della Volpe - we had spoken at another Finance Committee meeting with the Interim Tax Collector about compiling a list of policies and procedures in a book. I wonder if that was accomplished.

Mayor Della Volpe replied, he has put it together and it's in the Tax Collector's office. It's done.

Alderman Adamowski asked, can I get that book so that I can review it with the Finance Committee?

Mayor Della Volpe stated, there should be no problem doing that.

Alderman Adamowski stated, I will set up a date for the Finance Committee to meet and go through the policies and procedures and just see if everything that we talked about is in there, and what ideas they had, and we'll go from there.

Lastly, the Finance Committee met on the 4th and discussed important emergency improvements at the Ansonia Police Department. We will meet again at 7 p.m. on the 20th to move forward on those issues.

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

Alderman John Marini - Economic Development Committee

The firm of Bartram and Cochran has been developing an economic plan for the City for the past several months. They are about halfway through with it. At the end they hope to give us recommendations on how to move our City forward. They've been talking to members of different commissions, members of different boards, to residents, to business owners, compiling statistical information and they've been starting their very first drafts of what will be

their comprehensive Economic Development Plan. We hope by the beginning of the year that we will have that plan in writing for the Board and for the residents of Ansonia to consider.

Secondly, up tonight for consideration is a Small Business Loan Program that has been developed by the Commission. The Commission hopes to finalize this month. Very briefly what we intend to do with it is to use an unused portion of the Economic Development Director's salary from last year to offer up to \$2,000 in low-interest loans to business owners for the specific purpose of making improvements and rehabilitating their storefronts and their exterior store façades with the ultimate idea being to help business owners during trying economic times and also to make aesthetic and functional improvements to our business areas in Ansonia. We have that - hopefully any suggestions this Board comes up with could be incorporated so hopefully you've all had a chance to take a look at it. We can make that plan even better by the time the Commission finalizes it at the end of the month.

Finally, as Alderman Adamowski mentioned, the Tax Incentive Program is up to the Finance Committee tomorrow night. We presented this last month. This is essentially going to arm the City with the ability to negotiate and to offer incentives to investors that are considering Ansonia. Keeping in mind that there are some substantial properties that are potentially opening up in the City, it's definitely better to get this in place sooner than later so when the time comes we're able to actually offer something to lure investors into the City so we can be proactive in getting the right type of investors into our City. That's all for now.

President Sharkey thanked Alderman Marini.

President Sharkey stated, a comment on moving forward with the plan tonight and suggestions and all, I don't know how many other members had the same problem I did, but the plan was only submitted on Thursday. It arrived in our boxes on Friday, and Monday City Hall was closed. I don't know how many members had a chance to read it. We can discuss it later but we'll probably have to make comments on the fly.

Alderman Marini stated, I think e-mail correspondence is fine too. I think whomever has read it tonight can comment, but this Board can certainly have correspondence off the record. I would also invite any member of this Board to attend the Economic Development Commission meeting on the 3rd Thursday of this month at 7 p.m. You can make comments there, it's never too late to make revisions before it's finalized.

President Sharkey explained that there are several conflicting meetings been held the same evening, and suggested that several of the Aldermen would not be able to attend.

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

Fire Committee

President Sharkey stated, prior to the hurricane, the Emergency Operations Center staff led by Chief Hale and attended by every department, City Hall, the Mayor personally attended, met several times before the hurricane to assure that all possible plans for the impending storm were being put into action. During the storm the Police, Fire, Ambulance, Public Works, and UI had personnel present around the clock, in constant radio communication with people in the field, to ensure the safety and well being of the people of Ansonia. I can report being personally there several times in and out, all departments worked through some very hazardous conditions. At one time they had to pull all equipment, ambulances, police cars, fire equipment, off the road. Once you get above 50 mph it is recommended no vehicles are on the road unless it is a life-threatening situation. We had to pull all vehicles off the road and actually did have a couple of calls in the middle of that high wind period. At one time we had every piece of emergency apparatus in the City, including ambulances and fire apparatus, all engaged and in use. At the height of the storm, two structure fires were reported simultaneously. One with the report of children trapped inside. I would personally like to commend all of the workers, Police, Fire, Ambulance, Public Works, both in the field and in the command center. I'd like to give praise to the Public Works crew for their clearing of the streets after. They cleared stuff out of the streets, they took it away if the people brought it out to the curb. They cleared everything that was there.

