

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, October 5, 1959.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Norton Rhoades, at 8:05 P.M.

INVOCATION was given by Rev. Thorpe Bauer, Pastor Union Memorial Church, Glenbrook.

Expression of Sympathy - Recent death of Gustave E. Steinback, member of Planning Board.

MR. RHOADES: "The Board wishes to express their sympathy of their membership on the untimely death of Mr. Gustave E. Steinback, a member of our Planning Board. He was devoted public servant."

ROLL CALL was taken by the Clerk. There were 34 present and 6 absent. The absent members were: Rocco Colatrella, Vincent Vitti, Joseph Cullen, John Fahey, Stephen Kelly and Alanson Fredericks.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES - Meeting of September 14, 1959

The Minutes were approved, with the following corrections:

Page 2648: 6th line of sub-paragraph #3, change the words "constitute and unconstitutional" Change the word "and" to "an"

Pages 2660 and 2661:

Under "Amended Ordinance No. 80 Supplemental" Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are not affected by the amendments. The amendments are pertinent only to Article 100, Section 6 and Section 13.

Page 2672: Mr. Sileo called attention to the last sentence in paragraph headed "heliport - Hazardous conditions". He asked to have the words "or else" deleted and substitute the word "and" in place thereof.

Page 2661: Mrs. Zuckert called attention to the last paragraph re "Change in Voting Hours" and said the date of November 4th should be changed to read "November 3, 1959"

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MR. RHOADES, Chairman, presented the following report of the Steering Committee:

STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT
Meeting held September 28, 1959

A meeting of the Steering Committee of the Board of Representatives was held at 8 P.M., Monday, September 28, 1959 in the Mayor's Office, City Hall. Present were: Norton Rhoades, Mrs. Doris Zuckert, Thomas Topping, Robert Lewis, John Macrides, Joseph Milano, John Nolan, George Connors, Ellis Baker and Rutherford Huizinga. Mr. Cummings and Mr. Russell also attended, but not as members.

Absent were: Vincent Vitti (ill), Bernard Geronimo, Rocco Colatrella, William Murphy (working nights) and Alanson Fredericks.

Mr. Rhoades, Chairman, opened the meeting at 8:10 P.M.

The following matters were discussed:

- (1) Appointment ROBERT LEWIS as member of Planning Board - Mayor's letter of Sept. 28, 1959 - To fill out unexpired term of Gustave E. Steinback, deceased, for term ending December 1, 1962. Referred to MR. DEFOREST of APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE for reason that Mr. Lewis is the Chairman of that Committee.
- (2) Appointment members of ELECTRICAL EXAMINING BOARD, PLUMBING EXAMINING BOARD AND BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS - Mayor's letter of Sept. 28, 1959, as per provisions of new Building Code. REFERRED TO APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE
- (3) Fiscal Committee
No requests for additional appropriations could be referred to this Committee for reason that the Board of Finance has taken no action on any of these requests.
- (4) Resolution concerning Northwoods Road: Referred to LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE (Brought up at last Board meeting by Public Works Committee)
- (5) City-owned property, disposition of: Letter dated Sept. 23, 1959 from Planning & Zoning Director. REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE
- (6) Cedar Ridge Park Association - Drainage problem (Recommitted at last Board meeting) Ordered on agenda under PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
- (7) Keith Street - Letter dated Sept. 21, 1959 from Planning & Zoning Director answering question brought up at last Board meeting by Mr. Truglia, 2nd District. REFERRED TO PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
- (8) Lawn Avenue - Dangerous conditions Mr. Nolan presented a letter on this problem, which he brought up at the last Board meeting. REFERRED TO PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
- (9) Municipal Heliport - Letter dated Sept. 14, 1959 brought up at last Board meeting by Mr. Sileo, 1st District, regarding nuisances created by Heliport. REFERRED TO HEALTH & PROTECTION COMMITTEE
- (10) Parking for City employees employed at City Hall - Brought up at last Board meeting by Mr. Baker in answer to a petition received from the Municipal Employees Association. REFERRED TO HEALTH & PROTECTION COMMITTEE
- (11) Personnel Commission - Letter dated Sept. 24, 1959 concerning appeal from Griffenhagen survey by Executive Secretary of Board of Representatives, requesting appearance before Commission of department head and Board's Secretary. REFERRED TO MR. RHOADES, PRESIDENT, AND TO PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
- (12) Wright Technical School - Traffic problem caused by relocation of school. Location of scoreboard was also discussed. REFERRED TO PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE
- (13) Petitions for road acceptance - REFERRED TO PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

(14) Acceptance of roads as city streets, method in which this is done

Mr. Russell brought up the need for repeal of Ordinance No. 59 Supplemental concerning road acceptances by city. REFERRED TO PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

(15) Proposed Ordinance re change of name of section of Old Logging Road to Gary Road

Mr. Russell said he has a proposed Ordinance regarding the above. He said there was no need to refer this to the Legislative & Rules Committee as he would use the same form always used for this type of Ordinance. Placed on Agenda under Planning & Zoning Committee

(16) Metropolitan Regional Council and disposition of old Wright Technical School

For the reason that this matter was discussed at the last Board meeting in the absence of the Chairman of this Committee, both items were ordered placed on agenda under EDUCATION, WELFARE & GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

(17) Police Fact-Finding Committee: Mr. Cummings, Chairman of this Committee said the Committee would be ready with a report at the next Board meeting.

(18) Fishing at Fairview Beach: The Secretary reported a telephone call received from a fisherman in regard to fishing privileges. This was discussed briefly. No action taken.

