



**Ansonia Board of Aldermen
Regular Meeting Minutes**

15 MAY 18 AM 8:59

May 12, 2015

Elizabeth Dymek
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 – present
Joseph Jeanette, D3– present
Anthony DeLucia, D4 – absent
 Richard Kaslaitis, III R4 – present
 Anthony Cassetti, R5 – present
 Joan Radin, R5 – present
 Matthew Edo, R6– absent
 Patrick Henri, R6 – absent
 David Blackwell, Jr., R7 – absent
 Daniel Evans, R7 – present

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

Consideration of Previous Minutes

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 14, 2015; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. 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.

David Knapp, 3 Glen Drive

About a year ago this administration rolled out a plan for the Olson Drive development. Can the Mayor give an update on that plan?

Mayor Cassetti replied that it would be included in his report tonight.

Mr. Knapp asked if a commission has been established, and if so who is serving on it.

Mayor Cassetti replied that it has been established, and the list of members is available in the Mayor's Office.

Mr. Knapp stated, I would have appreciated it if you had put me on the Commission as I asked about three or four times. He continued, can you give an update on the Armory floor?

Ms. O'Malley stated, I will be addressing that in my report. I talked about the Armory floor last month. So, we are going to get a scope and a fee from the environmental consultants regarding clean-up of the asbestos and lead that is under the surface of the floor. Once we have that scope and fee, and provided it's within budget, we will begin remediation efforts.

Mr. Knapp asked, the building is still open to the public, correct?

Ms. O'Malley explained, once you disrupt the surface of the floor, then there are some environmental issues. Currently there are no environmental issues.

Mr. Knapp asked, isn't the floor sort of unstable in certain spots?

President Tripp stated, I was there for the Fireman's Ball just nine days ago; it was very stable. I don't know what measure of stable you're using, but people were there dancing and it seemed as well as what I knew it 30 years ago.

As far as the environmental issues, is there any liability to the town knowing that there's a possibility of some environmental issues there? Aren't we opening ourselves up to a thing?

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, that is the problem with the plan as it existed a couple of years ago. It didn't anticipate what could happen if a bigger problem was revealed. So money was allocated and a plan was put in place to remediate the floor. I don't think that anyone ever thought what happens if the floor is opened up and we have a serious, serious issue. Then not only do we have to shut the Armory down but to bring it back up to Code is an unknown amount of money. So I think what's happening is a very careful assessment of exactly what the cost is. That way we can all make an informed decision. Do we want to go through with the floor replacement; do we want to seek additional options. Or, if the results are actually encouraging, maybe it's something that we could afford after all and proceed on. So we are doing our due diligence to make sure it's done safely. So yes, we need to avoid any liability.

Natale Giaimo, 93 South Cliff Street

I'm here representing Casa Nova Development, which I am part owner. I am seeking permission to extend Woodbridge Manor Road approximately 60 feet into the City right-of-way for construction of a one-family home. I've already been before Inland-Wetlands and we had been approved, and all the plans have been approved by them and also by the City Engineer. All we need is for the Board of Aldermen to give us permission to do that.

President Tripp stated, we have you on the agenda as Communication #5. We will act on it at that point.

David Rhodes, 146 Jackson Street

I'm coming before you tonight to hopefully get some sort of donation for our American Legion Post 50 Baseball program. We currently don't get any funding from the City, and hopefully we can start to get something at least this year and moving forward. The season will cost us about \$4,200; with 16 kids that's about \$250 per kid if we don't get any donations at all. In Ansonia a lot of kids can't afford that. Any little bit will help. We'd like to get exactly what Babe Ruth has received this year if possible, but I understand that money is tight and anything will help. I had actually spoken with Alderman Henri about it a couple of weeks ago as well.

President Tripp stated, I believe that you are #3 on the Communications agenda.

Michael Egan, 103 Benz

When the Aldermen are assigned to a commission or a committee, who are they advocates for? All too often I hear when they report, and I'm not talking about present; this has gone on for years, it does continue. They speak for that Committee and not for the public. I wonder whether that is their assigned position or should they be an advocate for the public.

President Tripp stated, speaking for myself, I represent the people of the 2nd Ward of the City of Ansonia, that is who I work for. Of course I, as President of the Board of Aldermen, also work for everybody in the City of Ansonia. That is my first responsibility. Of course then you have other responsibilities that you take on being on these boards and commissions. It depends on the nature of your work. The people of the City of Ansonia are always first and they always come first. I am sure my fellow Aldermen feel that way.

