



CITY OF ANSONIA BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Regular Meeting – July 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
Robert Duffus, D1 - absent
Jason Bender, D2 - absent
James Fainer, D2 - present
Gale Banks, D3- present
Joseph Jeanette, D3- present
Keith Maynard, D4 - absent

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 8 present, 6 absent.

Consideration of Previous Minutes

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 9, 2009 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Jerome Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Public Session

Tim O'Reilly, 20 Richard Street

I run the football and cheerleading program in town and I have a couple of questions. I'm not really familiar with all the policies about how different boards and everything operate. When a rule is stated in town, and a directive is made on ways that things are supposed to be filed at City Hall, the Aldermen or the Zoning Commission, how is the process gone about that? Because right now I got a little problem that I'm working with. Every time that I go to a Rec Board meeting, I'm thrown a new rule that I don't know anything about. I run the football program and cheerleading program which is the biggest organization that we have for the kids in Ansonia. I don't have a problem following rules - rules are easy to follow as long as I know what they are. But every single time I go to a meeting, there's a new rule thrown out that I'm supposed to follow that I don't know anything about. Quite frankly, it happens

to the baseball guys, anybody at the meeting who's running their programs, and it's scared off people in the past, and it's getting ready to scare some more people off. The problem we have is the volunteer group that runs these programs is very, very small. So the people we have in these positions need to stay, 'cause if they don't have them, there won't be programs.

So, my question is, and I'm sure it's probably different for the Board of Aldermen than it is the Board of Rec, but if something is stated as a rule, 'cause this right here is our by-laws that we follow, everything, supposedly, that we're supposed to follow is written in this book right here, this eight-page book. So we follow it to the T. But every time we turn around we have some kind of thing, some kind of conflict that the Board of Rec has with what we're doing, and right now the City of Ansonia is actually in hot water with American Youth Football because we're supposed to have a coaches' certification tonight, and we turned in last Tuesday our list of coaches and for some reason they denied it, but there was never a statement of why it was denied. We're trying to get together with them to resolve the issue, but they don't want to get together until the 18th, but according to my AYF guys that are the ones that, you know, when we voted to switch leagues we follow their rules, I'm supposed to have people there tonight. So according to their rules I'm going to get fined for this. So the question is, when rules are stated in the minutes at a meeting, if somebody says, "I think we should do this or do that," does that automatically become a rule?

This is my book. Last meeting I was out of town on vacation. Somebody at the Rec Board meeting said that I was given a ton of paperwork. When we switched from Pop Warner to AYF, Marie Kasuba wrote this manual up, which is our by-laws. We made some changes in it over the last two years to correlate with what the Board of Rec has said that we're supposed to follow, but it's getting really, really difficult to run a program every time you turn around there's something going on. I think that's for all programs in this town.

Alderman Jeanette asked, does it have something to do with coaches?

Mr. Oreilly replied, this one does have to do with coaches, but there's plenty...

Alderman Jeanette interjected, if I'm not mistaken, and I'm not 100 percent sure, I think there are City rules that overstep that as far as City residents having preference over people that don't live in the City for coaching openings and stuff like that. If I'm not mistaken, the guys at the Rec Board can clear that up, I thought there was something there.

Mr. Oreilly stated, there's nothing in my guidelines that I follow.

Alderman Jeanette stated, there might be something in the City's rules.

Mr. Oreilly stated, that is the question that I have.

Alderman Jeanette stated, you should get a copy of the City rules that pertain to things like that.

Alderman Kolakowski asked, so those guidelines are ones that you made up or the City ones?

Mr. Oreilly replied, these are the ones that were made up by Marie Kasuba three years ago, given to the Board of Rec and approved by the Board of Rec, handed back to us as, these are the guidelines we follow to run the program. Nothing else has ever been turned over.

