



CITY OF ANSONIA BOARD OF ALDERMEN Regular Meeting – April 9, 2013

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 - present
Peter Marcinko, D1 - present
Charles Stowe, R2 - present
Philip Tripp, R2 - present
Kevin Mott, D3 - present
Joseph Jeanette, D3 - present
Jerome Fainer, D4 - present

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

President Sharkey declared a quorum of 13 present, 1 absent.

Consideration of Previous Minutes

1. Regular Meeting of March 12, 2013

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to accept the minutes; SECONDED by Alderman Marcinko. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Public Session

James Gaskins, Business Administrator, Ansonia Public Schools

I wanted to come before the Board and address the rumors and concerns about the Board of Education benefits budget, one being we budgeted a 15 percent increase and we're hearing that some people suspect we over budget that account, and that is not true.

I feel I've made significant ground in trying to clean things up in the Central Office, the business operations, creating a more transparent, more accountable, more creditable business operation, including the budget. We returned over \$850,000 to the City over the time period that I've been here as Business Manager of Ansonia Public Schools.

Although I'm speaking about benefits, that is the real reason I am here tonight, and that reason is to continue to improve upon the relationships between the municipal side and the education side.

Benefits people always think of Anthem. Our benefits account actually has six different things - the medical, dental, prescription, life insurance, Social Security/Medicare, and the unemployment. Unemployment when I got here was less than \$30,000 a year. We are approaching \$200,000 this year, and that speaks to the depth of cuts that we've had for personnel.

There are obstacles to budgeting for benefits. It is so early in the process. I send out my budget development packets in August. We're putting together from the sites principals' budgeting. September/October, the Board is seeing it in November, final reviews in December and it's given to the City in January. Part of this problem is that the renewal rates, negotiating with the vendor, it's very early in the process. We're budgeting, conservatively, with very early estimates. We don't have the correct time period of claims to do the renewal negotiations. Union negotiations and our contracts - many negotiations go into the Spring, the contracts aren't even signed until Summer. That can impact our budget if we have plan changes within the Union contracts - we are negotiating for reduced rates - and secondly, we could have the increased cost share. That will affect the actual expenditures relative to what we budgeted eight months earlier.

Compared to the City side, the Board of Education has a tremendous amount of turnover. Easily we've had over 100 changes for payroll, benefits, or both this year, staffing changes. That is going to affect their budgets versus the year-end expenditures.

This year's benefit budget is projected to be 98 to 99 percent expended. There is no wiggle room in this year's benefit budget. That makes a solid foundation for going forward. That's where we want to be. We added 15 percent for the reasons I said earlier, preliminary early information from the vendors for benefits. Usually the trend is as we go through the year, that figure comes down and we make the adjustments to the Board of Education budget. This year that has not been the case. We did RFPs. We put one out and had a modified RFP several months later, hoping we'd have better claims and get better results, and we did. The first one, the results were increases from this year's - 19 percent to 29 percent. We put it out to bid because our current vendor was somewhere in the middle there, and we suspected we could do better. We waited, we did it again, now the range was 15-26 percent. We are taking the low bid, changing carriers, but it's a 15 percent increase. I wanted to come before the Board and give you an update that the budget figure submitted to you with an increase of 15 percent is very accurate this year. If there are any questions on the process or rates or claims, I did bring our broker with us tonight, Sonia Kaminski from Brown & Brown. I realize now is not the time for discussion but I've given Mr.

Sharkey my card. If anyone has any questions, wants any additional details, please feel free to contact me at the Board of Education office.

President Sharkey asked, where was it when it started, how did it end up as a 15 percent increase. Are you willing to share that with us? That's probably on your major medical part of it, isn't it?

Mr. Gaskins replied, the major medical is actually 14 percent but prescriptions is going up 20 percent. We're looking at an average of those six areas that I mentioned. The unemployment is going up tremendously - 200 percent or more than that. Far more than that. It's gone up five times from several years ago. FICA, Social Security, of course we have moderate, small increases there. Life insurance is actually a decrease. We put that out to bid; we're changing vendors. That will happen July 1st so we'll have lower rates. We're in the process of making the changes now and our budget will be modified accordingly. Overall, the total benefits, 200 object classification, is going to still be about 15 percent because the big nuts have the big increases.

President Sharkey stated, if any of the Aldermen have questions individually, give them to me and I'll contact James and give you the answers.

Steve Provost, H.D. Segur

I've been the Property and Casualty Insurance Broker for the City of Ansonia for approximately 14 years. Contract is coming up for review so I thought this would be a good opportunity to come before you to address questions you may have or feel are important.

H.D. Segur currently handles approximately 80 municipalities in the State of Connecticut within our municipal department which includes loss control support, loss control engineers, claims department, as well as account representatives, service representatives. Throughout our watch here in the City we've worked with virtually every department currently Board of Education, Police Department, ARMS, the Mayor's Office and of course Public Works. Are there any questions you'd like to address about the insurance marketplace where we feel it's going, what it means to the City?

Alderman Stowe asked, can you just share that, if you have that now? Where you're headed, why it's going up if it is?

Mr. Provost explained, there are a number of reasons why the insurance rates in the marketplace change. They have a lot to do with individual risks, loss, history over the course of their time with a particular carrier, also there are functions within the insurance marketplace that cause rates to change - capacity in the marketplace, how many particular players are there in the marketplace willing to participate, let's say, on a unique line of insurance - Police liability, School Board liability, property and casualty with large values. As players come into that market and leave that market based on various

results that has a bit of a rate effect. Within that we have how the insurance companies work on their own. How are they making money on your money in the broad world marketplace. When what we call spreads get thin, insurance companies are not generating five to ten percent of your money in return any more. Those spreads close down to the one percent that we see [inaudible] in those type of markets. That affects the market in a broad sense. We call it a hardening or softening. My opinion is that we're headed into a harder market over the next four to six years, just in general. That could change very quickly based on the number of participants a carrier is willing to come in.

