



**CITY OF ANSONIA
BOARD OF ALDERMEN**
Regular Meeting – June 9, 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
Robert Duffus, D1 - absent
Jason Bender, D2 - absent
James Fainer, D2 - absent
Gale Banks, D3- present
Joseph Jeanette, D3- present
Keith Maynard, D4 - present

Jerome Fainer, D4 - present
Spero Jordanides, D5 - absent
Pasquale Pietrangelo, D5 - present
Scott Nihill, D6 - present
Gene Sharkey, D6 - present
Tara Kolakowski, D7- present
Stephen Blume, D7 - present

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

Consideration of Previous Minutes

Alderman Nihill MOVED to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 12, 2009 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Public Session

Frank Heusser

At the last Board of Police Commissioners meeting they were going to vote on to table, or to freeze the bid on the police cars. I got three or four written bids right here where we'll come in below what the bid is now, so it's guaranteed to be less than what it was. The way the economy is now and everything it would be stupid to freeze the bid. There's a lot of garages out there could use the work. They want to freeze the bid at where it was? You know everybody's going to come in cheaper now. I don't understand why they freeze it. So what I did is they told me to get papers here where the bid is going to be below what it is now and that should be sufficient to prove that it could come in cheaper, less. There's no reason to freeze it. 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

An update on some projects that are going on right now within the City. Ten days ago blasting started up at Fountain Lake. Bob Scinto is in the process of putting the road in. We've notified the residents of the area that they're going to be blasting Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Most of the morning is set aside for preparing the holes for blasting caps, and they only blast around 1:15, 1:30, and it's only for a few minutes. They've already started and that's a project that we need to go forward.

At the Riverside Apartments, you'll see that there is fencing around the two buildings that are up for demolition. They put the fencing around, right now they're inside the buildings cleaning out the tubing, taking all the asbestos out, and that should take anywhere from four to six weeks. Then they will start the process of taking down the buildings.

For notification for the Board, June, July and August there is no bulk pickup within our wards. So if you see bulk in front of somebody's residence, please call the Mayor's office or Public Works and let us know. We will contact the Police Department and they'll go up and notify the residents, and they'll have to remove it themselves. As you know, we do it on a 3-month cycle - the reason being that we're trying to take care of all of our fields during this time of year. If you see it, please contact Beth at the Mayor's office.

I would like to congratulate the Charter Hose on their 100th Anniversary. They had their ceremony this past Sunday. I'd like to commend Jerome and Ed Norman on the great job they did on the dedication of the brick garden.

To give you an update on the stimulus money, on June 30th all of the Mayors and First Selectmen from the Valley and from the Bridgeport area are meeting with the Department of Transportation Commissioner in the Town of Trumbull. We're trying to get the money for the pavement of roads more quickly. They're saying that we're not going to get it until late October, and we probably wouldn't be able to start until next March of 2010. So, all of the Mayors and First Selectmen are concerned about this. We all submitted our projects; we're ready to go. We want to meet with the Commissioner and see what the holdup is. That meeting will be held on June 30th.

To update on the graduations in the City - the Middle School will be graduating on June 19th and the High School will be graduating on June 22nd.

We're updating our website - it should be up and running within the month.

On a celebratory note, I'd like to congratulate Keith Maynard because this July 5th he's going to be getting married.

President Blume asked if anybody had any questions of the Mayor.

Alderman Banks asked, are there any new businesses moving into the City?

Mayor Della Volpe replied, there's a new restaurant moving in on East Main Street where the old Taste Café was. There is also a restaurant going in on the Commons Plaza on Main Street down by the Polish Deli.

Alderman Banks asked, what's going on where the fire was?

Corporation Counsel Blake replied, the one near Sardo's Automotive there? It was purchased about a month ago by a new owner and they have until October to start fixing it up. There is going to be activity there.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, there is going to be another business and they're here tonight - it's the new online newspaper. Eugene Driscoll and the reporter are here. They've moved into the medical center on Main Street. We'll have reporters designated for Ansonia and the Valley. They'll be on the Internet putting out their reports hopefully daily. It's very exciting. They're going to be making an announcement on June 23rd here in front of City Hall.

