Ansonia Board of Aldermen
Regular Meeting Minutes February 9, 2016

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:

Randolph Carroll, R1– absent
Charles Stowe, R1 – present
Philip Tripp, R2 – present
Lorie Vaccaro, R2 – present
Denice Hunt, D3 – present
Joseph Jeanette, D3– present
Richard Kaslaitis, III R4 – present
Ashley Rogers, R4 – present
Anthony Cassetti, R5 – absent
Joan Radin, R5 – absent
Matthew Edo, R6– present
Patrick Henri, R6 – present
David Blackwell, Jr., R7 – present
Frank DeLibero, R7 – present

President Tripp declared a quorum of 11 present, 3 absent.

Consideration of Previous Minutes

Alderman DeLibero MOVED to accept the minutes of the January 12, 2016 Regular Meeting; SECONDED by Alderman Edo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Public Session

Daniel King, 15 Williams Street

I'm here tonight to speak on behalf of the City Sheriffs. There is a request before the Board of A&T for the purchase of badges and IDs for the City Sheriffs. After being elected, it has come to my attention from the other Sheriffs that they have no proper credentials. They have never had them. It's a safety issue; it's very dangerous for them to perform their duties - to go out, serve papers, do work for the City and if somebody was to ask for ID, there is no way to prove it. It could get someone into a lot of trouble. As Chief Hale would tell you, if somebody came onto your property or presented themselves to someone you would ask who they are and they would expect to see some identification to prove it.

I also saw that there is a Communication tonight – that was a separate matter that was brought up by our Vice Chairman as in regard to moving forward and in line with keeping everybody having IDs, that would be for all City employees and officials. We can possibly look for funding, maybe with a grant or some other way. We could make a specification so if we have a City worker, maybe from the Assessor's Office or Tax Office or Public Works, anyone that goes out, they would be able to show who they are and then state what their business is.

For the Sheriffs, the request we put in was for $2,000 and that would purchase badges, identification holders for them, and possibly an outer jacket to identify us at a distance of who we are. The badges of course would be reusable. Everybody would have identification that would expire at the end of each term so we don't have an abundance of badges and IDs out there.

Alderman Vaccaro and Mr. King discussed the fact that there are five City Sheriff positions, with one vacancy due to the passing of Roy Tidmarsh. The $2,000 would cover the cost of shields and holders, photo identification badges with lanyard, and jackets with the Sheriff identification on them, and perhaps business cards.

Thomas Henri, 7 Hawkins Road

Regarding the public meeting at Prendergast about the regionalization of different departments, I just want to know, what is the procedure if you step forward with this? Does it have to go through the Board? Is money already set aside for it? What departments does it include? I know you mentioned Animal Control and I think Building. Other than that is there any one else that you wanted to include?

Mayor Cassetti replied, sewer. And as far as the process, we have to do a feasibility study on all of these. This is in the infancy stages right now.

Mr. Henri stated, well I spoke with several Aldermen and they didn't even know about it.

Mayor Cassetti stated, it needs to go to a feasibility study.

Mr. Henri asked, is there any timeline on this?

Mayor Cassetti replied, not really.

Mr. Henri stated, several Aldermen didn't even hear about it until that night, and that took them by surprise. You'd think they would have known about it before some of the public did. I just wanted to see what the process is.

Keith Maynard, 8 Cliff Street

This is in regard to the proposal with Resolution #3 involving background checks for coaches and administrators in our Youth Programs. This issue will affect multiple programs within the City. My opinion is that it's geared toward one individual or program. It should affect other programs, boards, committees. For example, there are no background checks done for the Youth Basketball program – that program would be done. Anyone setting foot on the Nature Center to volunteer. Again, if I'm a bird person I'm going to go up there and do a bird show or whatever, I would have to pass a background check according to what the City is looking for. I am involved with the Youth Football program. A headache for us is day of game volunteers. We're pulling people out of the stands to hold the chains, to do the minimum play requirements. That is going to be a headache with this background check policy. We have a joint effort with Derby Softball. The Derby coaches would have to adhere to the Ansonia policy.

In my opinion, I feel I am being targeted behind this issue. I was asked to try and straighten out the Youth Football Program from prior years by different people on the Board of Rec. I thought I did that. I brought issues up as far as spending, inappropriate waiving of fees, purchases without Board approval, failure to report fundraising income. This is the result that, again, I feel I am targeted and I feel this is all geared toward me.

According to the City website and calendar, the Ordinance Committee did not meet at all in 2015. Now all of a sudden you have a meeting on January 20th, you have a meeting on February 3rd that approved this resolution, tonight it's before the Board of Aldermen, and coincidentally we have elections for our Youth Football program on February 25th. Is it a coincidence or is it not? Again, I feel I am being targeted behind this.

I have yet to see minutes recorded from the January 20th Ordinance Committee meeting. I've been involved with AYF for two years, no issues, that's a national program. I've been involved with Little League for two years, that's a worldwide program. I've been involved with the Boys and Girls Club for over 10 years, that is one of the largest nationally-recognized non-profit organizations in the country, and they don't have issues with certain background. I don't understand where this whole ordinance or policy, I don't see a liability clause; none of these other organizations are worried about liability. Why would Ansonia be concerned with liability. It is not a factor. The City of Ansonia has employees who, if they choose to coach, cannot coach behind this policy. It should involve the high school; it should involve all across the Board, not just the youth programs. It should be across the Board whether you're on the Board of Education, if you're a volunteer for PTO, it should be across the Board. Thank you for your time.

Alderman Vaccaro stated, regarding the minutes, that night Alderman Carroll was taking the minutes and he's been out sick for some time. He's not here tonight.

Mr. Maynard stated, I understand, but the meeting took place on the 20th; does no one know where Randy Carroll lives? I understand and he has my sympathy, but I mean, something - everything is done electronically. I don't know the nature of his illness, I respect his illness, I understand, but I do believe it should be done in a timely manner. I just ask that this Board revisit the resolution on the table tonight. Thank you.

Alderman Henri stated, we actually won't be voting to pass or not pass that tonight. There is going to be another Ordinance Committee meeting so when there is another ordinance meeting notice will go out and you're welcome to attend that meeting.

