AMENDED

Ansonia Board of Aldermen
Special Meeting Minutes

March 29, 2016

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Call to Order

Aldermanic President Philip Tripp called the Special Meeting of the Ansonia Board of Aldermen to order at 8 p.m. immediately following the Public Hearing on Proposed Resolutions.

Roll Call

The secretary called the roll:

Randolph Carroll, R1– present
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– absent
Anthony Cassetti, R5 – present
Joan Radin, R5 – present
Matthew Edo, R6– absent
Patrick Henri, R6 – present
David Blackwell, Jr., R7 – present
Frank DeLibero, R7 – absent

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

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1. Consider and act upon a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING $5,990,000 FOR CITY OF ANSONIA CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS 2016-2017 AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF UP TO $5,990,000 BONDS OF THE CITY TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION (OR SUCH LESSER AMOUNT IF LESS THAN ALL COMPONENTS ARE APPROVED) AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWING THEREFOR

Alderman Vaccaro MOVED TO TABLE this Resolution and schedule a Special Meeting of the Board of Aldermen at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 7 to revisit this item; SECONDED by Alderman Radin.

Discussion:

There were a lot of questions raised and it is important that every one of those questions is answered.

The Finance Committee will get a copy of the Grand List and the Five-Year Plan from the Economic Development Director.

Mr. D'Alessio will provide a list of the streets to be paved.

There may be a public session held at the meeting on April 7th.

It was noted that a public hearing was provided tonight; the public comments have been heard and will become part of the public record.

Alderman Blackwell noted that this has been in the works for a year. There have been Finance Committee meetings regarding this. There has been a Public Hearing. Now all of these questions need to be resolved in one week. They should have been brought up and resolved at all of these previous meetings. We will do more due diligence in going over this again. But when does it stop? Everyone's time is valuable and so is mine. I don't want to have to keep going to meeting after meeting when these questions should have been resolved in Committee before being brought to the full Board of Aldermen and wasting my time tonight.

Alderman Vaccaro stated, there was a Finance Committee meeting in February where it passed unanimously. At the March meeting it passed unanimously to move forward to public hearing and set a referendum date for June. I would like to have a meeting next week so everyone can do their due diligence.

Corporation Counsel Marini explained, at the February 8th Finance Committee meeting, we all looked at the original copy of the plan and were targeting a May date. Then we went to the Board of Aldermen and had a presentation by Bill Nimons. There were no questions at the time. When we talked about this for the third time as a group in March, I presented Attorney Fasi a timetable that set up this meeting and the public hearing before it. At that time we were looking at a June date. I am in agreement that, the more time, as long as you're not delaying the schedule, the more time the better. The residents deserve to know that it's well thought out. If the residents are going to vote on the plan, everybody better understand exactly what is going on, and why. It is a worthy effort to try to save taxpayers the money, because if we all agree that these things are really necessary improvements, there are only two ways to do it – use bonding to budget it out over the course of years, or sock the taxpayers with tax increases every single year. As a group we decided that policy doesn't work any more. We are trying our best to change that.

President Tripp asked Attorney Fasi to explain to the group the terms of bonding.

Attorney Fasi stated, the bond resolution authorizes bonds to be issued for 20 years. That is in accordance with the General Statutes. A portion of the bonds are paid off each year over the 20 year period. That is the maximum that's authorized under the Statute. You don't have to issue bonds for 20 years. You can issue them for 18 years, or 15 years, or 10 years. Secondly, if the bond consists of multiple projects as the various bonds to be authorized here are, some are vehicles, for example, and some are building repairs. The amortization for projects such as vehicles would have a shorter term, in other words, be paid off over fewer years, than bonds issued to finance the construction of projects. Those decisions and that will be implemented

at the time the bonds are issued. Finally, the last thing to keep in mind is, if you have a 20-year bond, and you're paying off part of the bond in year one, and part of the bond in year 20, the average life of the bond is about 10 years. If you have an asset that's less than 10 years in useful life and you do issue a bond for 20 years, there's a portion of the bond that isn't going to be out for 20 years; it's going to be paid off much sooner. Just a few things to keep in mind.

Alderman Henri stated, I would just like to remind people that we are a conduit to put these referendums up for a vote. People can vote for them or against them all. The department heads will make recommendations, we'll push them along. It's up to the people. If you don't like them, vote against them. If you like them then vote for them. Just because it gets to referendum doesn't mean it's a done deal.

A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 9 Yes, 2 No (Blackwell, Henri)

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2. Consider and act upon a Resolution:

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR REFERENDUM VOTE TO BE HELD ON JUNE 7, 2016

3. To consider and act upon the following Resolutions in connection with the Board of Education School Construction Grant for Portable Classrooms at Mead School:

a. Authorization for Board of Education to apply for School Construction Grant:

RESOLVED, that the Ansonia Board of Aldermen authorizes the Ansonia Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject a grant for the Modular Classroom Project at the John C. Mead School

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

b. Authorization for Building Committee:

RESOLVED, that the Modular Classroom Project at the John C. Mead School is hereby assigned to the School Building Committee.

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

c. Authorization for Preparation of Schematic Drawings and Outline Specifications:

RESOLVED, that Ansonia Board of Aldermen hereby authorizes at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Modular Classroom Project at the John C. Mead School.

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

Adjournment

Alderman Cassetti MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Alderman Stowe. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 11-0.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder, Secretary
Ansonia Board of Aldermen