



**CITY OF ANSONIA
BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting – December 9, 2014

RECEIVED FOR FILE
15 JAN 12 AM 9:20

Asst. Paula Branch
TOWN AND CITY CLERK
ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Ansonia Board of Aldermen was called to order at 7 p.m. by Aldermanic President Philip Tripp. All those present rose and pledged allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Roll Call

The secretary called the roll:

Edward Adamowski, D1– present
Charles Stowe, R1 – present
Philip Tripp, R2 – present
Lorie Vaccaro, R2 – present
Denice Hunt, D3 – absent
Joseph Jeanette, D3– absent
Anthony DeLucia, D4 – present

Jerome Fainer, D4 – absent
Anthony Cassetti, R5 – absent
Joan Radin, R5 – present
Matthew Edo, R6– present
Patrick Henri, R6 – present
David Blackwell, Jr., R7 – present
Daniel Evans, R7 - present

President Tripp declared a quorum of 10 present, 4 absent.

Consideration of Previous Minutes

Alderman Edo MOVED to accept the minutes of the November 10, 2014 Regular Board Meeting; SECONDED by Alderman Vaccaro. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Public Session

President Tripp asked if any member of the public wished to speak.

Randolph Carroll, 40 Fourth Street

When I was Chairman of the Historical Commission, the City Assessor told me she has aerial photographs that were taken in the 1960s of the whole City. There are books in her office and she wants to get rid of them. As a former member of the Historical Commission, I looked at a couple of those books. Number one, Hilltop, it's all woods and farms. It would be a tragedy if those books were thrown out.

President Tripp stated, they are not being thrown out, I will tell you that right now.

Mr. Carroll stated, my suggestion is that we transfer those books from her office to the empty vault in the basement next to Carol Forcier's office and preserve them for the Historical Commission. How can we do that, what would we need to do?

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, we would ask the Tax Assessor to transfer them to the vault. No action is needed here.

President Tripp stated, they will be transferred to the vault.

Mr. Carroll asked, and they will be donated to the Historical Commission?

Mayor Cassetti replied, yes.

Art Cruciani, 133 West Street, Seymour

I'm on the agenda, so what do I do?

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, you are on the agenda under Executive Session because it's a claim. If you would like to stick around for the Executive Session, we can invite you in and you can talk to the Board.

Mr. Cruciani replied, beautiful, thank you.

First Assistant Fire Chief Scott Tremblay, 3 Catalina Drive

I'm here to ask for your support for correspondence that will come before you tonight from the Fire Commission to request the purchase of a new fire engine. It's needed to replace current Engine 6, which is a 1991 pumper truck. That truck is 23 years old and is the oldest piece in our fleet. Being a property owner on the West Side where I grew up and my current home on the Hilltop, I'm fully aware of the tax burden that's been placed on the homeowners in our City, but this is an investment in our public safety that cannot be avoided. It's imperative that the Department have safe and reliable apparatus to protect our firefighters and our citizens. The members of the truck building committee for Company 6 have worked diligently to reach a spec that will deliver a state of the art, safe, and effective apparatus. They have also worked hard to do this in the most cost effective way possible by building an engine that contains no frills and is 100 percent workhorse. They have been in contact with the Finance Department to work on the best way to finance the purchase. Thank you for your consideration.

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

Public Official Session

Mayor David Cassetti

Good evening. This month marks a significant milestone. It has now been one year since our administration has been sworn in to office. I am please to say that it has been a year full of positive changes and progress for the City. I want to thank all of the members of this Board for your hard work. You are making Ansonia a better place every day. However this is no time to rest on our laurels. We've had a whole year to warm up. Now it's time to get to really get to work. The next year will bring more positive changes for the City. Before you is a list of new board and commission appointments, including a reformed version of the Board of Apportionment and Taxation, along with additions to the Planning & Zoning Commission and Police Commission. It is always encouraging to welcome fresh faces into our City government. Please join me in wishing our newest commissioners luck in their new positions. Of course, it is equally important that we recognize the contributions of those whose tours of duty on board and commissions will be ending this month. I would particularly like to recognize and thank Bart Flaherty for his many years of fireless service to the City as Chairman of the Planning & Zoning Commission. I also want to thank all those who previously served on the Board of Apportionment and Taxation. It is a difficult and often thankless job. I want you to know that your efforts did not go unappreciated. Finally, I want to thank Jerome Fainer for his service as 4th Ward Alderman for 8.5 years. His commitment to the City of Ansonia is to be commended. I wish him well.

Now, let's look forward to the New Year and the new opportunity for Ansonia. First on the agenda is a project long overdue – the creation of a Master Development Plan for the City. We will have a vision for the future of Ansonia, but for so long we have been without a solid blueprint to get there. I believe that a professional plan, along with the revisions to our zoning regulations, will help Ansonia attract and retain the right kinds of businesses. This is a large-scale effort that will require the participation of our residents, Planning & Zoning Boards, and I asked our Economic Development Director and Corporation Counsel to begin work immediately to prepare for this project. Speaking of the future of Ansonia.