Sakini Depina, 29 Lester Street

I have a question of a special meeting that was held last night for football that was supposed to be specific to special meeting Interim Football Board Shoreline Pop Warner, which I am a part of, and I was not cut in on this email. There was a meeting on February 2nd with the Board of Rec that clearly stated that the meeting will be held February 15th. Who changed it? Who allowed it? Why wasn't I cut in on it if I am part of the interim board?

President Tripp replied, I would not know; I would have to defer to the Recreation Commission or our Recreation Committee.

Corporation Counsel Marini explained, that was a meeting of two quasi-municipal boards and their members. So the Ansonia Football, which is not an entity of the Board of Aldermen or the Board of Recreation. The question would have to be appropriately deferred to the members of the football organization.

Ms. Depina stated, specified people voted and the Interim Board was not there, which I am a part of the Interim Board. I was not on there and I was excluded from that e-mail, and a vote that they made without the Interim Board there – the total Interim Board, which was voted in on February 2nd as well, which is in your minutes. You will see in the minutes that February 15th was also supposed to be the voting of Pop Warner versus Shoreline.

President Tripp stated, like many of the Board members I can only say that I am unknowing about that and we will have to look into it.

Ms. Depina asked, is it something that's legal? Is it something that was legally set? Was it a legal meeting? We got an e-mail at 9-something at night on Friday night when everything was closed; the schools were closed. Monday the schools were closed.

President Tripp stated, not being an attorney I cannot offer a legal opinion; I would have to defer to Corporation Counsel.

Ms. Depina stated okay, so in the meeting minutes it clearly says that the meeting was set for February 15th. Why was it changed to February 8th?

President Tripp stated, I don't have answers here in front of me right now. You are on the public record; your questions are there.

Ms. Depina asked, and again, is it best common practice? Because whether you have trouble with the law has a lot to do with where you were born, who your family is, who your political friends are and type of legal representation you can afford. This district needs to take a deeper look at what they're doing, and if they're hurting the programs or are they really hurting the kids, and if they're really for the kids.

Greg Johnson, NAACP, PO Box 6, Ansonia

I guess I'm preaching to the choir because you just said that you guys really don't know much about the football situation. I would only ask on your advisory that someone looks into this matter because it's pretty much a trickle-down effect. The NAACP was a main component for the Second Chance Bill that was just passed, and the Legislators and the Governor and everybody else recognized the Second Chance Act. So hopefully it trickled down to the municipalities. If this Ordinance is going to be voted on, I truly hope that the public is invited. I hope that it is reevaluated and looked at again for what it is, because it impacts a lot of lives and a lot of youth. Everybody around here knows that Ansonia is a football town, so we want to make sure that we stay the course and put our best foot forward to allow our young folks to grow and learn.

Venitha Larell, 179 North Main Street

I've come tonight not necessarily asking for answers but wanting to appeal to the Board of Aldermen. I sat in on a Board of Recreation meeting a couple of nights ago and was informed that the Board of Aldermen for the City of Ansonia serve as liaison between the Board of Rec, sub-boards, and the community. While I sat in on that meeting, there were a number of things that I watched happen. There were questions asked I asked months ago. I said, "what is protocol for coming into a Board of Rec meeting?" "What is protocol for volunteering and being a part of a board or a volunteer for the City programs, whether it's the executive Rec Board, a sub-board, an interim board, any of the boards?" "What are requirements for those?" I asked again at this last Board of Rec meeting for the same information. How are we governing ourselves as a board while sometimes the public is invited; other times it's very exclusive and we don't get information until it's already voted on. The response from the Board of Rec at that time was, "We just don't have anything." I don't understand you "don't have anything." We don't have anything in writing. There were a few of the Aldermen there and they can attest to that. We

don't have anything right now. So when I asked months ago, "Are we following protocol?" or "Are we operating on best common practices?" because the things that we've done suited us for so many years and it's okay, but now it's become a problem, and is that fair to everybody? Is everybody involved in the City in any programs, are they getting just due? Who can they appeal to? We don't have anything. Furthermore, I watched during that meeting. When we are tired of hearing somebody talk, or we want somebody to be quiet, we are running by Roberts Rules of Order. I respect that, I'm aware of it, I know how it runs. I'm going to respect the three minutes then I'm going to be quiet. Are we respecting Roberts Rules of Order across the Board when we're voting on things, or is it just because we've been in here since 6 or 7 o'clock and it's 10 o'clock and this is ridiculous.

I watched the President of the Rec Board pretty much get trampled over by tiptoe by other members on the Rec Board. "I make a motion to do this." "I second that." Their president, their chairperson is sitting there and saying, "I'm not going to raise that; I'm not going to put that to a vote right now." He's outnumbered and so, "You can't say that now, Mr. Smith, because we've already made a motion, somebody's already seconded it, and we voted on it." I think that some of the practices that I'm watching, and unfortunately the Mayor knows me and other people in the room have met me in other capacities, in other meetings. I think that what's happening now is that there's a lot of inequality happening. There's not a lot of level playing field. I was taken aback until tonight, I'm not the only person, now I see, who's not getting answers. So I'd ask you to consider, Mr. Mayor and the Board of Aldermen, Chief Hale, and anybody in a position of leadership, I'd ask that you all take a closer look at what's really happening as far as voting, procedures, who's included, who's excluded.

As far as the ordinance for criminal backgrounds and things like that I want to go on record saying that I don't condone any criminal activity whatsoever. If you commit a crime, there's a justice system that can take care of that. However, I am not the justice system and I don't think a lot of us here, other than Chief Hale, have had the power to deal with it – for youth programs and being a volunteer, we were reminded for a whole season – "your coaches and your volunteers don't get paid for this." But they're few and far between. You don't have people knocking your doors down to volunteer for programs. I think that when you look at a youth program to say that if you have a criminal history at all, we can't consider you. I think that does the community, the children and the programs a disservice. And if we were to pass something like that I'd ask you to consider, how do you police that? How do you police that for a youth program, say, like AYF?

President Tripp stated, I wasn't aware of much of that so as I've said before, we do have several members on this Board of Aldermen that are assigned to the Recreation Commission and I'm sure Corporation Counsel and the Mayor are very much aware of it now. Thank you.