President Blume stated, thank you very much.

Corporation Counsel Blake

Last month we collected \$10,548.70 in taxes. We sent a bunch of summons out for people who owe taxes. The people who were on payment plans are not doing them now, and we're seeing that there are going to be more foreclosures.

In regard to last month and the athletic equipment repair - we're reviewing the bids, and whether or not we have to go out to bid again. We may have to re-bid due to the specifications that were provided.

Alderman Sharkey asked, based upon our decision last month not to vote favorably to reduce the blight lien on Division Street, where do we stand on that?

Corporation Counsel Blake replied we're going to do a new title search and go for foreclosure. The one gentleman who was the prospective buyer was going to put in a proposal, and he's never done that. I spoke to Mr. Jones' attorney. It's a violation of the anti-blight and zoning regulations of not doing a permit for one year, I told him we were going to go forward with a foreclosure action.

President Blume stated, last month we asked you about Hughes Circle. Can you bring us up to date on what's going on there?

Corporation Counsel Blake explained, I sent a letter to the president of the company that handles it. I got a response to day from his attorney saying they weren't aware of some of the requirements and anything there. Hopefully tomorrow I'll have from Peter Crabtree an affidavit to submit to a sheriff to serve a cease and desist order on that. I gave the information to Mr. Crabtree last night that there are people there that are under 55.

President Blume asked, that cease and desist order goes to the Ansonia Crossing LLC?

Corporation Counsel Blake replied, yes.

Alderman Kolakowski stated, so I have a clear understanding of what's happening, this gentleman, Mr. Richitelli, formed a corporation called Ansonia Crossing LLC. He purchased the land and his attorney told you they didn't know what the City's laws were regarding that land when he purchased it?

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, my partner actually took the phone call and then he gave me an e-mail that said he was not aware of all the conditions there.

Alderman Kolakowski stated, with the City Ordinances, I find it a little hard to believe that a gentleman with that stature that has a business in the City of Milford and the State of Connecticut would actually come up with that as an excuse and have people, actually rent houses to people who are trying to lead a good life and put their kids in a nice school system and a nice neighborhood - where are his ethics on this?

President Blume stated, that really bothers me, I know. Mr. Richitelli met with the Mayor several months ago. He knows exactly what the regulations are. Everything was explained to him. He knew it before he bought it. I drive by there 10 times a day, this weekend, there are three or four families, they're all outside, they're washing their cars, they're talking to each other. They think they're just in, in paradise. And it's not our fault. This is a 55 and above community that was zoned that way two years ago. Everybody knew about it. This guy couldn't sell the deal so he started renting houses to these people. These poor people now, I feel real bad, it's not our fault. These people are going to have to leave, and their dream, you know, gets crushed. He knew all about this. He knew all about this. That's why we put this in Corporation Counsel Blake's hands. I'm very anxious for him to go to court and serve this cease and desist order, and we're going to continue with this.

Alderman Fainer stated, he just rubbed it in our face. He knew he wasn't supposed to do this.

Alderman Kolakowski stated, that's what I'm saying. If he comes up with an excuse, or his attorney comes up with an excuse that they didn't know the laws,

I hate to call him a liar, but... If he was that misinformed how does he conduct his daily business every day?

President Blume stated, he knew.

Alderman Fainer asked, it shouldn't cost us anything that we have to evict these people, right? I just hope that we don't have to pay for it.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, the courts have to deal with it.

President Blume stated, it will go to court, it is something they'll have to handle. It is just unfortunate that there are people like this.

Alderman Sharkey asked, can we make sure that is on the land records? When that zone was changed for that area - when he purchased it, it was on the land records?

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, the Zoning regulations were passed.

President Blume stated, there was a public hearing, it went through the whole nine yards. This goes back two years.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, it was zoned for 55 and over home ownership. No rentals, owner occupied.

President Blume stated, as a matter of fact I saw a brochure that he passed out and they're fixing some of the places up and it says it could either be three bedroom or two bedroom with a master bedroom. It can't be three bedroom; that's part of the regulation. That was to make sure that there were no children. It's 55 and over. He's just doing whatever he wants to do. It's not right.