I am pleased to report that Denovo Demolition has mobilized equipment in preparation for tomorrow's demolition of 30,000 square feet of Ansonia Copper and Brass site. This work is being done pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding that the City entered into with ACB last summer. This is a significant concrete step toward the eventual reconstruction of the 40-plus acre site that has been largely left abandoned and neglected. We are transforming blighted industrial space into a blank canvas on which the future of economic development will be painted. Our goal is to continue to process a remediation and demolition across the City, further expanding that blank canvas for future opportunities.

I want to congratulate Sherrod McNeill on being awarded Assistant Principal of the Year. Our children deserve the best and it is encouraging to have Mr. McNeill recognized formally as an incredible educator.

Finally, I want to wish each and every one of you a happy and health holiday season. I hope everyone has prepared their wish list for the holiday season; I know I have. My wish for the upcoming year is a further tax reduction for the citizens of Ansonia. In preparation for that, I am in the process of preparing the City's first ever Mayor's budget that I will share with you next year. A friendly reminder, the Mayor's Holiday Party for staff is Wednesday, December 17th at 11:30. I hope to see you there. Thank you very much.

Corporation Counsel John Marini

As you know, we have a very robust new blight ordinance and Blight staff that has been very actively trying to clean up Ansonia. I want to formally recognize the addition of a new member of that team - Ann Henderson, who is a transfer from the Library, who is our full-time Blight Clerk. Together she and our Zoning and Blight Enforcement Officers Dave Blackwell and Nick Behun, also with help from Public Works in the form of Mike Eheman, have been going on an expanded number of calls.

Tonight you have a new Ordinance on the table for your consideration that will add a powerful new tool toward our fight against blight. An ordinance dealing with the removal of abandoned, inoperable and unregistered motor vehicles from private property. For a long time we've had to stand by while violators abuse the laws and kept numerous unregistered or abandoned vehicles on the property. Oftentimes they become safety hazard with children or animals playing inside. This gives the City a system to get those vehicles off the property in a timely fashion while still affording the owners due process and protections.

Almost a year ago, we entered into an agreement with Bus Shield to equip our buses with cameras. The idea was to catch violators and to ticket them. We did not know at the time that the company Bus Shield was really ill-equipped to handle this job in Connecticut. Believe it or not the Connecticut Statutes require, for the processing of a ticket, the validity, not only that there be a camera and that the event is caught on the camera, but that someone is actually viewing the offense in real time - whether it be the bus driver who then signs an affidavit afterward that they've seen it - which kind of defeats the purpose of having the camera - or someone actually watching a live screen. Bus Shield did not have the capability to comply with Connecticut law. There are other companies out there that can. In Connecticut there really is only one - a company called Red Flex - they have an off-site operation elsewhere in the United States where there are banks of monitors that their staff can see someone passing a bus stop sign in real time, and therefore provide the information - the backup we need - to successfully prosecute on the tickets. Red Flex has a lot of other great advantages as well. It's 100 percent

funded by the violators. There are no up-front costs. The split with the City is completely comparable to Bus Shield. They've been successful in a lot of other communities including Trumbull and areas in Fairfield County, and even up here – they've recently come into Seymour. We have before you tonight a contract with Red Flex. They're going to do a survey for us similar to what Bus Shield had done, to make sure we understand what the scope of our problem is. If that goes according to plan, we could have cameras on the buses by no later than February or March.

Tax collection – there have been some articles in the paper recently about the efforts that Derby has been making with tax collection. I want to let the Board know that while it's been a little more under the radar, we've had a lot of successes here in Ansonia with tax collection as well, in particular, tax sales. In the last two months we've had eight tax sales that generated over \$307,000 in taxes. We have also had three redemptions in the last couple of months that generated over \$100,000. We are still working with the Tax Office to improve tax collection on delinquent accounts, improve the amount of redemptions. These are people that decide to pay off their taxes rather than see the property go to a tax sale.

Union negotiations with the Police Department are still under way.

As the Mayor mentioned, there is going to be some hard work to do in terms of prepping a Master Plan for the City. How that differs from the last economic development plan we looked at – really we're going to be looking at some very hard changes to the Zoning regulations. That is going to require a very cooperative relationship between our Board and Planning & Zoning.

Chief of Staff Christopher Tymniak

You have a copy of my monthly personnel report. I want to highlight that we are working on three retirements – two of which I think are on the Board of Aldermen agenda tonight.

I want to thank all the residents and staff of City Hall and Board of Aldermen members who might have put food in the food bins we had out. We delivered it to the Ansonia Food Bank. The day before Thanksgiving it was a welcome sight – the shelves were actually literally empty when we got there. We filled three full shelves with all of the donations we had. If I were to guess because I carried it, I'd probably say somewhere around 300 lbs. of food.