ARMS Chief Jared Heon, 10 Kiely Lane

We have a communication in front of you tonight. I have a lot of staff members here regarding looking to go out to bid for a new ambulance. We're asking for your support. I have people here that have been members for 40 years and people that have been members for 40 days. They'll be available to ask any questions. We're looking for your support. We have two older ambulances. The analogy I was using with our Commission last week is, if you remember what a cell phone looked like in 1999 and compare it to today's cell phone. There are great differences. We are using 1999 vehicles and technology today in 2016. There are various other reasons that we run into problems getting parts and things like that. Things have been pushed off for a number of years. We're just to the point that we feel this is a severe safety concern and we'd appreciate your support in this. Thank you.

Kente Douglas, 55 Beaver Street

I'm a volunteer football coach. I'm an ex-offender. I was recommended to come and help out our program. I also was a former football player here for a long time – in 1988 I was a really good football player for this Ansonia youth program. I can speak for an ex-con and wanting to be involved with these kids. I play a big role with a lot of the kids in the high school now, and I serve as a mentor. I'm there all the time. I get phone calls, kids are going the wrong way, I show them by example – this is what it's about. I think I'm really good for the program. I think there are some guys in the program now that are really good for it. I can speak for myself - I eat and sleep football. I've made some bad decisions in my life in the past. I got a great support network now and I really don't get involved with the politics too much. I can speak for my coaching staff. We eat and sleep these kids, I see the kids in the street and I pull over, "hey, how's it going, how's school, how's the grades," you know, "hey, it's kind of late, it's 10 o'clock, you're in 8th Grade," you know, "where's your Mom at..." "Oh, I'm going home now." "Alright, go home, I'm going to call your Mom." I don't know what the meeting is for, but I was told as me being an ex-offender that I could be affected. I was granted a provisional pardon by the State of Connecticut and in no way do I make any excuses for my past, but I know where my future is going. I'm really good for the kids. I speak with Keith all the time. I mean, during the season, continuous, 12 o'clock at night phone calls just concerning the kids. I can speak for us, I'm all for the kids. I have a very close relationship with Coach Brockett – he calls me up, "Hey, I'm losing a kid, go talk to him. I don't want him to go astray." I got kids, so... Coach Kenny, he's one of the first kids that I mentored. It was a roller coaster ride with Kenny; I enjoyed it – he still calls me up. He's our head coach, I play as an assistant under Coach Kenny.

President Tripp stated, we all appreciate what you do and we appreciate your mentorship. Point well taken. Thank you.

Ed Musante, 21 Castle Lane

I went to the Police Commissioners in December and told them Woodbridge Avenue is an accident waiting to happen. They said they will check into it. Right after that an accident happened.

President Tripp stated, Chief Hale was there with me last week and he is working on it. It's being corrected.

Mike D'Alessio's crew did an excellent job in the snow.

President Tripp stated, I agree. Thank you.

Brian Ryan, 43 Holbrook Place

I'm one of those older time members that Jared was speaking about, almost 20 years with ARMS. I come from a time period when we were really struggling. I don't know how many people remember those times but we were struggling for many years. Sometimes the ambulances wouldn't even start to get out the door. You have made great progress in the last 5-10 years with ARMS and bringing them toward really good goals. I really appreciate all the hard work you do day in and day out. I don't know if people realize some of the difficult decisions that you have to make. I'm here to obviously support the purchase of one ambulance as soon as possible and again, if you remember, if you buy two now, you will lock in the price. Prices just keep going up and up. The faster you act and purchase these ambulances the ability to save some money is there. Continue on the great path that you have brought ARMS. I support one ambulance now and an ambulance in the next budget year. Thank you.

Ryan Hunt, 7 Hale Drive

Similar to what Brian and Jared said, we've got four ambulances. Two ambulances are severely aged – you can talk about a 1998 ambulance and the technology that is associated with something like that. You have the two newer ambulances, and by newer – they're not new but they're newer - and you have two that are so old you're constantly running the two newer ones because they're more reliable, obviously, than the other two. You're beating up the two better, more reliable ambulances while the other two are just kind of hanging on for dear life. In the event that you get a third call in town, which happens very frequently. When we're standing by at football games which we do religiously, and we enjoy doing and being a part of that team, we're tying up an ambulance for that purpose as well. There's one down right there, if you have one that goes out for general service, you obviously are really stretching thin the resources that we have.

I work full time for a Fortune 500 company, I work here part time. Any well-run company will make sure that they have a business plan in place to renew their

resources so they don't get put in the position where you're stuck wishing, hoping and trying to piece things together. I appreciate your time and ask you to consider the vote on this.

Brian Piccirillo, 9 Alan Drive

As far as the petition for the background check. I've been a volunteer in the Youth programs for the last 16 years in town. I've seen a lot of volunteers that have done nothing but good for the children and the programs. As far as everything, most volunteers in Ansonia – first off it is very hard to get volunteers for the programs. Unfortunately, parents aren't jumping out of the woodwork to come and volunteer. We struggle every year looking for more people. Luckily over the last couple of years some of the younger kids are coming up that have been through the programs coming in, and it's great to see the interaction with the kids. All the guys that I've ever coached with and have been a part of whether they have a past or not, watching them work with the kids on a daily basis, even in the off season, just the interaction, most of the coaches see a kid walking down the street or at a school function, everybody's always asking, "How's school? How's your grades?" because we know that's another important factor in life. We're not only teaching these kids sports and getting them ready for the next level there, but we are also getting them ready for the next level of life. I've had kids come back to me that I coached 15 years ago and said thank you for helping. It had nothing to do with anything with sports, it was just maybe a five extra minutes we took with them when we saw them out in the grocery store or something like that. The volunteers in the programs are very hard to come by and it would make all the programs suffer tremendously as far as getting the right people in place to run the programs. Thank you.

Jeff Jackson, 156 Spring Hill Avenue, Meriden

I'm also a coach with Ansonia football. My grandson plays down there. I travel from Meriden, to go to work, to go to Pennsylvania, to come back, to come down here for practice every day for my grandson. I've coached with a lot of the guys here; I've played with a lot of the guys here. This background check, I don't know whether it affects me or not, it's been so long, but it affects just about everybody in here. For you to pass something like this would be a travesty because we would lose a lot of good people here that volunteer their time, sometimes their money, and just overall just talking with people, talking with these kids. My grandson didn't even want to play unless I told him I was going to come down here and coach for him. His mother was going to send him to Derby. I told him I'd come down here and coach; that's what I did. They sent me a text and told me that this was happening, and I'm wondering why. How did this come about? Can anybody tell me how this came about? I've coached in Meriden for the last 10-15 years, boys' baseball. I just started coaching back football for my grandson last year. This in no way, shape or form is this done in Meriden. I'm wondering how did this come about now. This is going to affect just, maybe not me, but everybody else in here, and

eventually it's going to affect these kids. These kids are used to us, they're used to the things that we're teaching them - everybody in here has a lot of knowledge to give these kids. Otherwise you're going to lose that and lose the kids at the same time.