Alderman Kolakowski stated, and in the meantime he's collecting rent from these people, he's doing exactly what he wants to do with total disregard for the laws in our City. Who does he think he is?

President Blume stated, and he's going to ruin their dreams. I really find that...

Alderman Kolakowski interjected, there are people who are caught in the middle, these poor people.

President Blume thanked Corporation Counsel Blake.

Chief Hale, Ansonia Police Department

We're investigating a very serious motor vehicle accident, yesterday afternoon on North Cliff Street. It was an unfortunate accident, right now that's the way

it's being labeled. The driveway - an elderly woman is in Yale Hospital in very critical condition. That is ongoing.

The Board of Police Commissioners last week authorized the Police Department to conduct a full parking study the entire length of Wakelee Avenue. We received a number of complaints from business owners at that meeting concerning the area primarily between Hall and Mary Street, and also the other end, down toward Nolan Field, where the road narrows. We've had a number of complaints over the past year or so, particularly coming out of Mary Street looking south, there are some obstruction issues, parking across the street. Then again at the northern end as well, near Nolan Field. We're going to take a good hard look at the entire length of Wakelee Avenue. The majority of it, I believe, is no parking but there are some inconsistencies. Just so you're aware, in 1992, and we haven't found any other information since, this Board took action and had some signs placed in that area between Hall and Mary Street area, 17 years ago. The road is busier than ever, the hospital has expanded, businesses expanded and things have changed. We're going to take a good hard look at that. We are enforcing the signage that is up there now, and we're going to continue to research to see if there is anything else passed in between. So we may be back to this Board, since it looks like you took the last action. The study may take some months; we'll get the City Engineer involved.

Thank you.

Alderman Fainer stated, I'd just like to thank the Chief from myself and the members of the Charter Hose for helping us out on Sunday. Thank you very much.

President Blume thanked Chief Hale.

Joseph Miller, Comptroller

You have my report in front of you. Again, I'd like to verbally thank everybody in the Board of Apportionment and Taxation and the Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen for their hard work and effort in putting the budget together.

President Blume thanked Mr. Miller.

Donna Lindgren, Director, Ansonia Nature and Recreation Center

Last year in May I was delighted and proud of the City for immersing themselves in the Naugatuck River during a race that took place in Waterbury and Beacon Falls. This year I didn't see anybody there. No one was representing Ansonia that I know of. Did anybody enter it this year?

Mayor Della Volpe replied, due to the lack of funds we were unable to.

Ms. Lindgren continued, because I think the Naugatuck River is one of our best environmental assets, we are offering a kayak/canoe trip - kayak especially trip - on the lower Naugatuck River, in our area, on June 20th in the morning. I hope that some of you can attend that.

The night before however is our opportunity to hear from a woman by the name of Laurel Wildman who is nationally known for her river restoration efforts all over the country. She will speak at the Ansonia Nature and Recreation Center on the 19th which is Friday night. I'm hoping that we can get some City officials there on that night to hear what she has to say. I think the River has come such a long way in the 50 years since the floods; but I think it can be even better and I know that Ansonia's efforts are geared toward that. My only hope is that we can actually have access to the river in our part of the City. We can't get to the river unless we go to Derby unless we go up beyond the industrial park, near the entrance to Route 8. So as a reminder to you all, and you should have all received the calendar of events in your mailboxes, that little blurb is in there. But as an official reminder, I'd just like to pass this out. It's a little bit of background on Laurel Wildman and maybe you could hang it on your refrigerator to remind you. Thank you very much.

President Blume thanked Ms. Lindgren.

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 9-0.

ARMS Committee - Alderman Jerome Fainer

In May we were dispatched to 215 calls; we transported 140 patients; we billed \$91,723.90 and collected \$48,887.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

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 Banks. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Tax Refunds

Alderman Nihill MOVED to accept the report of the Tax Collector and pay the Tax Refunds for April, 2009 in the amount of \$4,135.98 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Claims

None presented.

