



CITY OF ANSONIA
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Regular Meeting – April 14, 2009

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Ansonia Board of Aldermen was called to order at 7 p.m. by Aldermanic President Stephen Blume.

Roll Call

The secretary called the roll:

Peter Danielczuk, D1-absent	Jerome Fainer, D4 - present
Robert Duffus, D1 - present (Spero Jordanides, D5 - present
Jason Bender, D2 - present	Pasquale Pietrangelo, D5 - present
James Fainer, D2 - present	Scott Nihill, D6 - absent
Gale Banks, D3- absent	Gene Sharkey, D6 - present
Joseph Jeanette, D3- present (Tara Kolakowski, D7- present
Keith Maynard, D4 - present (Stephen Blume, D7 - present

President Blume declared a quorum of 9 present, 5 absent.

Consideration of Previous Minutes

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 10, 2009 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Jerome Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

[Alderman Duffus arrives at this point, 10 present, 4 absent.]

Public Session

Joan Radin, 198 Wakelee Avenue

I was walking down Wakelee Avenue coming from Xtra Mart at 7 o'clock this morning and I wish I had gotten the license plate. It was a taxi and they never even braked. They went directly through the red light; they had to have been going like 40 miles an hour. God forbid if anybody came out of Jackson Street they would have been killed. There was nobody there; the schools are closed so there was nobody on the street. It was a taxi; I don't know which company or anything else. They're terrible. I was halfway down the block and so was he when the light was red. He didn't even brake.

The other thing is, the store next to me is putting signs on both sides of his building. I think there has to be something in the laws in the City that you can't keep putting. They're not billboards, so on both sides of his, almost every other day there's a new sign, for cigarettes or lottery tickets or something like that. It's kind of tacky looking in the neighborhood.

I just talked to the Chief about, or he talked to me about, there was a robbery at Ingrid's last week, and I read about it, I didn't even know about it, I missed it in the paper. I was told about it. It happened Wednesday night and I was told about it on Friday. It was at gunpoint, 11 o'clock or 11:30 at night. The store next to me stays open quite late too. They cash checks, they have cigarettes and things in there so there are people wandering around my neighborhood at lot at night too. I mentioned to the Chief and to one of the Commissioners, I would like to see some kind of network from the Police Department to the commercial businesses in town. We had it with the pharmacies years ago where if something happened we had a network where we each called somebody to let them know there was a forgery or something was going on. I would like to see something like that at least to make us aware. I'm not saying they're going to shut down our business, anybody that walks in we're going to be afraid of them, but I think it would make us more aware, alert, of what's going on. I don't know how it can be done; I think it has to be worked out with the Chief and the Commissioners. It just scares me. I was held up years ago and they did catch the person who had held up nine stores before mine. I really would like some kind of a system for us in town. I think it's very important, especially with the economy the way it is and there are so many drug addicts around and we have such a problem with medication. I would just like to work out something with the Chief. I'm sure the other business people would like to have something like that too. At any time if he'd like to get together and talk to me or talk to the people, I would appreciate it very much. Thank you.

Janet Waugh, 83 Prospect Street

I've been in the town for several years now, and I would like to bring to your attention, I had a near accident on April 4th on State Street by the grill over by the Armory and the Y. I almost rear ended due to the negligence, I believe, of the town with the grill. It was curled sticking up about so high, it caught my rear tire and I pulled up the grate and I've noticed two days in a row that they have the town working on it and repairing it. I have submitted a bill and a police report. I had to go back to get a rear tire alignment plus a front one, but the one that you have shows the front, and there's just a \$10 difference. The bill and the experience that I had, I've been complaining about the roads in Ansonia, and I believe my tax money should contribute to fixing these roads. I have a condition in front of my house with the water. I've been working closely with the town on that. That hasn't been resolved yet. This grill I've seen repair for many years now, and I did almost get rear ended, and I was very scared. I did have a blow out moments after I hit it. I didn't even get two feet and my whole tire was flat. So I am submitting a bill for \$274 for the replacement of

both of my tires - I only had one damaged but I need two tires to match on the rear, plus the alignment. I would appreciate you taking the time and looking into that claim. If you feel fit I would appreciate a refund of my monies.

President Blume stated, we have it, and we'll take it up.

Ms. Waugh stated, thank you.