At Segur we represent all the major carriers throughout the municipal marketplace, this includes CIRMA. We have a very good idea when it comes to budget time what the right picture is going to be - this is early in January, sometimes prior to that. We also communicate with the various departments throughout the year where we feel that's going, assisting in the budgetary process as you put your firm numbers to bed, obviously this time of year. It's a service that goes just beyond the, okay, this is the insurance on that one particular vehicle and that one particular piece of property.

President Sharkey stated, okay, I'm going to have to ask you to end it. If you have any specific questions you'd like to ask, please let us know and we will ask him.

Alderman Stowe stated, I think it would be fair to the Board of Education for all of us to listen to their...

President Sharkey stated, I don't think this is the place to...

Alderman Stowe stated, no, I agree with you but I think we really owe it to them to listen to what they have to say.

President Sharkey stated, if we need to we can have him come in and have another meeting with us and we can sit down and do it at that point, and go on for any length of time that we need. The public session is not the place to be doing this.

Mr. Provost stated, as we have, we're always available. Thank you.

Pat Boemmels, 4 Renahan Drive, Town Coordinator for National Day of Prayer

Last year we had an event right out here near the memorial. This is the Judeo-Christian expression of the National Day of Prayer, so we gather to pray, basically, for our government. Actually there are seven different topics. We pray for the government, the church, the military, the family, education, the media and business. We feel that our country needs it and this is something we hope we can gather more people to come. We would like to have points of contact, for example, for the ambulance corps, for the Fire Department, the Police Department, Board of Education, we'd like a representative or two come

and be there. The prayers will be preassigned - pastors of High Acres Church, First Baptist Church, it's non-denominational, per se. We will be gathering and they will pray the prayer and then others can agree. We would love the opportunity to extend the invitation to anyone who would like to come and we thank Mayor Della Volpe, he will hopefully be there to read a proclamation for us.

The event will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, May 2nd. It's always the first Thursday in May. I have brochures available if anybody would like one.

Alderman Marini stated, Kevin and I attended this event along with some of the officers last year. It was a great community event. I thought it was a very good sampling of people from across Ansonia, particularly in hard times and trying times events like this are very helpful to build community strength. I really encourage members of the Board and the Fire Department to pull together for this event. It's a good cause.

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

It's good to have a touch of Spring out there, I see a lot of smiling faces here tonight.

The City was informed by Governor Malloy that the Federal government approved a major disaster declaration for Connecticut and by doing this, the counties of Hartford and New Haven were extended from 48 hours to a 72 hour period for eligible snow assistance during the blizzard. That is very good for recovering monies.

Along with that, the National Weather Service is still investigating whether the City broke a record set back in 1897 for the most snowfall in a 24-hour period. I don't know if that's a record we want to hold.

The Mayor's Office has been receiving calls regarding curb damage due to the snow removal. If you get complaints from within your wards, please notify the Mayor's Office and/or Public Works to coordinate the repairs.

I'd like to thank the Human Relations Club at Ansonia High School and the Ansonia Senior Center for sponsoring a Hawaiian Night the other night. It was a great event. There were over 100 seniors there from Ansonia and Derby. They had a good presentation of what Hawaiian culture was like and everybody had a great time. There was good food, and it was nice to see the students and the seniors get together, mingle and talk about their different wants, needs and likes. It was a great evening for everybody.

The house on Williams Street - the tree that went down on Beaver Street - the house will come down next week. We'll have a very safe condition over on Williams Street.

Tomorrow night you've been invited to a presentation by the Ansonia Housing Authority here at 7 p.m. Hopefully everybody will be able to attend.

Alderman Radin stated, I had three letters this week for three meetings tomorrow night. Is there any way somebody can coordinate who is having a meeting so they're not conflicting. I had one from ARMS and two from President Sharkey about a meeting here tomorrow night. I'd like to attend all three but they canceled the one at ARMS. There has to be some way to contact to find out who is having a special meeting, or who is having a meeting, so that even though the other meetings are all at certain times.

Mayor Della Volpe replied, it's becoming harder and harder because of all the meetings we're having, and I'm trying to get everything in, trying to get the business done. I can't answer for how the Boards handle their meetings. I scheduled this due to the availability of the Housing Authority, I thought that was a very important issue and we have to get it done because of our budget being put together. That is why I scheduled it as soon as possible. The only nights we had were Wednesday and Thursday.

Alderman Radin stated, I know they can negotiate for different nights. The other thing I've had a few calls on - I would like to see the Tax Collector come to the meetings for reports. I would like to have a report on the taxes - what we're collecting, what is delinquent, how much is there. We've had no report on what has happened to the past Tax Collector.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, the Tax Collector is here tonight to give you a report. What are you looking for in regard to the past Tax Collector?

Alderman Radin stated, just how far we've traveled, what is going on, is it still being investigated.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, as you know, the Tax Collector resigned.

Alderman Radin stated, I understand that, but there is no repercussion or anything for anybody doing what she did?

Mayor Della Volpe asked, doing what she did? The State's Attorney's Office is still investigating. They haven't come to a conclusion yet. I know you might smirk and think that they're not doing anything, but they are, and they just don't get it done overnight. It takes time to do these things. So they are still investigating. In regard to the individuals that were given the releases, they've been disciplined. I don't know what else we can do. We're doing everything we possibly can.

Alderman Radin stated, okay, thank you. But just could we please have the Tax Collector have reports to the Board?

Mayor Della Volpe stated, she is here tonight. She'll give an oral report and you can ask her any questions that you may.

Alderman Stowe stated, thank you Mr. Mayor for answering that about the State investigation. That is what I was going to say. The other thing is, it would be good, I think, every 3-4 months to tell us where we're at. Because when we had that unfortunate incident, we ended up having a lot of taxes that weren't being paid on automobiles and property, and we had a big surge in payments for automobiles which was a very positive thing. It's good for the public, I'm sure they want to know that things are getting cleared up in the right direction so we can put this behind us.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, I think they are, we did everything we were supposed to do and I've reported it for several months now. It's still an ongoing investigation. They don't give us a certain timeline as to when they're going to finish. Once they do and they give a report either to myself or to the Chief, we'll certainly share it with the Board. There is nothing being held back here. We've been more transparent in regard to our tax collection issue than any other community within the Valley. And there was no money taken in this ordeal, whereas in Shelton there was \$900,000 taken. Up in Oxford there was millions taken. Derby had \$10,000 taken. I know we've lost out on some in regard to them not paying it right away, but we've recovered all that. So I think we've been very open in regard to that.