Now, I have a real problem right now because I'm honest, Joe knows me, if I've got an issue I'm going to tell you about it. We had a coaches meeting to meet with all the people that wanted to be coaches. Three people showed up. That afternoon, two hours later, we're doing sign-ups for kids. So now we're there for five hours during the day on a Saturday, you know, taking time out of our day as volunteers do. The guy that's in question shows up at the sign-ups and says, "Listen, I want to come back and help, but I don't want to be a head coach." That's fine. We want you to help. We don't want anybody to leave, we really don't. So now you want to be an assistant coach. "Yeah, I want to be an assistant coach." Great. So we put our five coaches in place and he back-doors everybody and goes to a buddy on the Board of Rec and determines that he wants to be a head coach. So now, without us knowing about it, we show up with our things in a timely manner so that we can meet our specs for tonight, they had these coaches there, and then they say no. And right in our by-laws, it states that if you have a problem or a grievance, the first person you go to is the head coach. And if that's not solved, which we don't have any head coaches right now, you go to the football coordinator or cheerleading coordinator. Then you go to the Board. Then you go to Jeff Coppola and then you go to the Recreation Department. So, and I don't want to get myself into hot water, but right now there are two problems. He back-doored, and then the Board of Rec didn't say, "Come talk to us."

Alderman Jeanette asked, your board selects the head coaches?

Mr. Oreilly replied, yes, we select them, and approved by the Board of Recreation. The whole thing is that when you're trying to run a program, it needs to be timely and efficient. Football is very demanding when it comes to the things that have to be done. You have to have meetings up in Newtown every month. They're supposed to be in Brewster, New York right now for certifications. You've got football equipment, you've got coaches, you've got all sorts of stuff that goes on. It's not one of these things where you walk in for two hours a week and then you're done. It's a lot of stuff. Last year when I took it over I made a book up that says the dates that everything needs to be started on and when they need to be completed to be able to meet the requirements by all parties. And we did that. And I had everything in line, and the guy back-doored us and went right to the Board of Rec and now we're out of line and the City of Ansonia's going to get fined. It's an ongoing thing.

Again, the question lies, when a rule is made, because this has happened before where they discuss stuff across the table and then somehow it's a rule.

President Blume stated, I understand what you're saying. I don't know the answer.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, first of all we should have Corporation Counsel Blake look at both the by-laws and the Recreation Commission guidelines. We should make sure our coaches are certified and qualified because we don't want to get too far behind in regards to AYF. I'll certainly call AYF and see if I can help straighten this problem out. I don't want our kids to be deprived of playing and starting on time. The most important thing is our children to make sure they're participating in this program. We have to put all this aside and get people in there who want to coach and who are chosen to coach and we've got to get this straightened out between this association and the Rec Board. We've got to do it in a timely manner. I'm going to ask Corporation Counsel Blake to look into it starting tomorrow.

Alderman Jeanette asked, is there another date for them to be certified?

Mr. Oreilly replied, not as of now, but there's going to have to be. I talked to the guy today and he said you've got to be certified.

Alderman Jeanette asked, do they have another date before you start?

Mr. Oreilly stated, no, it's one date and everybody knows about it way in advance. There is nobody there from Ansonia. We don't have any coaches - none of them have been approved. You can pay the fee to have them certified and send them up there, but then if they get knocked off, you're just wasting money.

The real issue is, we've gone through this many, many times with this Board and quite frankly it's very aggravating. The few people that we can get to volunteer right now are talking about just saying, "Listen, let the Board of Rec handle the football program because every time we do anything..." - we're like glorified secretaries. We say something, they say no. We have to do it their way but we have to fill out all the paperwork and file all the stuff, so they're actually at the point where they're getting ready to say, "Do we want to walk away." And we don't want that.

President Blume stated, we'll let the Mayor's Office handle this along with Corporation Counsel Blake.

Steve Kichar, Vice Chairman, Ansonia Recreation Commission

I don't want to get into nothing here, I don't think this is the place or the time. This football board quit on us in January. I handled the first three months of

the meetings for American Youth Football and Cheer. Their by-laws come to us every year. They were actually written by Mr. Jeanette and Marie Kasuba over five years ago when Mr. Jeanette ran our program.

