Minutes of August 3, 1959

A regular meeting of the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford, Conn. was held in the Cafeteria of the Dolan Jr. High School, Toms Road, Stamford, on Monday, August 3, 1959.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Norton Rhoades, at 8:10 P.M.

INVOCATION - Given by Rev. Samuel DiTrollo of the Calvary Assembly of God Church.

Re: Death of Magr. Francis Wladasz of Holy Name of Jesus Church

MR. RHoades: "This Board would like to extend its corporate sympathy to the members of the Parish of Holy Name of Jesus Church upon the sudden death of Magr. Wladasz, about which all of you have read in the paper.

Condolences to Michael J. DeVito, 5th District Representative

MR. RHoades: "We also wish to offer our sympathy to Michael DeVito on the recent loss of his mother."

At this point the President read a letter from Mrs. Elizabeth Fortunato, recently widowed, upon the death of her husband Patrick J. Fortunato, 9th District Representative, in which she expresses thanks for the floral tribute sent by the members of the Board and the many expressions of sympathy.

SWEARING IN OF JOHN PAHEY, (D), new Board member from the 9th District, replacing Patrick J. Fortunato.

The Corporation Counsel, Raymond C. Cushing, administered the oath of office to John Pahey, new member of the Board, who thereupon assumed his seat as a member of the Board from the 9th District. (applause)

ROLL CALL was taken by the Clerk. There were 28 present and 12 absent at the calling of the roll. Mr. Truglia and Mr. Huizinga arrived later, changing the roll call to 30 present and 10 absent. Absent were: Messrs. Vitti, Georgoulis, Maffucci, Geronimo, Macrides, Marciano, Russell, Fredericks, McLaughlin and Mrs. Horner.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES - Meeting of July 6, 1959

There being no corrections, the Minutes of the meeting of July 6, 1959 were APPROVED unanimously.

Committee changes:

MR. NOLAN presented the following replacements on Committees, formerly filled by the late Patrick J. Fortunato: (Approved unanimously)

Steering Committee: Joseph P. Milano

Fiscal Committee: Peter C. Sileo

Legislative & Rules Committee: Bernard B. Geronimo

Planning & Zoning Committee: John Pahey (Replacing Mr. Geronimo)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STEERING COMMITTEE:

MR. NOLAN, Chairman in the absence of Mr. Rhoades, on vacation, presided at the meeting of the steering Committee. He presented the following report:
The Steering Committee met in the Mayor's Office, City Hall, on Monday, July 20, 1959. Mr. John Nolan presided as Chairman in the absence (on vacation) of Norton Rhoades, Chairman.

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 P.M. Present were: John Nolan, Acting Chairman, Thomas Topping, Robert Lewis, Jack Cummings, George Comora. Also present, but not as members, were George Russell, Stephen Melly and Joseph Milano.

Absent were: Norton Rhoades, Doris Zuckert (both on vacation), Alanson Fredericks, Rutherford Huizinga, Ellis Baker, John Macrides, William Murphy, Rocco Colatrella, Vincent Vitti and Bernard Geronimo.

(1) Mayor's letter of 7/1/59, submitting name of Louis Greenbaum, Republican, as replacement for John Allison, Republican, for 5 year term on the URBAN REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, term to start August 8, 1959.

Mr. Nolan read from the Minutes of February 7, 1955 (page 809) at which time John Allison was confirmed as a member of the URC, term to expire December 11, 1959.

There was considerable discussion as to the length of term of this appointment. It was MOVED, seconded and CARRIED that the Appointments Committee check with the Corporation Counsel as to what constituted the term of this appointment, in view of an apparent discrepancy with the terms of the original appointments of the first four members of this Commission on August 7, 1950 (see page 260).

(2) Mayor's letter of July 20, 1959, submitting the name of Mrs. Eva Watt, Republican, as a member of the HUBBARD HEIGHTS GOLF COMMISSION, replacing Mrs. Babette Runnoehoff, resigned, for term to expire December 1, 1962. REFERRED TO THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE.

All additional appropriations and matters approved by the Board of Finance were ordered placed on the agenda, and appropriations in excess of $2,000 referred to additional committees.

(3) Unsafe Buildings

This matter was discussed briefly and referred to the PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

(4) All matters that were postponed at the July Board meeting were ordered again placed on the agenda.

(5) Petition - Recreational facilities on East side.

This was presented by Mr. Kelly and referred to the PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE.

(6) Resolution concerning change of name of land known as Black Swamp to that of "Sleepy Hollow Park". REFERRED TO PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE. This was also presented by Mr. Kelly.

(7) Letter dated 7/14/59 from Park Commission - re Halloween Yacht Club proposed lease, answering the Board's request for information at the July Board meeting. Ordered placed on agenda under "COMMUNICATIONS".

(8) Undated letter from Charles Austin, regarding air pollution. REFERRED TO HEALTH & PROTECTION COMMITTEE.
(9) Picnic Committee

Mr. Connors asked to be excused from serving on the Picnic Committee this year. The name of Thomas Roche, 1st District Representative, was offered as a replacement for Mr. Connors and he was appointed as a member of the Picnic Committee.

(10) Status of City employees re Griffenhagen report.

This was discussed and a letter ordered sent to the Personnel Commission, asking for clarification of certain matters.

(11) Status of part-time City employees re Griffenhagen report.

This was discussed and referred to the Personnel Committee to investigate and report back to the Board.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was duly adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Nolan,
Chairman, pro tem

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE!