Alderman Marini stated, I just want to add from the City's end the Charter Revision Commission has already taken up the suggestions that this Board of Aldermen came up with - revisions that would help add transparency to the tax office and has actually approved some draft language before any work is done the Charter Revision Commission has to hold a public hearing and will of course present those final drafts to this Board for review. That's another way the City, on our own end, is trying to make things more transparent and to prevent these specific problems from ever happening again.

Otherwise, congratulations, Mayor, for the snow record. Public Works - Goldenrod in the 7th Ward does have a shattered curb issue. They actually were very happy with a new curb we got them last year but unfortunately it was the first snowfall and a truck came along and shattered the beautiful new curb. They were understanding about it but I think now that it's Spring if we could put that back together they'd be very happy and appreciative.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, I think that's the only thing that stops them when they're going down the hill.

Alderman Marini continued, in terms of snow - the snow is cleared on Pulaski Highway. A lot of the debris and litter is visible again. I personally have my tab running on how many empty bottles of alcohol nips I was able to trash bag, so I will be out with my claw again I think, since it's good exercise - the only exercise I get. If Public Works could take a look, especially at Pulaski because it's so long and visible, and for whatever reason, people driving by use it as a wastebasket.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, I will notify District 3 DOT also - I know they go out routinely and pick up, and I'll make sure our guys get on it also.

Alderman Sharkey stated, along that line, if any Aldermen get complaints or see the curbs that are broken, please make a list. This is the time of year they put it together and go out over the summer and repair them all.

Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

I have nothing to report tonight.

Alderman Marini stated, I submitted the revised copy of the Tax Incentive Program for review. I believe that Kurt Miller's Office has looked at it and returned it to Vin Scarlata. The time is right for us to schedule another Finance Committee meeting to review it and pass it on with any revisions to this Board.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, that would be the correct procedure so I will get together with Alderman Adamowski to set a date to meet on it.

Alderman Marini stated, from legal end, if you have any issues with it, hopefully by the Finance Committee meeting you could let us know.

Tara Kolakowski, Acting Personnel Director

You have my monthly report for personnel. We appointed a Mary Deptula as our new Senior Center Director. She's been doing the job temporarily for about a year. She said she will be at the May meeting here to give some updates.

We have two job descriptions before you tonight. (Communication #7) We worked very diligently, the Salary Subcommittee of the Board of Aldermen to get these job descriptions revised. One was the Assistant Senior Center Director - we did get union approval on that one. The second one is a newly-created job description for a full-time Director of Economic Development. Members of the Salary Committee worked diligently on that one. We met more than a few times. I think the work was excellent. We put a salary range on it. If anybody has any questions I can address those.

Alderman Fainer asked where do we advertise for jobs such as Economic Development Director?

Ms. Kolakowski replied, we have a dozen or so agencies we go out to. This one is going to be on Indeed.com. Some of them are college recruiting offices, some are Mazzoli Agency in New Haven. We have in the past used about 40 other resources but they weren't true job recruiting resources, so I've eliminated them and went right to job recruiters or employment agencies, so we get out to the proper channels.

Alderman Marini asked, how long will the job posting be out for? Is there a time range we're looking at?

Ms. Kolakowski replied, for the Assistant Director of the Senior Center it's 10 business days. We asked for approval from the Union to go out both internally and externally at the same time. If it's approved tonight we'll go out for that tomorrow. I tentatively put out the one on Indeed.com for Director of Economic Development because I wanted to get a jump on that one. If I want to tweak it I can easily go back and tweak it online too. We have had about 40 resumes come in so far. If we get a good representation and quality individuals we feel there is a need to interview, we'll stop it tomorrow or the next day. If not we'll keep it open until we find a pool of good candidates for interviews.

Alderman Marini asked, what is the typical range of time, it's non-union.

Ms. Kolakowski stated, with something like this position, and I've discussed it with the Mayor, we would like to extend it if we have to. We don't want to put a time limit on a position that is so critical for the City moving forward. It's one of the major cogs in the City. We want to keep it open, not indefinitely, but for a reasonable amount of time just to see what other resumes or applicants come in. Indeed.com is national; we've received resumes from Albuquerque New Mexico, Texas, Chicago, Ohio, New York. It really is out there and people from all over are looking and sending.

Alderman Marini stated, I tend to agree; we should cast as broad of a net as possible. Is there any database that taps into people, like say, obviously you're dealing with a specialized field where people are going to be experienced in these positions in other municipalities in this state or other states. Is there any database that targets anything like that? People involved in municipal work?

Ms. Kolakowski replied, not for necessarily Economic Development. There are websites that are geared exclusively for example, engineering, or chemists. It seems like those have a very defined and specialized criteria, whereas Economic Development is broader and more open so more people tend to, from different backgrounds, maybe they started out as an attorney but they went into commercial real estate law and then they've opened their own business or company and now they're looking to do something on the municipal side to combine all of that.

Alderman Marini asked, would the State Department of Economic Development or even the Chambers of Commerce be helpful in distributing that to their contacts?

Ms. Kolakowski stated, I could contact the Valley Chamber, that's a good idea.

Alderman Knapp asked, how about the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities?

Ms. Kolakowski stated, CCM - they charge, and it's \$150 to get on there. It's 500 words or less. I thought our dollars were better spent on an Indeed for \$200 to see what goes on. If we don't get anything with the current resumes that come in, I was actually thinking about going to CCM and see what we would pull from a national site. CCM is limited to Connecticut. There are some on there, right now there is a Business Manager, [inaudible] jobs, Human Resources jobs, but there's not an Economic Development Director on there. Usually it's a short summary and they say "go to the town's website."