I want to remind everyone that we are doing the TEAM Toy Drive with a holiday collection bin in the main entry of City Hall. I encourage you to drop off a toy and make a child happy on Christmas day.

About two weeks ago the Mayor, myself, Shiela O'Malley and Alderman Pat Henri went to the opening of The Workplace. I want to let everybody know that there is a state-of-the-art jobs facility and training facility here in Ansonia now. Anybody who

is out there searching for a job has a place here in town they can go to, get professional help on their resume, look at an active jobs board, enter a training program. Anybody can go there, it's walk-ins welcome. They will allow you to print your resume on resume paper and they will mail it off to the appropriate company. They will pay for postage, you can use their fax machine, you can use their printers, you can use their camera, their scanner. It's a great asset. I encourage anybody, especially the Board of Aldermen – if you have residents, citizens asking you where to find a job, encourage them all to go to The Workplace job training center. It's called the American Job Center at 4 Fourth Street.

Director of Economic Development Sheila O'Malley

Just to echo what the Mayor and Corporation Counsel said, we are going to begin work on a Master Development Plan, which will help with the development and redevelopment of downtown, specifically. Concurrently there will be an RFP in the paper for a grant we received from the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation. That grant is going to specifically look at the Armory and our two municipally owned buildings in the context of historic preservation and how they fit in with the downtown. Those plans hopefully will work hand-in-hand.

You have before you two resolutions - one is for a Transit-Oriented District Study linking the rail stations with Ansonia, Derby, Shelton and Seymour. I need your permission for the Mayor to enter into any contracts or agreements if we're successful with that grant – we're working with the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments on that.

The second resolution before you is the Emergency Management Performance Grant that the State distributes from the Federal government each year for emergency protective gear, etc.

Chief Kevin Hale

The Winter Parking Program began December 1st with parking on the even side of the streets through March 31st. There are some streets that have special rules but for the most part we're on the even side.

We recently made an arrest in a burglary that occurred some months ago on upper Main Street. We're working on a second one.

We don't have any specific complaints on these in general, but there are some scams going on in the area. We've heard of some people that are sharp enough to turn them down. A lot of them are focusing on the elderly. Talking to people in your Wards – one is that somebody will knock on the door, ask them to come outside and look at the roof, distract your attention while a second person goes in and ransacks the house. Also recently it's been reported that people are receiving phone calls from the IRS. The IRS doesn't operate that way. Another that's been

around for a while and is coming back is that an elderly person getting a call from somebody who says they're an associate of their grandchild who is out of state, saying that the grandchild just got arrested and there's a \$5,000 bond and they need to wire the money immediately. They don't know any better and they send the money. Again, please let people know they should really ask questions and make sure.

The bus camera system Red Flex is in operation in Torrington as well. Our bus company works in Torrington and they spoke very highly of this program. It's something we really need to get going. This is a company that's in probably two dozen cities and towns in Connecticut, so you know it works here following our laws.

Several weeks ago we had a drug raid right across the street on the 2nd floor – we hit two apartments very early on a Friday morning. It was a successful raid for the undercover unit, the officers, everybody. We continue to work on these issues in our neighborhoods and again, if you hear anything, if you have any information, we will gladly take the call, we will take anybody's information and let us determine if it's good information.

Superintendent of Schools Carol Merlone

I'd like to reiterate the words of the Mayor with regard to Sherrod McNeill - we are very proud of him. This is the second administrator we've had within four years that has been recognized at the State. In the Spring we will host a dinner for Mr. McNeill – we will let you know at that time.

There also was the Student Recognition Dinner last evening sponsored by the Superintendents of the Naugatuck Valley. We got together and we awarded students of excellence, two at the High School and two at the Middle School level. This tradition has been going on for 20 years now. They received the Connecticut Association of School Superintendents' Award at the Villa Bianca. Honored from Ansonia High School were two seniors – Ryan Cafaro and Tina Person. At the Middle School, eighth graders John Pacheco and Victoria Zelanin.

I am also pleased to report that Ansonia High School once again left its mark at the annual Valley's Got Talent competition. Senior football band player and chorus member Jevonne Lashley took home the top prize for the second year in a row performing a drum solo that even involved the sticks that were lit up. The junior band and chorus member Aaron Minopoli took home third prize with his rendition of Wish You Were Here where he played the piano and he sang. Others that represented Ansonia well were Andrew Godfrey, Mary Medero and Dequon Thomas.

This month the schools will be conducting the NWEA testing. That is the Northwest Evaluation Association testing. It is taking place in grades K through 11 between the dates of December 4th and December 19th.