Tonight we have a late communication that proposes to help residents even more that received damage during the hurricane. We will discuss that at this time.

Also, hurricane-related, Webster Hose, Hook & Ladder Company held a donation drive on Sunday at their firehouse to aid victims of Sandy. That was put out on Facebook and it was an enormous response. They filled a Public Works State body truck I think three times with material that was donated. A lot of new stuff, good stuff, it is right now all being stored in the museum. We had no other place to put it. At one time the entire floor of the Webster Hose was covered with donations. Everything has been moved and their intention is to bring it to New York or to New Jersey, victims there are in a lot of need of assistance. I would like to commend the people of the Valley that participated. At one time there was a lineup of vehicles on the street waiting to donate. The people are commended for their help to other people in need. Thank you.

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

Charter Revision Commission Alderman Marini

The Charter Revision Commission had its first meeting last week. The first order of business is to conduct a Public Hearing. The purpose of the Charter Revision Commission is to come up with revisions to the Charter to make a more effective, efficient Charter, and we have about a year's time to do that. Any revisions that this Commission comes up with will have to be on the ballot coming into our next election in 2013. It begins with a Public Hearing to start hearing from residents, from Commission members, Board members, business owners, of what revisions they would like to see in the Charter. That will be December 3rd, that's a Monday, and will begin at 7 p.m. here in these Chambers. The Commission really intends to make this a very inclusive process. As the best people to recommend revisions to the Charter are really the people that have to live with it on a day-to-day basis. I will be sending out letters to the heads of different commissions and of our different boards essentially inviting them to participate in the process, to examine the portions of the Charter that are pertinent to them, and to either propose their revisions at a public hearing or to meet with the Charter Revision Commission at one of its regular meetings to go over what they see as problems, concerns, things that can be improved. The official Charter Revision Commission meetings will be held the 4th Thursday of each month going forward.

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

Municipal Reports / Annual Reports

Alderman Radin MOVED to accept all municipal and annual reports, dispense with the reading and place them on file; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Tax Refunds

Alderman Tripp MOVED to accept the refund report and pay the refunds in the amount of \$ \$3,356.23 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Communications

Alderman Adamowski 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 11-0.

Communication #1

From: Chairman John Finnucan, Board of Public Works

Re: Bid Awards for Sand and Salt

Alderman Jeanette MOVED, per the recommendation of the Board of Public

Works to award the bid for road salt to International Salt Company of Pennsylvania at \$82.20 per ton; and further,

MOVED to award the bid for screened sand to Haynes Materials of Seymour at a cost of \$15.50 per cubic yard delivered, and \$10 per cubic yard picked up; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp.

President Sharkey noted that there was only one bidder for the road salt. For the sand there were a total of five bidders. Haynes was the lowest price.

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

Communication #2

From: Fire Marshal Ray Tingley, Ad Hoc Sprinkler System Committee

Re: Sprinkler System, Ansonia Armory

Alderman Fainer MOVED to award the bid for the sprinkler system for the Ansonia Armory to Connecticut Fire Protection and Sprinkler Services Company Inc. at a cost of \$78,556; SECONDED by Alderman Madigosky.

President Sharkey noted that there were three bids. The Fire Marshal investigated the past performance of the one he has chosen and recommends we go with that one. It is the lowest bid as well.