Kenneth Tinney, 72 High Street

I'm with the football guys as well and this directly affects myself. I've been in the program for three years now. If anyone of you guys recognizes me, I am football here. My family loves football. This is what I do it for. If there is anyone influential out there on the field, I'm pretty sure the coaching staff of all the ages they can tell you, the kids love me. I'm there for the kids. I got called up by an ex-board member to come up and help with the kids. I've been there ever since. There hasn't been a day I've missed, and I have my own family, my own priorities to take care of. Like they said, it's hard trying to find the volunteers to do the things that we actually do up there. We're not just sitting there doing the things for our own accolades. We're doing it for the betterment of the community. I've seen a lot of kids come through this program, myself included, that went the wrong path. My job, and our job, is to do things on a different note. Mr. Chester, Mr. Goldson, they opened up the Middle School to me, we go up there, we counsel with the kids that are, you know, doing things that I've done. I've been there, like I said. I went to college, I left school. So I'm trying to get all these kids not to leave. I've got kids who are juniors in high school right now from my first year of coaching. To this day, we see about 20-30 kids who we've coached, me and Brian, that still come back, so obviously we're doing something right. I don't know what's going on with the ordinance but we're here on behalf of that.

Chicago Rivers, 19 Tomlinson Street

I'm here to speak on the youth ordinance. Even though it would not affect me, it would affect a lot of good coaches who I've known over the years. I've coached here now for probably about five years. It's hard to find a good coach, a good assistant coach. They may have a past but it is exactly that. A past. Thank you.

Asline Ramires, 15 Beechwood Drive

This was the first year that I brought my kids to Ansonia to play football. I had them in Milford for four years. We lived there when he first started, now he's in 8th grade. He had Kenny and Kente as his coach. I appreciate everything they did. If this ordinance was to go through, my youngest child who is in 2nd grade will be going back to Milford. I refuse to exclude good coaches because of pasts. We all have pasts; we all have skeletons in our closet. Why bring everything to light that is in the past. I understand if it happened last year, yeah, that's a problem. But it happened 10 years ago? Why bring it up? Thank you.

Mike Marganski, 14 Franklin Street

I'm here to support Chief Heon and the organization, Ansonia Rescue Medical Services. I've been a member down there for 32 years. I've seen a lot of things go on in the organization and a lot of positive things go on. As far as the two ambulances that they're looking to replace, the ambulances need to be replaced. One thing we should not be looking at when we have tough choices to make, but two things I look at is the health, safety and welfare of our residents are not something we should be messing with – the ambulances should be funded. We should be looking for that money. The KKK specs of the federal government regulate what's going to happen in the future and always has on how much the cost of those ambulances are. I've spent the better part of 30 years in one ambulance in one organization or another. We have a gentleman, David Geloso, who is able to fix things with Band-Aids© and bubble gum at times. We shouldn't be doing that, folks. The public relies on our vehicles to get out there. We are a revenue generating organization. For the most part, we cover the expenses of the organization. You have a wonderful staff that is committed to the town, committed to the residents. Our ambulances run 24/7, there is not a call that's dropped. There is always somebody in that building. The crews step up to do extra jobs that really, Public Works should be doing, taking care of maintenance, but the people in that organization take care of the building for the most part. We have a roof that was just repaired. I hope that we're not going to lose funding for an ambulance for consideration because we have to go back, we have to find money. You get what I'm saying. It's a tough thing. We need to fund these ambulances. These guys do a really good job. I'm happy to be part of them. The Chief is running an exemplary organization. He gave you a capital plan for replacement back in 2011 and for whatever particular reason, we had to go about, we made harder choices at this point. In 2016 we need to replace those ambulances. Thank you.

William Sanders, 151 North State Street

I don't have a problem, but this background check is going to hurt so many kids. It's like a death penalty for the Pop Warner program. Honestly. We're taking off from work, we're there every day, some days I call out just so I can be there for those kids. These coaches do the same thing. It's something we've been implementing for the last two years is student athletes. We have so many athletes that come out of Ansonia and they just focus on just football and not the educational part. We're trying to change that. We get e-mails from teachers, they call us and they let us know, "Hey, he's acting up in school." Guess what? He doesn't play in the game. If you're not doing it right in school, you're not playing in the game. We're trying to change the whole fundamental Ansonia – you're a student-athlete. That's what we tell these kids when they come out, "you are a student athlete". These coaches work so hard. You wouldn't even believe how hard we work. Sometimes we're holding signs because we don't have parents out there helping us. Some coaches are out there doing this stuff and we have parents spitting at us. You know? This is the stuff we're dealing with. We are volunteering our time. They come out there and

they don't have the experience, some kid gets hurt because they're not following technique. I've been doing this Pop Warner for like 7 years of my life and I played under Jack Hunt. My name is Woody; that's what they used to call me in high school. I have one leg. You know, you teach these kids to believe in themselves and that's one of the things, when I was going a hard road in my life, thank God I never really got in serious trouble, this is what helped me believe in myself and tell me that mentally, I could conquer this and get through it and be a better person. And what did I do? I turned around and I want to give it back to the youth. We see them turning the wrong way and we're always watching – "Hey, get yourself on straight. Get your grades up." Teaching them the stuff that we learned, the mistakes that people have went through in their lives. Because nobody is perfect; everybody has a past. I'm going to tell you, these coaches work harder than ever. If you knew the stuff that we put up with these last two years – you'd be like, you'd be giving applause to us. We work hard. Kids with disabilities, kids with mental disabilities, you have no idea, kids on medications and parents send them up to us and they don't put them on their medication and they're like, "Hey, watch them," not "Hey, I didn't tell you he was on 30 different medications," because they forget to tell us and they're running around... We deal with that. But we don't come to the Board about that, we help them because we want to help them. We want to make them better. I hope you reconsider. Thank you very much.