MR. LEWIS said the Committee met and interviewed Mr. Louis Greenbaum for membership on the Urban Redevelopment Commission. In regard to this appointment he presented the following letter from the Corporation Counsel, giving an opinion on this matter:

Urban Redevelopment Commission - Terms of Members

August 4, 1959

Mr. Robert Lewis, Chairman
Appointments Committee
Board of Representatives
City Hall
Stamford, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Lewis:

I have sifted through the facts as available from written records concerning the original creation of the Urban Redevelopment Commission and the terms for which its members were appointed. Since this is a somewhat confused situation, I will outline these facts, which are as follows:

1. Section 8-126 of the General Statutes empowers the legislative body of a municipality to create such a commission. On the subject of this body's composition, this statute says:

"Those first appointed shall be designated to serve for one, two, three, four and five years, respectively, and thereafter members shall be appointed annually to serve for five years, except that any vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term."
2. On June 20, 1950, a letter from the Mayor was sent to the Board of Representatives nominating the initial five members. The minutes of the Board's meeting of July 10, 1950 show that these proposed members were nominated for the terms required by statute, that is, one, two, three, four and five years, respectively. No date or expiration of the terms is referred to in said minutes.

At its meeting of July 10th, none of these members were voted upon because of a question involving dual office holding applying to two of the nominees.

3. At the meeting of the Board of Representatives on August 7, 1950, votes were taken on four of these nominees and all four were confirmed. The fifth member, Mr. Sherman Hoyt, had been nominated for a four year term, but elected to remain on the Planning Board.

4. At its meeting of December 4, 1950, the Board of Representatives confirmed the appointment of Mr. Patrick DeLuca as the fifth member of the Urban Redevelopment Commission to serve the four year term for which Mr. Hoyt was originally nominated. The minutes of this meeting also contained no reference to the expiration date.

On December 8, 1950, Mrs. Ransohoff, as Clerk of the Board, informed Mayor Barrett of Mr. Deluca's confirmation and in this case referred to no expiration date. However, the letter by Mayor Barrett dated November 13, 1950 submitting Mr. Deluca's name states - "Mr. DeLuca's term would expire in July, 1954".

5. On August 10, 1954, the Board of Representatives enacted an ordinance creating the Urban Redevelopment Commission which it had failed to do previously. At that time, it also passed related sections validating appointments already made to the Commission in this language -

"The members of the Urban Redevelopment Commission shall be appointed and shall hold office as approved in Chapter 55 of the General Statutes, as amended. Members heretofore appointed and serving on August 10, 1954 shall continue in office during the terms for which they have been previously appointed".

6. On January 4, 1955, Mayor Quigley submitted the name of John Allison "for the term ending December 11, 1959. He replaces Mr. DeLuca whose term has expired".
7. With the exception of the initial members of the Commission, all other appointments have been made for a term expiring on August 7 of the appropriate year, for example -

In a letter dated September 10, 1952, Mrs. Ransohoff, as Clerk of the Board of Representatives, informed Mr. William Pitt that "your term of office will expire on August 7, 1957".

Any attempt to untangle this series of complexities must begin with the state statutes cited in "1" above. It is apparent that the intent of the Legislature in enacting this section was that the terms of the five members would be staggered from year to year but would end on the same anniversary date whatever the year of expiration might be in any given instance ("members shall be appointed annually").

Therefore, whatever the correct anniversary date is, it should be the same for all five members.

The December 11th date used in Mr. Allison's case is the newest of the three. No reference was made to December 11th in any case prior to the submission of Mr. Allison's name by Mayor Quigley.

Before this time, two dates appear - July 1st and August 7th. It is easy to see how the confusion of dates might have arisen since no ordinance creating this commission was then in existence.

Mrs. Ransohoff's reference to July 1st undoubtedly was an expression of the understanding held by at least some of the members of the Board of Representatives. There is, however, no reference made in any of the minutes to the July 1st date.

The August 7th date obviously came into use because it was thought that the date of confirmation of the original appointees should also be considered as the date when the Urban Redevelopment Commission commenced its existence.

It is significant that in subsequent correspondence Mrs. Ransohoff also used the August 7th date when referring to new appointments.

From the above, it seems to me that Mr. DeLuca's term ended either on July 1, 1954 or on August 7, 1954. Mr. Allison's term therefore, should have been made to end on either of these dates. The reference to December 11th was clearly an error and could not effect a change in the duration or expiration date of the term involved.

As between the July 1st date and the August 7th date, a solution can be reached only by attempting to interpret the intent of the Board of Representatives from existing records.

Since the July 1st date appears only in two pieces of correspondence and was subsequently abandoned in favor of the August 7th date, I am of the opinion that the July 1st date was ultimately considered to be an error by the Board and that the August 7th date is more probably the one intended to be controlling by the Board of Representatives.

I have not consulted any of the parties involved in this correspondence or in the workings of the Board of Representatives at
the time, since legal intent can only be deduced from actual records. As you can see all of this leaves the situation in an unsatisfactory condition.

I would think that much could be accomplished if the Board of Representa-
tives would enact a resolution affirming the correct date of expiration of all five members concerned. However, in the absence of such a reso-
lution, I am of the opinion that Mr. Allison's term will expire on August 7, 1959.

Very truly yours,

Raymond G. Cushing
Corporation Counsel

cc: Chairman, Steering Committee
Urban Redevelopment Commission.

Urban Redevelopment Commission - Appointment of MR. LOUIS GREENBAUM (R) as replacement for John Allison (R) for a five year term, starting August 8, 1959.

MR. LEWIS MOVED for approval of the above appointment. Seconded by Mr. Roche.

MR. LEWIS urged the appointment of Mr. Greenbaum.

MR. WILENSKY spoke briefly, also in favor of this appointment.

The Tellers distributed the ballots, which were then collected, LOST with the following vote:

VOTE:
10 in favor
18 opposed

MR. BAKER, in the interest of clarification of the terms of office of the members of the Urban Redevelopment Commission, presented the following resolution which was APPROVED unanimously:

RESOLUTION NO. 305

CLARIFICATION OF TERM OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS OF
URBAN REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

BE IT RESOLVED AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the term of office of each present and subsequent member of the Urban Redevelopment Commission of the City of Stamford, which Commission was created under the provisions of Chapter 55, as amended, of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut and in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Code of General Ordinances of the City of Stamford, shall begin on the eighth day of August of each year and end on the seventh day of August of each year, on a rotational basis, of one member each year, for five years, according to the year of appointment.
FISCAL COMMITTEE:

MR. CUMMINGS, Vice Chairman, presented the Fiscal Committee report. He said a meeting of the Committee was held on July 28th and present were: Messrs. Tapping and Cummings. Absent were: Mrs. Zuckert, Messrs. Huizinga, Kolich, Robertucci and Wynn.