Jason Morrell, 1182 Racebrook Road, Woodbridge

I am here tonight representing the Massaro Community Farm. It is my pleasure to be here before you as the president of that farm. I want to take a few moments and explain what's going on up there.

I'm going to take a few minutes and review the history of the farm. Right around 1916 the Massaro's move into Woodbridge and bought the farm which included approximately 50 acres in Ansonia. Through the years they built up a dairy and poultry operation. In the 1940s the father passed away in a tragic car accident. It was left to the two remaining sons to operate the farm. They continue so until the late 80s when Tony Massaro broke his hip and had to go into a nursing home. The farm was then left to John Massaro. To keep John living on the land the property was deeded to the Town of Woodbridge and the parcels in Ansonia were sold off, bit by bit, so that John could continue to live on the property. I was told that John lived out his last years at the Hilltop Health Care Center, which is right across the street from the farmhouse on his former property.

After John passed away, the Town of Woodbridge had the rights to do what they would with the Woodbridge piece; all of the Ansonia property had been sold off at that point. The Conservation Commission in Woodbridge came forward and proposed the creation of a working farm back on the property. I got involved through the Clean Energy Task Force and the Historical Society. We worked through 2008 and the Board of Selectmen unanimously voted that the Conservation Commission's idea of working it back into a farm was the right idea.

So, at that point, we moved forward to create the Massaro Community Farm, which is a not for profit organization, a 501c3. The goals of our organization are education, we'll be working with local schools hopefully in Ansonia in addition to Woodbridge and any other local towns that want to become involved with the project. Volunteer opportunities - hands-on is the best teacher, experience is the best way to learn anything. Whether students in the area or adults that would be interested in helping out on the farm, we will plan to have volunteer opportunities available. We're focusing on preservation of farmland and the house. The Town of Woodbridge cleared out the chicken coops that were there. What remains is the dairy barn, the stone barn that was built by John Massaro in 1931, the egg-sorting shack, and the farmhouse. The goal is to preserve all of the existing buildings and the remaining 57 acres of

land. The other goal of our organization is charitable donations to schools, food banks and senior centers, perhaps even the Hilltop Health Care Center right across the street.

The Woodbridge Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to say, we want this farm back in operation. Just this month they also voted unanimously to extend a lease to our organization for the entire property and the buildings thereon. In that vein, we have achieved a \$50,000 grant from the State of Connecticut to restore the dairy barn. We've received a grant for 25 hours from the American Farmland Trust for Professional Consulting. We're going after additional grants through the USDA and anything else that's appropriate for our goals.

We have started to form partnerships throughout the area. In Woodbridge, the Garden Club, the Historical Society, the Clean Energy Task Force, the Board of Education I've spoken with informally. I've also been reaching out into Ansonia. I've met with Donna, the Director of the Ansonia Nature and Recreation Center. She is very excited about potential collaboration and education programming. Also, the gentleman who runs the Two Coyotes Wilderness School - Justin Pegnataro - I know he works closely with the Nature Center. He also might be a good partner going forward for education. We've also been reaching out to local farms and through Connecticut Northeast Organic Farming Association. In that handout that I gave you, on the second page it gives a diagram of what the farm could look like down the road. That is sort of the goal we're going for. We hope to restore the buildings, have a farmer living on the property once again to eliminate the vandalism that's been starting to crop up on the property. The three fields right on Ford Road are already open. There's additional fields on that drawing that do need to be cleared and represent the future plans going forward with pick your own berries, strawberries, blueberries, etc. We hope to go forward and start planning educational programming for 2010. 2009 is a big rebuilding there in terms of rejuvenating the soil, finding a farmer, rebuilding the buildings. 2010 we hope to be in operation.

Now, the way that the farm is intended to operate is as a community-supported agricultural project. What that means is that anyone in the public - it's not just Woodbridge it's all surrounding towns - are entitled to purchase a share in the farm. That entitles you to a certain amount of crops throughout the year. If any of you have heard of a CSA, you buy your shares for the summer. So you get four months of a growing season and you pay up front, say \$300, and that entitles you once a week to go up and pick up your bushel of vegetables. You don't need to be out there digging up all the carrots and zucchini. If you wanted to volunteer, that would certainly help out the farm and perhaps offset the cost of your share. But it's a model that's been proven throughout the United States. It started right here in Massachusetts, and we have quite a few in Connecticut. It's a great way to build a community and support local agriculture. As you know, we're losing farms left and right.

