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**CITY OF ANSONIA
BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

Minutes of the Special Meeting – August 11, 2014

14 AUG 26 AM 9:11
Elizabeth L. Lyrrel
TOWN AND CITY CLERK
ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT

Call to Order

The Special Meeting of the Ansonia Board of Aldermen was called to order at 7:15 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– absent
Charles Stowe, R1 – present
Philip Tripp, R2 – present
Lorie Vaccaro, R2 – present
Denice Hunt, D3 – absent
Joseph Jeanette, D3– present
Anthony DeLucia, D4 – absent

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

President Tripp declared a quorum of 8 present, 6 absent.

Consideration of Previous Minutes

Alderman Radin MOVED to accept the minutes of the July 8, 2014 Regular Full Board Meeting; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Public Session

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

Kevin Pugh, 17 White Oak Road

I moved here last year from Arizona. This is a great city. I was here for the parade, we have an active athletic department, we are actually just one of the finest in the nation in turning out great athletics. One of the things that I see that we could be doing and I want to see if you guys are interested in this and get your support on this, is healthy living together. There are a lot of great people here I've met and it's a wonderful community. I'd like to live here for a long time. Helping people with

doors, helping people with each other, holding the doors and all that is something that we do as a community as people. Something I'd like to see us have is a lot more healthy living – eating healthy, more exercise, events of physical fitness in the parks. The trail or walkway is the reason that I moved here. When I drove down Route 8 and saw that between here and Derby, I said, "that's where I'm living." It brings people here. We're healthy. Hartford just moved from #12 to #9 Healthiest Cities in America. All the other healthiest cities are on the West Coast. With your support I just want to know of any policies, any events that we do at the churches and schools, anything that you guys come up with that you'd like to do, if there's an event you want to do, and we theme it around healthy living and eating, we could have chefs come in here and all kinds of tents and things like that in the name of healthy living together Ansonia. The whole Valley, everything, just have it expand and invite other cities to join us on this. That's what I'm here to present and offer my services and say I want to participate in this.

Pete Morrow, 17 Highland Terrace

Was there a study done for the Anaconda for hazardous materials in the ground? Because the employer that I work for, we buried barrels and barrels, we buried everything in the ground. It's contaminated so bad. So, how old is...

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, there is an unknown of contaminants in the property, so the plan is to conduct intensive testing – it's going to obviously take some time - to determine what the contaminants are and where the contaminants are.

Mr. Morrow asked, who's paying for that?

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, that's going to be paid for partly by State and Federal grants, it's going to be paid for partly by the property owners. It's going to have to be a collaborative effort by all entities involved.

Mr. Morrow asked, so it will all be cleaned up?

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, the goal is eventually to clean everything up. You've heard in the paper that there's a plan to demolish. We're taking a small area, about 30,000 square feet that is likely to have the least amount of contaminants, that's likely to be free of PCP and the serious problems, but, an environmental assessment is going to be under way. If the agreement that's before the Board tonight is approved, an assessment will first take place, it's going to take about a month and a half, to be sure it's safe for demo, which it should be. Once that demo stops, then a larger assessment process is going to go on for that full 40 acres. It may take up to a year to complete – a phase 1, phase 2, phase 3, under the guidance of our Economic Development Director Sheila O'Malley.

Mr. Morrow stated, I would hate it to be like a Carpenter Steel down in Bridgeport. That was horrible.

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, it could be a Superfund site, but we need to know. If we're going to fix it we need to know.

Mr. Morrow stated, okay. Thank you.

Edward Musante, 21 Castle Lane

I have two issues. A safety issue up on Wakelee and Division Street – there's a broken limb hanging there and waiting to fall down – right there at the light. Then the Cemetery on Wakelee and Grove – they cleaned it up in the Spring and now you can't even see the wall there. It's all overgrown, next to the road. There are two rows of monuments you can't see that are buried from the shrubbery there.

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

Thank you for accommodating your schedules for this special meeting. July and August have been no summer vacation for City Hall.