Alderman Tripp stated, before it used to be a part-time position that paid \$100,000 a year?

President Sharkey stated no, Mr. Perry actually did three different jobs. He was Fair Housing Coordinator, Director of Personnel, and Economic Development Director.

Ms. Kolakowski stated, it was a full-time position; there was never a job description for that full-time position. The other two were part-time positions. The major chunk of his salary came as Director of Economic Development.

Alderman Tripp stated, and currently the job is being performed by the previous Director of Economic Development's secretary and by Union contract she gets a 10 percent override on her salary, correct?

Ms. Kolakowski replied, correct.

Chief Kevin Hale, Ansonia Police Department

You have a request for me for a bid approval outlined in Communication #2. I hope you will look favorably on that.

We will be seeking applications for a Police Officer - we currently have one opening and are anticipating another fairly soon.

Our annual Awards Ceremony is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 21 at Ansonia High School. You will all be receiving an invitation. It is a very nice event.

Warmer weather brings increased outdoor activity. We would like to know if there are things going on in your area, hearing from your constituents in your wards of any particular ongoing situations, I know the Ordinance Committee is looking into an ordinance that would give us some teeth in that fight - if you hear anything or see suspicious activity, please encourage people to come forward or at least tell you and bring it to our attention. Let us determine whether it's something or inconsequential.

There are traffic signs everywhere - some are faded and we've had a few brought to our attention recently - we are continuing to replace them. We don't have an endless supply of new, red Stop signs - they are expensive. We are trying to replace these. Some of you are very active in this. I would like to know so we can continue, and I really have to budget for this. Any other signs that are out of place or missing or taken down during the storms, please let us know.

Alderman Radin stated, thank you for fixing my traffic light.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee - Alderman Edward Adamowski

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 13-0.

The Finance Committee will meet tomorrow at 6 p.m. I would like to see better attendance from the Finance Committee members for the Board of Apportionment and Taxation budget hearings. There are only two or three of us showing up consistently every week. We worked really hard on it when the Finance Committee had it, and I would like all of us to see it through. Let's make our best effort to attend those meetings.

President Sharkey stated, I extend an invitation to all Aldermen - we will be discussion possibly going forward with a bond issue - that was something that we raised during our budget discussions. We saw a lot of merit in adding some things to a possible bond so I recommend that as many of you as possible please attend the Finance Committee meeting tomorrow night. You all have input as to where we're going. The Finance Committee will get the report and make decisions coming back here. It's open to all Aldermen. We are all going to try to attend the 7 p.m. meeting with the Housing Authority. If you can, come early at 6 for the Finance Committee. Both meetings are here, 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Alderman Radin MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Salary Committee - Alderman Edward Adamowski

The two job descriptions that we spoke about - the Economic Development Director and the Assistant Director of the Senior Center. I'd like to bring them to the full Board now for a vote.

Alderman Marcinko MOVED, per the recommendation of the Salary Committee, to accept the job description of the Economic Development Director; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman Marcinko MOVED to send the job description of the Assistant Director of the Senior Center back to the Salary Committee for further review; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman David Knapp - Public Works Committee

The Public Works Committee met last week to discuss the rehabilitation of the Transfer Station and reviewed some preliminary plans. It was the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to go forward with the bid process - this is Communication #3 on tonight's agenda.

Alderman Madigosky MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman Stowe stated, I have two Public Works questions for the record.

1. Do we have a vac truck for Public Works that is operational? There were some complaints about leaves in storm drains and flooding. They made mention of it at the WPCA meeting this month - having a joint effort with Public Works.
2. If somebody could make sure that Public Works will be working on the pavilion for the Ansonia Nature Center.

Mayor Della Volpe replied, the pavilion will be ready for the deadline we have set - I think it is May 20th. And we do have a vac. They should be out there tomorrow morning.

Alderman John Marini - Economic Development Committee

First I would like to request the Finance Committee - for our next scheduled meeting - we place on the agenda the issue of the Tax Incentive Program, and to review the Loan Program - review the final revisions before it's approved.

One of the key orders of business right now for the Economic Development Commission is to see along those two programs to completion and to follow

along the selection of the new Economic Development Director, and the master Economic Development and Marketing Plan for the City.

The group is hard at work doing the underpinnings of those initiatives, for example the website, working with the Historical Committee to put good information onto the website - reflecting on where Ansonia has been and where Ansonia is going, so that once the plan is presented and approved and we hire the new Economic Development Director we are able to roll out a good Economic Development and marketing campaign.

Alderman Fainer stated, I thought we'd have the consultant this month. The one that's doing the master report.

Alderman Marini stated, we had a meeting with the Mayor's office, with the Mayor, with Tara, with Dick Stoltz who is the consultant, and we decided to have a roll out plan that would include Dick Stoltz presenting it at a special meeting to not only the Board of Aldermen but to members of the Board of Apportionment and Taxation and the Economic Development Commission as well.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, that is correct, and we still have concerns about the slogan, but that's something we're working on.

Alderman Marini stated, the slogan will be part of the whole thing, but obviously the meat of the entire analysis done by the consultant, there's also the forecasts done by the consultant. I want to make sure there is an open and transparent forum for the members of this Board, the members of the Board of Apportionment and Taxation, to have a chance to actually talk to our consultant to review the report and ask any questions before we would even consider accepting it. We're going to need a time where the Aldermen, Board of Apportionment and Taxation, and Economic Development Commission can convene with Mr. Stoltz.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, this is going to be scheduled, and it's all being done from the enhancement of the City, there is no political agenda behind it from either party. We are looking forward to moving forward - both parties. We're working on slogan.

Alderman Radin MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Marcinko. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman David Knapp - Land Use Committee

We discussed and reviewed considering the adoption of five paper streets. No final decision was made - the Public Works and City Engineer were going to put some numbers together and assess the financial impact to the City.