Jim Prestiano, 58 Morningside Drive

I wanted to commend Public Works because lately it seems like there is more visibility and we were very happy with snow removal this year. That was a plus for us in the North End.

Secondly, I'm glad Lt. Williams is here, it's summertime, good weather. A lot of good things happen in good weather; a lot of bad things happen in the North End. So the intersection of the Mini Market, I went by Thursday night and there had to be 30 kids outside. Now is the time to start cracking down on that because we don't want the vandalism that we've had for the past several years. I would hope that the Police would keep an eye on that for us. Thank you.

Jeff Coppola, 43 Glen Drive

I hope you can help us out in regard to the concession stand at Nolan Field. It was at one time independently owned, and about five years ago it was given back to the City. The last three years it's been run by Ansonia AYF football and cheerleading, which is our Youth Program, through Recreation. Do we need to have anything in the minutes that says it's a Recreation building on Recreation property maintained by Public Works? I want permission that Recreation can give permission to somebody to run that.

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, I think it's probably best if we could meet and discuss how to incorporate and document it.

President Tripp asked three times if any other person wished to speak. Being none, he declared the Public Session closed.

Public Official Session

Mayor David Cassetti

Good evening. Let me begin by publicly acknowledging and thanking one of our long-time, loyal City employees, Jo-Lynn Flaherty. After 40 years of dedicated and distinguished service to the City of Ansonia, Jo-Lynn has decided she will be retiring at the end of this month. Jo-Lynn began her distinguished career as an employee of the City of Ansonia in 1983. She has also served on numerous boards and commissions throughout her long career. Whenever you needed a question answered in Finance, especially in Payroll, Jo-Lynn was the go-to person. We always looked forward to her smiling face and pleasant demeanor. Her passion for the City and its residents will be missed. We want to wish her the best of luck and in the future, and we wish her a long and healthy retirement. Let's all give Jo-Lynn a round of applause. [Applause rang throughout the forum]

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a Proclamation, which designated May 15th as Peace Officers' Memorial Day, and the week in which the date falls as Police Week. This is a week in which we honor those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice and continue to sacrifice their lives for the good of the community. Tonight I want to thank Chief Hale, Lt. Williams and the dedicated Officers of the Ansonia Police Force. Every day you put your lives on the line for our citizens and we are extremely proud of the job you do. Let's have a round of applause for our Ansonia Police Department. [Applause rang throughout the forum]

I want to announce that we are going to do a feasibility study for the new Ansonia Police Station. The study will enable us to get a scope and cost estimate for the proposed new Police station on Olson Drive. At this time, I think it is important that I repeat what I have stated in the past. I want the Fire Department's opinion on whether or not we should also pursue a feasibility study for a state-of-the-art Fire facility. I will be looking for the Fire Department's direction and guidance on this issue, and I would like the Fire Commission to tell us whether or not Fire should be included in this feasibility study. I am hoping to address the Fire Commission regarding this topic.

I also want to recognize former Fire Chief Joe Kingston for his many years of faithful dedication and service to the citizens of Ansonia. He has proudly served the Ansonia Fire Department since May 11, 1976. I hope you will join us all at a testimonial dinner to honor Chief Kingston from 3-7 p.m. June 7th at Grassy Hill Lodge in Derby.

Tonight on your agenda you will consider another Ansonia first. You will have a first-ever Policy and Procedure Manual that will establish guidelines and create efficiencies in our Finance Department and throughout the City Departments. Our departments will allow important steps that will help save the City of Ansonia time and money. These policies and procedures will help modernize and standardize the way we do business. I know Bill

Nimons, our Comptroller, will explain further. I would respectfully request your approval on these important upgrades.

I want to mention that on Monday I was treated to a wonderful presentation of Beauty and the Beast at Assumption School. I attended the musical with our Board President Phil Tripp. Can you guess who was the beauty and who was the beast at that event?

I would like to draw your attention to several upcoming events. This Sunday, May 17th at 2 p.m. there will be a Veterans' Memorial Ceremony at Woodbridge Avenue. I would like to extend an invitation to everyone to attend this memorable event.