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 Kolakowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Communication #1

From: Police Chief Kevin Hale

Re: Bid Waiver - Computerized Fingerprinting

Alderman Nihill MOVED to waive the bidding process and authorize the Police Department to lease the Cogent Livescan System under State of Connecticut contract #07ITZ0124 in the total amount of \$45,700 for a period of six years; SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Communication #2

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

Re: Thomas P. Swan v. City of Ansonia

To be discussed in Executive Session.

Communication #3

From: Chairman John Finnucan, Board of Public Works

Re: Bid Award for Solid Waste and Recycling Collection and Disposal

Alderman Fainer MOVED, per the recommendation of the Board of Public Works, to award the bid for Solid Waste and Recycling Collection and Disposal to Superior Waste Disposal, Inc. dba American Disposal Service; SECONDED by Alderman Banks. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Communication #4

From: Chairman John Finnucan, Board of Public Works
Re: Bid Award for 52" Zero-Turn Commercial Riding Mower

Alderman Sharkey MOVED, per the recommendation of the Board of Public Works to award the bid for a 52" Zero-turn Commercial Riding Mower to Knights, Inc. of Orange, Connecticut at a cost of \$8,199; SECONDED by Alderman Nihill. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Communication #5

From: Chairman Gale Banks, Charter Revision Commission
Re: Proposed Recommendation for Change to Section 42

Alderman Banks explained, the Charter Revision Commission met, had a public hearing last month. The purpose was to simplify the transfer of the City budget from the Board of Aldermen to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation, in particular Section 42 of the Ansonia City Charter. Again, it involves just the date and time of the meeting to make it more efficient.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, this will be a question on the ballot for November 7th. You will have to have a public hearing before next month's meeting.

Alderman Banks MOVED to accept the recommendations of the Charter Revision Commission; and further,

MOVED to send a letter of thanks to the members of the Charter Revision Commission for their service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to hold a public hearing on the proposed Charter Revision at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 14th (this is ½ hour before the regular Board of Aldermen meeting); SECONDED by Alderman Banks. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Communication #6

From: Police Chief Kevin Hale
Re: Bid Waiver - Police Cruisers

Alderman Nihill MOVED to waive the bid and authorize the purchase of two new Police vehicles from Crowley Ford at the State base contract price of \$19,640 and the final cost after installation of emergency equipment and vehicle warranty being \$36,000 each; and further,

MOVED to authorize the trade-in of the three older vehicles as listed in the communication; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey.

Alderman Kolakowski asked, will this leave you short one vehicle?

Chief Hale replied no, we skipped a year trading in, and kept one an extra year or two.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Communication #7

From: Chairman Nicholas Amico, Board of Police Commissioners
Re: Approval of Contract Extension for Police Vehicle Maintenance

Alderman Sharkey MOVED, per the recommendation of the Board of Police Commissioners, to authorize the extension of the Police Vehicle Maintenance Contract with Auto Repairs Unlimited for a one year period at the same price; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8 Yes, 1 No (Banks).

Communication #8

From: Mayor James T. DellaVolpe
Re: Consideration of Adopt-A-Spot Program

Alderman Nihill MOVED to accept the Adopt-a-Spot program; SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski.

Alderman Nihill stated, it will be good for the City, and good for the businesses.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, that was part of the reason behind it. I had received calls from several businesses that were interested in adopting a spot - more or less the islands and/or some corners. I said it would have to come before the Board. I know they do it in other towns and cities in the Valley. I will talk to Public Works in regard to this. We won't be taking work away from them.

Alderman Maynard asked, who will oversee it so there are no sightline obstructions or anything like that?

Mayor Della Volpe replied it will be the Superintendent of Public Works.

Alderman Kolakowski asked, they're going to plant flowers - like a beautification program?

Mayor Della Volpe stated, yes, and I'm sure there will be a little sign saying, something like "Adopt-a-Spot by Such and Such Business".

President Blume stated, it's a very good idea.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Late Communications

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to deviate from the agenda to consider two Late Communications; SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Public Session on Late Communications

President Blume asked three times if any member of the public wished to speak on the Late Communications. Being none, he declared the public session closed.

Late Communication #1

From: Acting Superintendent Michael Schryver, Board of Public Works
Re: Bid Waiver - Street Name Signs

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to waive the bid and authorize the purchase of street name signs from East Coast Sign and Supply in an amount not to exceed \$18,000; SECONDED by Alderman Maynard.

