

To: Mayor Gene F. Eriquez and Members of the Common Council  
Re: Minutes of the Special Common Council Meeting held July 25, 1991.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Mayor Eriquez. Mr. Gallo led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. DaSilva offered the Prayer. The members were recorded as:

Present - Scalzo, Falzone, Gallo, Coladarci, Setaro, Gogliettino, DaSilva, Esposito, Charles, Boughton, Boynton, Butera, Valeri

Absent - Fazio, Mack, Farah, Smith, Cassano, Regan, Scozzafava

Mrs. Mack and Mr. Regan were on vacation  
Dr. Farah was out of town on business

13 Present - 7 Absent - 1 vacancy

NOTICE OF THE SPECIAL MEETING - To be held on the 25th day of July, 1991 at 7:00 P.M. in the Common Council Chambers in City Hall for the purpose of acting upon the items below:

1. COMMUNICATION - Recommendation of Kathy Dennehy to fill the Fifth Ward Common Council Vacancy
2. COMMUNICATION - Transfer of Funds - Parking Garage

Mr. DaSilva made a motion to accept the call. Seconded by Mr. Charles. Motion carried unanimously.

1 - COMMUNICATION - Letter from Democratic Town Committee Chairman Lawrence Riefberg offering the name of Kathleen M. Dennehy to fill the Fifth Ward Common Council vacancy. Mr. Boughton made a motion to accept the communication and appoint Kathleen Dennehy to the Fifth Ward Common Council seat. Seconded by Mrs. Butera.

Mr. Setaro stated that Ms. Dennehy will tend to the people's business with diligence and hoped that his colleagues would support her. Mr. Scalzo stated that it is an inspiration to see young people willing to serve the community.

Motion carried unanimously. Corporation Counsel Eric Gottschalk swore in Ms. Dennehy who was welcomed by Mayor Eriquez.

2 - COMMUNICATION - Letter from Director of Finance Dominic Setaro seeking permission to borrow up to a maximum of \$1,000,000 from the General Fund at any time during the course of construction of the Parking Garage and related improvements as it relates to the \$8,000,000 grant approved by the State of Connecticut.

Mr. DaSilva made a motion to accept the communication and authorize borrowing up to \$1,000,000 as stated in the communication. Seconded by Mr. Scalzo.

Mayor Eriquez stated that it is customary to borrow funds and stated that he had spoken with at least five state departments regarding the project. He has been assured that it is a question of when the money will be forthcoming, not if. He also noted that Mr. Setaro and Mr. Elpern were available to answer any questions the Council Members may have.

Mrs. Coladarci stated that she feels the Council should go forward with appropriating the funds and that the people of Danbury would not accept another stalled project in this area. Mrs. Gogliettino asked if this had been done before, i.e. at the Airport. Mr. Setaro that last year it amounted to approximately \$500,000.

Mrs. Gogliettino then asked if the state budget crisis continues, could this have any affect on the City's ability to operate? Mr. Setaro said that it might have an impact if it goes on for an indefinite period of time. Mayor Eriquez added that it could affect human services if it continues.

Mr. Boughton stated that by saying we will not lose any interest is misleading. We would lose approximately \$5,000 per month. Also, where would we get the money to pay additional contractors if other projects are stalled because of bonding money not forthcoming. Mayor Eriquez stated that the City could not afford more than the \$1,000,000 asked for and other projects would be halted if it came to that. Mr. Boughton stated that developers seem to be backing out and that the parking garage could prove to be a monstrosity with no one to park there.

Mayor Eriquez stated that during the last 21 months much progress has been made on the Redevelopment Project.

Mr. Boynton stated that the contractors went to work in good faith and there would be a severe hardship on the City and on the contractors if the City were not to pay them.

Mr. Setaro asked if the City would be open to a lawsuit if the contractors are not paid. Mr. Gottschalk stated that the City has a standard contract with the contractor. If the payment is not made, the contractor will leave the job site and demobilization costs, remobilization costs, etc. would result in claims against the City. It is important to send a message to the contractors that the City meets its obligations. Mr. Esposito asked about the State's obligations. Mayor Eriquez stated that he had spoken with the Attorney General and he was working with him.

At 7:33 P.M. Mr. Fazio arrived and was marked present.

Mr. Boughton made a motion to move the question. Seconded by Mr. Boynton. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion carried with Mr. Boughton and Mrs. Butera voting in the negative.

Mr. Charles stated that July and August are the busiest months for tax collections. We are lucky that we will not have to pay interest on this money.

There being no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion was made at 7:35 P.M. by Mr. Falzone for the meeting to be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
JIMMETTA L. SAMAHA  
Assistant City Clerk