On May 24th at 2 p.m. we will be celebrating Memorial Day in the Ansonia Memorial Day Parade. I know that Chris Tymniak, Ralph Villers and Rich DeCarlo and the Ansonia Cultural Commission have been working hard on the plans for this event, and it should be a great parade this year. I encourage all of you and all of the residents to attend.

Finally, I plan to hold an Equality Committee meeting in the month of June. Please stay tuned for the date and time. Thank you all and good evening.

Alderman Adamowski asked, have we hired a new personnel director?

Mayor Cassetti replied no. Right now the duties are being handled by Corporation Counsel Marini and Sheila O'Malley.

Ms. O'Malley stated, the law firm is handling most of the personnel issues.

Alderman Adamowski asked, do we plan on putting one on? What is the long-term plan for that?

Mayor Cassetti replied, the long-term is to get a personnel person in there. Right now I'm going to wait until after the summer.

Alderman Adamowski asked, as far as salary?

Mayor Cassetti stated, no increase.

Alderman Adamowski asked, are they splitting the salary of the personnel director?

Mayor Cassetti replied no. No payment. They are not getting paid at all.

Corporation Counsel John Marini

That was part of my update; in Chris Tymniak's absence, myself and the legal team are taking over the responsibilities for personnel as well as labor in the absence of a formal personnel director. There is no additional salary; we're simply going to fill in the gap until a personnel director is hired, probably sometime in the next six months.

In terms of personnel, to give you an update beyond the personnel report you have in your packets, there are two positions that will have to be filled in the short term. These are

Economic Development specialist, and as the Mayor mentioned Jo-Lynn Flaherty has retired so Payroll Accountant will also have to be filled. Right now those job descriptions are being reviewed by the Mayor's office and by our legal team. There is the possibility of updating both of those positions before they go to posting.

Tonight we are going to discuss a couple of things in Executive Session. I have one item to add – the matter of Jim Hooker v. City of Ansonia. This is a matter we discussed a month ago in Executive Session and I have an update tonight.

Alderman Evans MOVED to add to the Agenda, under Executive Session, the matter of Hooker v. Ansonia; SECONDED by Alderman Radin. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Corporation Counsel Marini continued, the Legal team has been hard at work preparing for negotiations both with the City Hall Union and with the Public Works union. Additionally, we've been working on the City Personnel manual. The City Personnel Code has really not been revised since 1979 but they did an update in about 1982. We hope by next month to have a revised, updated, City Hall Personnel Policy for this Board to consider and to potentially adopt.

Over the weekend, we had an unfortunate accident at Eagle Hose. The good news is that after speaking with our insurance representatives, the deductible for everything is going to be much lower than anticipated. They tell me for the building and for the fire truck combined it shouldn't be more than \$800. That should allay some concerns about paying for the repairs.

We do need an Ordinance Committee meeting at this point to discuss several important issues – I would like to propose a date of 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 19th in the Aldermanic Chambers. I would like to see if we can get the members of the Ordinance Committee to commit to that date.

I will take any questions.

Alderman Evans stated, going back to the Personnel Director. I know what a personnel director makes in an hourly wage and what an attorney makes in an hourly wage. We're not paying attorney hourly wages for a personnel director, are we?

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, your legal fees at this point are essentially capped. So the month-to-month attorneys fees for the firm, and when I say the firm I would say my billable hours, your entire labor team, any work that's done on any other area of the City excluding workers comp pretty much doesn't exceed a certain amount every single month. In fact at this point there's actually some pretty substantial courtesy of credit that the City has racked up. I think it's about \$130,000 in free legal services in this fiscal year. So essentially you're capped. This is not going to impact what you're paying in legal fees at all.

Alderman Adamowski asked, if I work for the City and I had a workers comp case, that goes to your law firm? Your law firm handles the City's workers comp cases?

Corporation Counsel Marini explained, PMA is our Workers Comp insurance company that handles the claims. The firm does the workers comp defense. So essentially the attorneys are billing, when they bill for the hourly rate of workers comp, they're billing it against PMA and the reserves that the City has. So that you are able to look and say okay, this was the cost for workers comp, out of that PMA reserve fund. PMA administers the account.

Alderman Adamowski stated, my question would be If you are working for the City, you would be going against your firm? If they are handling a workers comp case, they're your firm, you are representing the City...