On December 23rd we'll have early dismissal and the 24th we have off. During this week if you visit our website and our Facebook there is listed all the dates of the events happening in the schools. We have report card nights happening tonight at both elementary buildings and tomorrow as well. There is the Winter Concert I believe on Thursday night at Ansonia High School. Let's keep our fingers crossed for Saturday for our boys that they bring home another win. Everyone have a wonderful holiday.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Alderman Lorie Vaccaro

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

Public Works Committee – Alderman Charles Stowe

Everything is going good as far as I know. We were working on our budget and planning for next year. Everything's going good.

ARMS Committee – Alderman David Blackwell

For the month of November ARMS responded to 238 calls, 169 of those calls were transports to various area hospitals. We had two calls for mutual aid. We took in \$44,538.90. ARMS Volunteers covered 49 shifts equaling 294 hours of coverage in November. This coverage equates to a \$4,736 savings in salary over traditional part-time staffing. Year to date the volunteers covered 1,668 hours, the equivalent of \$26,871 in salary savings.

WPCA Committee – Alderman Charles Stowe

We're doing good with collections, running more efficiently every day. Brian Capozzi is here. He is going to give a little bit of a report, I believe, on the effects of Greenpoint. I don't know if it's Communication 3, if you want him to discuss it now or wait until then.

President Tripp stated, we'll wait until Communication #3.

Ordinance Committee – Alderman Matthew Edo

The Towing Ordinance is on the agenda.

Ansonia Housing Authority Committee – Alderman Joan Radin

I went to the last meeting and I believe I mentioned at our last meeting that the Emmett O'Brien Culinary group took care of a dinner buffet for the seniors in Ansonia Housing. I think they had about 40 people. They had it last month and they said the food was wonderful. They're going to have it again this month, I think it's Friday. Emmett O'Brien is hosting it and they do a wonderful job. I would like to commend them for doing it. Things seem to really be going well in Ansonia Housing.

Municipal Reports / Annual Reports

No action.

Tax Collector's Report and Request for Refunds

Alderman Edo MOVED to accept the report of the Tax Collector and pay the refunds in the amount of \$1,457.84 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Claims***Communications***

Alderman Radin MOVED to accept all of the communications, place them on file, and take them up in their order on the agenda; SECONDED by Alderman Edo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Communication #1

From: Corporation Counsel John Marini

Re: Lease Agreement for The Workplace and TEAM

See Resolution #5

Communication #2

From: Superintendent of Public Works Doug Novak

Re: Replacement of Vehicle

Alderman Vaccaro stated, this has already been approved by the Board of A&T.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to approve the purchase of that vehicle; SECONDED by Alderman Blackwell.

Ms. O'Malley explained, on behalf of Doug Novak who couldn't make it here tonight, we are replacing a 2002 Ford Explorer with 126,000 miles and is rotted out, with a 2015 Ford Explorer. It was approved by the Board of Public Works, and also

by the Board of A&T out of their Contingency Fund. The vehicle is continuing to have needed repairs. They've spent almost \$10,000 from February 2013 until now on body rot, on wiring, harness, tires, diagnostic quotes and testing, and the 4-wheel drive had to be replaced. The repairs are adding up. This vehicle is really in desperate need of replacement. The new vehicle is going to be purchased under State of Connecticut DAS pricing at a cost of \$31,047 with a warranty.

Alderman Evans stated, I intend to vote for the vehicle. We have a 2002 vehicle going 126,000 miles and it needed \$10,000 in repairs last year and \$10,000 in repairs this year, it's rotted out. And we will buy the same vehicle again?

Ms. O'Malley stated, this vehicle is deployed 24 hours.

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

Communication #3

From: Sewer Administrator Rita St. Jacques

Re: Position on the Anaerobic Digester

Alderman Stowe stated, WPCA diligently looked at what the effects of regionalization with Derby, if we did that with our system, or the effects of Greenpoint. It was unanimously voted by the Commission that we felt right now this wasn't proper to be hooked up into our plant. Brian Capozzi who is our Superintendent down there gave us a load of information here and I'm sure he could explain it much better than I could.

Mr. Capozzi stated, I'm just here to answer any questions you might have.

Alderman Blackwell asked, didn't Derby just approve to put their own system in?

Mr. Capozzi replied no, they approved upgrades to their pump stations and for solid handling, but not the whole thing.

Alderman Stowe asked Mr. Capozzi to explain about the sludge, and the chemicals you have to use, the costs.

Mr. Capozzi stated, right now the projected flow from Greenpoint would be 58,000 gallons which is no big deal, we can handle that, but the concentration of their waste is extremely high and the costs. They won't do a full pre-treatment – they're just way astronomical to the point where it's just going to cost the ratepayers an extreme amount of money.

Secondly, Greenpoint's plan is to use that whole portion of land. If that happens, that would kill the Derby project. For the Derby project to work with Ansonia, we would still have to build a [inaudible] to accommodate their flow and treat it.

Alderman Radin stated, in your report, which I was at the meeting and I read it, I think everybody saw it, I've been talking to the newspaper and everything, the savings that the City would recruit from that it would cost us twice as much if we did do it, so it really wouldn't be any savings at all.