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

Before I start, I want to assure you that I am going to set up a meeting with the Board of Recreation and the Ordinance Committee to meet. Keith, Kente, let me tell you, as long as I sit in the Mayor's Office, you will still be here. You're not going anywhere. These are going to be based on a sex offender. Do you want a sex offender watching your kids? No. So we have to do this. I know that you guys are embedded in Ansonia and you've done a phenomenal job with the football. My wife informed me tonight if this goes through that our child is going to Derby. I know that I'm the Mayor of Ansonia; that kid is not going to Derby even though half of me is from Derby, my mother. But I assure you I'm going to set up a meeting with the Ordinance Committee and the Recreation Board, and I will be there. We'll do this as soon as possible. The Rec Chairman will set it up. We're going to rectify this. I know how important this is. Thank you.

Good evening President Tripp, Members of the Board of Aldermen, and residents of the great City of Ansonia. Many of you were present at last night's Board of A&T meeting and Finance subcommittee meeting, and you may have heard some of what I'm going to say, but I believe it bears repeating. I have worked hard with my Comptroller Bill Nimons and my Finance team to craft a City budget which is both

responsible to taxpayers while still managing to maintain and even enhance vital City services. This budget was presented to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation last night and in 30 days will be passed on to you for final approval. It is a fully transparent process designed to hold public officials responsible of how taxpayer money is spent. Let me share some thoughts on my proposed budget with you.

First and foremost, my plan once again prioritizes the Ansonia taxpayer by calling for Ansonia's third straight mill rate reduction. I believe we can achieve a modest and sustainable tax cut in the amount of .33 mill reduction this year. The mill rate will drop from 37.52 to 37.19. This would be .89 percent change in the overall tax rate. In terms of savings you will also see that I am proposing reductions in eight line items this year and holding the line on another three. These are tough decisions to make yet we can pass these savings onto the taxpayers and ensure that priority services are not harmed.

I also want to address funding for our schools. Last week, the Board of Education recommended a 6.75 percent budget increase. I have contemplated the request and I am proposing a compromise. Specifically, I am recommending a 2.5 percent increase on the Board of Education budget this year, contingent on the implementation of a high deductible health care plan and health savings account for all education union employees. The adoption of the so-called HSA plans has been a home run for both City and its employees. Union workers in both the Police and the Municipal Employees' union voted to adopt such plans over the last year, saving taxpayers nearly $1 million. On the other hand, the HSA plan provides our employees with flexible and quality coverage, not to mention the ability to spend tax-exempt dollars on qualified medical expenses. I am therefore calling on Ansonia's education unions to open their contracts for mid-term bargaining by adopting HSA plan, we can make significant structural changes in our education contracts that I project will save approximately $600,000. This savings can be directly applied to needs of our school system and therefore avoid a tax shock to our residents. I have full faith that our Board of Education employees will help us achieve these savings.

Tonight, I also want to talk to the taxpayers and this Board about all the work the Finance team and I did to craft a capital improvement plan. You will hear more about that from our Comptroller, Bill Nimons, shortly. With this plan, the City of Ansonia will look to improve its infrastructure, roads, bridges, schools, parks, public safety, fields, and other needs. This is a way for the City to make necessary improvements incrementally, over time. Let me be perfectly clear that the CIP will not increase taxes for the residents of Ansonia. It is a plan that means that we will be planning for our future instead of using a pay as you go system that is costly and time-consuming. We will be able to implement these improvements by paying off our existing debt. I ask that you consider supporting the plan. It makes good fiscal sense. It is recommended by the bond rating agencies, and our bond counsel

Attorney Joe Fasi and most of the 169 towns and cities in Connecticut have adopted a Capital Improvement Plan.

Finally, I want to talk a little bit about regionalization. I firmly believe that in order for us to sustain ourselves and lower taxes yearly, we must look at ways to regionalize City services. Not only will regionalization save taxpayers money, increase the amount of funding we can secure, but it will improve City services. To that end, I am looking to our neighbors north and south, and anyone who will join with me in an effort to study the various ways we can come together and help our taxpayers. Right now, we have begun discussions and are only in the feasibility stages of looking at ways to combine services. I ask that you keep an open mind for the benefit of our taxpayers and allow us to explore all of the possible benefits. Regionalization is supported by our state and federal governments, and there are the will to be incentives to make this happen. Already we have regionalized our planning, transportation and Economic Development entities. We are working with the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments for opportunities involving consortiums. We are taking advantage of a feasibility study for our sewer systems and other services. I refuse to allow Ansonia to be left behind. As always, let's work together to make Ansonia a better place than when we found it. Thank you and good evening.

The ice rink is opening up this Saturday, 4-9. We're supposed to have zero temperatures through the rest of the week. Bring your ice skates.

Corporation Counsel John Marini

As demonstrated tonight we have a very strong and caring community in Ansonia, and I believe that under this Mayor and this Board the community is only getting stronger. Testament to that, we have property owners all over the City that are helping lead the way. They're keeping their properties clean, they're being responsible and being fair to the tenants that live in their apartments and in their units. But on the other side, we have a problem. We have many property owners and many landlords that are not living up to their end of the bargain. They are treating their tenants in a disrespectful and a shameful way. We have people living in deplorable conditions in the City. We have problems going on with tenants living in unsafe conditions, we have properties that are contaminated, that are blighted, that are dragging the property values of neighborhoods down, that are full of people that are following the law and trying to make things better. We are moving now into a second phase of our enforcement program against blighted conditions and cracking down on residential violations and landlords who are not living up to their end of the bargain. We are going to be unveiling next month the beginnings of a plan to get even tougher on these conditions and make Ansonia a healthier and safer place.

Some of the highlights of this month, we are going to be giving monthly updates on the progress of our Land Use Department. That is the driving force behind our

enforcement program. You're going to see numbers on what the activity has been for the month, blight violations, apartment violations, you'll see how much has been remediated, you'll see how many claims are still open. You're also going to get details on the revenue being brought in by this department. This is becoming a very self-sustaining department, this fiscal year alone we've brought in $144,000 plus blight fees, permits and more. This will be a monthly update that you're going to get from here on in. Also, you're going to hear about some new plans, in particular, using some grant funds to pay for major technological improvements paid for by technological LOCIP grants that are going to be able to create a new App for cellphones so that residents and tenants can report blight and zoning violations and apartment violations from their cellphones. Not only that, they'll be able to track those complaints to resolution. It's a whole new way of accountability that the City can help its residents with.