As far as how we make rules and regulations for the Rec Commission, we hand them out to every director for every one of our programs. Jo-Lynn Flaherty was our secretary, has handed them out to football, to baseball, to basketball, to soccer, numerous times. They choose not to follow them for the most part. As far as our commission going, the reason we did not approve the coaches at the last meeting is because we have been requesting a coaches meeting with the football board and the coaches since last December. If I'm not mistaken, we're in July. We never got it. Now Jeff Coppola has approached them numerous times about a meeting. I've asked Mr. Oreilly myself, personally, at least three times to get a meeting with all the coaches. I don't know what more we can do.

As far as the kids go, and the programs go, and I'm trying to stay calm right now, believe me. Our Commission is totally out for the kids. The problem that we have is that people that run our programs and I'm going to be very blunt, some of our programs, have personal agendas with people in our programs. They have personal agendas against kids and they're not all there for the kids. For the most part, the football board is, I will say that, and they do a good job, they work really hard and they put a lot of time in. Having to go to meetings in January, February, March, and April, Mr. Coppola went with me twice, I was surprised and overwhelmed at what they actually have to do to keep the program going year-round, and I'll be the first to admit that. But we had no football board until June because they quit because they didn't like certain things that the Rec Commission was doing.

Now, as far as following rules and regulations, members of their own board last year put their kids on teams illegally when they didn't belong there. It's grade-orientated set forth by the Rec Commission. Members of their own board put their children on the sixth grade team when they belonged on a fifth grade team, and we were short players on the fifth grade team. So I mean, we can stand here all night and argue. What I would like to personally do is sit down with Mr. Blake, maybe Mayor Della Volpe and get this resolved with a couple members of the Board. I think that this is foolish even bringing this to you. The coaches that have been brought to the Rec Commission are all good coaches. The problem that we have is that in our rules and regulations if you are a head coach you can return as a head coach next year unless there is something in writing and documented that you did not do a good job or you were not fair to the children. We have gotten nothing about that from any coach. A coach came to our Rec meeting and stated to us he wasn't given an opportunity to come back and coach. As a board, we're supposed to look into it. That's what we did. Mr. Beet (sp?) represented the Board at that June Rec meeting and Mr. Beet requested from us that we get together July 18th which is this Saturday. Mr. Piro is the only member of the Rec Board here that's with me. You can go through the minutes and see that. We said that was fine, we'll meet Saturday the 18th with your Board, with all the coaches and we'll get this

resolved. We just want what's best for the kids. But you know, personally, I'm really sick and tired of people taking shots at the Rec Board when these people for the most part are out for themselves, and it's not about the kids. It's our job to make sure it is about the kids. I know some of the Aldermen personally and I know some of them not that well. But I can assure you if there's anybody in this room that knows me they know that I'm out for the kids. I have no children in the program; I have no agenda. I'm not even from Ansonia; I'm a Derby boy. There's not much more I can say than that. If you have any questions about anything about my commission I'll be happy to answer it. But I don't like my commission getting shots taken at, especially with a person like Mr. Smith who has been with us for I would have to say 50, 60 years and has got to be one of the nicest guys in the world. We don't back-door anybody with rules and regulations. They don't follow them. They don't even follow their own.

Corporation Counsel Blake [inaudible].

That was tabled at our last meeting because the Rec Commission wants to change from last year. We approved it last year but that was brought to our attention to be approved for this year at the June meeting. We tabled it to our next meeting 'cause the commission wants to look over it and there are things that we want to change in that. The only way we could do that would be to table it, sit as a group and do it, and then vote on it the next month. 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

At 10 a.m. tomorrow the Ansonia Business Council and the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce are going to have a press conference out in front of City Hall for a kickoff campaign for Getting to Know Us. These are a bunch of downtown merchants who put together a pamphlet that was mailed out with all the tax bills that lists their address. It's a promotion to try to get people to visit our downtown businesses. If anybody's available we'd appreciate if you would be there.

