

To: Mayor Gene F. Eriquez and Members of the Common Council

Re: Minutes of the Common Council Meeting held June 2, 1992

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Mayor Eriquez. The Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer were offered. Roll Call:

PRESENT - Scalzo, Falzone, Gallo, Arconti, Coladarci, Dennehy, Setaro DaSilva, John Esposito, Dean Esposito, Outlaw, Cassano, Charles, Boughton, Cipriani, Scozzafava, Trocolla

ABSENT - Fazio, Boynton, Gogliettino, Butera

17 Present - 4 Absent

PUBLIC SPEAKING

1. John Dixon, 89 Long Ridge Road - Council should approve Scenic Road Ordinance to allow people to have say.

2. Ronald Blonski, 18 Griffing Avenue - The revised Scenic Road Ordinance should be sent to a public hearing.

3. Peter Michael, 81 Long Ridge Road - The Scenic Road Ordinance will benefit the City.

4. Joseph Rosato, Long Ridge Road - Opposed to Scenic Road Ordinance because there is too much government in people's lives already.

5. Monique Wiedl, Long Ridge Road - In favor of Scenic Road Ordinance. The majority of the residents must vote. Everyone should be able to apply for Scenic Road status if they so wish.

6. Dean Teffer, 48 Long Ridge Road - Supports Long Ridge Road as a Scenic Road. Supports Ordinance being passed.

7. Bill Montgomery, Delno Drive, Chairman of the Conservation Commission - Supports Scenic Road Ordinance.

8. Jean Rosado, Long Ridge Road - Scenic Road Ordinance needs to be clarified.

(At 7:52 P.M. Mrs. Butera arrived and was marked present)

9. Ronald Blonski, 18 Griffing Avenue - Does not know what Ordinance contains so he does not know how he feels on the idea.

MINUTES - Minutes of the Common Council Meeting held May 5, 1992. Mr. DaSilva made a motion that the minutes be accepted as presented and the reading waived as all members have copies which are on file in the Office of the City Clerk for public inspection. Seconded by Mr. Charles. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR - John Esposito presented the following items for the Consent Calendar:

- 5 - Approve grant for "Work Safety Zone Program" \$7,800
- 6 - Approve amendment of grant for Danbury Airport
- 7 - Approve appointment of Kathryn Gleason to Environmental Impact Comm.
- 13 - Approve funds for Corporation Counsel's Office - \$12,000
- 15 - Approve Planning Department transfer of \$3,440.94
- 16 - Approve grant application to improve immunization levels for \$100,000
- 18 - Approve re-authorization to acquire property for airport rotating beacon site
- 27 - Approve Suspense List
- 29 - Approve donation of traffic light from Union Carbide

Mr. Charles made a motion that the Consent Calendar be adopted as read. Seconded by Mr. Setaro. Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 2nd - Mike and Carol Fazio's anniversary
June 14th - Janet Butera's birthday

The Mayor thanked the people at the Federal Correctional Institute for their community service by painting the pavillion at Hatters Parks. He also congratulated the choral groups at Broadview Junior High School for the award that they won at the Music in the Park Festival held in New Jersey.

June 3rd - Dedication of the new homeless shelter on New Street at 5:00 P.M.
June 4th - 50th Anniversary of Barden's Corporation
June 5th - Sweden's National Flag Day
June 6th - 48th anniversary of D-Day
June 6th - Food Drive - Stop and Shop Supermarkets
June 9th - Immaculate High School Graduation
June 10th- MCAA Annivesary
June 11th - Business Olympics
June 11th -Adult Continuing Education Graduation
June 13th - Henry Abbott Tech Graduation
June 14th - Portugese Day beginning at 8:15 a.m.
June 14th - Flag Day with ceremonies at 1:00 P.M. at the Elks Club and 7:00 at the Catholic War Veterans
June 19th - Recycling Technologies Open House
June 22nd - Danbury High School Graduation
June 27th - Fireworks

The Mayor extended congratulations to all those graduating this month

1 - ORDINANCE - Justices of the Peace - Mr. Falzone asked that this be deferred to a public hearing. Mayor Eriquez so ordered.

2 - ORDINANCE - Leash Law - Mrs. Coladarci asked that this be deferred to a public hearing. Mayor Eriquez so ordered.

3 - ORDINANCE - Review and Evaluation of Governmental Entities - Dean Esposito asked that this be deferred to a public hearing. Mayor Eriquez so ordered.

4 - ORDINANCE - Danbury Housing Partnership - Miss Dennehy asked that this be deferred to a public hearing. Mayor Eriquez so ordered.