On Sunday, May 3rd starting at 1 p.m., the Woodbridge Conservation Commission is holding a walking tour of the property, and I invite all of you to come up. If you go to our website, <http://www.massarofarm.org>, we'll have more of this information on there. We also have an e-mail list. Every few weeks we'll send out an update as to the progress and what's going on. We don't give your e-mail address out to anybody else, it's strictly used for information around the farm. I encourage you to join our e-mail list. If anybody has any questions, I'll be happy to field them right now.

I look forward to coming back in the future and giving you more presentations.

Thank you.

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

Public Official Session

Mayor James Della Volpe

I want to remind everybody that on Saturday, April 25th, we're having our neighborhood clean up day. The Mayor's office is receiving a lot of calls from organizations, and we're coordinating the parks and streets that we're going to be cleaning up. Hopefully we'll have the Aldermen participate. If you know of any people that do want to participate please contact Beth Lynch in my office.

On April 29th, the Human Relations Club at the Ansonia High School is having their second conference. The one last year was very successful. The Mayor's Task Force is one of the conferences that will be held that night. It was well attended last year and there was a lot of good dialogue. We're looking forward to it this year.

In regards to the budget - last week I attended the Capitol along with all the Mayors and First Selectmen of the State. We're looking to get some firm numbers from the State which we haven't received yet. It doesn't look like we're going to get them before our budget process is finished. We're trying to put pressure on our legislators and the Governor to come to some type of agreement so that we know on the local level how much is needed. If the need is there, then I'll have to talk to the unions within the City.

Finally, the shredder at the Public Works complex was settled. We reached an agreement with the insurance company and we received \$1.8 million for the fire that was down at the shredder. We're looking to replace it with a new transfer station at the complex.

I want to remind everybody that the Charter Hose is holding their 100th Anniversary Ball at the Armory this coming Saturday.

President Blume thanked Mayor Della Volpe.

Recognition of Original Oil Painting Donated by Artist Gregory Karas

Mayor Della Volpe stated, here tonight we have Greg Karas, a local artist. We want to recognize him for his donation of the original oil painting "Silent Night." We have a plaque that will be put underneath it. I'd like to ask Greg to come up and receive this. The painting is right at the bottom of the steps as you exit. The plaque reads "Silent Night - Original oil painting by Gregory Karas. The City of Ansonia gratefully acknowledges the talents and generosity of Mr. Karas for his gift presented to the City." It is dated December, 2008.

Mr. Karas stated, thank you very much. I grew up in Shelton pretty much my life, and spent quite a few years in Ansonia. Now I live across from Colony Park, Abe Stone Park, right across from the pond. I've always loved nature and history and historical buildings. I was actually going to do the painting for the anniversary of this building, but I missed it by a year or two and I thought it would be nice to give it to the City to enjoy it.

President Blume stated, thank you very much.

Corporation Counsel Blake

This month we collected over \$40,000 in back taxes.

Yesterday I went on behalf of the Mayor and Mr. Perry and met with Joan McDonnell, she's the Department of Economic and Community Development Director. I was there with other mayors and officials from approximately 12 towns. U.S. HUD is giving the 12 towns about \$25 million for the purpose of trying to purchase abandoned houses or houses that have been foreclosed - trying to assist to get them on the tax rolls again, and then try to use the money again to buy something else. There is some question as to how many projects each town could use, maybe one or two. There was another concern about possibly using the money for maintenance - maybe cutting the lawns. We've had a couple problems during the winter where we had to respond to broken pipes. The comments made were that one house could ruin a whole neighborhood. By the time I go to court and submit a bill to public works for grass cutting and taking garbage out, there's no money. That's one thing that they'll look at. They don't know the exact guidelines, but it's going to be coming. It will have to be used by September of 2010.

President Blume thanked Corporation Counsel Blake.

Chief Hale, Ansonia Police Department

The winter parking program was over as of March 31st. I'll be meeting in the next week or two with Mike Schryver from Public Works looking into maybe revamping the rules. They suffered some damage on equipment this year because of the heavy ice that we had. We'd like to see if there's a better way to go about it.