President Sharkey stated, the possible non acceptance of them but to make them more acceptable of emergency equipment and so forth is something we will discuss tomorrow night as possibly using some bond money to fix some streets that are not accessible to emergency equipment. Some of those streets will be brought up again.

Alderman Mott MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman John Marini - Charter Revision Commission

We met and had discussion at our last meeting. We had increased attendance. A lot of issues being discussed and the way the Charter Revision Commission operates we're trying to be very transparent allowing notice to go out for when issues are going to be discussed, there will be plenty of notice before any issue is ever finalized and passed on to this Board. I would continues members of this Board and members of the public to make it to the meetings on the fourth Thursday of the month to be able to share their opinions and hear the dialogue. One of the key issues passed two months ago were this Board's recommendations on revisions to the Tax Office to make sure there is increased transparency and to make sure an issue like we had over last summer doesn't happen again.

Alderman Marcinko MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman Stowe stated, I strongly recommend the Aldermen that are here go to Charter Revision Commission meetings. There are a lot of issues at that meeting we may not all agree on, but we can really understand the issues when they come before us to vote upon them.

Alderman Marini stated, one issue we're scheduled to talk about at the next meeting is polling stations and wards. The Registrar's Office has proposed the idea of looking at consolidating several polling stations, there had been the idea at one of the public hearings about combining wards. That is one issue that hasn't been discussed in detail at all by our Charter Revision Commission. We will discuss it at the next meeting. We are also inviting the Registrar's Office to share with us in detail what their plan and recommendations that they would have for handling wards going into the future, and polling stations. This is an issue where there are a lot of constraints - governed by State law there are only so many things we can do in terms of combining polling stations. I would like to have input right from the beginning on an issue like that.

Municipal Reports / Annual Reports

Alderman Fainer MOVED to accept all municipal and annual reports, dispense with the reading and place them on file; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman Marini stated, I want to thank Eileen Krugel and Vinny Scarlata. At one of our past meetings I mentioned the old graffiti initiative I had talked about a while ago and a certain graffiti grant issued by the Keep America Beautiful Foundation. Eileen was able to find that grant and get it to Vinny, and I believe Alderman Charlie Stowe. The application was actually made so we'll see in a couple months whether or not we can capitalize on it. If it wasn't for the quick action by Eileen and Vinny and Charlie, we would never have actually got the application out there to begin with.

Tax Collector's Report and Request for Refunds

Tax Collector Tammy Blackwell reported, for the last, we do delinquent motor vehicle demands every three months and we've been getting a very good response. For the other taxes, we use the tax collection agency, which has been pulling in about \$50,000 a month for us since we started using their service. As far as put-ons and take-offs, I put on motor vehicles twice a year. The last put-on was the supplements in January; there were 4,447 that weren't paid yet. On the regular motor vehicles, it was 14,118, which is a good percentage that we had done from the previous put-on.

The total collection for last month was \$476,000 and change - that's motor vehicle, real estate and personal property - the combination of it all. Everything checks and balances the end of the month with the deposits going in. We get a Police escort approximately every two days, it might be carried over on the weekend with one of the batches as they are closed at the end of the month.

President Sharkey stated, rather than you having to give that orally, could we get a written report so we can see it ahead of time? Thank you.

Mrs. Blackwell replied yes, and if you'd like me to submit this month with next month's - I will do a comparison of the two months. Does anybody have any questions? We're working very hard and it's going strong.

President Sharkey thanked Mrs. Blackwell for her report.

Alderman Madigosky MOVED to accept the refund report and pay the refunds in the amount of \$119.92 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Claims

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to refer the following claims to Corporation Counsel Blake and the Claims Committee; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp.

3-13-812 Gregg Seccombe
3-13-813 Honorata Czerwiowska
4-13-814 Charles and Lydia Andrews

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Communications

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to accept all of the communications, place them on file, and take them up in their order on the agenda; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Communication #1

From: Chairman John F.X. Androski, Ward Boundary Commission

Re: Approval of Boundary Lines

President Sharkey stated, they outlined in writing what the Wards were, and also attached a map to what the present wards were.

Alderman Stowe stated, I was on the Ward Boundary Commission, and at the end of the meetings I made mention of something because it was clearly the boundary in Ward 2 and Ward 1, I'm almost a half-mile from the boundary. So I don't understand what I'm doing in Ward 2 when I'm actually living in Ward 1. So I made mention of it, and Jack said he would look into it, and then Kevin made some mention to me about looking into it. I don't know what the consensus was. In all honesty, the Castle Lane Development, I really was very active with that in that ward with the people, that was before I got elected. Every time I walk my dog I'm over there talking to people in Ward 1. The complaints about curbs and gutters in Ward 1, they talk to me. I understand there are other people in Ward 1 but I'm just, that is true. I don't understand - where my street is on Granite Terrace - I'm in Ward 2 and I'm walking toward Ward 2 and they are Ward 1. I can't figure it out. So I have to walk through them to get to Ward 2. I can't understand.

President Sharkey stated, I personally don't understand it. We have been many, many places the easiest one they did was they split a ward down the street. For some reason they did that Ward. What I'd like to do if possible is accept the report, and take separately just to put this issue away, the fact that Charlie lives in Ward 1 but represents Ward 2. I would recommend that this Board refer it to the Corporation Counsel for a decision as to what happens there.

Alderman Stowe stated, when this gets turned in, who does it go to? Does it go to VCOG? Where does it go?

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, it goes to the Secretary of State, it goes to the Registrar's Office.

Alderman Marini asked, is this, when Charlie says he doesn't seem to live in the second ward. You and your wife, Charlie, where do you vote?

Alderman Stowe replied, we vote over on Cliff Street.

Alderman Marini asked, and that's the Second Ward polling station?

Alderman Stowe replied, yes.

Alderman Marini asked, in terms of the neighbors, the rest of the residents on the street, where are they voting?

Alderman Stowe replied, I have four of them that live next to me and they vote Ward 2. Then when you walk to Ward 2, there are several of my neighbors that are in Ward 1. It's... if this was in Europe they'd have a war over it.