Last week I met with the Mayors and First Selectmen of Fairfield County and the Valley in regard to the transportation stimulus money which we are looking forward to so we can start paving our roads. We met with the DOT Commissioner and he informed us that it doesn't look like we'll be receiving the monies until the fall, which unfortunately will be too late to start the paving for this year. It looks like we won't be getting any stimulus money in regard to transportation until next spring. It's very frustrating on everybody's part. All the Mayors and First Selectmen are ready to go, but unfortunately the

money is being funneled through the State and for whatever reason, it's not reaching the local levels, not just Ansonia but almost every city and town in the State. We'll continue to work on that.

Yesterday our new website, www.cityofansoniam.com was put up. I'd like to thank Rich Bshara and Eileen Krugel who put a lot of time and a lot of effort into getting this website up and running. It's extremely informative. I think everybody should visit it. I recommend to the Board of Aldermen that if you have any information from within your ward or any events that you do have, please contact Eileen, Rich or Beth in my office so that we can get it on the website. Again, it's very informative, it lists all the departments, it has a calendar, the meetings, the list of commissioners throughout the City. We're looking forward to getting feedback from the Board of Aldermen and the citizens of Ansonia.

Alderman Jim Fainer stated, I didn't get my tax bill yet, and I guess there was some kind of problem. When will they come?

Mayor Della Volpe stated, the tax bills went out last week. There were four towns that the company that contracted with sending the tax bills out had made a mistake and they were four days late in getting to the residents. I know they started coming out to the residents last week.

Alderman Fainer stated, I got it for the car.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, real estate is starting to come out, later last week and earlier this week - you should get it any day. I got mine yesterday. It was a mistake, four towns were affected and we were one of them. Unfortunately, according to the Charter we can't put an extension on when the payment is due. In other words, if you get the bill on July 14th, you can't go to August 14th. All tax bills are due August 3rd. There was no tax increase, so everybody knows that they're paying the same taxes as they did last year.

President Blume stated, thank you very much.

Corporation Counsel Blake

There was a new law passed effective October 1st regarding blighted properties. There are more and more blighted properties and more and more houses that just grass is growing. Once the house gets foreclosed, there's a period of time with respect to that new owner has to fix up, do something with it, or then we can do a tax bill and fine them. There is something that gets to the new owner, unfortunately. We haven't had any help from federal government regarding trying to fix up the properties when they're in foreclosure. We'll be working on it and going to the ordinance committee with a proposal to set up for this new law that's effective October 1st.

I have one late communication regarding a tax appeal of the tax assessment for the Stop & Shop property. We were in court yesterday with Judge Levine, and I'd like to talk briefly in executive session about it.

Alderman Jerome Fainer asked, what is the story on the house on Howard Avenue that burned?

Corporation Counsel Blake replied, I don't have anything on that; I'll talk with Mr. Marganski tonight after this meeting. I'll let you know on this thing regarding Division Street. We were in court on that.

President Blume thanked Corporation Counsel Blake.

Chief Hale, Ansonia Police Department

It's been a busy summer so far. Obviously the murder case was solved very quickly. We're still investigating a robbery and an assault that occurred a couple of weeks ago.

We've been having a problem with our telephone system. Our system is quite antiquated - the old Merlin system. I've been working with Mr. Bshara on that and we're looking to replace that at some point in the near future. We have a quote and we're working with AT&T on that. We'll bring you up to speed as more information comes in.

We're also going to be launching something I've wanted to do for a long time. We have an officer trained in Crime Prevention and will begin a Crime Prevention initiative - we'll provide safety tips for our residents and businesses - and it's actually much more than that. It really is quite expansive but we're going to have to start slow. Officer Esposito has taken interest in that and he's trained through the U.S. Attorney's Office. We met with him last week; he did a real nice PowerPoint presentation for us. We're going to be moving forward on that.