I wanted to report on one thing that we're doing with local businesses. Mrs. Radin brought up that other point. We created a committee about a year, year and half ago with local businesses that have security, whether it's proprietary or for hire security. It includes some of the big pharmacies and grocery stores, Target, some of the factories. We've had some very good dialogue and good meetings on exchange of information. Law enforcement in the 21st century needs to be relying on the private sector more than ever because their resources are - go look at Target's security resources and they're phenomenal. We've used them- they have helped us in more ways than you could imagine in the past year on and off of their property. The others have been very helpful as well. We're going to continue to meet with them. We try to meet quarterly. Mrs. Radin makes a valid point and the rest of the businesses, and there are many more businesses that don't have security. I know that there are smaller communities that have an e-mail serve list. If there's an incident, it will blast an e-mail off from the Police Department to the local businesses, to get that information just to give them a heads up. Some towns do it with residents. With businesses I think it's something we can do. Hopefully that would help alleviate that issue. If there are question they can call. I think that's something we can do with no cost.

Our annual Awards Ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday May 19th at the Ansonia High School at 7 p.m. We'll be presenting awards again to deserving officers as well as presenting our third annual Brian F. Phipps Memorial Award of Excellence. Everyone is invited; the public is invited.

Alderman Jerome Fainer stated, I would just like to thank the Chief. I had a problem with parking issues in my ward, and he took care of it right away. I appreciate that every time I call him he takes care of things. Thank you.

Alderman James Fainer asked, have you had any complaints on the light at Bridge and West Main? It seems that the light going east and west is on for a long time and there's no traffic going n. It seems to be longer than normal.

Chief Hale stated, we can take a look at it. I believe that's a local light and something we'd have to do in house. I know that the lights on Main Street are in sequence from Maple Street all the way down to Division. Whether that's tied in as an offshoot I'm not sure. It's something we can take a look at. I can have Bill Hart take a look at it.

President Blume thanked Chief Hale.

Joseph Miller, Comptroller

As the Mayor mentioned, the budget is still a work in progress. The Board of Apportionment and Taxation is still working on it, we've got another month to go. We did go out to bid today on the current year's audit.

President Blume thanked Mr. Miller

Committee Reports

Finance Committee - Alderman Gene Sharkey

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to pay all bills if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Municipal Reports / Annual Reports

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept all municipal and annual reports, dispense with the reading and place them on file; SECONDED by Alderman Jordanides. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Tax Refunds

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept the report of the Tax Collector and pay the Tax Refunds for January, 2009 in the amount of \$2,062.65 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Claims

Alderman Bender MOVED to refer the following claims to Corporation Counsel Blake:

03-09-739 John Cesarek
03-09-740 Janet Vitarius Waugh

SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Communications

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept all of the communications, dispense with the reading, and place them on file. If an Alderman wishes one read or acted upon, the communications will be brought up individually in their order on the agenda; SECONDED by Alderman Pietrangelo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Kolakowski MOVED to change the order of Communications and take up Communication #2 last; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Communication #1

From: Rev. Samuel Levey, Pastor, Williams Memorial Church
Re: 80th Year Restoration Project

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept Communication #1 and place it on file; SECONDED by Alderman Jerome Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Communication #3

From: Chairman Eugene Sharkey, Board of Fire Commissioners
Re: Appointment - Ansonia Fire Police - Jack Getlein

Alderman Sharkey stated, we have from time to time the honor of appointing someone to the Ansonia Fire Police. The Ansonia Fire Commission has voted unanimously to present the name of firefighter Jack Getlein for this position.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED, per the recommendation of the Board of Fire Commissioners to approve the appointment of Jack Getlein to the Ansonia Fire Police; SECONDED by Alderman Jerome Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Communication #4

From: Attorney John F.X. Androski, Ansonia Water Pollution Control Authority
Re: Permit Fee Waiver - Facilities Plant

Alderman Jerome Fainer MOVED to waive the building permit fees associated with the Ansonia Water Pollution Control Authority Facilities Plant; SECONDED by Alderman James Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Communication #5

From: Chairman Gale Banks, Charter Revision Commission
Re: Request for Bids for Charter Revision

Alderman Kolakowski MOVED to accept Communication #5 and place it on file; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Communication #6

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake
Re: City of Ansonia v. Albert R. Herbert

Corporation Counsel Blake explained, we don't have to take this up in executive session. We have sued the property of Albert Herbert, for 10 Clifton Avenue, for taxes. There is a lien we have in there already - a demolition lien from when this property burned down. There is a conflict because we're suing ourselves. The judge requires that we waive the lien because we're plaintiff and defendant, and all I need is a motion to that effect so that we're not suing ourselves.