Corporation Counsel Marini interjected, so if you were an attorney, and there was an injured worker in the City of Ansonia and you took his case. If you're also working for the City of Ansonia, that's a conflict of interest. I can't represent an injured worker from the City of Ansonia against the City of Ansonia. That would be a conflict. As it stands, there is no conflict. But you can't have a situation where one attorney that works for the City represents a client against the interest of the City. That would be a conflict situation.

Comptroller Bill Nimons

In your packets today all the finance policies as the Mayor has indicated are in there, for budgeting, bidding, capital, fraud risk, reserve fund balance, investment and purchase order requisition. Once it's approved by the Board of Aldermen it's going to be disseminated to all the departments within the City, so that everybody works under the same set of procedures. That's what we're trying to do, standardize the way things are done. I hope you will approve it tonight. If you have any questions, you can call me or send me an e-mail. I will respond on how we do it. There are a couple of typos in there that are not significant to the policy at all.

Another item on the agenda, we were going to do an ECS seminar with a lot of other towns. Because of conflicts we put it off. Mr. Tymniak has indicated to me that CCM is going to help us put it on for the residents of the City of Ansonia and the other Valley towns, and they're going to do it in this area. It will be coming up very soon. We'd like to do it before September 19th - before the federal lawsuit starts.

President Tripp stated, I know it affects a lot of other towns in the area, like Derby, Woodbridge and Hamden, just to mention a few.

Mr. Nimons clarified, that is the underfunding of the ECS based on the State formulas.

Mrs. Radin noted a correction at the end of page 2 of 25 of the finance policies packet.

Director of Economic Development Sheila O'Malley

We have a new website for Economic Development – it will be www.AnsoniaEDN.com and the idea is to network with businesses to get their feedback, to share information, and to inform everyone of what's happening with Economic Development in the City of Ansonia. I encourage you all to check out the website – there will be Twitter and Facebook and opportunities to post and blog.

We are going to hold a business forum sometime in June so we'll post the date and will make an announcement of that. We want the business owners to come in, talk to our departments, speak with the Mayor, and get a sense of what they need in this community or what they see are the problems, what they see are the pluses, and a networking tool. We will try to hold these business forums regularly.

We have an RFP due back for our two City-owned buildings on May 21st. We are encouraged by the inquiries and the responses so far to the RFP. We hope to get some good proposals.

I don't know if we mentioned the additional \$400,000 in additional grant money that the Mayor received for Riverwalk Segment 8. That will allow us to continue with that segment. It's a difficult piece of the Riverwalk that will cross over the railroad tracks and out onto to Pershing Drive. AT the time that was designed and the money was in place, we've since gone a few years and the project increased. We were fortunate to get additional money.

There was an RFP bid opening for the fire truck and we received one bid which we are going through, looking to make sure everything is in place with that. We opened the bid today. We had six companies that picked up bid packages and we only had one bid submitted, which was under what we had budgeted.

Lieutenant Wayne Williams

Chief Hale is away at a conference for the regional Chiefs of Police.

In the news, there were some press releases done today – there were some narcotics raids done in the past couple of days on the West Side. I think the Aldermen on the West Side were notified where those were. There was a 4-family apartment building; the owner of the property came in today and they started the legal process for evicting. We are working with the homeowners over there to try and clear up some of the problems.

Our new K-9 has arrived from Germany and Czechoslovakia. After a long trek he is in our possession. Officer Paul Smith was selected as our new K-9 Officer and he starts his training with his dog, Kane, on May 18th – it's about a 12-week program. He'll be on the road just toward the end of summer. He'll be a patrol dog cross-trained as a narcotics detection dog. We received Kane at no cost to the City; we are using seized federal assets to pay for the costs.

The gentleman was talking about the North End, unfortunately we did have a violent assault in the park over the weekend. Two arrests made immediately in connection with that – a 45 year-old gentleman was assaulted by a couple of juveniles. It is still under investigation with possibly some additional arrests.

We're working with the Mayor's Office on the Memorial Day Parade to make sure the preparations are there. We should have an Honor Guard at the Memorial Services this weekend on Woodbridge Avenue.

You should be noticing, we have stepped up our motor vehicle enforcement on distracted driving and some stop sign violations, especially in the areas that have come up during the

meetings. As the weather gets nice people tend to travel a little too fast. We've been enforcing the speeding issues.

We just received a grant from OPM – it's a JAG for \$15,000 and that's going towards a body camera program for the officers. We are in the process of testing and evaluating some different cameras right now. We see it as a positive. It's a matter of making sure we have the right program and the right policies in place.