5 - RESOLUTION - Grant for "Work Zone Safety Program"

RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Danbury:

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has made grant funds available, through the Connecticut Department of Transportation for purposes of highway safety under the "Work Zone Safety Program"; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the City of Danbury is eligible for a grant in an amount not to exceed Seven Thousand, Eight Hundred (\$7,800.00) Dollars under said program, to be used to purchase highway safety equipment; and

WHEREAS, the City's participation in said program and the acceptance of said grant funds, if offered, will be in the best interests of the City and its residents;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. That Gene F. Eriquez, Mayor of the City of Danbury, be and hereby is authorized to make application for said grant and accept any grant funds as may be offered to the City of Danbury under the Work Zone Safety Program pursuant to said application, and;

2. That Mayor Gene F. Eriquez be and hereby is authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of said grant program and award.

The Resolution was approved on the Consent Calendar.

6 - RESOLUTION - Amendment of Grant for the Airport

RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Danbury:

WHEREAS, The Federal Aviation Administration of the United States Department of Transportation and the Bureau of Aeronautics of the Connecticut Department of Transportation make funds available through the Airport Improvement Act of 1987; and

WHEREAS, the City of Danbury intends to make airport drainage channel culvert and utility improvements, reconstruct the taxiway "A" and "B" intersection, acquire a new aircraft rescue and fire fighting vehicle, and install security gates, all four of which will improve the safety and efficiency of airport operations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Danbury will make application for a federal and state grant in an amount not to exceed \$3,256,500, with a local match of two and one-half percent (2 1/2%) equaling an amount not to exceed \$83,500;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Mayor of the City of Danbury, Gene F. Eriquez, is hereby authorized to make application for said grant, and that any and all additional acts necessary to effectuate said program be and hereby are authorized.

A certification of funds was attached. The resolution was adopted on the Consent Calendar.

7 - COMMUNICATION - Letter from Mayor Eriquez seeking confirmation of the appointment of Kathryn Gleason to the Environmental Impact Commission for a term to expire December 1, 1992. The confirmation was approved on the Consent Calendar.

8 - COMMUNICATION - Letter from Police Chief Nelson Macedo requesting the acceptance of a donation of \$25.00 from the Nutmeg Power Equipment Company. Mr. Boughton made a motion that the donation be accepted and a letter of thanks sent. Seconded by Mr. Charles. Motion carried unanimous

(At 8:04 P.M. Mr. Fazio arrived and was marked present)

9 - COMMUNICATION - Letter from William Buckley seeking acceptance of a donation from First Brands Corporation of 7 recycled plastic picnic tables and one Igloo container for the collection of antifreeze. Mr. Falzone made a motion that the donations be accepted and a letter of thank sent. Seconded by Dean Esposito. Motion carried unanimously.

10 - COMMUNICATION - Letter from Director of Elderly Services Leo McIrath seeking acceptance of donations in the amount of \$385.00. Mr. Setaro made a motion that the donations be accepted and letters of thanks sent. Seconded by Mr. Charles. Motion carried unanimously.

11 - COMMUNICATION - Letter from Director of Elderly Services Leo McIlrath asking for an adhoc committee to discuss the continuation of the "Alzheimer Aide" position for Interweave. Mr. Setaro asked that this be referred to an ad hoc committee, the Director of Finance and the Director of Elderly Services. Mayor Eriquez so ordered and appointed Council Members Gogliettino, John Esposito and Fazio.

12 - COMMUNICATION - Capital Improvement Plan and Dam Improvement Program. Mr. DaSilva asked that this be referred to an ad hoc committee, the Corporation Counsel, the Planning Commission, the Director of Planning William Buckley and the Director of Finance. Mayor Eriquez so ordered and appointed Council Members DaSilva, Dean Esposito and Scozzafava to the committee.

13 - COMMUNICATION & CERTIFICATION - Request from the Corporation Counsel's Office for funds in the amount of \$12,000 to be transferred to the Outside Services Account and the Litigation Special Account. A certification of funds was attached. The request was granted on the Consent Calendar.