Alderman Marini stated, it doesn't seem to be a matter of you sort of being stranded alone outside of Ward 2. It seems like there are other people on your street that should be in Ward 1 that are in Ward 2. So it's more of an issue than Charlie being elected as Alderman, it seems like his street may be - people may have, I mean, their votes counted toward the Ward 2 election.

President Sharkey stated, it was a mistake by the Registrar of Voters on both sides that didn't include the proper street designations, the listing, in the proper ones. The map, from what I understand, the map line itself never changed. The street, when you look at these numbers of streets, it listed the street wrongly in the Second Ward and it should have been listed in the First Ward. The map line never changed, am I correct? Charlie, you attended the meetings - they didn't move that map line.

Alderman Stowe stated, there is a description, like a surveyor. You've got the description with the deed, and it matches the property lines. So this, which we need to pass tonight, is completely correct. It's just how voters were listed, which is what you said, I think is the problem. And where they're in the middle of the street like you said, I understand that.

President Sharkey stated, the streets itself were listed correctly, is being in the proper one. But the Registrar of Voters when they listed where these people could vote, that's where the mistake was made.

Alderman Marini asked, how long has this...

President Sharkey interjected, he went to the meetings, I don't know.

Corporation Counsel Blake replied possibly it could be 10 years old. Every Ward Boundary Commission starts at the end of the year with a "2", so it's 2002, and it's got to be into this Board by March of "3" so 2003 is the last time it was in front of this Board.

Alderman Marini asked, do we know if there were other mistakes like this?

Alderman Tripp stated, I was going through this before the meeting. It is at least five or six major discrepancies between the voter list, which is what I knocked on doors on, I went by the voter list, not some abstract map. The voter list - there are discrepancies between the voter list and the way that, not only the way the map looks as I've been trained to read a map by the government, but also the verbiage the Second Ward does not match the voter list. So something needs to happen that the voter list matches the verbiage here, or this verbiage matches the voter list. It has to get straightened out.

President Sharkey stated, the way that gets straightened out is by the Registrar of Voters. From what I understand, the map and the street designations do align.

Alderman Tripp stated, right. They do align. So this document, everything in it matches up with each other. However, when you get to the voter list for the Registrar's Office, they're doing something totally different. And at least five or six discrepancies as I know the Ward and I read through this, there are discrepancies between these documents and the voter list.

President Sharkey stated, I agree with you. Can we accept this report first and then...

Alderman Tripp stated, I'll accept the report, but the voter list...

President Sharkey stated, yes, and then we'll make a motion to get that fixed.

Alderman Adamowski stated, we're going to move to accept this report and turn it over to Corporation Counsel Blake for review?

President Sharkey stated, we've got several issues here. One, this, from what I understand, is correct. This hadn't changed. No street to my knowledge in the First and Second Ward was removed from one Ward and put in the other one in the last 10 years. The mistake is, the Registrar of Voters Office had streets listed in the wrong ward. That is something we can direct them to fix. That is a separate issue.

Alderman Stowe stated, I did call Madeline and I asked, was there any Charter Revision in the past, because this is every 10 years, so we're going 10 years now it's been the same. These lines are all staying the same, the descriptions the same. Now was this the same the 10 years prior to that? I don't know, so I did ask Madeline to do a little research. If there was a Charter Revision to have those streets in Ward 2 or any other wards because of the number of voters, we'd have to look back.

President Sharkey stated, that, again, would have been the Ward Boundary Commission, not a Charter Revision that would have changed that.

Alderman Marini stated, I think I agree with the idea of approving this report, I

would however direct the Registrar of Voters to both give us an independent report by the next meeting, and Kevin letting us know from a legal perspective what has happened here, and what other options. How did this happen.

President Sharkey stated, let's do that separately. The issue before us the communication.

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to accept the report, approve their findings and their request to maintain the Ward Boundaries as presented in their report; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman Stowe MOVED to refer this matter to Corporation Counsel Blake and the Registrar of Voters to get the proper voting list to match the proper streets; SECONDED by Alderman Maricinko. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman Fainer stated, we have one more issue on that. Can we have a ruling if Charlie is really an Alderman.

Alderman Tripp stated, he was elected by 200 people; I think he is.

Alderman Stowe stated, whatever will be, will be.

President Sharkey stated, just to put it to rest, my recommendation is to refer this, because there are some ramifications with the Secretary of State and so forth, we refer it to Corporation Counsel Blake, have him bring back a recommendation to this Board. In the meantime, Charlie still sits, he votes, he's an Alderman. We need to have a recommendation as to where it is.

Alderman Adamowski MOVED get a ruling that Corporation Counsel Blake get a ruling as to what the status would be with Alderman Stowe and bring back a recommendation to this Board; SECONDED by Alderman Marcinko. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman Marini stated, we need a recommendation from the Registrar of Voters Office to figure out what happened here and when it happened to the best of their ability. The larger situation is not just Charlie, we have people who voted in the last election, and anything we change now we're essentially telling them, "your vote didn't count." We are telling them that because of a mistake you went out and voted, and your vote was thrown away. We have to be very careful in terms of how we proceed. It is clear what is going to happen for the next election, the Ward boundaries are what they are, but we are potentially telling who knows how many people on Granite Terrace and other places that you wasted your time.

President Sharkey stated, Alderman Tripp brought up there are other people on other streets. We need to have those voting lists match the streets that they are

there. The recommendation was to ask the Registrar of Voters to report back as to how this happened, and report back to us that they have corrected the inaccuracies of this report.

Alderman Stowe stated, I want to compliment Fred D'Amico and the map that he wrote here. He did a very good job.