(19) Poor lighting in 13th District: Reply from Planning & Zoning Director dated Sept. 21, 1959, inviting Representatives Kolich and Marciano to appear at their Sept. 22nd Planning Board meeting. Noted and ordered filed.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Norton Rhoades, Chairman
Steering Committee

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Next Board meeting:

MR. RHOADES: "It was also agreed at the Steering Committee meeting that the next meeting of the Board would have to be on November 9th, rather than on November 2nd, election eve, and it is quite probable that the members of this Board can be expected to be reasonably busy that evening.

"If there is no objection, the next meeting will be on November 9th and the next Steering Committee meeting will therefore be on October 26th."

There were no objections to holding these meetings on the aforesaid dates.

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE:

MR. DEFOREST, Vice-Chairman, presented the nominations for appointments, as presented in the Mayor's letter of September 28, 1959; the Tellers distributed the ballots, with the following votes, tabulated below.

(1) Planning Board:

Appointment, ROBERT LEWIS (Republican), Sawmill Road, as replacement for the unexpired term of the late Gustave E. Steinback, term ending December 1, 1962

VOTE: 21 in favor
13 opposed

(2) Electrical Examining Board: (As authorized in new Building Code - Ordinance No. 80, amended)

FRED SERRICCHIO (Democrat) Term: 1 year Expiring: Jan. 1, 1960
393 Oaklawn Avenue
(Master Electrician) VOTE: 34 in favor (unanimous)

JOHN B. BURNS (Independent) Term: 2 years Expiring: Jan. 1, 1961
Deerfield Drive
(Master Electrician) Vote: 32 in favor
2 opposed

EDWARD TROY, SR. (Democrat) Term: 1 year Expiring: Jan. 1, 1960
70 Quintard Terrace
(Journeyman) VOTE: 34 in favor (unanimous)

SAMUEL TERENZIO (Republican) Term: 2 years Expiring: Jan. 1, 1961
498 Bedford Street
(Journeyman) VOTE: 34 in favor (unanimous)

MARCELLUS BEST, JR. (Republican) Term: 3 years Expiring: Jan 1, 1962
77 Midland Avenue
(Layman) VOTE: 29 in favor
5 opposed

(3) Plumbing Examining Board: (As authorized in new Building Code - Ordinance No. 80, amended)

HERBERT WHITEHEAD (Republican) Term: 1 year Expiring: Jan. 1, 1960
89 Fifth Street
(Master Plumber) VOTE: 32 in favor
2 opposed

DANIEL E. O'CONNELL (Democrat) Term: 2 years Expiring: Jan. 1, 1961
22 Bradley Place
(Master Plumber) VOTE: 32 in favor
2 opposed

JAMES J. SABATO (Republican) Term: 1 year Expiring: Jan. 1, 1960
16 Nobile Street
(Journeyman) VOTE: 34 in favor (unanimous)

THOMAS G. CAPORIZZO (Democrat) Term: 2 years Expiring: Jan. 1, 1961
215 Knickerbocker Avenue
Springdale VOTE: 29 in favor
(Journeyman) 5 opposed

ROBERT WARNER (Republican) Term: 3 years Expiring: Jan. 1, 1962
 159 Frederick Street
 (Layman) VOTE: 31 in favor
 2 opposed
 1 void

(4) Building Board of Appeals: (As authorized in new Building Code - Ordinance No. 80 amended)

UNTO J. HERMAN (Republican) Term: 5 years Expiring: Jan. 1, 1964
 17 Case Road
 VOTE: 34 in favor (unanimous)

CARL W. GOEBEL (Republican) Term: 4 years Expiring Jan. 1, 1963
 Westover Park
 VOTE: 32 in favor
 2 opposed

FRANK S. MASSARI (Republican) Term: 3 years Expiring: Jan. 1, 1962
 115 Seaside Avenue
 VOTE: 33 in favor
 1 opposed

JOHN W. HICKEY (Democrat) Term: 1 year Expiring Jan. 1, 1960
 127 Knapp Street
 Springdale
 VOTE: 33 in favor
 1 opposed

Note: The name of Nicholas J. Mercede (Democrat) (as a member of the Building Board of Appeals) had also been submitted in the Mayor's letter, but was not acted upon for the reason that the Committee had not been able to interview him because he was out of town. This name will be presented at the next Board meeting.

MR. CONNORS MOVED for the approval of the appointment of Nicholas J. Mercede to the Building Board of Appeals, even though he had not as yet been interviewed by the Appointments Committee, to a term of 2 years, expiring January 1, 1961. Seconded by Mr. Nilan.

MR. DEFOREST objected to approving the appointment in this way for the reason that there is a certain procedure set up in the way appointments are handled and to deviate from this would be creating a precedent.

VOTE taken on Mr. Connors' motion and LOST.

LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE:

MR. BAKER: "No meetings of the Legislative and Rules Committee were held in September due to the small number of agenda items and the short time between Board meetings. A poll of committee members was taken on the two agenda items, with committee members concurring on the following action (to be recommended by the Chairman):

- (1) Resolution concerning NORTHWOODS ROAD - Public improvements under Section 640 of Charter (Referred to this Committee by the Public Works Committee at last Board meeting - See pages 2665 and 2666)

MR. BAKER MOVED for adoption of the following resolution. Seconded by Mr. Wilensky and CARRIED unanimously:

RESOLUTION NO. 311

CONCERNING NORTHWOODS ROAD - PUBLIC
IMPROVEMENTS UNDER SEC. 640 OF CHARTER
AND ORDINANCE NO. 79 SUPPLEMENTAL

BE 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 Northwoods Road in condition to be accepted as a city street, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 640 and 641 of the Stamford Charter and Ordinance No. 79 Supplemental. The cost of such work is to be assessed in full against the owners of the property on Northwoods Road.