Alderman Jerome Fainer MOVED to waive the demolition lien in the case of City of Ansonia v. Albert R. Herbert; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Communication #7

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake
Re: City of Ansonia v. Damien McCaffrey

Corporation Counsel Blake explained, this is the same situation. We're involved in litigation and we brought a claim for taxes owed. There was also an Anti-blight lien. Again, we're requesting a waiver so we don't sue ourselves - there is no conflict.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to waive the Anti-Blight lien in the case of City of Ansonia v. Damien McCaffrey; SECONDED by Alderman James Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

[Alderman Jeanette leaves the meeting at 7:32 p.m. - 9 present]

Communication #8

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake
Re: Fire Hydrant Service

President Blume stated, as most of you know the Mayor and I have been on this for over eight months now, trying to work out some kind of settlement for the exorbitant rate we're paying for hydrant service. We've been to the State twice, to New Britain several times. We meet on weekends; whenever we can. We are trying to bring this rate down. We've kind of hit a stone wall; we're just not progressing. We need somebody with some expertise, some clout, that knows people in the State, knows the legislators. Kevin would like to hire someone that's familiar with this to continue our quest to bring these rates down.

Alderman James Fainer MOVED to retain a consultant for the matter of fire hydrant service; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Communication #9
From: Jack Hunt
Re: Retirement Program

[Alderman Jeanette returns at this point, 10 present]

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, I will discuss it with Mr. Hunt and the Retirement Board.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to refer Communication #9 to Corporation Counsel Blake and the Retirement Board; SECONDED by Alderman Duffus. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Communication #10
From: Acting Chairman John Finnucan, Board of Public Works
Re: Bid Awards

Alderman Jerome Fainer MOVED per the recommendation of the Board of Public Works to award the bid for cold milling to Black and Boucher, LLC; SECONDED by Alderman Pietrangelo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED per the recommendation of the Board of Public Works to award the bid for full-depth road reclaiming to Rafferty Fine Grading; SECONDED by Alderman James Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Kolakowski MOVED per the recommendation of the Board of Public Works to award the bid for vegetation control to Northern Tree Service; SECONDED by Alderman James Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Kolakowski MOVED per the recommendation of the Board of Public Works to award the bid for partial roof replacement at the Ansonia Armory to McKiernan Construction LLC; SECONDED by Alderman Pietrangelo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED per the recommendation of the Board of Public Works to award the bid for the total roof replacement at the Maple Street Pump Station to DiGiorgi Roofing and Siding; SECONDED by Alderman James Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Communication #11**From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake****Re: Ansonia Housing Authority - Riverside Complex Grant Agreement**

Corporation Counsel Blake explained, the City of Ansonia through referendum approved \$5 million for the Ansonia Housing Authority to raze the buildings at Riverside Apartment Complex. They went to bid, and they're getting close to razing two buildings. This contract and resolution are to make sure when we give the money to the Ansonia Housing Authority it's done properly. This Resolution is to allow the Mayor to sign the agreements necessary in order to proceed with the project.

Alderman Jordanides asked, how much will it cost?

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, we're limited - there's a bonding of \$5 million that we have available. They're going to raze two buildings right now.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to approve the document and adopt Resolution #1; SECONDED by Alderman Bender.

RESOLUTION

Aldermen Jason Bender of the 2nd Ward and Eugene Sharkey of the 6th Ward introduced the following Resolution:

Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Grant Agreement
with the Ansonia Housing Authority

Resolved,

WHEREAS, The City authorized the issuance of \$5.2 million bonds of the City to demolish the Riverside Apartments and remediate the property pursuant to a resolution approved at a referendum on November 7, 2006 entitled:

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$5,200,000 FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE RIVERSIDE APARTMENTS HOUSING COMPLEXON AND IN THE AREA OF OLSON DRIVE OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ANSONIA AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$5,200,000 BONDS F THE CITY TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THERROF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS THEREFOR (the "Resolution")

WHEREAS, the Ansonia Housing Authority, (the "Authority") is undertaking the demolition as part of a larger project of improvement and replacement to the living facilities and circumstances in that area of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City intends to make a grant of funds derived from the Resolution to the Authority to accomplish the Project and to enter into a grant agreement (the "Agreement") with the Authority to manage the flow of funds to the Authority a draft of which is attached hereto;

NOW THEREFORE, the Mayor is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Authority with respect to the terms and conditions of payment of funds derived from the Resolution to accomplish the demolition of the riverside Apartments, with such changes, deletions, additions and amendments as he shall determine, after due consideration of advice of Counsel.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, it's a draw down. They bid it.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Late Communication

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to deviate from the agenda to consider Late Communication #1; SECONDED by Alderman James Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Public Session

President Blume asked if any member of the public wished to speak on Late Communication #1 from the Police Department. Being none, he declared the public session closed.