- 14 - COMMUNICATION & CERTIFICATION - Request for funds in the amount of \$48,000 for overtime in the Fire Department. A certification of funds was attached. Mr. DaSilva made a motion that the communication be accepted and the transfer of funds authorized. Seconded by Dean Esposito. Mr. Trocolla asked what the total amount of overtime in the Fire Department is. Mr. Setaro stated that it was 1,025,000. Mr. Gallo stated that the high overtime is due to the manpower clause in the contract. He asked why personnel could not be transferred temporarily. The Mayor explained the process. Mrs. Butera stated that the Mayor should look into this very seriously. Mr. Trocolla stated that the Fire Chief should try to control this overtime. Motion carried with Mr. Boughton and Mr. Trocolla voting in the negative.
- 15 - CERTIFICATION - Letter from Director of Finance Dominic Setaro requesting a transfer of funds for the Planning Department in the amount of \$3,440.94 to cover the retirement of the Assistant Zoning Enforcement Officer regarding current and prorated vacation. The certification was approved on the Consent Calendar.
- 16 - COMMUNICATION - Letter from William Campbell seeking permission to apply for a grant for the improvement of immunization levels in children from birth to age two. The request was granted on the Consent Calendar.
- 17 - COMMUNICATION - Letter from Director of Parks and Recreation Director Robert Ryerson requesting that the amount of \$25,000 from rentals of Hatters Park be appropriated to the line item Improvements at Hatters Community Park. Dean Esposito asked that this be referred to an ad hoc committee, the Director of Parks and Recreation and the Director of Finance. The Mayor so ordered and appointed Council Members Falzone, Scalzo and Scozzafava to the committee.
- 18 - COMMUNICATION - Letter from Assistant Corporation Counsel Les Pinter seeking reauthorize of acquisition of access properties for the airport rotating beacon site. The request was granted on the Consent Calendar.
- 19 - COMMUNICATION - Letter from William Buckley requesting the authorization of the appropriation of funds from the FGA Lawsuit Settlement into the water line account covering maintenance and repair to water treatment plant equipment. Mr. Falzone made a motion that the communication be accepted and the funds be appropriated. Seconded by Mr. Charles. Motion carried unanimously.
- 20 - COMMUNICATION - Request from the Lions Club to change the name of Rogers Park Drive to Lions Way. Mr. Trocolla asked that this be referred to an ad hoc committee, the Corporation Counsel and the Director of the Lions Club. Mayor Eriquez so ordered and appointed Council Members Setaro, Dennehy and Boughton to the committee.
- 21 - COMMUNICATION - Request for sewer extension on McKay Road. Mrs. Coladarci asked that this be referred to an ad hoc committee, the Planning Commission, the City Engineer and the Superintendent of Public Utilities. Mayor Eriquez so ordered and appointed Council Members Arconti, Coladarci and Boughton to the committee.
- 22 - COMMUNICATION - Agreement for payment of bill between the City of Danbury and Harold Garafola. Mr. Charles asked that this be referred to an ad hoc committee, the Corporation Counsel and the Tree Supervisor. Mayor Eriquez so ordered and appointed Council Members Butera, Cipriani and Fazio to the committee.
- 23 - COMMUNICATION - Tax Appeals. Mr. Scalzo asked that this be moved to the end of the agenda for Executive Session.
- 24 - COMMUNICATION - Tentative Agreement between the City and the DMEA regarding Article III, Seniority. Mr. DaSilva made a motion that the tentative agreement be approved. Seconded by Dean Esposito. Mr. Scalzo asked if this would be part of the final agreement. The Mayor said that it would. Motion carried unanimously.
- 25 - COMMUNICATION & CERTIFICATION - Police Union Contract. Mr. Gallo made a motion that the contract be ratified and the transfer of funds authorized. Seconded by Mr. Charles.

Mr. Cassano asked for highlights of the changes in the contract. Mr. Merullo stated that there would be a wage increase until January 1, 1993 and a 3% increase at that time. The handling of court time was changed as well as health insurance coverage whereby there would be a 5% co-pay of premiums. Mr. Cassano asked what the average medical insurance premium would be per year. The Mayor stated that it was approximately \$8,000. Mr. Cassano stated that he is shocked and disappointed.

The Mayor stated that this contract was negotiated based on dollar amounts appropriated by the Common Council. Mr. Boughton asked if the City goes directly to a carrier or through an agency. The Mayor stated that that City goes directly to a carrier.

Motion carried unanimously.

26 - DEPARTMENT REPORTS - Engineering, Highways, Police Chief, Department of Elderly Services, Parks and Recreation, Health, Fire Chief, Fire Marshall. Mr. DaSilva made a motion that the department reports be accepted and the reading waived as all members have copies which are on file in the Office of the City Clerk for public inspection. Seconded by Mrs. Outlaw. Motion carried unanimously.

27 - REPORT - Suspense List

Mr. Boughton submitted the following report:

The Common Council Committee appointed to review the Suspense List met on May 19, 1992 at 7:00 P.M. in Room 432 in City Hall. In attendance were committee members Boynton, Charles and Fazio. Also in attendance were Director of Finance Dominic Setaro and Tax Collector Catherine Skurat.

Mrs. Skurat and Mr. Setaro explained that the names and amounts are for personal property. In some cases the amounts are uncollectible due to bankruptcy, unable to locate or unable to substantiate the amount owed because tax bills are for items no longer in existence or for businesses no longer operating. The effort made by the Tax Collector's Office is and has been superb and we compliment Mrs. Skurat and her staff.