- (2) City-owned property, disposition of: (See letter of Sept. 23, 1959 from Planning and Zoning Director and Mayor's letter of Oct. 1, 1959)

MR. BAKER: "The list of properties received as an attachment to Mayor Givens' letter of October 1st is not in conformity with the provisions of Ordinance No. 30, which governs the disposition of city-owned property. That Ordinance provides:

'Such list shall include a description of each parcel, its assessed valuation, the use to which it is being put and the income, if any, received from the same by the City during the preceding fiscal year.'

"The list contained only the location by street name, the size of the property and the assessed valuation. In the absence of the prescribed information, the Committee does not feel that it should take any action with respect to disposition.

"It is recommended that a reply be written to the Mayor's letter, requesting that the list be re-submitted with complete information as prescribed by the Ordinance and I MOVE that such a letter be written."

Mr. Baker's motion was seconded by Mr. Marciano. CARRIED unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

MR. TOPPING reported that no meeting had been held this month because of lack of time. All matters on the agenda were kept in Committee.

HEALTH & PROTECTION COMMITTEE:

- (1) Municipal Heliport - Complaint, letter dated Sept. 14, 1959 (presented at last Board meeting by Peter Sileo, 1st District Representative, re dust problem and nuisance to residents in neighborhood of Heliport)

MR. MILANO: "Mr. Chairman, the Health & Protection Committee is in receipt of a letter from Mr. Sileo, 1st District Representative, in regard to an unhealthy and hazardous condition that exists at the Heliport. I therefore request this Board

to write a letter to Mayor Givens, asking that the Heliport people take some action on this matter, insofar as blacktopping the area."

MR. RHOADES: "The Chair accepts that as a motion. Is it seconded?"

Mr. Hearing seconded the above motion.

MR. ROCHE: "I think this may be precipitous action. If we look into the record on the matter we would find out that the landing pad since that time has been black topped - the landing pad referred to in the original discussion, as well as a walk way from the landing pad to the trailer that they use as an office.

"Also, at the same time of the discussion, there was a request from the Public Works to oil the road at St. Mary's Street going through there, which they did and improved the road tremendously. However, New York Airways did black-top the landing pad, as requested in the lease."

MR. RUSSELL said he thought that Hanover Road should also be black topped.

MR. SILEO: "It is quite true that the landing pad has been black topped. I believe that the black topping there isn't sufficient enough to cut down the excess dust condition that exists there with the helicopters hovering over the field to land or to take off. Also, in my estimation, the landing field is too close to Hanover Street. It is about 30 feet away from the last house on Hanover Street. As I said previously, the helicopters have knocked down a fence, destroyed a grape arbor and torn a lot of shingles off the roof of the house.

"I am sure that if this landing field were 50 or 60 feet further away from Hanover Street, that condition would not exist, so they should black top that landing field - make it much larger and move the Heliport further away from Hanover Street."

MR. BAKER MOVED TO AMEND that a letter be written to the Mayor, suggesting that the cooperation of the New York Airways be concerned along the lines mentioned by Mr. Sileo, rather than to just ask them to black top the surface.

The amendment was accepted. Seconded by Mr. Connors, also.

VOTE on motion as amended. CARRIED unanimously.

(2) Parking for City employees employed at City Hall

MR. MILANO: "This matter has been attended to satisfactorily to the City employees, by the Parking Authority and the Mayor."

MR. RHOADES: "At least some of the City employees have been told that they can use the Canal Street Parking lot - is that true, Mr. Milano?"

MR. MILANO: "yes - that's correct."

(3) Poor Lighting in the 13th District: (Not on agenda) (See pages 2663-2664)

MR. MARCIANO: "Even though this is not on our agenda I think it is along the line of Health and Protection.

"We were authorized by the Board to ask for a meeting with the Planning Board to see if we couldn't get better lighting in the 13th District. Mr. Kolich and I are in

receipt of a letter from the Planning Board to meet with them tomorrow night at 8:30."

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE:

MR. RUSSELL presented his committee report of meeting held September 28th, and said the following members were present: Mr. Russell and Mr. Wilensky.

- (1) Wright Technical School - Traffic problem caused by re-location in Woodside Park
Access to Powell Place (Brought up by Mr. DeVito at September Board meeting -
see page 2666)

MR. RUSSELL: "Information obtained from the Planning Board, including map, plus confirming information from the Superintendent of Parks, reconfirms the fact that the City deeded the property, now Wright Technical School, to the State, permitting the State to terminate the access to Woodside Park from Powell Place.

"The Planning Board, at the time, had considered a possible new road which would come in from North Street along the Westerly side of Mill River and meet the proposed bridge and road at Woodside Street to Bridge Street. The committee recommends that the Planning Board consider in this year's budget the road and bridge at Woodside Street as was considered and partially planned several years ago. Said road would not only alleviate a serious traffic condition in the area but would also facilitate access to Wright Technical School from a convenient area without directing the expected heavy traffic, said school will invite, through a small residential street such as Powell Place and the park roads themselves coming in from Bridge Street."

Mr. Russell exhibited a map and pointed out the area involved. He said they had a letter of complaint from a Mr. Paul Williams of 35 Powell Place who has been bothered considerably by people using his property as a short cut.