(1) $20,000 - Public Works Dept. - Widening of Bell Street (Requested in Mayor's letter of 6/3/59) (Also referred to Public Works Committee)

MR. CUMMINGS MOVED for approval of the above request. Seconded by Mr. Topping who said the Public Works Committee concurs in approval of this request. CARRIED unanimously.

(2) $7,199.92 - Salary increases for elected and appointed officials and Court Personnel (Not included in the Griffenbagen survey) (Requested in Mayor's letter of 6/4/59) - See page 2528, Minutes of 6/1/59 (Note: Also referred to Education, Welfare & Government Committee and Personnel Committee)

MR. CUMMINGS MOVED for approval of the following, all retroactive to July 1st, the beginning of the new fiscal year. Each item was voted upon separately, with Mr. Murphy and Mr. Jeybnick, Vice Chairman and Chairman of Education, Welfare & Government Committee and Personnel Committee, both concurring in the recommendations for approval of these requests and seconding Mr. Cummings' motion for approval: Each was CARRIED by unanimous vote of approval:

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Total Salary Increases------ $7,199.92

* As approved by Board of Finance 7/16/59

(3) $850.00 - Board of Representatives - Code 200.25 - Old Records (Requested in Mayor's letter of July 16, 1959)

MR. CUMMINGS MOVED for approval of the above. Seconded by Mr. Topping and CARRIED unanimously.

(4) $27,000.00 - Department of Public Works - For completion of new Incinerator (Requested in Mayor's letter of July 13, 1959) (Also referred to Public Works Committee)

MR. CUMMINGS MOVED for approval of the above request. Seconded by Mr. Topping, who said the Public Works Committee concurred in the approval. CARRIED unanimously.
(5) $1,600.00 - August rent for City offices located at 303 Main Street
(Requested in Mayor's letter of July 13, 1959)

MR. CUMMINGS MOVED for approval of the above request. Seconded by Mr. Rybnick and CARRIED unanimously.

(6) $2,046.00 - Corporation Counsel's office - To pay judgment fees (Requested in Mayor's letter of July 10, 1959) (Also referred to Education, Welfare & Government Committee)

MR. CUMMINGS MOVED for approval of the above request. Seconded by Mr. Murphy who said the Committee on Education, Welfare & Government concurred in the recommendation for approval.

MR. TRUGLIA arrived at this time (8:45 P.M.) changing the roll call to 29 present and 11 absent.

LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE:

MR. BAKER, Chairman, said the Committee met on July 30, 1959. Present were Messrs. Baker, Blois and DeForest. Absent were Messrs. Colatrella and Russell (away on vacation).

(1) Final adoption, Ordinance re Street opening and/or Excavation, Performance and Maintenance Bond (Also referred to Public Works Committee)

MR. BAKER: "This Ordinance was passed for publication at the July 6th Board meeting and was published in the Stamford Advocate July 15, 1959. Copies of the proposed Ordinance were furnished all Board members. At the July meeting it was voted to delete the last sentence of Section 2. This was deleted prior to publication. The Committee recommends final adoption of the proposed Ordinance, as published, with the deletion of the last sentence of Section 2."

MR. BAKER MOVED for the final adoption of the following Ordinance. Seconded by Mr. Blois. Mr. Topping said his Committee concurred in the approval.

ORDINANCE NO. 84 SUPPLEMENTAL

AMENDING CHAPTER 28 OF THE CODE OF GENERAL ORDINANCES, 1956, CONCERNING STREET OPENING AND/OR EXCAVATION, PERFORMANCE AND MAINTENANCE BOND.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF STAMFORD THAT:

1. The title of Chapter 28, Section 34, which now reads: "Bond required; conditions; amount, etc." be and the same is hereby amended to read: "Indemnity Bond required; conditions; amount, etc."

2. Chapter 28, Section 34, be and the same is hereby amended by the deletion in their entirety of the last two sentences of said Section so that the same shall now read:

"No permit required by this article, except as hereinafter specified, shall be issued until the person applying therefor shall have filed with the City Engineer a bond, approved by the City Engineer, in the penal sum to be decided by the City Engineer; such bond being conditioned to indemnify and save harmless the City from all damage to any public or private property, or to persons, caused by any such street opening or excavation, or by the unlawful or negligent act or omission"
August 3, 1959

of the person applying for such permit, or his agents or employees, in making or refilling any such opening or excavation, or in working in or guarding such opening or excavation or objects or materials taken therefrom or used in connection therewith, or in erecting, maintaining or removing any passageway over or around any obstruction to public travel caused by such opening, excavation, objects or materials."

3. Chapter 28, Section 35, be and the same is hereby repealed in its entirety and replaced by a new Section 35, reading as follows:

"Section 35, Performance and Maintenance Bond required; conditions, amount, etc.

"No permit required by this Article shall be issued until the person applying therefor shall have filed with the City Engineer a Performance and Maintenance Bond in the following form and in the penal sum set forth therein:

STREET OPENING AND/OR EXCAVATION
PERFORMANCE AND MAINTENANCE BOND

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS that we

_________________________ as PRINCIPAL and

_________________________ as SURETY, are held and firmly

bounced unto the CITY OF STAMFORD in the penal sum equal to one

hundred percent (100%) of the estimated cost of the work to be

performed, but in no case less than One Thousand ($1,000.00)

Dollars, to be paid to the said CITY OF STAMFORD, its agents

or assigns, for which payment, well and truly to be made, we

bind ourselves and our heirs, executors, administrators, successors

and assigns, firmly by these presents.