Alderman Sharkey stated, the reason for waiving the bid is so the signs will be in conformity with the signs we have already put out on the road; and the money is available in the Town Road Aid account.

Alderman Kolakowski noted that this is the same company that made the previously installed new signs.

Mayor Della Volpe thanked the Board because he's been receiving a lot of calls from people asking why their street does not have the new signs.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Late Communication #2

From: Chairman Bartholomew Flaherty, III, Planning and Zoning Commission
Re: Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting of April 27, 2009

Alderman Nihill MOVED to accept the communication and place it on file; SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Resignation

Alderman Fainer MOVED to accept, with regret, the resignation of Carla McNulty from the Cultural Commission and send her a letter of thanks for her service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Banks. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Appointments

None presented.

Resolutions

None presented.

Unfinished Business

None presented.

New Business

President Blume reported on the hydrant situation.

He stated, as you know, the Mayor, me, Tom Clifford (our liaison to the Regional Water Authority) who has worked very hard on this. We don't seem to be getting too far. We've met with the Attorney General; we've met with Jack Betkoski; we've been to New Britain; we've been to Hartford; we've been to the Regional Water Authority. We spent eight months trying to figure out why we're paying \$600,000 for the water service to the hydrants when most other communities are paying about \$200,000 to \$250,000.

The problem seems to rest with the old Birmingham Water Company. They were granted a rate increase. To be honest, nobody really knew what anybody was paying. We thought everybody was paying this. Only after Regional bought the Birmingham Company did we find out the disparity - that we were being charged an exorbitant amount of money for these hydrants.

Mayor Della Volpe added, as was Derby and Seymour.

President Blume continued, we tried many things. The last-ditch effort was, I offered to have the City buy the hydrants - there was a company that would maintain them, service them, maintain them, replace them when necessary. I thought we would have no resistance to this. First they said it was a liability problem, which Tom Clifford took care of because there is no liability problem. Secondly, now they've brought on the fact that we're paying about \$140,000 for the actual hydrants, but they're charging us for the length of the pipe that's in our streets, and have been for many, many years. The length of the pipe, the diameter of the pipe - there's some type of formula. They come up with this

figure and that is what is costing us about \$400,000. Of course, the pipe's in our street. It's the same main that delivers the water to the residents' homes, so it's almost like double-dipping.

We have hit a wall. We've discussed going to court on this. Perhaps we will. If we go to court, we're going to have to hire a water attorney - someone that knows what they're doing with this kind of thing.

This disparity is in the whole State - it's not just Ansonia, Derby and Seymour. Everybody is getting killed with these hydrants - rich towns and poor towns alike. So I think perhaps maybe the General Assembly - someone in the State should look into this for all the water companies that are charging these rates.

We seem to be getting the worst part of it. We are paying much more. We're a distressed community. They froze our rates - they said our rates won't go up for the next 10 years. However, we're paying \$600,000 a year. So after 10 years, that is \$6 million. I'd freeze our rates too! This makes no sense to me! Put us back to the \$200,000 like everybody else. We'll take our shot; we'll take our chance, and give us the rates like everybody else.

I do not believe in my heart - all the other communities in the Regional Water Authority are going to equal \$600,000 after 10 years. And we will have already paid \$6 million. This is crazy!

Alderman Kolakowski stated, in addition to that, we are paying the \$6 million and each resident of the City of Ansonia is also paying for that same pipe, that same water that's coming through. So they're charging us \$6 million and they're charging each resident in these difficult economic times. How do they have the nerve to do that and not sit down with us and discuss this? Many times we've gone up there; the Mayor's gone up there. How do they continue to take advantage of a distressed municipality, of the citizens of the City of Ansonia that are on the verge, as Kevin said, of not paying their taxes and going into foreclosure? They look at this as a cash cow and to heck with everything else, we're going to get our money no matter what.

They totally took advantage, not only the Regional Water Authority, but it started with Birmingham Utilities. It then just escalated with the Regional Water Authority. No one had any sort of moral accountability on this.