Mr. Capozzi stated, if they did a full pre-treatment, it would be a savings.

Alderman Delucia stated, so if they do it the right way, we could handle it; if they do it the wrong way, we can't handle it.

Mr. Capozzi replied, yes, essentially. But again, if they use up all the land, [inaudible].

Alderman Stowe stated, in your report you wrote, I think, a part here where there may need to be expansion of our plant at some time in the future and if there was, Greenpoint would take that land now, so we wouldn't have the room for expansion. There was another spot here where you were talking about 17.5 more truckloads of sludge which would cost us annually \$450,000 above what we pay out now. I'm sure this report is going to be somewhere where the public can review it any time they want and I really strongly suggest, because there were a lot of people that were nervous about this plant. This report that you did is very good, well done. I believe this kind of, for now, answers our problems.

Communication #4

From: Corporation Counsel John Marini
Re: Tax Assessor Marge Dzwonczyk

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to approve this agreement; SECONDED by Alderman Stowe.

Alderman Vaccaro stated, it was submitted by Bill Nimons, our Comptroller.

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

Communication #5

From: Corporation Counsel John Marini
Re: Fire Marshal Ray Tingley

No action.

Communication #6

From: Corporation Counsel John Marini

Re: Ordinance to Tow Abandoned Vehicles

See Ordinance #1

Add-On

Alderman Radin MOVED to add Late Communication #1 to the agenda;
SECONDED by Alderman Stowe. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED
10-0.

Late Communication #1

From: Ansonia Fire Commission

Re: Replacement of Ansonia Fire Department Engine 6

Alderman Stowe asked, does this have to go through the Board of Apportionment and Taxation?

Corporation Counsel Marini explained, the Board of A&T needs to give a recommendation on it and then this Board has to vote on it. There is an emergency provision however I think as long as we're not talking about something that has to be done within a 24 or 48 hour period we should follow the usual process. I would send this to the Board of A&T and the Finance Committee.

Alderman Vaccaro stated, I'd like to see this vetted by our Comptroller, Bill Nimons. I know it is the Mayor's wish to get this passed as soon as possible. It needs to go before the Board of Apportionment and Taxation.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to refer this request to the Finance Committee, and that the Finance Committee meet as soon as possible, SECONDED by Alderman Stowe.

Alderman Radin stated, we're talking about buying a fire engine. I'm not sure how much it costs but I would like to know where this money is going to be coming from. I know we don't have it in the budget.

Mayor Cassetti stated, we will probably lease/purchase it.

[Alderman Edo left the room at this point - 7:45 pm - 9 present 5 absent]

President Tripp stated, let me clarify – when government says lease it really means buy a vehicle over time.

Alderman Radin stated, I'm still saying, we have a very small budget. I do believe we need it and I do believe we should go for it. I just wonder where we're going to get the money to get it.

President Tripp stated, that's why we're going to have the vetting process of the Board of Aldermen and it's going to go for a vote. It has to go through the proper procedure and be properly vetted. We can then work out how it will be purchased, will it be leased, where will the money come from, is the money in the budget. That can be worked through the Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen and the Board of A&T.

Alderman Blackwell stated, obviously we need the truck. The question I have is, I believe Engine 6 is the most used engine in the City. Are there other engines that are less active? Could we swap out a vehicle from one department to another, that maybe is not used as much. How does that work? Do we have another engine in the City that might have half the time and half the miles – why let it sit in another department that might not be as active. Engine 6 is an active and needed truck.

Scott Tremblay stated, the Pierce truck that they're trying to replace is the oldest one in the fleet. As the rotation goes, all the trucks get older. It wouldn't make much sense to take an older truck and put it in the busiest house. It would make the most sense to put the new truck in the busiest house and let that rotate through. The other thing is the fact that Engine 6 has been in service for 23 years – it's already beyond... We try to get 20 years out of them. We've already pushed the envelope and gone a little extra with it. The maintenance costs are getting big with it.

[Alderman Edo returns at this point - 7:52 pm - 10 present 4 absent]

Mr. Tymniak asked, can the truck be sold?

Mr. Tremblay replied, the fire manufacturers really don't do that. There is a third-party organization that buys used trucks and resell them and try to turn a profit on them. The problem is that we have to get a price from them as to what we can get out of the truck, but being that it is 23 years old it's a limited number where people would purchase that truck. You'd have to sell to a place like Vermont or someplace that doesn't do a lot of runs and try to get a truck cheaper. It's an option we can look into and have a price to turn into Bill Nimons, so that is being looked at.

Alderman Adamowski stated, sometimes it's offered to the firehouse to run in parades for \$1 by the City. You're not going to pay for ¼ of the new engine with the old one.

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, I think we should all work together, but procedurally it needs to go to the Board of A&T right now. The Board of A&T makes the recommendation of whether or not this can be funded, then it goes to this Board.