Alderman Jeanette asked, who names the dog? Lieutenant Williams explained that the dog comes with a name, but because they come from Czechoslovakia or Germany, sometimes the name isn't something that we would be able to use. Usually the dogs that come from overseas are renamed; the dogs pick up on it pretty quickly. The Officer has his choice of naming the dog.

President Tripp stated, I am sure I speak for the Board of Aldermen, all of the Police Officers do exemplary work, but please thank those officers that were involved in those raids that can be dangerous – and we admire and respect their work and it is greatly appreciated.

Dr. Carol Merlone – Superintendent of Schools

The ASVAB testing is winding down – the State standardized test on the scientific research based assessment test is winding down in the schools now. I would like to mention that I am very proud that two of our teachers were asked by the State of Connecticut to present at the Alliance Conference. That was Mary Beth Williams and Susan Silva. They presented the Science curriculum program that they put together this year and that lab program came out of the Alliance money. It has really taken off and it has really done wonders for the kids. It is all hands-on at the elementary level and the children love it.

I also want to promote – Annie is premiering at Ansonia High School at 6 p.m. May 14th and 15th. The play is being put on by our Prendergast children. It will be at Ansonia High School and this is the first for Prendergast.

This evening at Mead School we have the STEM night – that's the Science Technology Engineering and Math night for parents and students. That's going on right now.

Mead is hosting an International Day on May 22nd for the community. Please come – it's open doors to the community – and that will be happening all day. We would really love to see the community there.

We're preparing for our Top 10 dinner which will be on June 8th. Right now I'm going to ask the Mayor if he will speak at graduation on 6/18.

I am proud to say our Valedictorian, Pablo Suarez, received a free ride to Yale University. We are so proud of him. He is majoring in cellular molecular biology and then he's going off to pre-med school. This young man is such an inspiration. I sat with him this morning interviewing him. That will be on video; it's going live tomorrow on YouTube. His story was, he came from Ecuador at 12 years old. His Mom had come when he was three years old,

he was left behind in Ecuador with his sisters to be raised. When he was 12 years old he was sent to America and did not know English. He came to Ansonia High School at the age of 14. He tried so hard to make his mother proud of him and he earned a free ride to Yale. He is unbelievable. He says the nine years living without his Mom was really hard, but his Mom taught him how to work hard, persevere and believe in himself. Really, that's all there is in life. We are so proud of him.

Dr. Merlone then read aloud the list of the students who are graduating and going to the different colleges and entering the Army, Navy or Reserves. She noted that the list is incomplete as many students have not decided yet because they are awaiting their best financial package that they could receive. The students that did make their decision, it was not necessarily their first decision; it was based upon what they could afford.

Public Works Director Doug Novak

The downtown lighting here in the City has been upgraded to LED lighting. We just finished that project up with United Illuminating. The lighting at Public Works has been changed over to LED so we should see a big savings there.

We will be commencing mulching all the parks as of tomorrow to get everything ready for the Memorial Day Parade. We will be starting up at Nolan Field and working our way down toward Big Y.

There is a meeting tomorrow with the City Engineer and possibly the Mayor to go over the specifications for repairs to the damage at Eagle Hose. We'd like to get that project underway as soon as possible.

I'd like to announce something that I think is very important to the City. We sat down with the First Selectman of Beacon Falls. We keep talking about regionalization, partnering with other cities, we are entering into discussions to partnering with the Town of Beacon Falls for single stream recycling. As we talked about this over the past, one of the big items of concern was the funding for us to take this on our own. We had mentioned in the past that the number was somewhere in the million dollar range because Winters Bros. would have to buy equipment to be able to handle the single-stream recycling. Also, for the toters that we will be giving to the homeowners. So, if we do accomplish this partnership with the Town of Beacon Falls, the cost will be reduced by possibly a couple hundred thousand dollars to the City. Again, I am very excited about this. This puts us again in the forefront with regionalization. I think when we meet with the COG and Sheila at the next meeting, we have a couple of things we want to bring to the COG and let them know that we are trying to step forward as a small city and make progressive ideas work for us but at a cheaper price. Thank you.

Alderman Vaccaro stated, when you meet with the COG – do others cities jump on the bandwagon with this?