Signed with our hands and sealed with our seals this

___ day of ___ 19

NOW THE CONDITION OF THIS OBLIGATION is such that

whereas the said PRINCIPAL has applied for and received a

permit for street openings and/or excavations in the CITY

OF STAMFORD.

NOW, IF THE SAID PRINCIPAL shall well and faithfully

perform all work for which said permit was issued, in accor-
dance with specifications for such work as set forth by the

City Engineer of the CITY OF STAMFORD, and have such work

approved and accepted by the said City Engineer of the CITY

OF STAMFORD, and IF THE SAID PRINCIPAL shall maintain

as directed by and within the time limits specified by, and

subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Public Works

any street, alley or public ground in which said street open-
ings and/or excavations have been made for a period of FIVE

(5) YEARS after the approval and acceptance of said work by

the City Engineer of the CITY OF STAMFORD, and

IF THE SAID PRINCIPAL shall indemnify the said CITY OF

STAMFORD for all damages to any City property resulting from

his work operations, regardless of whether such damage is done
August 3, 1959

by himself, his agents, employees, or subcontractors, then
this obligation shall be void, otherwise it shall remain in
full force and effect.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of

(PRINCIPAL) By:

(WITNESS) By:

(SURETY) By:

(WITNESS)

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF CONNECTICUT) ss.

COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD) being first duly sworn, on oath
deposes and says that he is an Attorney-in-fact of the
Company, surety on the attached Bond,
executed by

(CONTRACTOR)

Affiant further deposes and says that no officer, official or employee of
the CITY OF STAMFORD has any interest directly, or indirectly, or is receiving
any premium, commission, fee or other thing of value on account of the sale or
furnishing of the policy, bond, undertaking or contract of indemnity, guaranty
or suretyship in connection with the above mentioned contract.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of

19

Notary Public

***************

This Ordinance shall take effect on the date of its enactment.

(2) Ordinance to control private garbage collectors dumping out-of-town garbage in
Stamford (Brought up by Mr. McLoughlin at the June 1, 1959 meeting - see
page 2600)

MR. BAKER: "The Committee discussed this problem and concluded that such an Ordinance,
if enacted, would be impossible of enforcement. It would be necessary to set up
police control on every road leading into the City. The Committee feels that this is a matter requiring control by the Public Works Department and therefore, recommends NO ACTION be taken by this Board."

(3) Proposed Ordinance re use of Plastic Bags

MR. BAKER: "The Committee recommends adoption, without prior publication of this proposed Ordinance. This action is recommended in view of the gravity of the problem and solicits the assistance of the press and radio in making the public and users of this material aware of the provisions of the Ordinance."

MR. BAKER MOVED for adoption of the following Ordinance, waiving pre-publication. Seconded by Mr. Colatrella.

It was pointed out by the President that this will require a two thirds vote.

After some discussion by the various members, the following Ordinance was APPROVED by unanimous vote of the 29 members present:

ORDINANCE NO. 85 SUPPLEMENTAL
AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE SALE, GIFT, TRADE OR CONVEYANCE OF PLASTIC MATERIALS

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF STAMFORD THAT:

1. It is unlawful within the City of Stamford to sell, give, trade, or otherwise convey a bag or piece of plastic large enough to fit over or around a human head, unless there is plainly and prominently printed thereon in red letters not smaller than those generally referred to as "20-point type" the warning "DANGEROUS FOR CHILDREN'S USE"; provided, however, that

(a) For a period of SIXTY (60) DAYS from the enactment of this Ordinance, a notice, in the form prescribed by the Stamford Health Department, pointing out the dangers inherent in the use of such plastic bags or materials, when attached by stapling to such plastic bags or materials, shall meet the requirements of this Ordinance.

2. For the purpose of this Ordinance "plastic" means any material or substance which tends to cling to the human skin and which is so non-porous as possibly to cause the suffocation of any person when fitted over or around his head.

3. Any person, firm or corporation violating the provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be subject to a fine not to exceed FIFTY ($50.00) DOLLARS for each such violation.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon the date of its enactment.

(4) License Ordinance (for pinball machines)

MR. BAKER: "No action was taken on this matter for the reason that the file has not been turned over to the Legislative and Rules Committee by the Health & Protection Committee. Subsequent to this time it was the finding of the high courts
of this State, which very probably will rule out these appliances anyway, and may make it unnecessary to take any action. We will look into it again before our next meeting.

(5) No Smoking Ordinance (See page 2585, Minutes of June 1, 1959)

MR. BAKER: "The Committee wrote several communities in the State to determine the method for handling this matter. Those replying either have no provisions restricting smoking in commercial establishments or control the matter by a Fire Marshal's regulation. After discussion, the Committee concluded that this is a matter which properly comes under the jurisdiction of the Fire Department and recommends that a letter be sent to the Chief of the Fire Department, with copies to the Big Five Departments, suggesting consideration of the establishment of appropriate Fire Marshal's regulations to cover the situation, and I SO MOVE."

Mr. Baker's motion was seconded by Mr. DeForest and CARRIED unanimously.

(6) Resolution to accept roads in Holbrook Estates (Apple Tree Drive, Boxwood Drive, Holbrook Drive and Pine Tree Drive, under Sec. 640 of Charter) (Note: See Minutes 1/5/59, pages 2109-2111 - Referred to Planning & Zoning Committee)

MR. BAKER: "Item #6 on the Agenda is not worded 100% correctly. The purpose of this item on the Agenda was to proceed under Section 640 of the Charter. The action was prompted by an estimate which was turned over to me by the Superintendent of Highways. At my request, an estimate for the improvement of the four roads of the Holbrook Estates area, in accordance with Ordinance No. 79 Supplemental, was made.

"I, in turn, prepared a letter to the property owners of the area, reviewing the history of this over the past three years, and the state at which we now find ourselves, telling them what the mechanics are for proceeding under Section 640, and what it would probably mean in terms of cost per property owner. I then asked them by return form, to indicate to me whether they wished me to proceed or not to proceed. There were 59 property owners in the area, excluding those whose property abuts on either Strawberry Hill Avenue or Upland Road, which means that access to their property is from the main highway and not through the roads from the Estate.