Alderman Jerome Fainer stated, it's nice out now so I see people and they've raised a few concerns. The first one is Pine Lot after hours. We have it posted that the parks are closed after hours. They say there have been a lot of kids hanging out there.

Chief Hale stated, there is one sign there on each end.

Alderman Fainer stated, if we could step up on that. I got a call from Steve on Saturday - did somebody get assaulted or beat up by some gang kids in there?

Chief Hale replied, I wouldn't go as far as calling it a gang. We're having an issue with some youths. We've made an arrest and a juvenile referral on one last week. There was an incident - I don't know if it's actually been reported yet. We've got information that there may have been a second incident.

Alderman Fainer continued, that brings us to the next one - visibility. I see Wakelee Avenue, Division Street, Clifton Avenue, but as far as going through the neighborhoods, I personally never see any squad cars going through there, and the people asked that once in a while they come through.

Chief Hale stated, well there should be - they're assigned to that stretch around the clock.

Alderman Fainer stated, I see cars parked on the wrong sides of the street, bulk on the streets. This is another complaint - our ward trash pickup is on Thursday. There is trash going out on the sidewalks Monday, Tuesday - you know, people have issues with it, it's summertime, the dogs knock it over.

Chief Hale stated, I would ask that they would call the police. The officers know there's a 24 hour - they may not automatically know it's Thursday.

Alderman Fainer stated, 19 Howard Avenue, since the last meeting there has been bulk on the sidewalk. There's cabinets, old tires. It's been out there since last month's meeting. I was waiting for somebody to pick it up. And the other one is parking too close to the corners - everywhere - it's a visibility problem. So if they could enforce that 25 feet from curb.

There are three stop signs by my house and one in 10 stops at any of them. The one going from Rufus - nobody stops at that one, it's like a rolling stop. Maybe someday between like 4 and 5 o'clock somebody could park around the corner. You know, you should get a couple of them with a ticket. Cedar onto Rufus nobody stops, Francis onto Rufus, nobody stops. And there's a bunch of young kids hanging out there at night - 9, 10 o'clock at night. I hope no kid gets hurt. If you could take care of some of that for me I'd appreciate it.

Chief Hale stated, I'll bring that to the Supervisors' attention.

Alderman Fainer stated, people say they call and nobody comes. I call them and identify myself; I have a scanner too and I listen. If I don't hear any calls and they're not there for 20 minutes, I call back. I know you're busy.

Alderman James Fainer stated, if you could send the Police car that sits at Falcon Hall or in the church parking lot and it does a good job. So when they're finished with our Ward maybe you can send them to Jerome's Ward.

Alderman Jeanette stated, at the girls' field - Nelligan Park - the neighbors called me and said there are kids hanging out in the parking lot, they're loud. There used to be a gate there. [inaudible].

Alderman Kolakowski stated, the cut through coming from Derby on the hilltop, it's North Coe, Finney and Farrel - we see cars in the winter cutting through, dropping kids off, going to work. But now in the summer you see a lot of young kids that are off from school, and they're driving down those three

streets pretty fast. With the kids being out of school you see one of the streets has sidewalks and the other two, Finney and North Coe don't, so you see the kids in the street. You see these cars coming really fast.

Chief Hale asked, is one worse than the other?

Alderman Kolakowski replied, Finney and Farrell. For whatever reason they come down from Sunset and cross over and miss the light, so they come racing up Farrell and there's no stop sign when you come from Sunset from Derby, and they come around that corner really fast. There are a lot of young kids right in that immediate area and somebody's going to get hit.

Alderman Nihill stated, mine can wait, but North Spring Street - some day when you're looking to look at parking. It's a nightmare there with the bar traffic. You almost want to look into maybe one-way there. You get people parked there and there's no way you can get two cars.

Chief Hale stated, the road really narrows by the bar and there's also a lawnmower shop there. There are a number of multi-family homes and not enough off street parking.