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

Corporation Counsel Marini explained, the reason the new process is set up the way it is, that way a department can go to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation and work with them and our Comptroller to review the request, find out whether or not it is feasible to do and get a recommendation that when it comes before this Board you have all the information you need to know – did the Board of A&T like the idea or not, and the reasons why. If the answer is yes, how will it be funded; if the answer is no, why it can't be funded. That way, by the time it reaches this Board, you have all the answers to the questions that you've just been asking. There is no reason why the Finance Committee can't shepherd that process along informally, but the process the way it works, we can avoid these kinds of questions coming up.

Resignations

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to accept the resignation of Jeremiah F. Kennedy from the Board of Apportionment and Taxation and send him a letter of thanks for his service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to accept the resignation of Frank Kohut from the Board of Apportionment and Taxation and send him a letter of thanks for his service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Henri. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Appointments

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Alderman Henri MOVED to appoint Michael Rinaldi (R) of One Pond Drive; term to expire 12-31-2015; SECONDED by Alderman Vaccaro. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to reappoint Ann Marie Pitney (D) of 159 Pulaski Highway; term to expire 12-31-2016; SECONDED by Alderman Henri. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Henri MOVED to reappoint Francis Tyszka (D) of 18 Shortell Drive; term to expire 12-31-2016; SECONDED by Alderman Edo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Evans MOVED to reappoint Paul Heon (R) of 12 White Oak Road; term to expire 12-31-2016; SECONDED by Alderman Vaccaro. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to appoint Larry Pellegrino (R) of 34 Finney Street; term to expire 12-31-2019; SECONDED by Alderman Edo.

Alderman Radin stated, I have been attending the Planning & Zoning for the last three or four years. I've attended every meeting. I would like to commend Bart Flaherty for the job he has done. I've sat through many, many a thing where people have come with really not very nice plans and he has checked them out. He goes out when there's a question with the group. He spent three or four hours up on Fountain Lake when there was a complaint about the blasting. I would like to say that I am sorry to see that he was not reappointed. I think he's been doing a wonderful job and I think the City of Ansonia should send him a letter of commendation thanking him for the job, the very good job, that he has done for many, many, many years.

Alderman Adamowski stated, I would like to know why, if there is a reason, why he was not reappointed, why he was removed. Just to change things up a little bit?

Mayor Cassetti stated, we're moving in a different direction, a new opportunity. We're moving in a different direction.

Alderman Stowe stated, I too, like Alderman Radin, want to commend Mr. Flaherty for God only knows the hours, days, weeks and years he has given to this City. The projects he has been involved in, I believe the High School. He has done a lot of wonderful things here. I do know you have a new administration here and this administration has plans that it wants to go in and they have the right to be comfortable with who they work with. But I personally will never forget the interactions that I've had with Mr. Flaherty and watch him perform so many duties for this City.

President Tripp called for a roll call vote on the appointment of Larry Pellegrino (R) of 34 Finney Street; term to expire 12-31-2019.

NAME	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Adamowski		X	
Stowe	X		
Vaccaro	X		
Hunt			
Jeanette			
DeLucia		X	
Fainer			
Cassetti			
Radin		X	

Edo	X		
Henri	X		
Blackwell	X		
Evans	X		
Tripp	x		
TOTALS:	7	3	

The MOTION PASSED by a vote of 7 Yes, 3 No, 0 Abstentions.

Alderman Radin MOVED to send Mr. Flaherty a letter of thanks for his many years of service to the City of Ansonia; SECONDED by Alderman Blackwell. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT AND TAXATION

Alderman Edo MOVED to appoint Daniel King (R) of PO Box 1021, Derby, CT; term to expire 12-31-2018; SECONDED by Alderman Vaccaro. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Vaccaro moved TO APPOINT John Izzo (R) of 12 Shortell Drive; term to expire 12-31-2018; SECONDED by Alderman Blackwell. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Blackwell MOVED to appoint Frank DeLibero (U) of 31 Martin Terrace; term to expire 12-31-2018; SECONDED by Alderman Edo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Edo MOVED to appoint Sarah Blackwell (R) of 31 Oak Lane; term to expire 12-31-2017; SECONDED by Alderman Vaccaro. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Blackwell).

