



**Ansonia Board of Aldermen
Special Meeting Minutes**

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July 30, 2015

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Call to Order

The Special Meeting of the Ansonia Board of Aldermen was called to order at 6:15 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 – absent
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 Casseti, R5 – present
Joan Radin, R5 – absent
Matthew Edo, R6– absent
Patrick Henri, R6 – present
David Blackwell, Jr., R7 – absent
Frank DeLibero, R7 – present

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

Public Session

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

Edward Musante, 21 Castle Lane

Mr. Musante suggested that Ansonia Police Officer Michael Castillo receive a medal of commendation from the City of Ansonia. Officer Castillo's story went viral and was picked up by a major news network after a citizen photographed him helping a child fix his bicycle in front of Target on West Main Street.

Rescind Mayor's Appointments of July 9, 2015

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to rescind the Mayor's appointments to the Charter Revision Commission of July 9, 2015 and accepted by the Board of Aldermen on July 14, 2015; SECONDED by Alderman Henri. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Revised Appointments of Charter Revision Commission Members

Alderman Henri MOVED to appoint the following persons to the Charter Revision Commission:

Sue Guliuzza (U) of 55 North Spring Street
Joseph Cassetti (D) of 72 Root Avenue
Lorie Vaccaro (R) of 515 Beaver Street
David Blackwell, Jr. (R) of 31 Oak Lane
Leonard Duffus (U) of 10 Hickory Lane
Maritza Clas (D) of 66 Root Avenue

SECONDED by Alderman DeLibero. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Approval of 401(a) Plan
Approval of 457(b) Plan

Comptroller Bill Nimons explained that basically we're going from a defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan. It's not for the older employees right now but for the new employees coming into the system. Most of the ones that are affected are the non-union employees of the Board of Education. That is what we decided to do when we found out that we have a big deficit in our pension plan. We had to freeze it and this was a way to soft-freeze it. We've been working on this for over a year. All of the attorneys reviewed it; Warren Holcomb is the one that drafted up the language to make sure we are in compliance with everything. It's like a 401k. We've tied up with a firm out of Milford to do the investments. It's going to be a match of 50 percent up to four percent of what they're doing, so it's going to cost the City, or the Board of Education, two percent for how much they can put in. The most they can put in is four percent. We had to cap it that way. The Board of Education is actually going to bear that expense; it's the first time ever that we're switching some of the expenses over from the City to the Board of Education and that's all in their budget this current year. It's a tough way to go but we had to do it.

President Tripp asked, would it be fair to say that the previous system was not sustainable?

Mr. Nimons replied yes.

Alderman Henri asked, you said we had a pension deficit?

Mr. Nimons replied yes, we have a big pension deficit. It's around \$7 million. We're working on it. We're doing actuarial contributions so as far as we're concerned right now we have no deficit, if you look at it today. But if you look at it in total, we do

We'll get \$10,000 on a trade-in; that's all it's worth because it is obsolete. If you went through the bid process it could take as long as 18 months before we get a sweeper. We don't have a sweeper right now; the sweeper is down. If we rent a sweeper, the number is just going to be higher and higher. It doesn't make any sense to rent a sweeper.

Mr. Nimons stated that the money for a five-year lease at 2.83 percent is already in the budget.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to waive the bid for the lease/purchase of the sweeper at a cost of \$258,840; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

Adjournment

Alderman Cassetti MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Alderman DeLibero. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 8-0.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary
Ansonia Board of Aldermen