"Of the 59 property owners who do have property abutting on these four roads, I have here, written concurrence from 52 to proceed with the matter. I have a refusal, in writing, from only one, and that one abuts on Upland Road as well as on Boxwood Drive, and we feel that this one is perhaps a little prejudiced because of their access to an already paved street.

"This matter has rested for a considerable period of time in the Public Works Committee, and with your permission, Mr. President, I will yield to the Chairman of that Committee to present an appropriate resolution."

MR. TOPPING: "This particular item has been held in my Committee since January 5th. In response to the request from the Representative from the 8th District, it is recommended to the Board that the following resolution be adopted and I so MOVE."

Mr. Baker seconded Mr. Topping's motion.

RESOLUTION NO. 306

CONCERNING ACCEPTANCE OF STREETS IN HOLBROOK ESTATES (APPLE TREE DRIVE, BOXWOOD DRIVE, HOLBROOK DRIVE AND PINE TREE DRIVE)

BE IT RESOLVED AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Representatives
of the City of Stamford that said Board of Representatives respectfully requests the Mayor of said City of Stamford to cause a report to be made concerning such work as may be necessary to put APPLE TREE DRIVE, BIRCHWOOD DRIVE, HOLBROOK DRIVE and PINE TREE DRIVE, in the area known as Holbrook Estates, in condition to be accepted as City streets in accordance with the provisions of Section 640 of the Stamford Charter and Ordinance No. 79 Supplemental. The cost of such work to be assessed in full against the owners of the property abutting on said roads.

MR. RHoades: "The President would like to state that he has been given tonight an oral statement - not an opinion exactly - from the Corporation Counsel, in regard to the method of referral to the Board of Finance in these matters."

"The language of Section 640 is not clear as to the time factor when the Board of Finance has to approve - whether it is preceding our action, or succeeding. The Corporation Counsel is in the process of giving an opinion to the Board of Finance on that matter. Until he does so, he has informed your President tonight that it is possible for this Board to take whatever action it wishes to take, subject to whatever ruling he may present at a later date."

VOTE taken on approval of Resolution No. 306 and CARRIED unanimously.

MR. Topping moved that a letter be written to the Board of Finance, requesting their approval to this resolution. Seconded by Mr. Baker and CARRIED unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

MR. Topping said the regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held on July 23, 1959. Members present were: John Maffucci, Llewellyn Nilan and Thomas Topping. Absent were: Vincent Vitti, Alan Ketcham, Bernard Geronimo and Anthony Marciano. (Geronimo and Ketcham because of illness)

(1) Pepper Ridge Place (Also referred to Planning & Zoning Committee)

MR. Topping: "Mr. Russell and I appeared before the Board of Finance to explain what this Board was trying to do under Section 640 of the Charter. The Board of Finance wish to consult with the Corporation Counsel as to just where, in proceeding under Section 640, their approval was necessary. As no answer has been received from the Board of Finance, I move that this item be referred back to Committee." Seconded by Mr. Hearing and CARRIED unanimously.

(2) Unsafe Buildings

MR. Topping: "A question was raised at the Steering Committee meeting as to just what procedures were necessary in the case of unsafe buildings. In the Charter (Chapter 41, Sec. 416.1 - Powers and Duties with Relation to Unsafe Buildings and Excavations.) it gives rather specific directions on how the Building Inspector shall proceed. In our new Building Code, Chapter 104, Sec. 3 - Unsafe Buildings - it states that the Building Inspector shall condemn all unsafe buildings and shall order such buildings to be taken down, removed, or made safe, as he may deem necessary, or as provided in this Code. In the State Code of 1947, Chapter 103, Sec. 6 - Unsafe Buildings - it states substantially what our Charter states in Chapter 41, Sec. 416.1.

"In the case of the Sharlach building at Pacific and Canal Streets, the procedures outlined in the various Codes were generally followed by all officials involved, with the exception that the written notice as called for in Chapter 41, Sec. 416.1 of our Charter was not issued - verbal notice was given five different times by
the Building Inspector and five different times by the Fire Marshal, as stated in
their reports to the Mayor.

"This Committee voted to recommend to the Board that reference be made to Chapter 41, Sec. 416.1 of the Charter in Chapter 104, Sec. 6 of the new Building Code and I so
MOVE. This particular reference would tie Sec. 416.1 of the Charter in with our new
Building Code. Our new Building Code is not too specific as to how the Building
Inspector should proceed in the case of unsafe buildings. I think if Mr. Baker will
check me on that, he will find that I am substantially correct."

Mr. Topping said that he would like the Legislative & Rules Committee to double check
on the above matter. Mr. Baker agreed this would be done.

Mrs. Zuckert seconded Mr. Topping's motion that a reference be made in the new
Building Code to Chapter 41, Sec. 416.1 of the Charter in the method of handling un­
safe buildings. CARRIED unanimously.

MR. RHoades called attention to a letter from the Mayor on this same matter. The
letter is as follows:

CITY OF STAMFORD, CONN.

July 29, 1959

Hon. Norton Rhoades, President
Board of Representatives
City Hall
Stamford, Conn.

Dear Mr. President:

I notice on the agenda for your August meeting that you have the
collapse of the building at 119 Pacific Street. I would appreciate
going over these details with whoever is appointed to investigate
this matter.

We have certain problems in this area which you can readily under­
stand are vital. I would say that 80% of this property is substandard
in regard to housing and building conditions and that is the reason
for the redevelopment of this area by the Urban Redevelopment Com­
mission. However, this does not and should not be, by any means inter­
preted that the owners of these buildings can continue to rent these
apartments and dwellings without due process of law in keeping these
up to health and safety standards. We have no desire to make it a
burden upon the property owner, but we cannot definitely guarantee
that this redevelopment will take place immediately. In fact, it
may be one or two years, depending upon the action of Congress.

I would be very happy to learn the feelings of your Honorable Board
regarding this vital situation.