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

Communication #3

From: Alderman John Marini

Re: Draft of Storefront Improvement Loan Program

Alderman Marini stated, submitted for review is the most recent draft of the Storefront Improvement Loan Program which we've developed in coordination with the Ansonia Economic Development Commission and the Mayor's Office. The package that we have before us includes a synopsis of the program, complete with the purpose of the program, guidelines. There's a sample application that storeowners would fill out and there's also a draft of legal documents - a commercial loan agreement and a commercial note.

As you know, Ansonia business owners face an incredibly challenging economic climate. The purpose of this program is fundamentally to assist business owners by offering them a means of financing storefront rehabilitation projects through low interest loans of up to \$2,000 apiece. The rehabilitation projects must conform with guidelines and eligibility requirements that are established by the Economic Development Commission through the guidelines that you'll see in this package. The return on the loans will be reinvested and it's the Commission's intention to look into creating an ongoing process so that any

money that the City makes off of this program can be reinvested in a second reiteration of the program somewhere further down the road. However, I would hope that the intention right now is to create a program that has an opening date and a specific closing date several months later, not to leave it wide open continuing into the future.

The total amount of funding available for this initiative is \$50,000. That amount represents an unused portion of the Ansonia Economic Development Director's salary from last year's budget. So no new funds have been appropriated for this program. Again, I look forward to the Board's thoughts. If there are any thoughts right now I'd be glad to listen to them. Again, this is still a bit of a work in progress. Most of it is set up, there are still some fine details to be fine-tuned at the Economic Development Commission's next meeting - that's really where they're going to look to finalize it for good. The goal is to roll this out to market to get the applications open by the beginning of the year. January of 2013 is when we're hoping to have the program open for applications.

Alderman Radin stated, I had the opportunity to read it. Being a business owner I think it's a great thing to be able to help them because I know we're having problems at our store, the cement is starting to crumble a little bit and I'm thinking of doing mine, but I don't think I'll go through the project, I'll let other people do that. It is a good idea and I think the interest rates are low enough. I think if they get the permission of the people that own the building, I happen to own my own building, it's a good way to look forward. It goes to show that we're really trying to help the business people in this town. Being a business person here for 38 years I know we all need help. We need more than help now with the economy the way it is. I think it's a great idea and I would like to see it go ahead.

Alderman Mott stated, just a question; I haven't had a chance to read it- the Economic Development Commission is administering the funds and will approve who receives the funds?

Alderman Marini replied, yes. The goal is for a subcommittee of Economic Development to oversee the applications. However, there has been talk that they want to make sure that little subcommittee may not just include members of the Economic Development Commission but perhaps one or two members of this Board, and a member from the Mayor's Office, in general the more eyes on something the better. So that is something we're trying to fine tune to figure out what would be a good mix of individuals to review those applications. I am open to any suggestions if this board has an opinion as to who it should be.

Alderman Tripp stated, cities in general either prosper or suffer based on the health and economic vitality of their downtowns and their Main Street. I just hope that this initiative is supported and not allowed to die on the dime. This will assist in the economic vitality of our City. If we could get a flourishing,

thriving downtown and Main Street, Ansonia, the benefits will be citywide. I thank you for your time.

President Sharkey stated, we have \$50,000 in the fund. It can go up to \$2,000 so you could have as many as 25 people. The money is actually in the City coffers. It's the Board of Apportionment and Taxation that has it. You probably have to look for a way to dispense this, because it would probably be the City that would have to be dispensing checks in the amount of \$2,000 to each person, because I don't think Economic Development has a checkbook, do they?

Alderman Marini stated no, it needs to go through the City. Like with most other Commissions, although we say it's been transferred to the Economic Development Commission's account, in truth it's the Board of Apportionment and Taxation's account.

President Sharkey stated, but it would be overseen by Economic Development, but would be administered by our Finance Department.

Alderman Marini stated, technically, just like other City expenditures.

Alderman Fainer stated, two things. One, it sounds like a good program, I didn't have enough time to... I just have one question. The Board of Apportionment and Taxation gave you guys \$50,000? Didn't you spend \$25,000 to your consultant and whatever money was for the website and money to repay Peter Burns' outfit? Does that all come out of the \$50,000, or is that another \$50,000?