Alderman Banks asked if Public Works could go around the city and cut down the sneakers that hang over the wires.

She stated, I had to report a domestic dispute so I identified myself and there were three Police officers that came very quickly.

President Blume thanked Chief Hale.

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.

Fire Committee - Alderman Gene Sharkey

Approximately two weeks ago a group of City officials traveled to Wisconsin for a pre-final inspection on the newest fire truck that's going to be added to the fleet. It was a very productive trip and I want to say the final inspection will take place next week. The truck should arrive in Connecticut approximately a week and a half after that.

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

ARMS Committee - Alderman Jerome Fainer

I gave all of the Aldermen a copy of the 2007-08 comparison to 2008-09 for collections and charges - for your information.

In the month of June, we dispatched 197 calls, we transported 137 patients. We billed out \$72,719 and collected \$45,694. For the fiscal year 2008-09 we collected a total of \$626,280.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to accept the report; SECONDED by Alderman Banks. 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 \$1,003.80 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Claims

06-09-741 Marge Brown

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to refer the claim to the Claims Committee and Corporation Counsel Blake; SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

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

Communication #1

From: Chairman Randolph Carroll, Historical Commission

Re: Annual Essay Contest

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to accept the communication and place on file; SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski .

Mayor Della Volpe stated, I had the fortune of attending the ceremony when the grammar school students were presented with their awards for writing the essays. Downstairs on an easel in the lobby are the essays of the top three winners. We've had it on display for the last few weeks and will have it on display until the end of July.

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

Communication #2

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

Re: Recommendation of the Charter Revision Commission

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to approve the question for the November 3, 2009 ballot as recommended by the Charter Revision Commission:

Revise Section 42 as to the process of the transfer of the City's proposed budget from the Board of Aldermen to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation.

And further, approve the direct printing of the explanatory text; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, there was a public hearing. No one showed up from the public. The public hearing was closed pursuant to the Statute. The explanatory text will be sent to Secretary of State regarding the change. It will be published once. In order to be approved and go forward you have to have a majority vote of the entire Board - eight affirmative votes.

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

Communication #3

From: Chairman Alfonso Smith, Recreation Commission

Re: Bid Award for Football Equipment and Reconditioning

Alderman Kolakowski MOVED per the recommendation of the Recreation Commission to award the bid to Stadium Systems; SECONDED by Alderman Jerome Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Late Communications

Alderman Nihill MOVED to deviate from the agenda to consider Late Communication #1 - Ansonia E & A, LLC v. City of Ansonia; 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: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake

Re: Ansonia E & A, LLC v. City of Ansonia

To be discussed in Executive Session.

Resignations

None presented.

Appointments

None presented.

Resolutions

Resolution #1: Federal JAG Grant through U.S. Department of Justice

Alderman Jerome Fainer MOVED to adopt Resolution #1; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

R E S O L U T I O N

Aldermen James Fainer, Joseph Jeanette and Scott Nihill of the Second, Third and Sixth Wards, Respectively, introduced the following Resolution:

Resolved,

U.S. Department of Justice
JAG Federal Grant Program through the State of Connecticut

WHEREAS, the Police Department of the City of Ansonia has received a grant through the U.S. Department of Justice JAG Federal Grant Program administered by the State of Connecticut; and

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that Mayor James T. Della Volpe is hereby authorized to make, execute and approve on behalf of the City of Ansonia any and all contracts and amendments and to execute and approve on behalf of this municipality other instruments a part of or incident to such contracts and amendments, effective until otherwise ordered by the Board of Aldermen.