Scoreboard on Stadium at
Wright Technical School:

MR. RUSSELL: "Also referred to our committee to look into at the same time was the question of a scoreboard on Wright Technical new stadium field. This scoreboard is an expensive electrified type, which cost several thousand dollars, and was donated by the Exchange Club to the Wright Technical School. Its location was decided upon after considerable thought by various sports individuals and groups. The suggestion was made, which I think will be carried out, that the board should be painted a green color and perhaps some type of shrubbery could be put in there to sort of block the view of it. The layout of the stadium is such that there is no other suitable spot where they could put the board. However it is a state trade school problem and does not exactly fall into the jurisdiction of us here in Stamford."

- (2) Petitions for acceptance of roads:

MR. RUSSELL said the following roads have been certified, in writing, by the City Engineer, inspected by the Committee, with all maps referred to, filed in the office of the City Clerk. He MOVED for acceptance of the following roads as city streets. Seconded by Mr. Wilensky and CARRIED unanimously:

ESTWICK PLACE:

Extending southerly from Weed Hill Avenue, a distance of approximately 350 ft. to and including a permanent turnaround. Width 27 ft. Map #6434

GREEN TREE LANE:

Extending westerly from Skyview Drive to West Hill Road approximately 560 ft.
Width 30 ft. Map #6101

HEMLOCK DRIVE:

Extending from Pond Road southerly to property of Dega Associates, Inc.
approximately 1,330 ft. Width 26 ft. Map #5657

IDLEWOOD DRIVE:

Extending easterly from Little Hill Drive to the easterly line of Idlewood
Place. Length, approximately 600 ft. Width 30 ft. Map #6413

SKYVIEW DRIVE:

Beginning at already accepted portion of Skyview Drive, at northerly line of
Westwood Road, at its southerly end, and extending thence northerly and
easterly to Stillwater Road. Length approximately 2,720 ft. Width 30 ft.
Maps #6101 and #5741

STANTON LANE:

Extending easterly from Skyview Drive to Westwood Road. Length, approximately
700 ft. Width 30 ft. Map #6101

WALTER LANE:

Extending westerly from Den Road to and including a temporary turnaround.
Length approximately 638 ft. Width 27 ft. Map #6607

WESTWOOD ROAD:

Beginning at the end of already accepted portion of Westwood Road, located
at northerly line of Westwood Court; thence extending northerly a distance of
approximately 470 ft. Point of termination being approximately 100 ft.
northerly of the northerly line of Skyview Drive. Length approximately 470 ft.
Width 30 ft. Map #5741

(3) Revision of previous Ordinance No. 59 Supplemental - Concerning acceptance of
roads as city streets

Note: This is a proposed new revised Ordinance which
would rescind Ordinance No. 59. Ordinance No. 59
rescinded a previous Ordinance No. 54 by amending
Article III, Chapter 28, Sections 39 through 43
of Code of General Ordinances, 1956 edition.

MR. RUSSELL: "This is a revision of Ordinance Section 42, Chapter 28, governing
release of street performance bonds upon presentation of a work guarantee bond, or
maintenance bond.

"The Committee requests that this proposed Ordinance be kept in Committee and also
referred to the Legislative and Rules Committee." This proposal was agreed upon.

- (4) Proposed Ordinance - Changing name of section of Old Logging Road (Created by two new subdivisions breaking through into each other)

MR. RUSSELL MOVED for approval, for publication, of the following proposed Ordinance, with final adoption to take place at the next Board meeting; seconded by Mr. Topping and CARRIED unanimously:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO.....SUPPLEMENTAL

CHANGING THE NAME OF A SECTION OF OLD
LOGGING ROAD TO GARY ROAD

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF STAMFORD THAT:

A portion of the following street shall have the name changed, as shown below:

Change that portion of Old Logging Road, from Katydid Lane, easterly and southerly, for a distance of 746 feet, to intersection, and easterly for a distance of 140 feet to the now existing Gary Road, to GARY ROAD.

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

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE:

MR. WYNN, Vice-Chairman, gave the Committee report. He said the Committee met on Friday, October 2, 1959 at 7:30 P.M. in the City Court room. Present were Steve Kelly, Thomas Roche, Jack McLaughlin, Rocco Colatrella and Edward Wynn.

MR. WYNN: "The Committee voted unanimously to grant the Stamford Chamber of Commerce permission to erect and maintain Christmas lighting poles and/or arches across the major streets during the Christmas season.

"The Committee is in the process of arranging a meeting with the Park Commission to discuss the possibility of cleaning the pond in Cummings Park, so that it will be suitable for ice skating this winter.

"We also discussed, at great length, the status of the Courtland Park Building and grounds."

MR. WYNN MOVED for suspension of the rules to consider the following; seconded by Mr. Roche and CARRIED unanimously.

MR. WYNN MOVED for approval of the following petition. Seconded by Mr. Connors and CARRIED unanimously:

Petition No. 261 - Christmas lighting poles and arches - Chamber of Commerce
(As requested in letter of Sept. 30, 1959)

MR. WYNN: "Mr. Chairman, I received another petition just this evening. This is from the Stamford Chapter, Unico National, who would like to present a short program in honor of Christopher Columbus at Columbus Park on Sunday, October 11th at 3:00 P.M. and respectfully request permission to use the park. I would like to MOVE again for suspension of the rules in order to take this matter up."

Mr. Roche seconded Mr. Wynn's motion. CARRIED unanimously.

MR. WYNN MOVED for approval of the following petition. Seconded by Mr. Longo and CARRIED unanimously:

Petition No. 262 - Unico National - For use of Columbus Park, Sunday, Oct. 11, 1959
at 3:00 P.M. for program in honor of Christopher Columbus

Re: Courtland Park buildings and grounds:

MR. ROCHE spoke in reference to the condition of the grounds in the above park. He said he wished to correct the impression that this park was under the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of Parks - that it had been turned over to the Recreation Commission as of April 23, 1959. He read a letter sent to the Park Commission by the Board of Recreation as of that date, accepting the building and grounds.