Sincerely,

(signed) Webster C. Givens, Mayor
MR. TOPPING called attention to Ordinance No. 65 Supplemental, which is an Ordinance controlling substandard housing and to make the owners conform to certain specified rules to make sure this type of housing will be fit for human habitation.

Note: Introduced at 7/1/57 Board meeting, to conform with Resolution No. 225 passed 6/4/56. Final adoption of Ordinance August 5, 1957. (See page 1666 of Minutes)

MR. TOPPING: "This Ordinance was enacted August 30, 1957. There is only about 30 more days before compliance with this particular Ordinance is required and I think that some effort should be made to make the owners of this type of property realize that by August 30, 1959 they will be expected to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance. This refers to all substandard buildings insofar as this particular Ordinance is concerned.

Mr. Huizinga arrived at this time (9:10 P.M.) changing the roll call to 30 present and 10 absent.

(3) Petition from residents of Three Lakes Drive, Bridle Path and Woodridge Drive South (Under Sec. 640 of Charter and Ordinance No. 79)

The following petition is the one referred to above:

(No address given)
June 19, 1959

Board of Representatives
City of Stamford
Stamford, Conn.

Gentlemen:

The Three Lakes Homeowners Association, Inc. wish to initiate, under Section 640 of the Stamford Charter, proceedings to enable Wood Ridge Drive South, Three Lakes Drive and Bridle Path, to meet the specifications of the City of Stamford, and be accepted by the City as a City street.

Sincerely yours,

J. L. Bouges, Secretary

Ivan Del Serra, President

Delbert C. Kingsley, Vice President

Frank H. Bouges, Treasurer

Note: See Minutes of 9/8/58, pages 1992(12) and 2003(6)
" " " 10/6/58, pages 2030-2031 - Resolution No. 285 (This action was previously taken before passage of Ordinance No. 79 which was enacted on March 21, 1959)

MR. TOPPING: "In response to a petition from the residents of Three Lakes Drive,
Bridle Path and Woodridge Drive South, this Committee voted to recommend to the Board that the following Resolution be referred to the Legislative and Rules Committee for action at the September meeting:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CONCERNING THREE LAKES DRIVE, BRIDLE PATH AND WOODRIDGE DRIVE SOUTH TO BRING INTO PROPER CONDITION FOR ACCEPTANCE AS CITY STREETS

BE IT RESOLVED AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford that said Board of Representatives respectfully requests the Mayor of said City of Stamford to cause a report to be made concerning such work as may be necessary to put Three Lakes Drive, Bridle Path and Woodridge Drive South in condition to be accepted as a City Street in accordance with the provisions of Section 640 of the Charter and Ordinance No. 79 Supplemental. The cost of such work to be assessed in full against the owners of the property on Three Lakes Drive, Bridle Path and Woodridge Drive South.

MR. TOPPING: "I believe that a previous resolution has been passed on this petition, but it does not include Ordinance No. 79 Supplemental."

MR. TOPPING MOVED that a letter be written to the Board of Finance requesting their approval of this work. Seconded by Mr. Baker and carried unanimously.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Mr. Kelly said his Committee met July 16, 1959 with members of the Park Commission. Present were the following Committee members: Edward Wynn, Rocco Colatrella, Thomas Roche, Peter Sileo and Stephen Kelly, Chairman. Another meeting was held July 31, 1959 and present at this time were Peter Sileo, Edward Wynn and Stephen Kelly.

(1) PETITION CONCERNING RECREATIONAL FACILITIES ON EAST SIDE

Mr. Kelly read a petition, requesting the Mayor and the Board of Representatives to ask the Park Commission and the Board of Recreation to prepare and set up a play area, either on Cove Island or the Cove mainland, where teenagers from 14 to 18 can enjoy recreation. The petition asked that immediate steps be taken to hold the Old Museum at Courtland Park as a Recreation Center for teenagers and further, to build a Recreation Center for Stamford youth on Cove Island or on Cove mainland.

MR. KELLY MOVED that the Board approve the request contained in the petition.

MR. RHOADES: "In other words, Mr. Kelly, you wish the Board of Representatives to write a letter or to communicate with the Park Commission a request that this be done?"

MR. KELLY: "That's correct."

Mr. Milano seconded Mr. Kelly's motion.

MR. ROCHE: "I think that there are a few ambiguities in that petition that need explanation to the members of this Board before a vote can be taken on any action. The essential part of that petition would seem as if these young people have been deprived of recreational facilities; that something has been taken away from them in the old Museum.
Mr. Topping moved that a letter be written to the Board of Finance requesting their approval of this work. Mr. Baker suggested that such action be withheld until the matter has been referred to the Legislative and Rules Committee in accordance with usual procedure. Mr. Topping changed his motion for referral to the Legislative and Rules Committee. Seconded by Mr. Baker and CARRIED unanimously.
"In the report from the Chairman of our Committee, there is one word missing, which I think would clarify it. In the third paragraph it should say that the Board of Recreation have administrative jurisdiction. The Park Commission cannot give any property away. We're the only ones who can do that. They transferred administrative jurisdiction, which means that they have cut themselves off completely from any contact with the building proper - the old Museum.

"The full facilities of this building are there. So, at the moment there is no indication of anyone being deprived. I think that we should, in due time and with proper planning at Cove Island, have a recreation center for teenagers and on the mainland. I am all for it. However, I just wanted to clear up any misunderstanding. There has been no deprivation.

"The inference in there is the fact that the Board of Recreation was given a home in one of the buildings - the old Recreation Building will have to come down on Cove Island. The offices should be moved to the Old Museum, for which purpose the administrative jurisdiction is turned over to the Board of Recreation.

"One of the reasons for our tour up there was to take a look at the property. At that time I believe it was the consensus of opinion that there was adequate space. As a matter of fact, it is a very lush setting. It does need some cleaning up in the upper level of the old Museum.