Alderman Marini stated, what we're taking a look at is \$79,000 of unused money that was left over last year that wasn't used. So our thought was, let's take that money and try to stretch it as far as possible to do the most amount of good with that money. \$50,000 we decided to allocate toward this loan program. \$25,000 we've put into hiring a consultant to help us develop a master plan for Ansonia, and a smaller amount of money, I think it ended up being \$5,000 for the website with \$5,000 on top that we got as a loan from outside the City. So basically yes, this is part of a larger amount of money that we were able to roll over from last year's unused money into this year.

Alderman Fainer stated, well, I don't know if these numbers are adding up here, but that's for the Board of Apportionment and Taxation to decide.

Alderman Marini stated, when we presented to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation we had that \$79,000 carved up for the different initiatives. I can certainly provide, I'm pretty sure we did give that out but we'll do it again.

Alderman Fainer stated, can I ask, Chairman Sturges is here. Mr. Sturges, can you answer?

Mr. Sturges explained, first off, the money was left over in the account for the salary - that was actually turned back into the City and went into the City's reserve fund. So that money itself cannot be used. We made an agreement with them that if they gave the money back to the City instead of trying to squeeze it out last year, that we would give them money this year for some of their initiatives. That is the money he is talking about. We did it in several line items. \$25,000 was for the consultant, \$50,000 was for this program that he's talking about. There are different line items, different amounts. It is \$50,000.

Alderman Marini stated, we technically called it a rollover, although what Chairman Sturges is saying is absolutely right. It was essentially money rolling back into the City and other money taking its place. Technically, it's the unused portion.

Alderman Fainer stated, I just thought this \$50,000 was going to be spent a lot of ways. But it's all accounted for. I'd like to see this held over so I can read this whole thing. It sounds like a great program to help our businesses.

Alderman Marini stated, we could have the Economic Development Commission finalize it from their end, and at what would be our December meeting, we could take a last look at it and that will give us enough time to roll it out to the business owners for applications in January.

Alderman Fainer asked, could we get it a little earlier?

Alderman Marini stated, this is basically it. I don't think there will be any major changes to this at all. At this point it's minor changes.

Communication #4

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

Re: Agreement with the Ansonia Police Union Local 313, Council 15 AFSCME, AFL-CIO

To be discussed in Executive Session.

Communication #5

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

Re: Workers Compensation

To be discussed in Executive Session.

Communication #6

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

Re: Proposed Ordinance - Fire Department / ARMS

Alderman Fainer stated, tonight we held a public hearing on changes to the

Ordinance concerning rescue operations in the City. There are numerous sections that all we did was add "rescue" or "rescue records" in them. The third part was that the Board of Aldermen believes that in order to better serve the City of Ansonia, Ansonia Rescue and Medical Services retain the duties and responsibilities as it pertains to medical services but that all rescue duties and responsibilities be immediately transferred to the Ansonia Fire Department. We had a public hearing tonight - nobody objected to this. The public didn't speak for or against it. Our recommendation is that this Board adopt this.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to accept Alderman Fainer's Ordinance Committee report; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to discuss and act upon Ordinance #1 at this time; SECONDED by Alderman Mott. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Ordinance #1

Re: Ansonia Medical Services Commission and Ansonia Fire Department

Ansonia Medical Services Commission and Ansonia Fire Department

Pursuant to the powers vested in the Board of Aldermen by virtue of Section 93 of the Charter of the City of Ansonia, the Board of Aldermen hereby declares that:

- A. Currently the Ansonia Rescue and Medical Services provides both rescue and medical services to the City of Ansonia and surrounding communities on a mutual aid basis;
- B. The Ansonia Rescue and Medical Services Commission currently oversees the Ansonia Rescue and Medical Services;
- C. The Board of Aldermen believes that in order to better serve the City of Ansonia, Ansonia Rescue and Medical Services retain the duties and responsibilities as it pertains to medical services but that all rescue duties and responsibilities be immediately transferred to the Ansonia Fire Department.