MR. ROCHE: "This is read in order to correct the erroneous impression that the Park Commission is in any way responsible for the area and grounds involved."

MR. NILAN: "I have a copy of a letter. It was sent to Mr. Rocco Colatrella, to me, to Mr. Topping, Mr. Connell, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Connors and Mr. Kennedy. It was written by a Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor, who is presently the director of the immediate tenants of the building. Apparently she goes to work early in the morning before the sun is up, and does not see what she sees, for she sees nothing wrong with the park."

"This park is still in a deplorable condition."

MR. CONNORS agreed with Mr. Nilan that the park is still in a deplorable condition and the reason was because the Board of Recreation do not have the money to be able to care for the park.

MR. ROCHE MOVED (Note: Motion later withdrawn) "that a letter be sent to the Board of Recreation that inas much as certain people believe that a disgraceful condition exists that they should fix up their new home. Also, if it is necessary to request an appropriation, that it go through the proper channels to get the money to obtain a new beautiful headquarters."

MR. RHOADES: "This motion, Mr. Roche, is that a letter be written to whom?"

MR. ROCHE: "To Mr. Gold, Chairman of the Recreation Commission, who is in charge of that whole area."

Mr. Baker seconded Mr. Roche's motion.

MR. CONNORS wanted to know if the Board was acting legally. He said: "It has been brought out here that this property was deeded for park purposes. Can we then use it for offices?"

The President reminded Mr. Connors that there was no question about the legality of writing a letter.

MR. HUIZINGA requested that Mr. Roche's motion be withdrawn and offered the following substitute motion:

"That a letter be written to the Mayor, pointing out these differences of opinion - that neither Board wants to take the responsibility for this matter. And, let the Mayor call in his department heads and let him straighten this thing out."

MR. ROCHE: "This was taken out of the jurisdiction of one group and another group has taken over. They have already gone in for a supplementary appropriation to do this job. My point is that you are whipping the wrong horse. They have already asked for an appropriation and are now before the Board of Finance. One group no longer has anything to do with this matter. It has been completely transferred to another group."

MR. HUIZINGA: "There are people on this Board who do not agree with you."

MR. NILAN: "The Park Department can't deed anything. They never have deeded anything. This land belongs to the City and it still belongs to the City. If the Park Department no longer have it, it now comes under the jurisdiction of the Recreation Department. It's much the same thing as the Elm Street School. It once belonged to the Board of Education. Now, it belongs to the Public Works Department. There was no deed changing hands. It is merely an administrative matter. The problem is to find out who is responsible for taking care of this park."

MR. NOLAN: "I attended the Board of Finance meeting last month and at that time I heard Mr. Hunt (Recreation Dept.) go before the Board of Finance and ask them for money in order to take care of this very situation. I don't know what the big argument is about. We have a committee which looks into the situation and I cannot find out why they haven't come in with a report, stating the facts of the matter. I think that we all agree that something should be done about this park - and that it should be taken care of. I think that the Board of Recreation is now trying to do something about it - they have asked for money. They have asked for an appropriation. The only thing to do is to say 'Let's pass the appropriation for this money when it comes before us, which I understand, will probably be in November. I think we are beating up this old dead horse again.'"

MR. ROCHE withdrew his MOTION.

MR. HUIZINGA MOVED that this matter of bringing Courtland Park up to a more presentable condition be presented to the Mayor by a letter from this Board, asking him to find out who is responsible and asking him to take the necessary steps to bring Courtland Park into the proper condition.

MR. HUIZINGA explained that this appropriation before the Board of Finance which Mr. Nolan referred to, has to do with the building itself and not the condition of the grounds. He said: "There is a lot of work that has to be done outside and I think that this should be brought to the attention of the Mayor and I so MOVE."

MR. LONGO seconded Mr. Huizinga's motion.

MR. NILAN: "I would also like included in that letter to the Mayor, asking him to request an opinion from the Corporation Counsel as to whether or not this particular park land can be transferred in the manner in which it is being done."

MR. RHOADES: "The Chair believes that should be done in the form of a second motion. Normally, if we wish this type of information, we ask it ourselves of the Corporation Counsel and do not do it through the Mayor."

VOTE taken on Mr. Huizinga's motion. CARRIED.

MR. NILAN: "I would like to have a letter written to the Corporation Counsel, asking him for an opinion as to the status of this park and if it can be easily transferred from the Park Department to the Board of Recreation in such a letter."

MR. ROCHE seconded Mr. Nilan's motion.

MR. HUIZINGA: "How can the property be transferred from one department to another?"

MR. RHOADES: "It has been. Now, some of the members want to know if this property can be transferred from one department to another, in view of the fact that the deed reads: 'For park purposes only.' Some of the members want a legal opinion as to whether it can be used for anything else."

VOTE taken on Mr. Nilan's motion, and CARRIED.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

Re: Griffenhagen Report - Concerning correction of inequities and inaccuracies and authorization to Personnel Committee to follow up the matter to see this is done

MR. RYBNICK: "There was no meeting of the Personnel Committee during September. However, I would like to state that at a Special Meeting of the Board of Representatives held May 5, 1959, when the adoption of the 1959-60 Operating Budget was before this Board and we were considering the item of Salary Adjustments (\$505,692.00 on page 75 of 1959-60 Operating Budget) a motion was introduced by Mr. Fredericks and approved by unanimous vote of the members of this Board, that the members of the Personnel Committee of this Board were charged with the responsibility of following through with the Personnel Commission to see that the inequities and inaccuracies contained in the Griffenhagen Survey be reviewed and that a report be given to this Board.