"The request that a letter be written to the Mayor and to the Park Commission, asking that the youngsters be allowed to have organized sports on Cove Island is patently ridiculous. There is a program going on there in the morning, supervised by the Board of Recreation. There is a program going on there in the afternoon, also supervised by the Board of Recreation. To the best of my knowledge, and I have inquired both from the Chairman of the Park Commission and from the Superintendent of Parks; no request has ever been made for the use of this at night, and we have been assured that anything they can do to cooperate with the Board of Recreation will most certainly be done.

"It seems to me that there is no indication that a letter needs to be written which would indicate in any way laxity on the part of either the Park Commission or the Superintendent of Parks, because they have not been requested to permit the use of this area."

MR. KELLY explained that the recreational facilities are requested for older children between the ages of 14 and 18. He said that no recreational facilities are now provided for children of this age group at the present time on Cove Island, it being only for the smaller children.

MR. CONNORS and MR. NILAN stressed the fact that it is their belief that the Youth Center in the Courtland Avenue building should not be shut down.

Mr. Connors said some of the teenagers were being arrested for loitering, mainly because they had no place to go. He said this trouble was recent, only since the Youth Center had been closed.

MR. ROCHE said he saw no reason why the older children could not go to Cove Island and play ball any time they wished. He said: "If the Recreation Committee wants to organize ball down there in the evening, believe me, the back stop is up. All they have to do is request that a mound be put in. It's just a lack of communicating the need somewhere along the line."

There was considerable further debate and it was finally decided to recomit the matter for further study.
MR. KELLY presented the following letter on the above matter:

CITY OF STAMFORD, CONN.

July 1, 1959

Mr. Stephen Kelly, Chairman
Parks & Recreation Committee
Board of Representatives
City Hall
Stamford, Conn.

Dear Mr. Kelly:

The Park Commission approves the recommendation by Springdale residents and their representatives on your Board that the area known as "The Black Swamp" be officially designated "Sleepy Hollow Park".

Very truly yours,
Edward A. Connell, Superintendent
Department of Parks and Trees

MR. KELLY: "I have a resolution which was presented at one of our meetings by Mr. Cummings."

MR. KELLY MOVED for approval of the following resolution; seconded by Mr. Cummings and CARRIED unanimously:

RESOLUTION NO. 307

CHANGE OF NAME OF AREA KNOWN AS "BLACK SWAMP" TO SLEEPY HOLLOW PARK

BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Representatives that the Park Commission consider at its earliest convenience, the tract of land located in Springdale, consisting of approximately twenty-three acres, heretofore known as the "Black Swamp" so that it shall thereafter be known and designated as "SLEEPY HOLLOW PARK", and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said "Sleepy Hollow Park" shall officially remain under the jurisdiction of the Park Commission of the City of Stamford, Connecticut, for the sole purpose of a natural woodland park area, wild life sanctuary, arboretum, as officially envisioned in the Brown and Blauvelt report of August 1956, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Park Commission should consider requesting the necessary funds in the next regular budget for
providing the nature paths, and any dams or other devices, to aid in the control of the limited water areas of said park, designed for creation of ponds which may be stocked with fish, and serve as a skating pond in the winter months.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

MR. RYBNICK presented the report of his committee. He said a meeting was held on Monday, June 15, 1959, but it was not reported sooner because it had been deferred at the July meeting because of Mr. Fortunato's death.

(Note: Report on file in Board of Representatives' office)

EDUCATION, WELFARE & GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE:

MR. MURPHY, Vice Chairman, gave the Committee report in the absence of Mr. Macrides. He said the Committee met on July 28, 1959. He reported that items under the Fiscal Committee had previously been reported on under that Committee.

(1) Home Rule for District of Columbia (As requested in Mayor's letter of 6/22/59)

MR. MURPHY presented the following resolution and MOVED for its adoption. Seconded by Mr. Baker and CARRIED unanimously:

RESOLUTION NO. 308

HOME RULE FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WHEREAS, the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford, Connecticut is an organ of local self-government, and

WHEREAS, the residents of the District of Columbia are denied the rights and benefits of local self-government, and

WHEREAS, the residents of the District of Columbia by a substantial majority desire local self-government, and

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States has the authority to assure local self-government by granting Home Rule to the District of Columbia,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford, Connecticut that Senator Prescott Bush, Senator Thomas J. Dodd, Representative Donald J. Irwin and Representative Frank Kowalski be petitioned to approve Home Rule legislation to assure local self-government to the residents of the District of Columbia.

(2) Metropolitan Regional Council questionnaire (Mayor's letter of 6/23/59)

MR. MURPHY: "The Committee recommends that negative action be taken upon these items, as outlined in the questionnaire attached to the Mayor's letter. The feeling seems to be that County government is going out and something else is trying to sneak in."

MR. RHoades: "The Chair doesn't quite understand why there is no Committee action on this matter."
MR. MURPHY: "I would like to recommend that we vote no."

MR. RHOADES: "These are requests from the Mayor for this Board to vote on these various questions proposed by the Metropolitan Regional Council:

(1) Vote Yes or No on the following:
A full time secretariat should be established and given the assignment of carrying out on an expanded basis the activities currently being performed by the secretariat: the secretariat would be the Council's essential fact-gathering agency, constantly at the service of Council members. It would centralize regional and local information for the use of communities who comprise the Council membership. It would constantly study ways of improving inter-regional cooperation. It would assist all committees of the Council, plan and arrange Council meetings, act as the central clearing-house on regional matters affecting their communities, perform such research as the Council membership and executive board assign to it, and report back to the full Council on the significance of regional activities to each Council member.

(2) Vote Yes or No on the following:
The Secretariat should be assigned to study the most desirable means of effecting equitable membership in the Council, making its report thereon available for adoption, modification or rejection after discussion by the Council as a whole.

(3) Vote Yes or No on the following:
Membership in the Metropolitan Regional Council should be by resolution of the LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE COMMUNITY SEEKING MEMBERSHIP, followed by affirmative action by the executive board of the Council.