Mr. Novak replied, they could, but it depends on who their garbage company is. They may not be using Winters Bros. Derby uses City, I know Seymour just signed their contract with Winters so they're in a five-year agreement so we can't piggyback on them at all. I think that just the savings on this – it's a smaller-scale savings but to us it's substantial. When we talk

to the COG we might be able to find out if there's anybody local, like maybe Woodbridge, if they want to get involved.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Alderman Lorie Vaccaro

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

Alderman Vaccaro stated, the Comptroller met with the Capital Improvement Committee last Friday – and we have another meeting scheduled for this Friday.

WPCA Committee – Alderman Charles Stowe

Nothing out of the ordinary; trying to help people save some money and be as efficient as possible. I think we're doing that.

Fire Committee - Alderman Joseph Jeanette

In the month of April there were 5 MVA assists; 1 CO investigation; 3 Smoke/Odor investigations; 1 trash; 2 grass; 2 structure; 4 gas leaks; 1 fuel spill; 12 false alarms; 2 public service/good intent calls. Total of calls 33.

Alderman Charles Stowe – Board of Education

I would like the Chairman to respond to what happened with our attempt to have Mayors and First Selectmen meet with us and where we are with that.

Mr. Nimons explained, we're going to set up another meeting. We solicited a lot of other towns and cities to come in and have a session with us on ECS under State law. Typically what we did was target everybody that was underfunded by at least 20 percent. We are underfunded by about 24 percent based on the current formulas. For just a quick synopsis, if we were able to get the additional ECS money, it's another \$6.8 million to come into the City of Ansonia for the school system, which would immensely help with the budgets – both municipal and Board of Education. We will be setting up another meeting; everybody will be invited. Hopefully CCM is going to come in and help us set it all up, organize it, and we'll have a lot of other selectmen and Board of Education people from other towns.

Alderman Stowe stated, Mr. Egan asked about who these reports are for. Me, personally, it's going to be a ceaseless effort – there is no end to where I'm going to put effort towards this. If we don't get that funding, it's not only going to affect the children in this town, it's going to affect the taxpayers in this town, and it's going to affect Economic Development. So my efforts toward this for all different types of reasons – this is very important. Sometimes it gets discouraging but I'm not ready to give up quite yet.

Board of Apportionment & Taxation Recommendations and Comptroller Approvals

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to accept the Board of Apportionment and Taxation Recommendations and the Comptroller Approvals; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Tax Collector Report and Request for Refunds

Alderman Kaslaitis MOVED to accept the report of the Tax Collector and pay the refunds in the amount of \$4,666.59 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Cassetti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Accidents and Claims

None presented.

Communications

Alderman Radin MOVED to accept all communications, dispense with the reading unless an Alderman wants one read, and take them up in their order on the agenda; SECONDED by Alderman Cassetti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Communication #1

**From: Comptroller William Nimons
Re: Proposed Finance Department Policies**

See Resolution #2.

Communication #2

**From: Corporation Counsel John Marini
Re: Amendment to ARMS Agreement with EMMS**

See Resolution #3.

Communication #3

**From: Nina Phipps and David Rhodes
Re: Donation Request from Ansonia American Legion Baseball Team**

President Tripp explained, the total cost to run the program is \$4,200; the organization is requesting a donation of \$1,500 for this all-Ansonia resident team.

Alderman Kaslaitis MOVED to accept the request and donate \$1,500 to the Post 50 American Legion Baseball Program; SECONDED by Alderman Vaccaro for \$1,500. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Communication #4

From: Chief Jared Heon, ARMS
Re: Contract Extension for EMMS

See Resolution #3.

Communication #5

From: Natale Giaimo
Re: Extension of Woodbridge Manor Road

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to approve the request of Mr. Giaimo to extend the end of Woodbridge Manor Road by 60 feet; SECONDED by Alderman Stowe. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Communication #6

From: Dave Connelly
Re: Rules for the Ansonia Farmers' Market

Alderman Stowe MOVED to accept the Farmers Market Rules as outlined in Communication #6; SECONDED by Alderman Kaslaitis. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Resignations

None presented.

Appointments

None presented.

Resolutions

Resolution #1

Re: Joseph Kingston, Jr.

