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**AD HOC REPORT
CWV- Merchant Marine Monument**

Honorable Mark D. Boughton
City Council Members

February 18, 2010

Councilman Riley called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. In attendance were committee members Councilman and Councilman Chianese. Deputy Corporation Counsel Laszlo Pinter, Councilman Visconti, ex-officio, Councilman Nero, ex-officio, John Scalzo, petitioner, and interested members of the public were also present. Committee member Councilman Saadi and Antonio Iadarola, P.E., Director of Public Works, were out of town on business.

Councilman Riley stated that the call of the meeting was to review, discuss and give approval to erect a monument honoring the Merchant Marines and the establishment of a special bank account at a local bank for the deposit of donations in the name of the Merchant Marine Monument Fund.

John Scalzo, the petitioner, gave an overview of the request for the monument. It is not common knowledge that many members of the Merchant Marines lost their lives in the performance of their duties during World War II. Members of other veterans' organizations are in concurrence with Mr. Scalzo's proposal and have raised the funds required to erect the monument. Earthmovers has committed to donate and install the monument at no cost. A bronze plaque with the Merchant Marine logo and rendering of a Merchant Marine ship would be placed on the monument. Examples of the logo and ship were displayed. There are enough funds to include a flag at the monument site as well. Mr. Scalzo stated that this monument would be similar to the Lee Hartell memorial. The target date for the dedication is August 8, 2010.

Councilman Riley stated that it was his honor to chair this committee. Councilman Riley read a letter from Antonio Iadarola, P.E. Director of Public Works, into the record stating that Public Works has not objection to the placement of the Merchant Marine Monument.

Councilman Chianese asked for clarification of the purpose of the committee and who would be responsible for the maintenance of the monument. Atty. Pinter advised that the purpose of the committee was to approve the location and concept of the monument and the establishment of a bank account for same. The Public Works Department maintains the other monuments at the proposed location.

Councilman Taylor spoke in favor of the concept of the monument and thanked Earthmovers for their donation.

Councilman Chianese moved to send a positive recommendation to the City Council to approve the monument as set forth in the map and establish an account to handle any and all donation for the monument, seconded by Councilman Taylor.

Discussion followed. Councilman Riley thanked Mr. Scalzo and his committee for their work on the proposed monument and invited them to attend the meeting of the whole. **Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

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Councilman Taylor moved to adjourn at 6:22PM. Councilman Chianese seconded the motion. **Motion approved by unanimous vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Riley, Chairman

Donald Taylor

Ben Chianese

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