Alderman Henri MOVED to appoint Michael Smerznak (U) of 22 Buswell street; term to expire 12-31-2017; SECONDED by Alderman Vaccaro. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Blackwell MOVED to appoint Gary Cassetti (D) of 102 Root Avenue; term to expire 12-31-2016; SECONDED by Alderman Henri. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to appoint Jacques Veillette (D) of 4 Hoinsky Way; term to expire 12-31-2016; SECONDED by Alderman Henri. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Alderman Adamowski MOVED to appoint Charles Stowe (R) of 23 Granite Terrace, Scarlata replacement, term to expire 2-28-2015; SECONDED by Alderman Vaccaro. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

ANSONIA HOUSING AUTHORITY

Alderman Blackwell MOVED to reappoint Samuel Levey (U) of 70 Woodlawn Avenue, Apt. 69; term to expire 10-31-2019; SECONDED by Alderman Henri. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Alderman Henri MOVED to appoint Kenneth Moffet (D) of 341 North Main Street, term to expire 12-31-2019; SECONDED by Alderman Blackwell. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Henri MOVED to reappoint Jeffrey Gould (D) of 39 Platt Street; term to expire 12-31-2019; SECONDED by Alderman Edo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Henri MOVED to reappoint David Williams (R) of 69 Rockwood Avenue, term to expire 12-31-2019; SECONDED by Alderman Stowe. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to send Nicholas Amico a letter of thanks for his 18 years of service on the Board of Police Commissioners; SECONDED by Alderman Henri. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Resolutions

Resolution # 1

Re: Transit-Oriented Development Pilot Program

President Tripp stated, this authorizes the Mayor to sign agreements regarding transportation systems here in the Valley.

All Aldermen of All Wards introduced the following Resolution:

TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT PILOT PROGRAM

Be it Resolved that the Legislative Body of the City of Ansonia met on December 9, 2014 and adopted a resolution by the vote of 10 to 0 which:

1. Authorizes the City of Derby, on Behalf of the City of Ansonia, to submit the Derby-Ansonia-Shelton Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development Planning, in accordance with the Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning Grant Program Request for Applications; and
2. Authorizes the City of Ansonia to enter into and, if necessary, to amend a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Derby and City of Shelton, or any successor organization, which incorporates the requirements outlined in the Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Pilot Program Request for Applications; and
3. Authorizes the individual serving as Mayor, or their successor(s), to negotiate terms and conditions of the MOU, to sign the MOU on behalf of the City of Ansonia and to sign any other documents associated with administering the grant, if awarded, including any amendments thereto. Such grant application is attached to and made a part of this record.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to ADOPT Resolution #1; SECONDED by Alderman Edo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Resolution #2
Re: Liberty Power

President Tripp stated, as previously discussed, the contract and verbage is in front of you.

Aldermen Tripp and Vaccaro introduced the following Resolution:

Resolved,

To authorize the Mayor to execute the extension with Liberty Power.

Alderman Stowe MOVED to ADOPT Resolution #2; SECONDED by Alderman Edo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Resolution #3
Re: Emergency Management and Homeland Security

President Tripp stated, this authorizes the Mayor to sign any and all agreements and documents on behalf of the City regarding the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

All Aldermen of All Wards introduced the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Ansonia Board of Aldermen may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that David S. Cassetti, as Mayor of the City of Ansonia, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Ansonia Board of Aldermen and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

Alderman Evans MOVED to adopt Resolution #3; SECONDED by Alderman Edo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Resolution #4

Re: RedFlex Student Guardian Cooperative Agreement

President Tripp stated, as Corporation Counsel Marini explained earlier, this agreement is between the City of Ansonia and RedFlex.

All Aldermen of All Wards introduced the following Resolution:

Be it hereby Resolved that the Ansonia Board of Aldermen authorize Mayor David S. Cassetti to execute the attached RedFlex Student Guardian Cooperative Agreement on behalf of the great City of Ansonia.

[The agreement in its entirety is available for viewing in the Office of the Town and City Clerk, Ansonia City Hall, 253 Main Street, Ansonia, CT 06401]

Alderman Edo MOVED to adopt Resolution #4; SECONDED by Alderman Stowe. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Resolution #5

Re: Lease Agreement for 4 Fourth Street

President Tripp stated, as Mr. Tymniak earlier discussed, this provides for the sublease of 4 Fourth Street by The Workplace and TEAM.

All Aldermen of All Wards introduced the following Resolution:

Be it hereby Resolved that the Ansonia Board of Aldermen approves the sublease of 4 Fourth Street entered into between The Workplace and TEAM, pursuant to the provisions of the lease agreement for 4 Fourth Street between the City of Ansonia and The Workplace.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to adopt Resolution #5; SECONDED by Alderman Henri.

Alderman Stowe asked if there will be signage outside of the building because if you didn't know it was there you'd go right by.

Mayor Cassetti stated, there is a sign on the building.

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

Ordinance

Ordinance #1

Re: Towing of Abandoned, Unregistered Motor Vehicles

President Tripp stated, as Corporation Counsel Marini has previously discussed, this Ordinance deals with abandoned, inoperable and unregistered vehicles.

[This Ordinance in its entirety is available for viewing in the Office of the Town and City Clerk, Ansonia City Hall, 253 Main Street, Ansonia, CT 06401]

Alderman Edo MOVED to adopt Ordinance #1; SECONDED by Alderman Vaccaro.

