

TO: Honorable Mayor James E. Dyer - Mayor of the City of Danbury.
SUBJECT: Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Common Council held on
December 16, 1980.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 O'Clock P.M. by his honor Mayor James E. Dyer who led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Prayer was offered by Councilman DaSilva.

Roll Call was taken by City Clerk Elizabeth Crudginton, with the following members being recorded as:

Present: Councilmembers - Delsin, McManus, Gallo, Walsh, Rinder, Scialabba, Repole, White, Murray, Ryan, Visconti, DaSilva, Turk, Boynton, Burke, Evans, Torian. Councilwoman Eppoliti arrived after roll call.

Absent: Councilmembers - Cassano, Butera, Fabiano.

18 members present - 3 members absent.

It was reported that Mr. Cassano was away on business; Mrs. Butera was working and Mr. Fabiano's resignation would be submitted at the January meeting.

Mayor Dyer announced that Councilman Repole has been appointed Director of Education for the Correctional Institution, and offered congratulations.

NOTICE - Notice of Special Meeting to be held on the 16th day of December, 1980 at 7:30 O'Clock P.M. for the purpose of acting upon the following:

1. Communication & Certification - Agreement between the City of Danbury and the Danbury Municipal Employees Assoc. Inc.
2. Resolution - Request of Councilman Scialabba for additional Corporation Counsel for the Board of Education.
3. Report - Funds toward option price for Palace Theatre.
4. Report & Certification - Funds for H.A.R.T.
5. Report & Ordinance - Burglar Alarms.
6. Report - Review of City Hall Employee Survey.
7. Ad Hoc Committee Reports:
 - Report - Purchase of Police Vehicles.
 - Report - Land Acquisition Committee.

RETURN OF SERVICE - Delivery of Notices by Police Officers of the City of Danbury Police Department.

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan and seconded by Councilman Visconti for the Call and Return of Service to be accepted. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATION - D.M.E.A. CONTRACT.

Request from Mayor Dyer for the Agreement between the City of Danbury and the Danbury Municipal Employees Association, Inc. to be ratified, as the negotiations have been completed.

This action is required for City employees to receive the compensations due them as a result of the settlement of this Contract.

CERTIFICATION - A Certification in the amount of \$56,442.00 available in the Contingency Account was submitted by Mr. John P. Edwards, Director of Finance, Acting.

The immediate impact of the DMEA contract is \$83,170.75. Some funds are available in the various departments so the following transfers are necessary:

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Comptrollers | -0- |
| Data Processing | 1,321. |
| Tax Assessor | 6,297. |
| Tax Collector | 1,851. |
| Purchasing | 1,262. |
| Town Clerk | 2,587. |
| Planning | -0- |
| Civil Service | 629. |
| Equal Rights | -0- |
| City Hall Bldg. | 3,380. |
| Library Bldg. | 1,301. |
| Police St. Bldg. | 1,297. |
| Old Library Bldg. | 651. |
| Police Clerical | 3,746. |
| Fire Clerical | 1,217. |
| Bldg. Inspector | 5,478. |
| Civil Defense | 634. |
| Engineering | -0- |
| Health Dept. | 7,434. |
| Welfare Dept. | 2,663. |
| Veterans Adv. | 1,168. |
| Library | 8,000. |
| Park Dept. | 634.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$51,550.00 |
| Insurance | 4,892.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$56,442.00 |

COMMUNICATION - It was recommended by Mr. John P. Edwards that as part of the acceptance of the DMEA Agreement, that in recognition of the provisions of Section 10 (G) "Merit Adjustments" that \$2,000 be transferred to a new account, to be known as the "Exemplary Merit Recognition Account" to be controlled by the Mayor and transferred to those departments having persons that have been certified by the Mayor, as being exemplary.

According to the rules of the working agreement, the amount requested represents only the funds needed for the balance of the 1980-1981 fiscal year.

Mr. Edwards certified that \$2,000 is available in the contingency account.

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan and seconded by Councilman Murray that the Communications be accepted, Contract ratified and transfer of funds authorized. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 17 Ayes - No Nays 4 members absent - Cassano, Butera, Fabiano, (Eppoliti, who arrived later.

RESOLUTION - Request of Councilman Scialabba to hire an additional Corporation Counsel for the sole purpose and for only the Board of Education business.

Councilman Boynton requested referral to committee. Mayor Dyer so ordered and appointed the following members: Boynton, Scialabba, Burke.

REPORT - Funds for option price for Palace Theatre.

A motion was made by Councilman Evans and seconded by Councilman Ryan that in view of the happenings of the past few days, this item is to be tabled. Motion carried.

REPORT & CERTIFICATION - Request for funds for H.A.R.T.

Councilman Evans submitted a report stating that the committee appointed to review the above request, met on December 10, 1980 with Nancy Deibler, Robert Godfrey and Emanuel Merullo.

It was pointed out that all of the administration work for H.A.R.T. was being done by one part time person. Due to the myriad of paper work connected with obtaining grants from Federal and State sources, more help was needed.

It was also pointed out that at the present time H.A.R.T. is applying for a Grant for nine small bus type vehicles, five of which will be used in Danbury with a monetary value to Danbury of \$146,850. Also ten medium sized busses, eight of which will be used in Danbury with a monetary value to Danbury of \$1,000,000.