We are also going to establish a volunteer pool. We know we have a lot of people in the City, blighted properties, but they're seniors, or they're disabled, or they're low income. We need to figure out ways to help them comply with the blight laws without being overly-punitive. The idea is a new application process where qualifying individuals can get volunteers to help, at no charge, to resolve blight violations on the property.

You're going to see some new rules in effect to deal especially with the issue of absentee landlords, many of them living out of state, that are simply not being responsive to their tenants and not being responsive to resolving violations on their property. There's going to be a new set of inspections and a new set of penalties for not complying. The goal, of course, is to make landlords responsible and keep the citizens of Ansonia safe. Tentatively we're calling this new program Stomp Blight and Zoning, and we're going to be unveiling it shortly.

Alderman Vaccaro stated, in fiscal year July 2015 to now the total revenue brought in was $144,000?

Corporation Counsel Marini stated, it is $144,000 from the beginning of the fiscal year to a little over the half-way mark. With increased efforts we're looking at about $300,000 in revenue generated by this department by the end of this fiscal year. And I should say a lot of credit goes to Ronda Porini and the enforcement staff that have really stepped up their efforts and are tackling complaints every day. Dave Blackwell, Sr. our Blight and Zoning Enforcement Officer as well as Nick Behun.

Economic Development Director Sheila O'Malley

Good evening, I am pleased to present my report to you tonight. Let's do Grants first – City Hall roof replacement would be the first topic for discussion. We selected a contractor for this job and because of the weather – they were going to start this winter, it was warm enough, but because of the weather we just didn't get the timing correct. Hopefully in the springtime or if it warms up they will begin. They're

going to have a notice to proceed and a contract signing soon. Money is still in place for that project and we anticipate moving on that shortly, hopefully very soon.

Open Space – we just completed a grant for open space for 26 Gardners Lane for the purchase of a 13.8-acre parcel for open space. We'll hear on that in late spring early fall.

Fire Department Grant – Chief Tremblay and Eileen Eheman did the bulk of the work on that grant. I assisted, not very much, but they did a fabulous job and submitted that grant for breathing apparatus. We won't hear on that for a few months as well.

We're looking for money for blight and demolition to remove some of the dilapidated and health and safety risk properties. To that end we've applied for some funding from the State to help with demolition activities.

Two items – on Thursday, February 18th we are co-sponsoring with People's Bank a planning for a healthy business forum geared toward small business owners planning for their future, putting a marketing plan together, and how to sustain yourselves in the interim of getting your business up and running. It will be held here from 5-7 in the Aldermanic Chambers.

There is a public forum on February 22nd at 7 p.m. concerning our vibrant communities initiative grant. We'll be talking about marketing studies, zoning regulations, and a feasibility study for the Armory. You will see more about it on our website. We'll post both on the Economic Development website and the City website.

City owned buildings – we will be expecting a site plan from the developers for their proposal for our two properties. Then we will work on a purchase and sale agreement before this Board.

A lot of people have been asking about Healey Ford. The closing is scheduled for the end of this month. There is a two-acre parcel of contaminated soil that has to be removed and encapsulated – that's in the gas station and the auto repair area. The showroom and the service department are clean and ready to be occupied. The owner anticipates a June ribbon cutting.

Regionalization - the conversation for regionalization has been taking place for years – on the federal level, on the state level and even on the local level, so I'm sure everyone is aware of regionalization and what it can do for your community. I support the Mayor's efforts to look into regionalization. It increases our potential for securing more funding and to help lower the taxes for our taxpayers. So I encourage and support regionalization.

Comptroller William Nimons

The Capital Plan was accepted last night by the Aldermanic Finance Committee and will be going out tomorrow to all the departments so that we can tweak it a little bit – the numbers – and see where we're going. This is a plan that has been in the works for a few months now. Everybody has had input into it. It is a five to seven year plan. Now we have a roadmap. It's going to probably be about $25-35 million [inaudible]. We have to go out to the taxpayers – they have to vote it – I don't even want to think about if they vote it down. If not then we're back to pay as you go. We can't operate with a pay as you go method, because things are more expensive. I understand what Jared is saying about the ambulances. He knows they're expensive. We know they're expensive. But if we have the roadmap then it will go. So May 10th is going to be a referendum day for the Capital Plan and we encourage all taxpayers to vote on it.

The plan will be due back to the Finance Office and Committee by next Friday the 19th from all the departments, so we need all the support from all the departments to look at the numbers to see what we want to add or subtract. This has been gone through a lot of times and a lot of edits.

The Budget was submitted to the Board of A&T last night. I guess they're set up for starting to have hearings next week. It is a tight budget. We didn't fund any new positions in any departments, although there were a few departments that had positions they added in with consultation with the Mayor and some of the other people. Those were all taken out so that we could actually get this thing through and get it done. It will be up to the Board of A&T and the Board of Aldermen as to what they want to do with the final. The only thing I would say is, if you take a dollar from one part and add it to another one, then you've got to make some sacrifices. That's all I have to say. Thank you.

Alderman Vaccaro stated, with all due respect, this isn't like a shopping list for a drunken sailor on shore leave, is that correct? This are all things that we're going to be using – roads, bridges, Police Department, infrastructure. So it's not like frills and goodies. It's mandatory things and our tax rate is not going to increase.

Mr. Nimons stated, as far as the mill rate, we're trying to flat line our finance costs every year. Right now we spend $3 million to $3.1 million on bonding. So if we can flat line that number over the next five to seven years and put this plan into effect there will be no increase in taxes on the taxpayers and everything will be put in place.

Alderman Vaccaro stated, as the Mayor said, other cities around the state are operating in a similar fashion.

Alderman Stowe stated, I'm glad to see a Capital Plan. I've talked about it ever since I've been an Alderman. I had it in my own business. You can't run a business without having a plan. The departments have been working with you through the beginning of the plan. You have a little bit of time here in case they have any final issues before the Board of Finance passes that.

Mr. Nimons stated, there has to be a public hearing on it.