Alderman Stowe stated, I'm not much on having people be able to go on your private property, as long as you don't have a mess there. I'm kind of, it's my stuff, leave me alone. However, with the epidemic of cars, vehicles, all over the City, unregistered, not paying taxes on them, plates that probably aren't even valid. I think this is a move in the right direction.

Alderman Evans stated, I share the same concerns and I thought about this a long while. It's personal property rights v. the good of the community. This, in my opinion, is too much personal property rights [inaudible].

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9 Yes, 1 No (Evans).

New Business

President Tripp noted that he had attended a veterans' conference and seminar from the Connecticut Department of Veterans' Affairs. They had an opening by Lieutenant Governor Wyman and was also attended by the Connecticut Department of Veterans' Affairs Commissioner Joseph Perkins. They laid out a very good plan that the State of Connecticut and the Veterans' Administration are going to work together to find and place homeless veterans in housing that is available. There is a process to get those veterans vetted. If anybody is interested I can provide further details and I have points of contact at the Veterans' Home and Hospital up in Rocky Hill. I have also placed on file with the City Town Clerk one of these brochures for the public record.

Ansonia is working on a revitalized public housing project that is anticipated to have a veterans' housing component which will also dovetail/Segway with what I just discussed. The City is working in conjunction with The Workplace to establish an

Ansonia Office of Veterans' Affairs to provide job finding assistance for veterans in the Valley. There was a Workplace liaison at this veterans' seminar up at the Middletown Armory. I had conversation with that individual and they will provide assistance to the Veterans' Affairs representative here in Ansonia at The Workplace at 4 Fourth Street.

Old Business

Alderman Henri – Ward Budgets

The staff at City Hall and Department Heads have been very attentive to my concerns and issues in the Sixth Ward. I feel their cooperation. The things I'm looking at right now can be worked in other ways. I just want to make sure that some of the surplus money comes up to my ward and [inaudible] so things that down the road need fixing get fixed.

Alderman Henri MOVED to table the individual Ward budgets indefinitely to make sure that the interest doesn't wane down the road; SECONDED by Alderman Blackwell. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Adamowski - Summerfest

Alderman Henri, if you would keep us advised, the other wards, with the money you spend up there so we know how much we can put in for.

Secondly, the Aldermen had an agreement with the baseball game at the Summerfest. Did anything ever come of that? I know we were supposed to have a date.

President Tripp replied, I was at the Derby Senior Center twice. I went over there and spoke with the Director of the Center and asked them if they wanted food or something like that. I was waved off – they just wanted some desserts, which I provided. So I went there twice; I fulfilled the obligation for the Ansonia Board of Aldermen. There was an article in the Valley Independent Sentinel, which I did reply to, and there was no response to my reply. If anybody would like to visit the Derby Senior Center there are some wonderful people over there and the Director is very well versed as to the several times I was over there visiting with those nice folks. I think the article, the way it was written it was in good fun so I took it in the festive spirit of the season. It was worded more tongue-in-cheek but I just wanted to let the general public know that I was over there as I do try to visit our Ansonia Senior Center as often as possible. They do have a wonderful meal over there on Thursdays for lunch if you'd like to go visit with our seniors.

Mayor Cassetti noted that he has been busy but will be in contact with Mayor Dugatto to arrange his lunch obligation.

Executive Session

At approximately 8:20 p.m., Alderman Radin MOVED to enter Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. **S. Cruciano v. City of Ansonia**
2. **Bristol Resources Recovery Facility Operating Committee v. City of Ansonia**
3. **P. Kelly v. City of Ansonia**
4. **J. Hooker v. City of Ansonia**
5. **Ansonia v. Cook Industrial Associates, LLC**
6. **Blight Enforcement Matters**
 - a. **Ansonia v. Lampronikos**
 - b. **Ansonia v. 27 Orchard Street**

and invited Corporation Counsel Marini, Mayor Cassetti, Mr. Tymniak, and Ms. O'Malley to remain in the Aldermanic Chambers, as well as Mr. Cruciani and Attorney Greg Stamos during their appropriate items; SECONDED by Alderman Henri. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Return to Regular Session

At approximately 9:50 p.m. Alderman Radin MOVED to return to Regular Session; SECONDED by Alderman Adamowski. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Evans MOVED to authorize Corporation Counsel Marini to enter a settlement in the workers compensation matter of Hooker v. Ansonia in the amount discussed in Executive Session; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Evans MOVED to pursue the agreement with Cook Industrial pursuant to the discussion in Executive Session; SECONDED by Alderman Edo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Evans MOVED to approve the agreement of Lampronikos v. Ansonia as discussed in Executive Session; SECONDED by Alderman Henri. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Alderman Evans MOVED to resolve the blight lien in the amount discussed in Executive Session; SECONDED by Alderman Edo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9 Yes, 1 No (Evans).

Adjournment

Alderman Radin MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Alderman Blackwell. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary
Ansonia Board of Aldermen