Alderman Fainer MOVED to direct the Registrar of Voters to investigate and find out what happened, and when it happened with regard to the discrepancy in the Voter's List and the Ward Boundaries of Wards 1 and 2, and report their findings back to the Board of Aldermen; and further,

MOVED to direct the Registrar of Voters to work with Corporation Counsel Blake and correct the inaccuracies and clear it up for the next election. SECONDED by Alderman Stowe. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Communication #2

From: Police Chief Kevin Hale

Re: Bid Award - Video Surveillance System

Alderman Knapp MOVED to award the bid for Video Surveillance System for Ansonia Police Department to Advanced Security Technologies of Stratford, Connecticut in the amount of \$35,370.25, funding to be provided by a Justice Assistance Grant from Office of Policy and Management; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Communication #3

From: Superintendent Michael Schryver, Department of Public Works

Re: Demolition of Transfer Station Bid

Alderman Stowe MOVED per the recommendation of the Board of Public Works to authorize Public Works to go out to bid for the demolition of the Ansonia Transfer Station; SECONDED by Alderman Radin.

Alderman Fainer asked, we're going to go the whole thing or part of the thing?

President Sharkey stated, to match the drawing that we have in front of us; the plan as submitted to us.

Alderman Knapp stated, the plan they reviewed during the meeting.

Alderman Stowe stated, two phases of demolition.

Alderman Tripp stated, I'm looking for a second page; there isn't a second

page. So barring a second page, is this demolition being paid for with the insurance money that we have escrowed?

President Sharkey replied, yes, we know how much money we have, so we're hoping that the bids come, because last time when we had the plan and we were talking about it we were all over the lot. We had demolition bids from here to here; we had construction bids from here to here. So the only way we will truly know in today's market what it will cost us to take the building down is to go out for bids to do it. So that's why we are.

Alderman Stowe stated, again, I'd like to compliment Mike and Joe, they did a wonderful job here.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Communication #4

From: Assistant Comptroller Richard Bshara
Re: Waiver of Bid for Audit Services

Alderman Adamowski MOVED per the recommendation of Assistant Comptroller Richard Bshara to waive the bid process for audit services and award the bid to Michaud, Acavello Woodbridge and Cusano, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$40,612 for the City of Ansonia and not to exceed \$4,732 for the WPCA; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Communication #5

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake
Re: Renewal of Liability Insurance Broker

Alderman Stowe asked, is this where we have the \$10,000 deductible? What would it cost to not have a \$10,000 deductible?

Assistant Comptroller Rich Bshara explained, Corporation Counsel Blake and I and others have met with H.D. Segur and have asked about the deductible a number of times. They've explained that the WPCA claims - nobody will give us less than a \$10,000 deductible, they have to fight for that. WPCA has had a number of different claims, some of them including a house on Hill Street that was paid through this. Nobody will give us less than the \$10,000 deductible. We do not pay them; they get their commission from the insurance company. They do about half the towns in the State of Connecticut. We've had very good service from them in the past. Right now they're giving us a projection of 3-5 percent rate increase, which is actually, given the number of storm related incidents in the State in the last year or two, it's a very good rate. I would like to jump on the number, sign the contract now, because if something happens between now and June 30th, their rate could increase based on another incident

or insurance claim that could occur. One of the lower ones as we're told. I would request that we do this. We are asking them to be our representative for our insurance. They are not the carrier, they go out and solicit bids across the major groups of insurers for municipalities.

Alderman Stowe stated, thank you for clearing that up. I appreciate that. Out of curiosity, how many incidences do we have over a five or ten year period where we actually have to pay \$10,000 out of our pocket for an incident. Since my time here there were a couple of incidents where because of a \$30,000 project and they had a \$10,000 deductible and we didn't have the funding available it was either use this \$20,000 to fix your problem or I don't know what you're going to do. So in my opinion being that I was in business that would create a self insured entity and I think if you average out how many times it happens in a year, five years, whatever, at least you'd have a reserve in our budget to cover that \$10,000 however many incidents. If it's an average of four incidents a year we should have \$40,000 in funding so that when somebody has a pavilion burn down or some other issue they can get the pavilion that they had back or whatever it may be. Is that possible?

President Sharkey stated, we've only had several issues to my knowledge. We've had the theft of the memorials. We've had the damage at Nolan Field. We've had the fire at the pavilion. We do have a Legal and Claims fund. We haven't had to tap into that too often.

Alderman Stowe stated, this is something that concerns me and maybe I'm off base a little, but if I were still in business and I did not have the kind of money that this City has coming into its coffers, and there is a lot of it that has to go back out, I understand, but when I was in business, if I had that deductible, that's how I would figure it out. I would figure out my average of incidents and I would have a fund available. It could impede me from doing work. I see from my short time here it actually was a problem where it impeded us to a degree to decide how we're going to correct this problem. Thank goodness all those people gave us the money at the memorial. The Mayor's got a whole list of relatives that have given their time and lives for their country.

President Sharkey stated, I'm sure what we could do is ask H.D. Segur to give us the yearly average over the last couple of years. I'm sure they could get that.

Mr. Provost stated, we have just started to get that. They were in for a meeting and we've asked for the information to be given to us digitally. We were getting it anyway.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, we can give you what they gave us recently. Richie and I will send it to the Aldermen, what the Claims history has been for the period they gave us. In terms of the sewers, we haven't paid, it's about 5 or less than 10 over 14 years. A lot of times you get these claims here - they are very good keepers of the City's money; we do not pay a lot of the claims that come in front of this board. What we do have for ourselves for our damages for

our vehicles for our buildings, we do get good coverage. For example, Hilltop Hose, between the truck and the building it cost us \$250 total. When I call, they get back to you that day. The service is very good. Like Mr. Provost said, the market is not there, there are not many companies out there that will cover municipalities. High risk, high target entities. Cars get hit with potholes. There is no notice by the City to go out and repair that pothole, that's not going to pay it. In terms of the insurance and the law, the insurance, we really don't pay out a lot.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to renew the services of H.D. Segur Insurance of Cheshire, Connecticut as Liability Insurance Broker; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Communication #6
From: American Tower Corporation
Re: Amendment to Lease

Alderman Knapp MOVED to TABLE AND REFER TO Corporation Counsel Blake for review; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Communication #7
From: Acting Personnel Director Tara Kolakowski
Re: Job Descriptions: Economic Development Director, Assistant Senior Center Director

Previously acted upon. See Salary Committee Report.