Before you is a proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the City and Ansonia Copper and Brass. My Corporation Counsel, John Marini, worked very hard to negotiate this agreement. The Agreement will provide Copper and Brass a credit against their delinquent taxes for dollars they put towards an environmental assessment and demolition at the site. Our target is a roughly 30,000 square foot parcel that appears ripe for demolition within the next 90 days. The aim is to begin to open up the Copper and Brass property and pave the way for new investment opportunities. The overall environmental assessment and rehabilitation of the site is an enormous undertaking that will not occur overnight. However, this proposed demolition arrangement is a solid first step toward putting the Copper and Brass property back to use in the most responsible manner for our taxpayers. I urge the Board to grant me the authority to enter into an MOU so the demolition project can move forward immediately.

I want to commend those who made Ansonia's first Summerfest celebration a tremendous success. We had a wonderful vintage baseball game and a spectacular concert. It was an absolute pleasure to spend time enjoying our local vendors, watching residents dancing under the stars, and seeing kids play a pickup game of baseball at Nolan Field. I want to thank those who made the event a success. Our organizers Greg Martin and Gary Giannone. The fantastic efforts of our

Police Department, Public Works, ARMS employees and all our volunteers must always be recognized. Along with Tammy Blackwell and our Tax Office who coordinated the receipts for the event. I also want to give a special thank you to our sponsors, especially Farrell Pomoni and the 1,700 people who attended. Of course not every event can go off without a hitch. Who here saw the fireworks? That's a trick question. There were no fireworks. Our residents deserve better than that. My administration has spoken to the President of Atlas Pyrotechnics and worked out a satisfactory resolution. Atlas will be crediting 100 percent of the Summerfest display and providing us with a legitimate fireworks presentation with a substantial discount. I am please to announce that real fireworks will return to Nolan Field on the evening of Friday, September 19 to cap off the Ansonia-Derby Football Game. The residents of Ansonia deserve a good show and they'll get one.

In July, we were awarded the ZREC Grant for the solar project on the landfill. You'll hear more about this later in the meeting from Chris Tymniak, my Chief of Staff. I wish to thank Chris for his efforts on this. The solar panels will save the City \$43,000 the first year and over \$1.6 million over the next 20 years. These savings will be seen in our UI bill.

As always, Economic Development remains an ongoing priority of this administration. I want to congratulate our Economic Development Director Sheila O'Malley for working to secure the \$500,000 in grant funds for remediation and demolition in our downtown area. I also want to point out the success of our new aggressive Blight Program which is cleaning both residential and commercial properties in our City, making Ansonia more attractive for investment.

We are also preparing for a forum regarding the proposed Anaerobic Digester Project, which can realize substantial savings for our residents. Additionally, an announcement on the opening of The Workplace, which will provide job training service to residents, will be made soon.

I note that several technological improvements are being pursued in the City. Our IT Director, Dave Connolly, has recently established a wifi network within City Hall. Further, you have a proposal before you proceed with the installation of a permanent digital recording system in City Hall.

Finally, I would like to thank Jeff Coppola for running a successful Summer Youth Camp with over 200 kids enrolled. This is a fantastic program that I am so pleased to offer to our residents.

As you can see, we've had a busy summer and are preparing for a busy fall. I would like to hear from the Aldermen on how your summer is going in your Wards, and if there are initiatives that City Hall can assist you with. Also, I strongly advise that you get out into the Wards and talk to your constituents. Their input means everything. Thank you very much.

Agenda Items – Deviate from the Agenda

Alderman Vaccaro moved to deviate from the agenda and move Committee Reports to the end of the meeting; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Municipal Reports / Annual Reports

Alderman Radin MOVED to accept all municipal and annual reports, dispense with the reading and place them on file; SECONDED by Alderman Cassetti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Tax Collector's Report and Request for Refunds

Alderman Blackwell MOVED to accept the report of the Tax Collector and pay the refunds in the amount of \$5,298.26 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Claims

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 07-14-831 | Janice Anglace v. City of Ansonia |
| 07-14-832 | John F.X. Androski v. City of Ansonia Water Pollution Control Authority |
| 07-14-833 | Carter Mario Injury Lawyers v. City of Ansonia |
| 07-14-834 | Tammy Blackwell v. City of Ansonia |

Alderman Henri MOVED to refer the claims to Corporation Counsel and/or the Claims Committee; SECONDED by Alderman Vaccaro. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

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 Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Communication #1

From: Corporation Counsel John Marini

Re: Lease between the City of Ansonia and Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to accept; SECONDED by Alderman Henri.