(4) Vote Yes or No on the following:
The Council should encourage the growth of citizens' interest in regional affairs and the development of cooperative participation by civic organizations in our efforts to formulate plans for meeting the problems of the metropolitan area.

(5) Vote Yes or No on the following:
The Council should recommend that the States of Connecticut and New Jersey enact legislation patterned on Article 14-G of the general municipal law of New York State. This legislation authorizes a variety of specific cooperative projects to be undertaken by adjoining communities, even across State lines.

Re: Financial Support for Council
Vote Yes or No on the following:
The Metropolitan Regional Council should be supported by all its members. A rate of $0.01 per resident has been suggested. Under this proposal, each unit of government would pay this amount for each resident within its borders. Where a county and a city within that county are members, the amount which the county pays would not include the population of the city. The city, in such a case, would pay for its residents separately.
Re: Proposal for Legal Status

Vote Yes or No on the following:

The Metropolitan Regional Council should be given recognition as a federation of municipal and county governmental officials. This could be accomplished by having the states of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut enact reciprocal legislation, establishing the Metropolitan Regional Council as a tri-state agency and conferring upon it the power to employ a staff to serve as its secretariat. The status sought should be to authorize consultation, research, planning and drafting of regional studies, recommendations, and related activities. The Council should not seek operating powers.

(Note: If the vote of the Council membership on this proposal is affirmative, you will have a second opportunity to consider and to vote on the specific legislation to be drawn up.)

MR. RHoades: "The report of the Committee is negative."

MR. Murphy: "You have to take positive action on these questions, do you not?"

MR. RHoades: "No - there are three possible actions that can be taken. There is, in front of each of the items submitted by the Council a 'Yes' and a 'No' to be checked. It is possible for this Board to check 'Yes' on each of them, or 'No' on each of them, or to take no action whatever. The Chair is assuming, Mr. Murphy, that you wish to move that we vote 'No' on each of these items.

"Now, this happens to be one of those areas in which the Committee report of recommended action to be taken is of extreme importance, because it is completely impossible for this Board to consider each item and act on them in open session. It would take too long and should be governed by the recommendations of the Committee who have had the time to go into it more thoroughly than is possible here tonight."

MRS. Zuckert moved for recommittal of the matter. Seconded by Mr. Connors and carried unanimously.

Re: "Hatch Field" - Report regarding complaint from Mrs. Angelina Colamonico on damage to her property and greenhouse because of children playing baseball in Hatch Field, adjacent to her property (Original complaint referred to Education, Welfare & Government Committee and Parks & Recreation Committee - see page 1896, May 5, 1958 Minutes)

MR. Truglia: "It is with great pleasure that I can report to the Board the satisfactory solution to the Colamonico complaint of recent months.

"As you recall, this complaint centered around youngsters playing ball unsupervised in Hatch Field, and at times causing damage to the Colamonico greenhouse.

"The satisfactory solution to the complaint is a good example of efficient and sincere cooperation amongst city officials and department heads. Specifically, I wish to single out words of praise to Mr. Edward Hunt, Superintendent of Recreation, for his concern and follow-through on this matter and also to our Mayor, Webster C. Givens"
PICNIC COMMITTEE:

MR. LONGO, as a member of the Picnic Committee, announced that they expected to hold the Board of Representatives' picnic at Chestnut Hill Park. The tickets would be $3.50 per person, with children admitted free. The date: September 13, 1959 (Sunday).

OLD BUSINESS:

MRS. ZUCKERT announced that she had turned over to Mr. Longo $47.66 which was the amount of money left over from the picnic held last year.

NEW BUSINESS:

MR. RHOADES announced the next Board meeting would have to be held on September 14, 1959 because of the Labor Day holiday and the Steering Committee meeting would be held two weeks in advance. This was agreed upon.

Re: Keith Street - Bad road condition

MR. TRUGLIA: "I wish to call the attention of this Board to a situation in the Second District. A matter which has existed for many years and probably will continue for many more, unless we, as a group, working with the proper committees can correct this situation.

"In 1932 a certain street was accepted by the City of Stamford and from that time on, this accepted city street has not been in any acceptable condition. This particular street has virtually disappeared and in its place a mass of vegetation or jungle has taken over.

"This street includes, according to some research, ten or more lots which could be used for future building of homes. As we well know, such land is needed in Stamford. To keep Keith Street in its present condition would be unthinkable because of the tax return and future potential development in the area. I offer two recent photographs to substantiate my report."

MR. TRUGLIA explained that Keith Street was between Congress Street and Burwood Avenue.

The President announced that this would be referred to the Public Works Committee, along with the photographs, for future action.

Re: Poor street lighting conditions in 13th District

MR. KOLICH requested that the above matter be referred to the proper committees. It was referred to the Health and Protection Committee and the Public Works Committee.

MR. KELLY spoke of a survey by the power company which aims to provide the entire city with better lighting facilities.

Re: Petition from residents on Little John Lane (Sherwood Forest development) for installation of street lights (17th District)

MR. CUMMINGS presented a petition from above residents, requesting the installation of street lights. Referred to the Public Works Committee.
August 3, 1959

Re: Halloween Yacht Club lease

MR. TOPPING requested the reading of a letter from the Supt. of Parks on the above matter, in answer to the Board's request for an explanation:

July 14, 1959

Board of Representatives
City Hall
Stamford, Conn.

Gentlemen:

This will acknowledge your letter of July 8th concerning the Board of Representatives' request for information regarding the Halloween Yacht Club.

The Halloween Yacht Club has proposed a definite form of lease and we expect to have a final discussion with Assistant Corporation Counsel Arthur DiSesa on Thursday, July 16th, following which the lease with any legal corrections will be submitted to the Mayor, Board of Finance and Board of Representatives.

Very truly yours,

Edward A. Connell, Superintendent
Department of Parks and Trees

ADJOURNMENT:

Upon motion of Mr. Baker, duly seconded and CARRIED, the meeting was adjourned at 10:12 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Velma Farrell
Executive Secretary

Norton Rhoades, President