Resolution #2: Opposition to the Closing of the Derby Courthouse

Alderman Nihill MOVED to adopt Resolution #2; SECONDED by Alderman Sharkey. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

R E S O L U T I O N

All Aldermen of all Wards introduced the following Resolution:

Resolved,

WHEREAS, the City of Ansonia is served by the Derby Courthouse located at 106 Elizabeth Street in Derby which provides convenient and efficient access to the Judicial Branch of the State of Connecticut for the residents and officials of the City of Ansonia; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Revised 2009 Budget Proposal calls for the closing of the Derby Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, the closing of the Derby Courthouse would adversely affect the residents of the City of Ansonia in that its residents will need to travel to further locations to conduct Court business and for jury service; and

WHEREAS, the closing of the Derby Courthouse will adversely affect the budget of the City of Ansonia in that officials of the City of Ansonia, such as police officers, who need to conduct business with the Court will need to travel longer distances and therefore expend additional time outside of the City of Ansonia causing further expenditures from the City of Ansonia's Budget; and

WHEREAS, residents of the City of Ansonia are employed by the Judicial Branch at the Derby Courthouse and therefore their jobs may be in jeopardy; and

WHEREAS, the presence of the Derby Courthouse in the Valley is beneficial to the economy of the area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Aldermen of the City of Ansonia vigorously opposes the closing of the Derby Courthouse and urges Governor Jodi Rell and members of the Connecticut General Assembly to take all actions necessary to cause the Derby Courthouse to remain open for the benefit of the City of Ansonia and its residents and for all of the people of the Lower Naugatuck Valley.

Alderman Nihill MOVED to send a letter voicing our disapproval of the closing of the Derby Courthouse, accompanied by a copy of the Resolution, to Governor Rell, our local State Representatives, the Speaker of the House, and the President of the Senate; SECONDED by Alderman Banks. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Unfinished Business

None presented.

New Business

Alderman Kolakowski asked, is there something in the City that if a City employee owns a separate business and charges supplies for his business to the City's account, and it's brought to a supervisor's attention, and the supervisor says "Make it right, go pay the bill," and nothing will be done. And the bill is not paid, and the business owner has to come to City Hall to get paid, finds out it's not a City expense, it's an individual's private business expense. What is the procedure on this? Is it left up to the Supervisor? Is it brought to the Mayor's attention? Is it brought to Corporation Counsel Blake's attention?

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, if it's dealing with a specific individual, I don't know if this person is union, non-union, I'd need more information. I'm not sure we'd want to present it today because if that person is a union employee, and they have rights under the union contract if there is any allegation.

Alderman Kolakowski stated, it's a union hypothetical question.

Mayor Della Volpe stated, it would be handled by the department. The department would have a fact finding, find out what the facts are, both sides, then bring it to their commission. Their commission would make a determination on their discipline if any is to be handed out. The fact finding should be held by the supervisor.

Corporation Counsel Blake stated, I agree with that.

Alderman James Fainer MOVED to cancel the regularly-scheduled meeting of the Board of Aldermen in August; SECONDED by Alderman Jerome Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Alderman Jeanette stated, on Elm Street where they're building a day care center. On Elm Street they went to put pipes in the road or something and there's a big hole there, and it's getting worse by the day. I don't know who did that contracting work, but if they could repair that I'd appreciate it.

Executive Session

At approximately 7:50 p.m., Alderman Sharkey MOVED to enter Executive Session to discuss the following item:

Ansonia E & A, LLC v. City of Ansonia

And further, invited Mayor Della Volpe, Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake and Mr. Bshara to remain in the Aldermanic Chambers; SECONDED by Alderman James Fainer. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Return to Regular Session

At approximately 7:55 p.m. Alderman Sharkey MOVED to return to regular session; SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Late Communication #1

From: Corporation Counsel Kevin Blake
Re: Ansonia E & A, LLC v. City of Ansonia

Alderman Sharkey MOVED to accept the recommended settlement proposal between Ansonia E & A, LLC and City of Ansonia for tax assessment regarding the October 1, 2007 Grand List by approximately \$1 million set forth in the stipulation of judgment; and further,

MOVED to authorize Mayor James Della Volpe to sign any and all documents to effectuate same; SECONDED by Alderman Kolakowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary
Ansonia Board of Aldermen