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, to be clear, the Communications are all accepted. What we're looking for here is approval of the lease with the Friends of the Nature Center for the Redwing Pond House. This is substantially the same lease

that the City had with the Redwing Pond House two years ago for the purpose of their operation of the Redwing Pond House Preschool. It's \$1 a year lease and allows them to be able to finance the operation and provide a nature-based preschool for not only residents of Ansonia but outside of the town. It's one of the highlights that we have at the Nature Center and a very unique, positive attribute for the City. The only difference in this lease is the term is being extended from two years to five years. The Mayor's Office is looking for this Board's approval of the lease via authorization for the Mayor to enter into the lease with the Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center.

Alderman Stowe MOVED to accept the five-year lease with the Redwing Pond House at the Nature Center; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Communication #2

From: Corporation Counsel John Marini

Re: Permanent Digital Recording System in Ansonia's Aldermanic Chambers

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED, per the recommendation of the Technology Committee, to approve the selection of Smarhome and Theatre Systems in the amount of \$9,324 for the installation of a permanent digital recording system in the Aldermanic Chambers at Ansonia City Hall; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, with the approval of this it means that video recording system will be installed in this Aldermanic Chambers next month.

President Tripp stated, I would like to move to Communication #4.

Communication #3

From: Robert Hurd, 26 Judson Place

Re: Blight Lien – Roof Repair

Item skipped.

Communication #4

From: Mayor David S. Cassetti

Re: Energy Savings for the City of Ansonia

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to move ahead with this; SECONDED by Alderman Blackwell.

Mr. Tymniak explained, in your packet you'll have the presentation by Turtle and Hughes. It's an energy savings opportunity. Back in 2011 City Hall had a group called Enpower do a City-wide audit of where we could save energy, and what we

could do about it. That energy audit report, nothing was actually done. Turtle and Hughes came in, they ID'd, picked up the pieces, re-did the audit. You'll find on pages 6, 7 and 8, proposals and how much we'll be saving on the ARMS building, the Library and City Hall. I also just want to jump ahead and let you know the ARMS building – this proposal is incorporated in the new construction on the roof as well. Turtle and Hughes is here to answer any questions you might have on this. You'll need to vote on this and approve this so that we can get the actual contract from UI, which will be approved at the special meeting you have at the end of August.

Alderman Henri asked, can you give us an example of how exactly the savings are going to be realized?

Tim Smith from Turtle and Hughes stated, for instance, the scope of work includes the interior lighting and exterior lighting for the most part migrating from the existing fluorescent and high intensity discharge exterior lighting to LED lighting which gives us a savings of anywhere from 35 to 50 percent per fixture. In addition, there is a secondary piece for City Hall as well as the Library which is a web-based automation system allowing for proper control of the existing HVAC system.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Communication #5

From: Mayor David Cassetti

Re: Approval of Public Works Freightliner Trucks Lease

Skipped.

Communication #6

From: Chief Kevin Hale, Ansonia Police Department

Re: Purchase of two Police Vehicles and Equipment

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to approve the purchase of the following Police Vehicles from Crowley Ford, and in-car computer equipment from TelrepcO:

- One 2015 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicle - \$41,164 to include a 5-year, 100,000 mile warranty package, prisoner containment system, striping, and installation of all electronics, new CAD computer stand and modem, and trailer hitch receiver
- One 2015 Ford Expedition Utility Vehicle - \$39,646 to include the warranty package and installation of all electronics.

And further, MOVED to approve the trade-in of Car 3, a 2008 Ford Crown Victoria, VIN2FAHP71V78X162454 with approximately 110,000 miles, with the trade-in value deducted from the final price of the new vehicles. **SECONDED by Alderman Cassetti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.**

Communication #7

From: Corporation Counsel John Marini

Re: Master Installment Purchase Agreement, Mercedes-Benz Financial Services USA, LLC

Skipped.

Communication #8

From: Consulting Engineer Donald W. Smith, Jr.

Re: ARMS Building Renovation

Skipped.

Communication #9

From: Jean Roslonowski, Animal Control Officer

Re: Cat Grant

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, the Animal Control Department is running a program to spay and neuter stray cats. This is a notice going out to residents of certain areas where this is going to be performed in the next couple of months, to let them know, please keep your cats that are owned on collars – don't let them roam the streets as strays, otherwise there is a possibility that they could accidentally be picked up and accidentally spayed or neutered. We'll go into what those streets are later in the meeting and hopefully we'll get the advisory out that this program is going on. It's paid for by a grant from the State.