Resignations

Alderman Marcinko MOVED to accept the resignation of Keisha Duffus from the Charter Revision Commission and send her a letter of thanks for her service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to accept the resignation of Doug Furtek from the Planning and Zoning Commission and send him a letter of thanks for his service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

*Appointments*Ansonia Housing Authority

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to appoint Robert Lisi of 27 North Westwood Road, Supp Replacement, term to expire 10-31-2017; SECONDED by Alderman Mott. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to appoint Eileen Krugel of 36 Cedar Street, Vacca replacement, term to expire 10-31-2016; SECONDED by Alderman Mott. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Fainer).

Charter Revision Commission

Alderman Knapp MOVED to appoint Beth Lynch of 15 Macintosh Lane, Erlingheuser Replacement; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman Fainer MOVED to appoint Kay Jeanette of 2 Gracie Lane, Duffus replacement; SECONDED by Alderman Delucia. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 12 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Jeanette).

Planning and Zoning Commission

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to appoint Ken Moffat of 341 North Main Street, Furtek replacement, term to expire 12-31-2013; SECONDED by Alderman Delucia. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Alderman Tripp MOVED to appoint Jamie Puro of 28 Locke Street, Marcinko replacement, term to expire 12-31-2017; SECONDED by Alderman Stowe. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman Knapp MOVED to appoint Florence Camilleri of 163 O'Neils Court, Erlingheuser replacement, term to expire 12-31-2014; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski.

It was noted that this appointment is to serve as an Alternate Member, as Mr. Erlingheuser was an Alternate.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman Stowe stated, we haven't been having a quorum on the Zoning Board of Appeals; I hope this solves it.

Alderman Marcinko stated, I remember Alderman Radin bringing it up when I first got on about the issue of a quorum; I know it goes back close to a decade. It's a very high turnover rate. They do very good jobs for the City and it's a thankless position. It becomes an issue just getting people involved. If you guys know people out there to help with whatever position, it's a great place to start with a building block into anything as far as I can see. Finding people, I mean, we can put names on things all you want. There are certain people that were appointed to that position that never went to a meeting. This Board actually reappointed them and they never went to a meeting.

President Sharkey stated, but we never got that report. If people told us we would have done something. I'd be the first one to recommend not putting someone back on.

Alderman Marcinko stated, it snowballed from there. We should keep some kind of accountability with things like that so we know who is not able to attend. We should find a way to keep up on attendance for these things. It's a high turnover rate.

Alderman Stowe asked, when you were on it Jerome, were you an Alderman at the time?

Alderman Fainer replied no. It's a tough board to be on.

Alderman Stowe stated, you can't be an Alderman and be on it. Okay.

President Sharkey stated, Planning and Zoning was the same way and people went and served a long term; I served 22 years on Planning and Zoning but you didn't get the turnover that you did on Zoning Board of Appeals.

Alderman Knapp asked, what is the attendance policy?

President Sharkey stated, I don't know, Planning and Zoning had that if you missed three meetings in a row, unless you were sick or under some constraint, we thought you didn't want to be there any more and we as a committee contacted you to see if you didn't want to be any more. But we're going back - people were waiting to get on boards such as that. Today you don't find that volunteerism. You just don't have it.

Alderman Radin stated, I believe you will find in the Charter that Planning and Zoning is the only board that has that stipulation, if you have not attended three meetings it will be assumed that you are resigning and you will resign and they will replace you. I'm working with Tara on a resolution for that; we've been going through all that information. I've been the one complaining to the Mayor for the last three years.

Ms. Kolakowski stated, I think a quick fix for just general information is, if maybe someone moves to request to the Zoning Board of Appeals board

secretary, after their meeting, she puts an FYI into your boxes, because she's in here all the time, that says, we had a quorum, these were the attendees. Then you'd be updated as to who attended and if you want to do that for every board you'll have the information at your fingertips at least when she files her minutes she can put it into your boxes.

President Sharkey stated, I'd like to see that for all boards, if someone would move that.

Alderman Marcinko MOVED to request that all Board Secretaries notify the Board of Aldermen of the attendance at each meeting. - "we had a quorum, these are the attendees"; SECONDED by Alderman Knapp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

Alderman Stowe stated, when we do have a director that's hired here, we are going to have to get our act together and any weaknesses that we have no matter how hard it is to make that function properly.

Alderman Marini stated, I think attendance is in the minutes already; but beyond that, Charter Revision, one of the items on our agenda, is actually attendance policies, as we were approached by members of different boards that did not have attendance policies in the Charter about creating something like that. I would really like to hear from this Board now or at the time of our next meeting what the thought is, if attendance policies are appropriate for other boards besides Planning and Zoning, if so what would they be, and even with Zoning Board of Appeals there is a policy now but should it be tweaked? Should it be handled in a different way? Obviously it's unfair, any volunteer board I think will have attendance issues, because life gets in the way. Planning and Zoning will get singled out more because of the nature of it.

Alderman Knapp stated, at the time it was discussed it was about owing back taxes, and if you owed back taxes should you or could you serve on boards.

Alderman Marini stated, that was a separate issue, but we did update that provision. It essentially would have a mandate that you be up to date on your taxes before being eligible to run for office or to be nominated for an office, however that is not something the commission has approved. We have put it into draft and it will be draft language that the public and this board will take a look at in the coming months. This other issue is attendance policies - if you're missing meetings right and left does the Board have the ability to say you've missed too many meetings.

Ms. Kolakowski stated, the attendance is on every committee report and every commission report, but I don't believe the Board of Aldermen gets minutes in their boxes of every single commission or board. They do? They get minutes of every commission meeting? Then if they do the attendance is on the first page of that report. You're already getting it.

Unfinished Business

None presented.

New Business

None presented.

Adjournment

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Alderman Tripp. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 13-0.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary
Ansonia Board of Aldermen