Chief Kevin Hale – Ansonia Police Department

Winter parking is in effect. People have been pretty compliant. We had some problem areas – we addressed Woodbridge Avenue and will continue to address it.

Sidewalks - we're getting a flow of complaints on sidewalks. I'd like to remind the residents they have six hours after a storm to clean the sidewalks.

I hadn't talked to Mr. King about this but I support his plan or request for a new ID system. We had one at the Police Department that's not functioning properly. I would actually volunteer to host that. I think we should have one - every employee of the City should have an ID regardless of their department. I don't know about the numbers, it's the first I've really seen it – we should look into it more. Again, we would be willing to host that.

Alderman DeLibero asked, if there is a vehicle parked on the side of the road, the correct side of the road, and it's covered in snow for a couple of days, is there anything that can be done to have the owner move that vehicle?

Chief Hale replied, there is no time limit, but if you have one let me know, we have the Officers going out to knock on doors and find out who owns these cars. Technically, to be on the road, the vehicle is supposed to be operable. If it's surrounded in ice and snow it is not operable. We want to get them out of there to make it easy for Public Works to clear the road. As soon as we have a storm we send them out the next day, find the snowbound cars and let's get them moved out of there.

Alderman Kaslaitis thanked Chief Hale for sidewalk cleaning enforcement, and there has been an improvement in his neighborhood.

Allison Rubelmann – Ansonia Nature Center

I submitted a Director's Report to the Ansonia Recreation Commission last Tuesday and that's on file with the Commission.

The Ansonia Nature Center has been working on a lot of different activities. We're in the process of running our Maple Festival which will be March 5th and we're looking raffle items and donations to help support our Maple Festival.

I've been working with the Friends Grant Writing Committee and we're trying for grants for revitalizing the playground which this year will be 25 years old. We have a $50,000 grant out to finish line. We also have a few other grants out, one is Naugatuck Savings Bank and ION Bank and we are writing a grant through the Valley Community Foundation for $25,000.

The Nature Center also received a grant from the Connecticut Ornithological Association for $1,200 for education to teach children about birding and our local habitats.

I also met with Seymour Rotary and Hamden Rotary – and they've submitted a grant to the Hamden Rotary Club, the Seymour Rotary Club said they like to piggyback with other Rotaries and have committed to piggyback with Hamden for an exhibit on the Naugatuck River Watershed. I think it's very important to teach our children about it since we have the Naugatuck River running through our city.

I've also been in contact with Mr. Henri – we discussed possibly putting up an Osprey platform on the river. I've been talking to some of my colleagues at Hammonasset State Park and the Madison Audubon to find out how we can get an Osprey platform set up here in Ansonia. At our event last year there were two Osprey nesting across from the Public Works Department. So it would be great to have a space for them to nest and people could view them from the Riverwalk.

I'm working on the next calendar of events that will be out at the end of March. It is completed and being edited right now. We'll be doing many classes with the Ansonia Board of Education – we've been going there every day and teaching classes in K-6. We also have 90 children a week that come to our after-school program called Charger Club. Because we had snow, we purchased snow shoes for all the children and they all got to learn how to snow shoe and go animal tracking at the park. We have some great photographs of the kids walking around in the snow at our Center – it was quite amazing.

We have lots of projects going on with Sheila's help. We're in the process of working on the parking lot. Geo Tech came and did borings last Friday at the site. We're also working on a possible grant to help with pond dredging. We tied up some loose ends with some grant money that was left over and bought a picnic table for the playground. We met with Mr. Eheman about the ventilation system and working on purchasing exhibit signs for the parking lot, which we already have the money for, and coming up with the verbiage for those signs.

Public Works Director Mike D'Alessio

We're working on the Webster Hose floor, chopping it up, we have some asbestos issues and we're taking the lead and asbestos out. Hopefully in the next two months we'll get forged steel put in.

The Transfer Station is still operating. We're working on it – the ground's not frozen so we're up and running with that. I'm hoping early spring to get that thing up and running.

The ice skating rink is finally starting to freeze. I was up there this afternoon and hopefully by Saturday we'll have some ice skating going on.

We had a couple new hires started Monday. One gave his notice the first day. Somebody else is coming next week.

The salt and sand supply – we've had some more salt brought in. We've been out sanding and salting. Everybody is working together, we were short handed, but taking care of the streets. Things look pretty good.

Alderman Stowe asked, when does the paving list come out?

Mr. D'Alessio replied, we're working on it right now. I've got to see which streets are going to be done this year. We have to go over the list. Probably springtime.

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 11-0.

ARMS Committee – Alderman David Blackwell

In January ARMS responded to 254 calls for service. Mutual aid calls, we had16 to Derby, 5 to Seymour and 4 to Shelton. During that month we only passed one call on the second call and one on the third call. Just to note, that third call we were working at code, we had all our units working that code. Receiving hospitals for our patients, Griffin Hospital received 124, Yale 16, Bridgeport 4, St. Vincent's 6, Yale Children's Hospital 6, Yale-St. Raphael Campus 4, Milford 4, St. Mary's Waterbury 1, Waterbury Hospital 1.

The billing, because of the way the month fell and this report was generated, we will have that next month.

In public session, as Jared touched on, you can find a letter that was submitted, Communication #5, that I would like everybody to pay attention to.

WPCA Committee – Alderman Charles Stowe

We're going to make a rate decision next month. If anyone is interested or has anything to say at the next meeting they can feel free to show up.

Fire Committee - Alderman Joseph Jeanette

MVA assists 15, smoke/odor investigations 5, trash fires 2, vehicle fire 1, structure fires 3, gas leaks 2, false alarms 8, mutual aid 1, public service/good intent 6, for a total of 41 call s for service.

Ordinance Committee – Alderman Matthew Edo

The Committee met last month. For the ordinance that was talked about this evening, we will be meeting again per the Mayor. Chief, we'll be getting together, and referring these matters to them to discuss and make sure that all the verbiage and everything we need regarding parking fines and violations is correct for the next Board of Aldermen meeting.

Municipal Reports, Board of Apportionment & Taxation Recommendations and Comptroller Approvals

Alderman Delibero MOVED to accept all municipal report; SECONDED by Alderman Kaslaitis, A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Alderman Vaccaro asked if this motion includes the Board of A&T Recommendations and Comptroller Approvals.

President Tripp stated yes, we've accepted the entire category.