[The remaining full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the Town and City Clerk]

Alderman Mott MOVED to dispense with the reading of the ordinance; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

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

Resignations

Alderman Knapp MOVED to accept the resignation of Peter Marcinko from the Zoning Board of Appeals and to send him a letter of thanks for his service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

AppointmentsZoning Board of Appeals

Alderman Radin MOVED to accept the appointment of Jeffrey Gould of 39 Platt Street, Marcinko Replacement; term to expire 12-31-2012; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Resolutions

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to AMEND agenda to include a Late Resolution; SECONDED by Alderman Mott. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Resolution #1

Re: Purchase of ARMS Ambulances

Aldermen Edward Adamowski of the 1st Ward, Philip Tripp of the 2nd Ward, Jerome Fainer of the 4th Ward, Gene Sharkey of the 6th Ward, and John Marini of the 7th Ward introduced the following Resolution:

PURCHASE OF ARMS AMBULANCES

WHEREAS, The Ansonia Rescue and Medical Services (ARMS) has in operation Bravo 9, a 2003 Ford Type 1 F-450 Wheeled Coach ambulance, which has over the past year experienced catastrophic operation failures which resulted in incurring significant maintenance costs to the City of Ansonia; and

WHEREAS, ARMS has concerns with continuing to keep Bravo 9 in service and be able to provide the necessary medical services for the residents of Ansonia and surrounding communities when called upon for mutual aid to the extent that it has placed into service an ambulance that is on loan in lieu of Bravo 9; and

WHEREAS, the 2012/2013 approved fiscal budget had already set aside \$180,000 for the purchase and fitting out of a new ambulance provided it receives appropriate financing; and

WHEREAS, Specialty Hearse & Ambulance Sales of East Farmingdale, New York has available to ARMS a 1999 PL Custom International FL-50 used ambulance which

can be outfitted and modified to 2013 ambulance national standards and be available to ARMS on or about the end of November 2012, provide for a 2013 Ford F-450 4x4 AEV Ambulance as per ARMS specifications with equipment as well as accept Bravo 9 as a trade-in, all for \$175,500 plus an additional \$4,500 to equip the 2013 Ford F-450 4x4 AEV Ambulance;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Aldermen hereby finds that it is in the best interests of the City of Ansonia and ARMS to waive the bidding process as contained in Section 138 of the Charter of the City of Ansonia because of the emergency that exists in ARMS not being able to provide the necessary level of ambulance services to the City and surrounding communities, when called upon for mutual aid, and that it hereby agrees that the City of Ansonia and ARMS enter into an agreement with Specialty Hearse & Ambulance Sales, not to exceed \$180,000, to purchase a 1999 PL Custom International FL-50 Ambulance fitted to 2013 national ambulance standards, a 2013 Ford F-450 4x4 AEV Ambulance to ARMS specifications with some new equipment, both outfitted with radios and painted to ARMS specifications as well as Specialty Hearse & Ambulance Sales accept a trade-in of Bravo 9 with the understanding that this purchase is subject to the City of Ansonia receiving acceptable financing of the aforementioned vehicles. Furthermore, the Board of Aldermen provides the Mayor of the City of Ansonia to execute any and all contracts or documents in conjunction with this purchase.

Alderman Tripp explained the history of the need for the purchase of a new ambulance. He noted that the Finance Committee held a special meeting Monday, November 5th. There was a great deal of discussion regarding the Ansonia Rescue and Medical Services ambulance purchase. It was a bipartisan discussion with support from all sides.

The Board of Aldermen is being asked to waive the bidding process. This vendor has been working with us hand in glove, they've been assisting us with a loaner vehicle, they're giving us an excellent trade-in price for the 2003 ambulance that has been giving us a great deal of difficulty and problems, they're providing us with an excellent rebuilt 1999 ambulance with a much better and durable engine to replace the 2003 ambulance, and they're providing to us for a fair price the 2013 ambulance which, if we purchase it before the end of this calendar year, will be a \$10,000 savings to the City of Ansonia. I feel this is significant.