Communication #12

From Mayor David S. Cassetti

Re: Greenskies Landfill Solar Panel Project

Mr. Tymniak explained, the actual contract you're going to be approving will come up at the special meeting at the end of August.

This is the ZREC. Ansonia won a competitive bid process against basically every other municipality who wants to get fully funded solar panel projects in their City or Town. I didn't think we stood a shot at getting it this year – we got it. So I say we run with it now. Essentially Greenskies is going to be putting a \$1.1 million investment with solar panels and efficiencies. It's going to be tied into our UI bills through Public Works Office. We want approval on this tonight and then the contract will be approved at the special meeting. This way they can start. Ideally, they're going to do one month of engineering after it passes Planning & Zoning, then one month, maybe five weeks, of putting in solar panels, and then we could be experiencing savings as soon as the middle of October. First year estimate in savings is \$43,000

and then we'll be going toward \$80,000 a year for the next 20 years for a total of \$1.6 million we won't be paying on our UI bill.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to approve the proposal from Greenskies to place solar panels on the Ansonia Landfill; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Resignations

Alderman Henri MOVED to accept the resignations of Luanna Plocha from the Ansonia Historic District and the Ansonia Conservation Commission; Louis Bartolotta from the Commission for Elderly Services; and Elizabeth Wojciechowski from the Commission for Elderly Services, and to send them letters of thanks for their service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Appointments

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to approve all of the appointments with the exception of the two Aldermen (Vaccaro and Jeanette) being appointed to the School Building Commission; SECONDED by Alderman Cassetti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Water Pollution Control Authority

Carmine Durante (U) of 30 Hoinski Way, term to expire 1/31/2017

Andrew Geruntho (U) of 36 Granite Terrace, term to expire 1/31/2017

Nuncio Parente (D) of 29 Chester Street, term to expire 1/31/2017

Board of Apportionment and Taxation

John Izzo (R) of 12 Shortell Drive (Stacey Payne-Izzo replacement), term to expire 12/31/2015

Commission for Elderly Services

Debbie Hanley (R) of 70 Woodlawn Avenue, Apt. 20 (Elizabeth Wojciechowski replacement), term to expire 12/31/2015

Joan Lawlor (D) of 45 North Westwood Road (Louis Bartolotta replacement), term to expire 12/31/2014

School Building Commission

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to appoint Lorie Vaccaro (R) of 515 Beaver Street; term to expire 11/30/2015; SECONDED by Alderman Cassetti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 7 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Vaccaro).

Beverly Tidmarsh (R) of 77 Westfield Avenue; term to expire 11/30/2015

Nina Phipps (U) of 60 Rockwood Avenue; term to expire 11/30/2015

Alderman Cassetti MOVED to appoint Joseph Jeanette (D) of 2 Gracie Lane; term to expire 11/30/2015; SECONDED by Alderman Blackwell. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 7 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Jeanette).

William C. Nimons (R) of 85 Pulaski Highway; term to expire 11/30/2015

Carmen Pitney, Sr. (D) of 159 Pulaski Highway; term to expire 11/30/2015;

William Malerba (U) of 145 Myrtle Avenue; term to expire 11/30/2015

Aretta Kotalis (R) of 51 Eagle Street; term to expire 11/30/2015

Denice Hunt (D) of 6 Myrtle Avenue; term to expire 11/30/2015

Natalie Biasucci (R) of 57 Rockwood Avenue; term to expire 11/30/2015

John Izzo (R) of 12 Shortell Drive; term to expire 11/30/2015

Daniel King (R) of Derby; term to expire 11/30/2015

Naugatuck Valley Health District Board of Directors

Thomas P. Clifford, III (D) of 10 South Westwood Road; term to expire 1/31/2016;

Michael Marganski (D) of 14 Franklin Street; term to expire 1/31/2016

Assistant Building Inspector

David Blackwell, Sr. (U) of 52 Finney Street as Assistant Building Inspector

Alderman Henri asked, are we building a school?

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, we can get into this more during the updates, but no, we're not building a school.