"I would like to state at this time, that the Personnel Committee was not notified when these appeals were first reviewed by the Personnel Commission. There were approximately twenty-five appeals from Civil Service employees who were interviewed the first night these hearings were held and we knew nothing about it until we read it in the newspaper the following day."

MR. CONNORS read from the Minutes of the May 5, 1959 Board meeting, quoting the motion as originally voted upon at that time. (Note: See page 2559 of Minutes) The following is the motion, as read by Mr. Connors:

".....this Board has voted this appropriation, with the understanding and with the assurance that the Personnel Commission of the City of Stamford will review the Griffenhagen Report, correct the inequities and inaccuracies, if any, contained therein, as reported to this Board, and that the Personnel Committee of this Board be charged with the responsibility of following with the Personnel Commission to see that this is done and that Committee shall report to this Board."

MR. CONNORS: "Now, I attended two hearings and sat there like a bump on a log, believe me. We were not supposed to speak. I raised the question Friday evening: Were we going to be allowed to sit in with the Personnel Commission? In fairness to Mr. Hogan, who represents the city employees, and in fairness to Mr. Hawthorne, I think that they felt, in their opinion, that we should sit in, but Mr. Barker, the Chairman, at that time did not feel that we should sit in. So, I got curious and asked the question: Then, what are we sitting here for?"

"We have the letter, which states very specifically that we were to sit in at these meetings, otherwise we would not need to attend these meetings."

"Then, Mr. Barker had a change of heart. He felt that maybe we could sit in-----later. I then asked the question: are we going to go in before they render any findings of any kind? Well at first he said no and then all of a sudden he said: 'Yes, we are going to meet tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock,' which was Saturday morning and I was unable to attend."

"But, no member of our Committee, was ever notified that they were even holding hearings. Now, I don't know what was our purpose in being there, otherwise. I was under the impression that we were going to participate. I know that we would have nothing to say insofar as any decisions made by the Personnel Commission. But, I was under the impression, according to Mr. Fredericks' motion, that it was intended for us to participate in these hearings."

"Now, I did get a chance to sneak in a couple of questions Friday night - in fact, one on Thursday night and another on Friday, which I considered to be quite unusual. I don't know what we can report, but the part I don't like is the motion as made by Mr. Fredericks stated '.....as reported to this Board, and that the Personnel Committee of this Board be charged with the responsibility of following with the Personnel Commission to see that this is done and that Committee shall report to this Board.'"

"How can we report to this Board, if we don't even participate?"

MR. RHOADES: "Mr. Connors, the President was present at the Thursday night hearing, or at the first part of it, and he expressed then to Mr. Rybnick, the Chairman of the Committee, that his opinion was that the course which you followed was precisely correct - that is, that even though it seems like being a 'bump on a log' you should sit and not enter into any discussion. After all, this is a meeting of a Commission of which we are not members. Every decision which this Commission makes is subject to an appeal to this Board - the Appeals Committee of this Board. It would, however, be impossible for Mr. Rybnick, you, or the other members of the Committee to make a report back to this Board unless you had been there. Consequently, the Chair had hopes that the Personnel Commission would politely invite you to be present at these meetings. Now, that seems to be the only solution to this problem."

"The President tried to think how he would feel if a member of another Board or Commission attended one of our meetings and not only sat in the audience, but wished to take part in our discussions as our meeting proceeded, and he feels that we would probably resent that, unless we happened to be unanimously of the opinion that he should be allowed to be heard."

MR. CONNORS: "After all, there is no doubt that we were not going to try to change any of the decisions made by the Personnel Commission. But, after all, we made the appropriation of the money with a very definite understanding - isn't that correct?"

MR. RHOADES: "Yes, that is correct."

MR. CONNORS: ".....otherwise, without this definite understanding, we would not have passed the appropriation. We understood that we were not going to try to change any of their decisions. But, at least, it would seem from the standpoint of common courtesy that we would be allowed to sit down and discuss it with them."

MR. RHOADES: "Well, the President will go further than that, Mr. Connors. He believes that the members of this Board do have both the right and the privilege of suggesting to the members of the Personnel Commission what decisions should be made. This is a right that every citizen has. They can then throw out our advice if they want to - they don't have to accept it. But, in any event, an appeal can be taken to us anyway."

"In my opinion, you, Mr. Rybnick and Mr. Hearing handled this matter exactly right. I think we will eventually reach a solution to most of the major problems involved in the Griffenhagen Survey."

MR. CONNORS: "How can our Committee come in with a report if they can't even sit down and discuss it?"

MR. RHOADES: "you should be able to make a pretty good report after listening to the facts."

MR. CONNORS: "I beg to differ, and I'll tell you why. You see, you sit there at the meeting. They come in and they state their case. There is no opinion rendered by the Commission. We merely sit there and hear one side of the case. We don't get a chance to discuss it with them. We are still in the dark as to what the Personnel Commission intends to do. There is no doubt that everyone who comes in seems to have a pretty good story. But, we don't know how the Commission feels about it. We don't know what they intend to do about it, or anything else."

MR. RHOADES: "Wouldn't it be a good idea, Mr. Connors, to ask the Commission to hold a joint meeting at which you could present certain facts?"

MR. CONNORS said that was his object - to sit down with the Commission and discuss the pros and cons of the situation in each case.

MR. RYBNICK: "I think that only after the decisions are made by the Personnel Commission will we be able to make a report to this Board."

Several other members spoke at length on the matter.

Mr. Connors said what had bothered the members of the Committee the most was the fact that they had not been notified that the Personnel Commission had begun to hold hearings and only found out about it by reading it in the paper after the hearings had started. He thought the Committee should have been notified.