Two other grants were submitted to study - one, was better dispatching and scheduling techniques and two, the building of a maintenance facility which will include local busses, inter-city busses and rail services. The cost value to Danbury of these two study grants is \$47,000.00

The H.A.R.T. committee therefore recommends that the Council approve the transfer of \$8,271.00 to H.A.R.T. to cover increased administrative expenses.

A Certification of funds in the amount of \$8,271.00 available in the Contingency Account for H.A.R.T., was submitted by Mr. John P. Edwards, Director of Finance, Acting.

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan and seconded by Councilman Visconti that the Report be accepted and transfer of funds authorized.

A motion was then made by Councilman Scialabba and seconded by Councilman Turk to recommit this request for funds. Motion failed.

Following further discussion, Councilman Evans read a statement with more details.

The first motion for acceptance was carried by a vote of 17 Ayes, 1 Nay (Councilman Scialabba) 3 members absent (Councilmembers Cassano Butera and Fabiano were absent).

REPORT & ORDINANCE - Burglar Alarms

Councilman J. Burke submitted a report stating that the committee met on December 4, 1980, with Mr. Frank O'Neill of Aztec Alarms and Rosanne Albert. It was decided to considerably simplify the ordinance and to make it as clear as possible, taking out whatever ambiguities might exist.

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan and seconded by Councilman Visconti, to accept the Report. Motion carried with Councilman White abstaining.

Councilman Turk then referred the Ordinance for a second hearing, to be scheduled at a later date.

REPORT - Review of City Hall Employee Survey.

Councilman Walsh submitted a committee report in the absence of the Chairman, Councilman Cassano, stating that the committee met on July 16, Sept. 24, Oct. 28 and Nov. 18, 1980 to discuss the above matter.

The Committee reviewed the City Hall employee's survey, the survey returns, and the interpretative report prepared by the Mayor's Task Force on Human Resources.

Although the survey shows some employee dissatisfaction (especially in the areas of promotional opportunities, supervision and communications), the survey results appear no better or worse than the committee believes would be found under any normal working conditions.

No further survey-type actions are necessary at the present time.

After reviewing the report of the Mayor's Task Force on Human Resources, the committee further concludes that a requirement exists for increased centralization of the personnel management function in City government.

The committee listed activities which this centralized function should include. The committee also envisions the functions as a full time effort and recommends that the conclusions of this report and the report of the Mayor's Task Force on Human Resources be studied and their implementation be considered for inclusion in the budget requests for the next fiscal year.

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan and seconded by Councilman Boynton to accept the Report as read. Motion carried.

REPORT - Purchase of Police Vehicles.

Councilman Boynton submitted a report stating that the committee met twice with Chief Macedo and other Councilmembers.

Councilman Gallo gave a report to the committee on his inspection trip to Police Headquarters. He advised the committee that he checked the police cars, maintenance records on each of the Department patrol cars and found them to be complete and up to date. The records show that the cars are well maintained and that a problem involving the front and suspension systems on the cars are caused in part by the driveway entrance to the Police Department.

Chief Macedo informed the committee of the following schedule for patrol cars:

8 to 4 shift - 7 sectors
4 to midnight 9 sectors
Midnight to 8 AM 7 sectors

Also one car at Rogers Park when he has the manpower as well as the shift commander who checks each sector during the shift.

Councilman Delsin also visited Police Headquarters twice and said he "cannot see how we can't purchase new cars for the department. The people need and want police protection, and the City must provide that protection.

Councilman Gallo responded that he is not questioning the need for some car purchases, but rather, do we need 15 cars or would 12 do for now and replace others on a regular basis each year, rather than trying to do it all at once.

In response to Mr. Gallo, Chief Macedo said that he needed 9 cars per shift and that would not count spares for those in the repair shop, etc.

In response to a question from Councilman White Chief Macedo stated that it would require more cars than presently requested, to assign the same car to the same men, because if one shift had a replacement officer he would need another car to assign him to.

In response to a question from Councilman Walsh, Chief Macedo said his department has 16 patrol vehicles now.

Councilwoman McManus asked in reference to bid specifications, why 108 wheel base. The Chief responded that the size of the car required that specification as well as the stability on the road.

Councilman Evans commented that he was in favor of the request because they must be kept at peak efficiency, both in men and equipment. Mr. Evans also specified he believed if each officer treated his vehicle as his own, they might last longer and could be replaced on a rotating basis - some each year.

Councilman Boynton pointed out that the cost of the cars based on the current request computed out to \$8,495 per car and that approximately 1,000 trade-in value could be expected.

At the meeting, Councilman Delsin made the motion, seconded by Councilman Gallo to recommend that \$20,000 be transferred from the Contingency Account to the Police Department Acct. 061500 - Automotive Equipment, for the purchase of an estimated 12 cars. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Delsin and seconded by Councilman Burke to accept the Report as submitted. Motion carried with Councilman Visconti voting in opposition.

REPORT - Land Acquisition Committee - re: 156 Deer Hill Avenue

Councilman Evans submitted a report stating that the committee met on December 11, 1980 and voted that the Common Council be recommended not to accept the offer to purchase the property at 156 Deer Hill Avenue.

A motion was made by Councilman Ryan and seconded by Councilman Boynton to accept the Report as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Dyer thanked the members of H.A.R.T. and members of the Police Union for attending the meeting, as well as Mr. Edwards and extended Holiday Greetings to everyone.

As there were no public speakers, a motion was made by Councilman White and seconded by Councilman Evans for the meeting to be adjourned at

Respectfully submitted

Mary Richard
Assistant City Clerk

Attest:

Charles W. Hudgins
CITY CLERK