Ms. O'Malley stated, the Building Commission is put together at the request of the State Board of Education in order to assess their needs and make sure they have a Committee in place to take a look at what their priorities are.

Resolutions

Resolution # 1

Re: Memorandum of Understanding Re: Rehabilitation of the American Copper and Brass Site

RESOLUTION

WHEREFORE, the Board of Aldermen recognizes that the rehabilitation of the American Copper and Brass site is crucial to the future of economic development in downtown Ansonia; and

WHEREFORE, the Board of Aldermen supports Mayor David S. Cassetti's proposal to enter into a collaborative arrangement with the owners of American Copper and Brass to proceed with environmental assessment and demolition of structures at the site in a manner responsible to Ansonia's taxpayers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in the interest of advancing economic development in downtown Ansonia, the Ansonia Board of Aldermen authorize Mayor Cassetti to enter into the attached Memorandum of Understanding with American Copper and Brass for the purpose of proceeding with environmental remediation and demolition on the downtown property of Ansonia Copper and Brass.

Alderman Henri MOVED to ADOPT Resolution #1; SECONDED by Alderman Blackwell. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

President Tripp stated, this is something that needed to be done. Inaction was not an option and I would like to commend Mayor Cassetti and Corporation Counsel Marini and this Board of Aldermen for finally starting to do something about this situation in the downtown. It's something we needed to move forward on – Ansonia Copper & Brass and Farrell – to bring new life and revitalization to downtown Main Street, Ansonia.

I would also like to call upon our local and State elected officials. This is not just an Ansonia issue – there is a similar situation in Derby, Naugatuck and Valley. This is a Valley situation and I think the State elected officials need to be drawn into this and give us the assistance needed. There is a lot of work that needs to be done.

Resolution #2

Re: Master Installment Agreement Re: Capital Upgrades to Department of Public Works

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREFORE, the Board of Aldermen recognizes the necessity of capital upgrades to the Department of Public Works for the purpose of sustaining quality service for Ansonia's residents and taxpayers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Aldermen authorize Mayor David S. Cassetti to execute a Master Installment Purchase Agreement with Mercedes-Benz Financial Services USA, LLC for the purpose of purchasing, via a financing contract, the equipment listed on "Exhibit 1" of the Agreement.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to ADOPT Resolution #2; SECONDED by Alderman Stowe. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance #1

Re: Revised Anti-Blight Program

(The full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the Town and City Clerk)

Corporation Counsel Marini's Communication #11 and Ordinance #1 provide for the inclusion of a criminal penalty for willful failure to comply with a municipal blight ordinance pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-148o. In addition, modification of the program to allow dismissal of daily fines in the event that a violator acts to remediate blight within the correction action period. These revisions will further enhance the effectiveness of the program and place Ansonia on the cutting edge of blight enforcement in Connecticut.

Alderman Henri MOVED to ADOPT Ordinance #1; SECONDED by Alderman Stowe.

Alderman Stowe asked, is there enough revenue coming in to hire additional help for the blight office?

Corporation Counsel Marini replied, our Blight Department is understaffed, and we have about the most aggressive blight program in the State at this point. Dave Blackwell has been doing the work of at least three people in that department, not only going after blight, but also zoning. We are making an aggressive effort to settle outstanding liens which brings revenue in, we can get the hard figures. In the future as we become aggressive and get results it makes sense to do whatever we can to smartly enhance the capability of the blight department, in a manner that is most responsible to the taxpayers.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Unfinished Business***New Business******Executive Session***

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to move the three items for Executive Session to the agenda of the Special Meeting later in August; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

1. **Lease Agreement between City of Ansonia and Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center – concerning Redwing Pond House**
2. **Request for compromise of Blight Lien re: 43 Columbia Street**
3. **Request for Compromise of Blight Lien re: 95 Benz Street**

Committee Reports

[Alderman Blackwell left the meeting at this point – 7 present]

Finance Committee

*Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to pay all bills if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 7-0.

[* The motion is void as there was not a quorum present at this point.]

Public Works Committee

Alderman Stowe stated, everything is going pretty good. We went over the plan at the Board of Public Works for the Transfer Station. It's a very good plan; everybody is very happy with it. I believe it's going to pass through Zoning with no problem. The Mayor's team did an excellent job on that. It fits what we're trying to become; utilizes all the space.