Late Communication #1

From: Chief of Police Kevin Hale

Re: Matching Grant for Dell Server

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to authorize the Ansonia Police Department to purchase a Dell Power Edge Serve and the proprietary software from NexGen; and further,

MOVED to authorize the Chief of Police to sign the agreement with AT&T on the new wireless service; SECONDED by Alderman Jerome Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Resignation

Alderman Jerome Fainer MOVED to accept, with regret, the resignation of Len Marazzi from the Board of Public Works and send him a letter of thanks for his service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Jordanides. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

[Alderman Jeanette leaves at this point, 9 present]

Appointments

Town and City Clerk Madeline Bottone read aloud Mayor James Della Volpe's appointments as outlined in his letter of April 8, 2009, as follows:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to reappoint Jacqueline Blount of 80 Hull Street; term to expire 2/28/2010; SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

[Alderman Jeanette returns - 10 present].

Alderman Duffus MOVED to reappoint Julius Douglas of 66 Hull Street; term to expire 2/28/2010; SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to reappoint Tracy Edwards of 5 Holbrook Place; term to expire 2/28/2010; SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Kolakowski MOVED to reappoint Ralphine Ford of 222 ½ North State Street; term to expire 2/28/2010; SECONDED by Alderman James Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Duffus MOVED to reappoint Carmen Pitney, Sr. of 159 Pulaski Highway; term to expire 2/28/2010; SECONDED by Alderman James Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Kolakowski MOVED to reappoint Rev. Alsey Williams of 7 Pulaski Highway; term to expire 2/28/2010; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

FAIR HOUSING COMMITTEE

Alderman James Fainer MOVED to reappoint Jessie (Jill) Brown of 34 Day Street; term to expire 2/28/2010; SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Kolakowski MOVED to reappoint Hugh Edwards of 5 Holbrook Place; term to expire 2/28/2010; SECONDED by Alderman James Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to reappoint Jeremiah Kennedy of 12 Jason Wright Drive; term to expire 2/28/2010; SECONDED by Alderman Pietrangelo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to reappoint Julia Maher of 24 Park Place; term to expire 2/28/2010; SECONDED by Alderman Jordanides. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Kolakowski MOVED to reappoint Juan Serrano of 56 Grove Street; term to expire 2/28/2010; SECONDED by Alderman James Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Duffus MOVED to reappoint Diane Stroman of 66 High Street; term to expire 2/28/2010; SECONDED by Alderman James Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

ADA COORDINATOR

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to appoint Elizabeth S. Lynch of 15 Colony Street; term to expire 2/28/2010; SECONDED by Alderman James Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Resolutions

Resolution #1

Re: Grant Agreement - Ansonia Housing Authority - Riverside Apartments
Housing Complex

[Resolution adopted - See Communication #11]

Unfinished Business

None presented.

New Business

Alderman Kolakowski stated, the case involving Officer Salahuddin is going through the process at the Superior Court in Derby.

It seems that the City and the Police Department have been respectful of Officer Salahuddin's rights to due process. However, it appears that his lawyer is not satisfied with following the legal process, but is instead determined to throw mud and insult the department, the Chief and on occasion the City and its Mayor.

While the City and the department act respectfully, the lawyer hurls unfounded charges but has yet, six months later, to release files and videotapes that we thought were going to be released.

Alderman Kolakowski MOVED to instruct the Corporation Counsel to obtain a copy of the videotape that the Connecticut State Police used as evidence to successfully obtain an arrest warrant from a judge and produce that videotape for viewing by this Board or any public official or any private citizen that wishes to see it; and secondly,

MOVED to instruct the Corporation Counsel to obtain a copy of the Officer's personnel file that Attorney Serafinowicz promised would be made available last summer so that we can look at the facts surrounding his hiring and his previous employment; SECONDED by Alderman Bender.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

[Alderman Jeanette leaves at this point - 9 present]

Communication #2

From: Recreation Director Jeff Coppola; Recreation Vice-Chair Steve Kichar
Re: Bid Waiver - Purchase and Refurbishing of Football Equipment

[Alderman Jeanette returns and Alderman Maynard arrives at this point - 11 present]

President Blume recognizes Mr. Mickey Weinstein from Clean Gear Athletic, who is in the audience.