MR. GEORGOULIS said he thought that at least the Chairman of the Committee should be allowed to sit in on the private deliberations of the Personnel Commission; otherwise he would be unable to report back to this Board.

MR. HEARING: "Everything that Mr. Connors has said is true. I understood that the Commission was holding a hearing Saturday morning at 8 o'clock, when they were going to act on some of these appeals. I was undecided what to do, because I understood that neither Mr. Connors or Mr. Rybnick would be able to attend."

"I went down there on Saturday morning and every courtesy that Mr. Connors has said should be given to us in regard to allowing us to take part in their deliberations

was given to me. Every one of the appeals that has come before them was discussed right in my presence. I was allowed to ask any questions I wanted and to take part in their discussions, so apparently the scene had changed altogether from what it was on Friday night. I don't know, but from what I saw Saturday morning, I believe that at the next meeting they have that we will be allowed to take part. If they continue doing things the way they were done on Saturday morning, I don't think we can complain.

"There won't be any meetings now (and we will probably be notified) until a week from tonight, which is the 19th and the 21st. There will be no meetings this week for the reason that some members of the Commission will be out of town."

MR. RHODES: "The President would like to say that the reason Mr. Rybnick was not at the last meeting was because of very serious illness in his family which required his presence at home. He has attended all these meetings very faithfully as long as he was able to do so."

EDUCATION, WELFARE & GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE:

MR. MACRIDES, Chairman, presented his Committee report. He said the Committee met on September 29th at 3 P.M. and present were Mr. Maffucci and Mr. Macrides, as members of the committee. Mr. Maxwell Lehman, Executive Secretary of the Metropolitan Regional Council and two of his aides, a Mr. Moore and a Mr. Sloat were present for part of the meeting to explain the workings of the Council.

(1) Metropolitan Regional Council:

MR. MACRIDES: "The Regional Council was started three years ago among several cities and counties in the New York area. Stamford is a charter member and has an equal vote with all of the other governmental bodies represented, regardless of size or population.

"The Council is non-political and is interested in problems which cross geographic lines as opposed to local matters. The primary interests to date have been traffic flowing between the various entities, water supply, water pollution, pollution of air, recreation and coordination of urban renewal projects. They are also working on a uniform traffic code, have helped set up a traffic communications system, as between several police departments; have done some work on charting old colonial sewers; are making surveys of the existing recreational facilities for the entire area and have a strong voice in getting funds for specific urban renewal projects from the Federal government.

"Until the present, the Council has been supported solely by New York City. It now feels a need for a full time Secretariat and a formal legal status in the states of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

"Each community will have to contribute up to a maximum of one cent per person annually (roughly \$900 for Stamford). If we vote to go along with this plan, we will have a further opportunity to consider the specific legislation before it is proposed to the Legislature. This legislation will authorize the employment of a staff, consultation, research and recommendations, but will specifically NOT give the Council any operating powers. Any fears that the Council would become too powerful or might duplicate functions of local government are overcome by the fact that the Council will always be responsible to its own membership.

"The size of the Secretariat will depend upon the budget which is granted to the Council, but a small, highly trained unit is contemplated. This unit would be supplemented, as at present, by unpaid experts within the ranks of the members. For instance, engineers from New York City have already given great aid to the Mayor of Elizabeth, New Jersey in plans to expand the City into the Bay. Greenwich Police Chief Robbins has given great aid to the setting up of a traffic communications system and experts on utilization of office space from New York have given aid to Greenwich in solving its civic office problems.

"The five other members from this County - Darien, Westport, New Canaan, Norwalk and Greenwich, have already voted affirmatively on the Council's proposals. In light of all of the foregoing facts, this Committee MOVES that the Board of Representatives also vote affirmatively thereon."

MRS. ZUCKERT seconded Mr. Macrides' motion.

MR. RHOADES: "Mr. Macrides, this is not, in effect, approving any appropriation of \$900?"

MR. MACRIDES: "By no means. This is just a maximum that is contemplated in the terms of any future appropriation. This is a question that will be brought up at a later date at which time an appropriation will be requested."

VOTE taken on Mr. Macrides' motion. CARRIED with 1 dissenting vote.

(2) Wright Technical School:

MR. MACRIDES: "The Committee feels that the sending of its letter to Mayor Givens on September 2, 1959 was justified. There is, of course, no question but that any of our committees can, at any time, inquire of the Executive Department as to what is being done on any specific governmental task. The appraisal of the former Wright Technical school property was intended along this line, but even if it did not read as a question, the Committee feels fully justified because of the unanimous resolution passed by this Board on April 6, 1959 (Note: See Resolution No. 295 on page 2198, Minutes of April 6, 1959) after our report had been rendered and 'based on the above report' which resolution was that the property be sold to Sacred Heart for the 'value of the land.'

"We were, therefore, only pointing out to the Mayor an action which had already been taken by this Board and were not taking any new action on our own. In addition, the substance of our request was that the report from the appraisers, at least in part, include an appraisal of the value of the land. As a matter of custom, appraisers always value the land separately from the buildings thereon.

The Committee decided to reiterate its question to the Mayor as to the progress of the appraisal, because it seemed that one month having passed since its previous letter, something should have been accomplished, but the need to send another letter was obviated when the Chairman of the Committee received a copy of a letter to the Mayor from this Board dated September 29, 1959 which requested an answer in time for this meeting with reference to the same subject matter.

"This letter was sent by Mrs. Farrell, in accordance with the instructions from our last meeting, and we have received a reply, a copy of which I have received, but do not have with me."