President Tripp read the Resolution aloud as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Aldermen of the City of Ansonia extends their sincere congratulations to Joseph Kingston, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kingston has been an active member of the Hilltop Hose Co. #5 for the past 38 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kingston has actively served as Past Captain and Deputy Fire Marshal and participated in numerous functions and training sessions with Hilltop Hose Co. #5, Ansonia Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kingston was an Assistant Chief in the Ansonia Fire Department from 2004 to 2012; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kingston was Chief of the Ansonia Fire Department from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kingston has two sons, Joe and Jerry, with Joe also serving as a volunteer firefighter for the Ansonia Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kingston's wife, Barbara, has assisted (in a big way) in all of these endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the Ansonia Fire Department is one of the largest departments in the City's government and is comprised of the most complex managerial challenges and has a history of attracting some of the most devoted individuals who exemplify volunteerism to the community to its highest degree; and

WHEREAS, the past chief is being honored with a testimonial dinner on Sunday, June 7, 2015 at Grassy Hill Lodge, Derby, Connecticut;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that this testimonial dinner be the official vehicle for all City officials to express their appreciation to all volunteers but specifically for Past Chief Joe Kingston; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ansonia Board of Aldermen encourages all segments of the community to show their respect for this individual's highly-skilled, highly-motivated and highly-dedicated service to this community by also attending this testimonial dinner.

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to adopt Resolution #1; SECONDED by Alderman Cassettl. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Resolution #2

Re: Finance Department Policies

WHEREFORE, the Board of Aldermen recognizes the importance of modernizing Ansonia's Finance Department policies to ensure a more accountable and transparent Finance Department;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Board of Aldermen hereby adopts updated Finance Policies for the City of Ansonia dated April 22, 2015.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to adopt Resolution #2; SECONDED by Alderman Kaslaitis.

Alderman Vaccaro stated, this brings the City's financial procedures up to date. It maintains a consistent process in place with regard to the City's finances. It's another example of how the Mayor is trying to make the City more efficient and effective.

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

Resolution #3

Re: Amendment to ARMS Agreement with EMMS

LET IT BE RESOLVED that Ansonia Rescue and Medical Services be authorized to enter into an amended agreement with Emergency Medical Management Solutions.

Alderman RadIn MOVED to Adopt Resolution #3; SECONDED by Alderman Cassetti.

Alderman Stowe stated, I would like to mention that they are running their business out of Ansonia, which is nice.

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

New Business

Alderman Daniel Evans

I've been speaking with several people. The State of Connecticut over the past 10 years has lost about 300,000 residents; about 10 percent of its population, primarily the taxpayers. It is my intent to make that 300,001. I have placed my home for sale. Currently with the State of Connecticut they said if they stopped services entirely to me as of today I would still owe them \$27,000. That is the debt that belongs to each one of us. I don't intend to remain in the State. So my home is for sale; I intend to resign as Alderman at the completion of this meeting. I thank you for allowing me to serve.

President Tripp stated, we are sorry to lose you, Mr. Evans.

Mayor Cassetti stated, I want to thank you for your service on behalf of the citizens of Ansonia.

Applause rang throughout the forum.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to accept, with regret, the resignation of Alderman Daniel Evans; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Old Business

None presented.

Executive Session

At approximately 8:10 p.m., Alderman Radin MOVED to enter Executive Session after a five-minute recess to discuss the following items:

- 1. 24 Woodbridge Avenue – Appeal from decision of Zoning Enforcement Officer**
- 2. House v. Ansonia**
- 3. Miller v. Ansonia**
- 4. Poltano v. Ansonia**
- 5. Kachoulas v. Ansonia**
- 6. Bednar v. Ansonia**
- 7. St. Jacques v. Ansonia**
- 8. Aspinwall v. Ansonia**
- 9. Rainville v. Ansonia**
- 10. Hooker v. Ansonia**

and invited Corporation Counsel Marini, Mayor Cassetti, Mr. Novak, Attorney Buturla, and Ms. O'Malley to remain in the Aldermanic Chambers; SECONDED by Alderman Cassetti. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Return to Regular Session

[Alderman Cassetti left the meeting at the onset of the Executive Session; 9 present, 5 absent]

At approximately 9 p.m., Alderman Jeanette MOVED to return to Regular Session; SECONDED by Alderman Kaslaitis. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9-0.

Items from Executive Session

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to authorize Corporation Counsel Marini to proceed as discussed with all of the items discussed in Executive Session; SECONDED by Alderman Kaslaitis. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary
Ansonia Board of Aldermen