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 $3,871.06 if found to be correct; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Accidents and Claims

01-16-876	Michelle Morales v. Barreira
01-16-877	Sean Morales, PA Elvis Morales v. City of Ansonia and Ansonia Housing Authority
01-16-878	Elizabeth S. Lynch v. City of Ansonia

Alderman Kaslaitis MOVED to refer the claims to Corporation Counsel; SECONDED by Alderman Rogers. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Communications

Communication #1
From: Conservation Commission Chairman William Urban
Re: Recommend pursuit of grants for the purchase of 31 Benz, 135 Hill/24 Shortell, and Castle Lane parcel

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to accept and place on file; SECONDED by Alderman Kaslaitis. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Communication #2
From: David J. Caruso
Re: Power of Attorney for David L. Caruso re – Adamo's Package Store

Mr. David J. Caruso stated, my father owns 61 Beaver Street. We have some delinquent taxes. We want to pay the City the money. We need to do a few electrical repairs to make it mortgage-able. We intend to sell the building and make sure the City gets their money - if we can pull those permits. We would love to be able to pay the City their money.

Alderman Jeanette asked if it would be in writing that the City gets their money first.

Corporation Counsel Marini explained that as the property transfers the taxes are paid first in order for the property to be transferred.

Alderman Vaccaro asked how much is owed.

Mr. Caruso replied, $25,000. There are multiple interested parties.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to approve; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Communication #3
From: Board of A&T Chairman Dan King
Re: Funding Request for ID/Badge Machine

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to accept the communication and place it on file; SECONDED by Alderman Henri. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Communication #4
From: City of Ansonia
Re: Long Range Capital Improvement Plan

Alderman Henri MOVED to accept and place on file; SECONDED by Alderman Vaccaro. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Communication #5
From: Ansonia Rescue & Medical Services
Re: Budgetary Projection for New Ambulance

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to accept the communication and place on file; SECONDED by Alderman Edo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Resignations

Alderman Blackwell MOVED to accept the resignation of Michael Marganski from the Naugatuck Valley Health District and send him a letter of thanks for his service to the City; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Appointments

Town and City Clerk Janet Waugh read aloud each of the appointments in its order, as follows.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to appoint Mary Gibson (D) of 33 Elaine Drive, Carroll replacement; term to expire 11-30-2016; SECONDED by Alderman Edo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

NAUGATUCK VALLEY HEALTH DISTRICT

Alderman DeLibero MOVED to appoint:

> **Gary Merlone (D) of 15 North Street**
> **Thomas P. Clifford, III of 10 South Westwood Road**

SECONDED by Alderman Henri. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

RECREATION COMMISSION

Alderman Edo MOVED to appoint Timothy O'Reilly (U) of 20 Richard Street; term to expire 12-31-2017; SECONDED by Alderman Kaslaitis. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Resolutions

Resolution #1
Re: Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to ADOPT Resolution #1; SECONDED by Alderman Rogers. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Resolution #2
Re: Fair Housing

Alderman Jeanette MOVED to ADOPT Resolution #2; SECONDED by Alderman Kaslaitis. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Resolution #3
Re: Background Screening for Youth Volunteers

Alderman Jeanette MOVED TO TABLE; SECONDED by Alderman KASLAITIS. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Resolution #4
Re: Long Range Capital Improvement Plan

No action.

Ordinances to Public Hearing

[All ordinances can be viewed in their entirety in the Office of the Town and City Clerk, Ansonia City Hall, 253 Main Street, Ansonia, CT 06401]

Alderman Kaslaitis MOVED to hold a PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES at 7 p.m. Tuesday, February 16, 2016 in the Aldermanic Chambers; SECONDED by Alderman Jeanette. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

1. Revision of Parking Ticket Fines for the City of Ansonia

Alderman Rogers MOVED TO AMEND Handicap parking to be moved to Group E with a fine of $150; SECONDED by Alderman Edo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

2. Prohibit Dogs and Other Animals from Certain Public Places

3. City of Ansonia Child Protection Zones

4. Establishing Citation Procedures and Fines for Violation of Zoning, and the Inland-Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations

5. Tobacco-free Recreation

Alderman Edo MOVED to refer to Police Department Ord Committee and take up at next meeting.

New Business

Alderman Henri suggested that the Clerk use 2-sided copying when preparing the packets for the Board of Aldermen meetings.

Alderman Vaccaro suggested the purchase of tablets for the use of the Boards and Commissions.

The Board members discussed the cost of tablets versus the cost of paper, and which types of tablets to be considered.

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED to have Sheila research possible grant funding for the purchase of tablets for the Boards and Commissions; SECONDED by Alderman Edo. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

Old Business

Alderman Jeanette asked about the placement of garbage pails on the Riverwalk. Mr. D'Alessio is working on it.

Alderman Henri discussed the placement of TV/monitors in the Erlingheuser Room for overflow purposes at City meetings. He did a layout of the room and suggested one big TV on the big wall at a cost of about $700. Asked Mike to put casters on the table and get some real chairs in there.

He also requested the Ordinance Committee to create an ordinance preventing certain organizations that claim to be veterans' organizations from standing outside the stores looking for money. He would like all Organizations to be vetted by the

Aldermanic Veterans' Committee before they are allowed to publicly solicit in the City.

Mr. Connolly looked at an alternate plan involving two – a second TV on the side wall in order to be able to view spreadsheets and attachments. He also suggested bringing up folding seating and increasing the seating by 25. The Fire Marshal said the room could hold 50 with the table, 60 without the table. There is a rack of folding chairs in the basement that can be brought up.

Executive Session

At approximately 8:55 p.m., Alderman Kaslaitis MOVED to enter Executive Session after a five-minute recess to discuss the following:

1. **501 East Main Street**
2. **Fountain Lake Development**

The Mayor, Corporation Counsel, and Economic Development Director were invited to remain in the Chambers, as well as Mustafa Diakhate and his Attorney, Tom Arcari; SECONDED by Alderman DeLibero. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

[Alderman Stowe did not attend the Executive Session – 10 present, 4 absent]

Return to Regular Session

At approximately 9:45 p.m. Alderman Kaslaitis MOVED to return to Regular Session; SECONDED by Alderman Rogers. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 10-0.

Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary
Ansonia Board of Aldermen