Alderman Tripp MOVED to waive the bid process and adopt Resolution #1; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Resolution #2

Re: State Project 02-125; Federal Project H124(001) Supplemental Agreement - Ansonia Riverwalk

All Aldermen of All Wards introduced the following Resolution:

STATE PROJECT 02-125; FEDERAL PROJECT H124(001) SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT
ANSONIA RIVERWALK

The Supplemental Agreement between the State of Connecticut and the City of Ansonia for the Development of Contract Plans, Specifications and Estimates for the Ansonia Riverwalk utilizing federal funds under the High Priority Project Component of the Surface Transportation Program.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that James T. Della Volpe, Mayor, be and hereby is, authorized to sign the agreement entitled "First Supplemental Agreement to the Original Agreement Dated January 22, 2008 between the State of Connecticut and the City of Ansonia for the Development of Contract Plans, Specifications and Estimates for the Ansonia Riverwalk Utilizing Federal Funds under the High Priority Project Component of the Surface Transportation Program.

President Sharkey explained, this will be the design of the next Phase.

Grant Writer Eileen Krugel explained, this is a standard process; it's the final design on the phase that branches over Metro North tracks continuing the segment we have now up Pershing Drive. It's not the construction part, it's the final design.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to ADOPT Resolution #2; SECONDED by Alderman Madigosky. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Late Resolution #1

Re: Building Permits

WHEREAS, property owners in the City of Ansonia have incurred in recent weeks two unprecedented weather events resulting in property damage; and

WHEREAS, the property owners may require permits from the City of Ansonia to make the necessary repairs to their properties; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ansonia believes that it is in the best interests of the community to waive the permit fees for repairs directly related to storm-related damage;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Aldermen hereby waives permit fees to property owners for direct storm-related damage.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to ADOPT Late Resolution #1; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp.

President Sharkey explained that this Resolution is the result of several recent articles in newspapers that both in Branford and the same day Milford decided to assist the citizens in their town that sustained property damage from Hurricane Sandy. They are waiving the permit fees through the building department. Several Aldermen approached me and wanted to introduce that here. It is only for damage as a result of the hurricane.

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

Unfinished Business

The unfinished business of the Workers Compensation matter of Michael Eheman is to be discussed in Executive Session.

New Business

None presented.

Executive Session

At approximately 8 p.m., Alderman Knapp MOVED to go into Executive Session for the following items:

- 1. Ansonia Police Contract - with Corporation Counsel Blake, Mayor Della Volpe, Lieutenant Williams, Acting Personnel Director Tara Kolakowski, Attorney Teodosio, and Richard Bshara**
- 2. Workers Compensation Matter of Michael Eheman - with Corporation Counsel Blake, Mayor Della Volpe, Attorney Teodosio and Attorney Sousa**
- 3. Agreement/Settlement Christina Vermiglio - with Corporation Counsel Blake, Mayor Della Volpe, Attorney Teodosio, and Attorney Sousa**

SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Return to Regular Session

At approximately 8:47 p.m. Alderman Adamowski MOVED to return to Regular Session; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

1. Ansonia Police Contract

Alderman Mott MOVED to adopt the Ansonia Police Union Contract as presented; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

2. Agreement/Settlement Christina Vermiglio

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to move to full and final and/or stipulation of date as recommended by Corporation Counsel Blake; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Alderman Marini stated, I think two months ago we had gone into Executive Session to discuss the employees involved in the Tax Office scenario. We haven't followed up. I believe that is unfinished business. I believe that possibly we would need another Executive Session at our next meeting to go back in and address this. I don't want to talk about the substance of what we discussed in Executive Session, but we seem to have loose ends hanging. Let's make sure it's on next month's agenda.

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary
Ansonia Board of Aldermen