An idea of factoring the Suspense List was discussed by Mr. Setaro and was looked upon as a very important step toward collecting back taxes. We recommend that the Director of Finance and the City Tax Collector research this avenue further.

After much discussion, Mr. Charles moved to recommend acceptance of the 1992 Suspense List as submitted and formally retire this list to suspense. Seconded by Mr. Boynton. Motion carried unanimously.

The report was accepted on the Consent Calendar.

28 - REPORT - Scenic Roads Ordinance

Miss Dennehy submitted the following report:

The Committee appointed to review the Scenic Roads Ordinance met at 7:30 P.M. on May 13, 1992 in Room 432 in City Hall. In attendance were committee members Dennehy, Coladarci and Fazio. Also in attendance were Council Members Falzone and Setaro, ex-officio and 14 residents of the Long Ridge Road area. Mrs. Coladarci made a motion to waive the rules. Seconded by Miss Dennehy. Motion carried unanimously.

There were several questions regarding the language of the Ordinance. The questions pertained to the definition of majority (meaning anything over 50%), the definition of alterations and the abutting issue. Miss Dennehy reminded those present that this is a general Ordinance and has nothing to do with Long Ridge Road or the King Street area.

Mrs. Coladarci made a motion to accept the Ordinance as read. Seconded by Mr. Fazio. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Setaro made a motion that the report be accepted and the revised ordinance sent to public hearing. Seconded by Mr. Boughton. Miss Dennehy read a letter to her from Eric Gottschalk for the record. Mr. Boughton stated that he does not wish to see the Common Council bogged down by this Ordinance and perhaps the Planning Department should have this. Motion carried unanimously.

29 - REPORT - Donation of Traffic Light from Union Carbide

Mr. Cipriani submitted the following report:

The Common Council Committee appointed to review the donation of a traffic light from Union Carbide met on May 18, 1992 at 7:30 P.M. in Room 432 in City Hall. In attendance were committee members Cipriani, and Outlaw. Mr. Fazio was absent. Also in attendance were Police Chief Nelson Macedo and City Engineer Jack Schweitzer.

Mr. Schweitzer and Chief Macedo assured the committee that accepting the traffic light from Union Carbide would not be a burden for the City. Mrs. Outlaw made a motion to accept the light and assume responsibility for maintenance thereof. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cipriani and passed unanimously..

The report was accepted on the Consent Calendar.

30 - COMMUNICATION - An update of labor contract negotiations with the Firefighters Union and DMEA. Mr. DaSilva asked that this be moved to the end of the agenda for Executive Session.

31 - COMMUNICATION - Request for Sewer Extension, 100/102 Federal Road. Mr. Scalzo asked that this be referred to an ad hoc committee, the Planning Commission, the City Engineer and the Superintendent of Public Utilities. Mayor Eriquez so ordered and appointed Council Members Gallo, Charles and Fazio to the committee.

At 9:42 P.M. Mr. DaSilva made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Seconded by Dean Esposito. Motion carried unanimously.

At 10:19 P.M. the Council returned into open session.

23 - Tax Appeals - Mr. DaSilva made a motion that the communications be accepted and the payments authorized. Seconded by Mr. Charles. Motion carried unanimously.

30 - An update of labor contract negotiations with the Firefighters and the DMEA. Mr. DaSilva made a motion to accept the communication and take no action at this time. Seconded by Mr. Setaro. Motion carried unanimously.

32 - COMMUNICATION & RESOLUTION - "Per Capital Grant" Health Department. Mr. DaSilva made a motion that this item be added to the agenda. Seconded by Dean Esposito. Motion carried with Mrs. Butera voting in the negative.

RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Danbury:

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut Department of Health Services has made funds available for 1992-1993 to municipalities in accordance with Section 19a-202 of the Connecticut General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the City of Danbury through the Danbury Health and Housing Department has formulated a program to promote optimal public health quality in the City of Danbury; and

WHEREAS, a continuation grant award request of \$33,868.00 with no local match requirement will be processed by the Danbury Health and Housing Department;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the actions of the Danbury Health and Housing Department in applying for the said grant be and hereby are ratified and that any and all further actions by it required to accomplish said program be and hereby are authorized; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Mayor of the City of Danbury, Gene F. Eriquez, is authorized to make, execute and approve any and all contracts or amendments thereof with the State of Connecticut Department of Health Services and take any actions necessary to effectuate the purposes of said program.

Mr. Setaro made a motion that the communication be accepted and the renewal of the grant authorized. Seconded by Mr. Esposito. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Eriquez extended all committee.

There being no further business to come before the Common Council a motion was made at 10:23 P.M. for the meeting to be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jimmie L. Samaha
JIMMETTA L. SAMAHA
Assistant City Clerk

ATTEST:

Elizabeth Crudginton
City Clerk