Mayor Cassetti stated, we're going to advertise the bid at the end of the month and hopefully get bids opened by the end of September. Whether they want to break ground at the end of the year or the spring, depending on weather.

WPCA Committee

Alderman Stowe stated, we've been working very hard and are all in the mindset to do what's best for the City. We're growing into a group that is learning how to work cooperatively with the Mayor's administration, keep up with the State, try to save the taxpayers' sewer usage fees.

Economic Development Committee

Alderman Stowe stated, last month there was a little bit of discussion about our website. I think we got that cleared up and it isn't as bad as what it was.

Ms. O'Malley stated, we were having a little trouble accessing the page. The website is temporarily down until we get all our content that we want loaded up. It will be up and running shortly.

Fire Committee

Alderman Jeanette stated, we had a total of 55 calls for the month.

Technology Committee

Alderman Cassetti stated, the Committee met in July to review the bids for the installation of Digital Video Recording System here in the Aldermanic Chambers. We have already voted on that tonight.

Corporation Counsel Marini

We did a motion to pay all bills after Alderman Blackwell had left the room, so that did not count. We can do it at the Special Meeting.

Ansonia Nature Center Director Alison Rubelmann

We've had a whole summer of summer camp and other camps coming to the Nature Center. This is our last week of summer camp. We had two major events – International Mud Day and a Mud Madness Day. We had 200 participants. On Saturday we had our 125 Camp Out – it was a huge success. We had 120 participants. The Astronomy Club from New Haven came with their big telescopes to show the children Mars and Saturn and different planets. We made S'mores and hot dogs and hamburgers and breakfast in the morning.

Alderman Henri stated, the Nature Center hosted the town-wide tag sale, which went pretty well. Alison's doing a great job there and she has a great event coming up in September along the Riverwalk.

Corporation Counsel Marini

Regarding the Cat Program – it is going to be finished before September 1st. It's Cedar Street, Avon Street, Pork Hollow, and Hall Street by the Pizza Parlor. We want to advise the public that this activity is going on and please be mindful of your registered animals – have a collar on them, make sure they're not roaming the

street as strays. Otherwise it's possible that they could be incorporated into the program unintentionally.

The City Charter requires that the Mayor give an update to the City on the status of Ansonia and essentially an overview of what's being done by November 1st of each year. In order to comply with that, the Mayor is reserving space at the High School and wants to have the administration, the Board of Aldermen, and City Officials present to the public. We're looking at Thursday, October 9th for that meeting, which essentially will be a beefed-up Ward meeting. It will be open to all Wards and give people an opportunity to ask questions of the administration and hear what's going on. Ahead of that meeting we'd like to solicit questions and concerns from the residents so that we can address what matters most to them.

We are looking forward to The Workplace opening soon. We're anticipating their opening in the next three weeks to start offering employment services to Ansonia and other Valley residents. There will also be a Veterans' Office in there. The Mayor's appointed Officer of Veterans' Service will be housed in that office.

Chief of Staff Christopher Tymniak

I'd like to take a moment to introduce a Boy Scout we have here in the audience. He came in and saw the Mayor and I earlier this week. We answered many questions; some of them were very good questions. We wish Joe Radin the best of luck as he proceeds to become an Eagle Scout a couple years down the road.

President Tripp congratulated Mr. Radin and the Board offered its applause.

Alderman Stowe asked, did we miss the communication about the ARMS building? We can't vote now so can we put that on the Special Meeting?

Corporation Counsel Marini stated yes, we can. Also, Charter Revision is ending their work. They have three major revisions, one has to do with the budget process, the role of the Board of Apportionment and Taxation, and the manner that the budget is approved. Another revision deals with the amount of Wards and the amount of Aldermen in the City, and the third revision is a general clean up of the Charter, removing outdated provisions and making sure that things are consistent. They are going to present a finished copy within the next week, we're going to have a public hearing, and after they approve their draft they're going to send it to this Board for approval, which means we'll have to have our Special Meeting within the next three weeks. At that meeting we can pick up any business that we need to continue from tonight.

The tentative date for the Special Meeting is Tuesday, August 26, 2014.

Adjournment

President Tripp declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary
Ansonia Board of Aldermen