President Blume stated, very good, you're right. When Regional bought it, they saw we were paying \$600,000 and everybody else is paying \$250,000. Shouldn't somebody have spoken up? But see, it's a cash cow, and they're happy to get it.

Alderman Sharkey stated, it made the sale look more lucrative.

President Blume stated, absolutely. And of course, they don't want to give it up. We've tried everything. They don't want to give it up.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, we're paying \$600,000 and the City of New Haven is paying \$380,000. There is about a \$200,000 difference. The reason they said they would waive it for 10 years is because they want to bring everybody else up to where we are. We don't think that's fair. We sat with the Attorney General, we've got Tom Clifford looking into it. We should continue to look at it to see and consider going to court. We've had discussions with the City of Derby to possibly partner up with them.

Alderman Kolakowski stated, absolutely. If we can save \$200,000 or \$300,000 per year, maybe that should go in the Education budget or in the Police budget or the Fire budget or the Nature Center budget.

President Blume stated, can you imagine? \$600,000!

Alderman Kolakowski stated, we are 1/3 the size of the City of New Haven. By rights we should be paying \$100,000 - \$120,000. Not \$600,000!

President Blume stated, a town like Fairfield or Westport - they're paying much less than us. They have one excuse after the other. They just don't want to release the cash cow. I just wanted to give a report. We're still on it.

Alderman Kolakowski stated, we need this information for the citizens because maybe they should start calling their State Representatives, their Congressman, their Senators. Not only this Board, but every resident of Ansonia should be appalled at this. They should start writing letters also. We're sitting here for the 19,000 people that live in this City. If they're paying and we're paying, it's too much.

President Blume stated, that's why I brought it up tonight. We've hit the wall. As many offers as we've made to them - I was sure we'd be able to buy these hydrants. What do they care? We'll pay for the lateral going from the main to the hydrant. We'll maintain the hydrants, hire a company to maintain. No, they didn't want to hear about it. They don't want to lose the \$600,000.

Alderman Kolakowski stated, then we should charge them for keeping their pipes in our roads.

President Blume stated, also, all of that pipe up on the hilltop, we paid for that pipe and gave it to them! Why are we paying for it now? It was a gift to them. We paid for the project; the citizens paid for the project, and now we're being charged for the pipe that we already paid for and gave them! We're on it; we're looking at it.

Alderman Sharkey stated, we need to maybe set up an Aldermanic subcommittee just to look at this to get further information and report back to this, or maybe future legal action against the Regional Water Authority?

President Blume stated, well, not to omit anybody, but the Mayor, myself and Tom Clifford have been into this for eight or nine months already.

Alderman Sharkey stated, I'm just saying, rather than do nothing...

President Blume stated, we're doing this constantly. I just wanted to tell you that we hit a wall, and perhaps the next step is court. You know? Put the money in an escrow account that earns interest, and force them to go to court.

Alderman Kolakowski stated, the State's Attorney's Office knows of this situation also, correct?

President Blume stated Regional Water Authority is out of New Haven - right on Long Wharf. It's a nice building; beautiful building. We are working on it. We are disgusted. Perhaps this should go out to the media. There are other towns, I have no idea what they're paying and everybody is just taking a beating on this. But out of the whole State, this little town, Ansonia and Derby are getting killed.

Executive Session

At approximately 7:42 p.m., Alderman Jeanette MOVED to enter Executive Session to discuss the following item:

1. Thomas P. Swan v. City of Ansonia
2. Pending litigation

And further, invited Mayor James DellaVolpe, Chief of Police Kevin Hale, Attorney Joseph McQuade and Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake to remain in the Aldermanic Chambers; SECONDED by Alderman Maynard. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Return to Regular Session

At approximately 7:56 p.m., Alderman Nihill MOVED to return to regular session; SECONDED by Alderman Banks. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

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1. Thomas P. Swan v. City of Ansonia

Alderman Fainer MOVED, with respect to the three matters regarding Thomas Swan v. City of Ansonia, to accept the recommendation of Counsel to proceed with resolution of these claims; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Adjournment

Alderman Banks MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Alderman Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary
Ansonia Board of Aldermen