Alderman Jeanette asked, are you an authorized Schutt reconditioner? Does Schutt authorize you?

Mr. Weinstein replied, no. He explained, the way this industry works, you are governed, and I just gave copy of our license. This industry is governed by NOCSEA (the National Operating Committee for Standards on Athletic Equipment) and NAERA (the governing body of all of the reconditioners together) - these cover every reconditioner in the country. They come in once a year and inspect your plant to make sure you have parts. You don't have INAUDIBLE parts from Riddell, Champro, Schutt, Adams. It makes no difference who authorizes it when you get them. Do you have them? Is there a way for you to get them? Do you possess them? If you have them on your shelf, you've gone past the first part of the inspection; the inspection is over. You can't have generic parts. They then inspect your drop test machine for helmets. They inspect your plant. They inspect every facet of your business. They then ask you questions and grill the crap out of you. This is six hours worth - six hours to get you inspected. If you are certified by NOCSEA and NAERA, they are the governing body for every reconditioner. There are only 26 of us in the whole country. They certify you. Schutt, Riddell, Adams. Any other reconditioner has no right whatsoever to dictate to you how you run your business or whether they like you or you're competing against them or anything else. Bottom line is, we have, and I just showed the full complement in the other room, our license, every piece of document you could that's indisputable. Pictures right here. Indisputable evidence that we do NFL teams, we do major college teams. I've shown you indisputable pictures of Schutt, Riddell, Champro and Adams parts, and Alderman Maynard saw that in there, okay? It is virtually indisputable. Bottom line is, we are licensed by NOCSEA and NAERA, and we have a contract, we are one of two vendors on the contract

list for the State of Connecticut. Here is the 40-some-odd page contract, where they put you through the wringer to get a State contract. They want to know everything financially about you -are you even worthy? You have to have all this documentation. Here is the document signed. I just grabbed one of these. We have a contract with the City of Springfield, Massachusetts. Here is the signed contract that we have. This is an institutional price list for Schutt, just so you could see, it has all the prices. Here is an order, a sample of an order that I just placed the other day. As you can see, it has Schutt - how would I get this price list if we weren't a dealer?

Alderman Kolakowski asked, excuse me, sir. Are you an authorized dealer? Because the warranty goes null and void.

Mr. Weinstein replied, absolutely, positively not.

Alderman Kolakowski asked, you have documentation to show it doesn't go null and void?

Mr. Weinstein stated, the NOCSEA license. That is my license to operate. You can call Ed Fisher; his number is on there. Absolutely.

Alderman Kolakowski stated, I don't know who Ed Fisher is.

Mr. Weinstein explained, he is the head chairman of NOCSEA-NAERA. You can call him. The other thing is, the stickers at - they're claiming that we're not a NAERA member. These are NOCSEA stickers right here - these are the certified stickers. Here's the sticker where it says we are a NAERA member - it's right on there. It's indisputable evidence. This has been going on now in the State for three years, because our competitor has had a monopoly, and they've crushed, they tried to put, and they have, recently put another business out of business because, "how dare you challenge us?" This is the United States of America. We're not going anywhere. We have a right to exist as does Riddell have a right to exist in this business. They've had harassing phone calls being made to people in this City - "how dare you use Clean Gear?" It's happened. I just stated it before at Bridgeport, at Northwest Catholic High School, at Nonnewaug Youth Football, at Southington. People have documented to us, in writing, complaining. I have a letter that I just showed, right here, from another youth organization that I showed the youth board of constant harassing complaints by my competition, all right? We have six other programs right now with Candlewood Valley League, aside from Ansonia. We do NFL teams, okay? We have checks on our wall, copies, of NFL teams we've done. I've given them everything I could possibly do to prove, and there's nothing more to prove. It is indisputable. That's our stickers. You have a copy of our operating license. Alderman Maynard has seen everything. I don't know what else to do.

President Blume thanked Mr. Weinstein.

Alderman Maynard MOVED to table Communication #2; SECONDED by Alderman Bender. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary
Ansonia Board of Aldermen