MR. RHOADES read the letter in question:

October 2, 1959

Mr. Norton Rhoades, President
Board of Representatives

Dear Mr. Rhoades:

In regard to the WRIGHT-TECHNICAL SCHOOL appraisal, I have, in writing, requested a report from the appraisers.

To date, I have not received the report, so I am unable to give you the information you desire.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Webster C. Givens, Mayor

MR. GEORGOULIS spoke on this matter, urging that this property be sold to the Sacred Heart Church. He said: "The people in my district are willing to invest \$400,000 of their own money. We are not being asked to appropriate any money. They are willing to spend \$400,000 plus a piece of land that they own and will agree to abide by the rules that we proposes - safety rules, health rules, and yet I cannot go to them and give them a decent explanation.

"At the last Board meeting, it was passed by this Board to send a letter to his Honor, which was done. By this time we should have certainly had an answer. How long does it take to appraise a piece of land? One month, two months, three months? Again, I strongly urge you to follow this up with a letter and ask him to send a statement in time for the next meeting as to just what he intends to do in regard to this appraisal, or have the appraiser's report come down."

HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE:

MR. LEWIS: "Mr. Chairman, no doubt this will be the last meeting that I shall attend and I do ask that our Board give special consideration to retaining the special Harbor Committee on their agenda for the future.

"Through the kind efforts of the local citizens, we acquired a new police boat. The city has purchased a police boat and we have a working nucleus. Through the efforts of our police department, we have already saved in the neighborhood of \$15,000 to \$20,000 worth of boats and three lives, which cannot be measured in sums of money." He urged that this committee become a permanent committee.

PICNIC COMMITTEE

MR. MARCIANO gave a final report of this Committee. He said: "We have \$6.00 left over, which we will turn over to our Secretary, Mrs. Farrell. We have this left over after we have paid all the bills.

MR. BAKER MOVED that the Picnic Committee be given a vote of thanks for a job well done. Seconded by Mr. Connors and CARRIED unanimously. (applause)

POLICE FACT-FINDING COMMITTEE:

MR. CUMMINGS, Chairman, presented a final report of this Committee on their findings, which follows:

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL POLICE
INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

October 1, 1959

Much has been said of work being done by the Board which is alleged to be none of its business, a tenant to which we subscribe enthusiastically. As a legislative body, we should not administer or interfere with administration. If, however, any legislative body studiously avoids touching upon administrative functions from time to time, the need for or desirability of legislation may never become effectively known.

One year ago this Board first considered what was defined as a very serious step. It was proposed that this fact-finding Committee be appointed under Section 204.2 of the Charter. At this point, it is well to review the reasons for the unanimous action which we took. The Police Department was faced with problems. According to the Chief, the force was undermanned. Other officials thought the force to be adequately manned, but poorly employed. Residents were and still are, unhappy because they believe they receive inadequate protection. The Policemen themselves were unhappy for reasons we all know well.

Unique and isolated events were pointed to as typical rather than exceptional. Such instances included Fairview Avenue, Southfield Village, individual cases of police defection or other involvements, all of which resulted from or contributed to a state of moral dangerously low among a body of persons charged with a prime responsibility of law and order.

These exceptional events were simply blisters on one side of a sunburned body, and your Committee was to turn the body over, only to find a healthy tan on the other side. Like most, however, it is a transient tan that may yet fade again in a winter of indifference and shortsightedness, to be blistered anew in the first bright sun of introspect and publicity.

The three areas we proposed to study in a broad sense were: manning, morale and administration. Much of our work was done by sub-committee action and each member is deserving of recognition for the many man-hours spent on this work. Most of the recommendations were unanimous or nearly so by majority vote.

We began our work by gathering data from local Boards, organizations and individuals whose activities touched upon police activities. Many reels of recording tape, page after page of notes, hundreds of questions and slightly fewer answers have contributed to this report which is being presented as objectively as possible.

In working out a comprehensive report of Stamford Police problems, it was, of course, necessary to consider the police in other communities. Police organizational reports from 15 municipalities in New York, Connecticut and New Jersey, ranging in population from 15,500 in Darien, Connecticut, to 7,000,000 in New York City, show varied figures and information. This is true of necessity for no two towns or cities are comparable in size, type or ethnic background, Port Chester, New York, for example, has an area of only 2.2 square miles, a population of 25,000 and 51 policemen, while Danbury, with an overall area of 45.3 square miles boasts 40,000 population, policed by 44 regulars and 34 specials

The New York City police force has the largest starting salary of \$4,710, plus \$125 clothing allowance, while Danbury starts at only \$3,900. Only three of the 15 towns or cities considered, White Plains, Darton and Poughkeepsie, have no clothing allowance whatsoever. All 15 towns, however, have some form of pension plan and most men in each case may retire after 25 years of service, or at the ages of 55, 60 or 65, depending upon the locality. Eight municipalities permit a pension of 50% of the man's salary.

Only one of the 15 police departments has no police surgeon, and sick leaves for officers vary from the duration of illness to a specified time, or at the discretion of the Chief. Men in each of the 15 cases work a 40 hour week. All but three towns have overtime compensation, and two of these have compensating time off. Five towns grant no compensating time for court appearances.

Four cities do not permit the assignment of officers to outside work, one allows it for police work only, and one only on request. When it is permitted, the rate of pay is the responsibility of the employer. If an officer is injured on an off-duty job, the liability is assumed by the employer in most cases. In Danbury, however, the officer must assume his own responsibility, whereas in Hartford, the obligation rests with the city. Some places, as in Norwalk, for instance, are now making a survey of police working off duty, with some emphasis on the liability aspect.

Concerning physical equipment, the number of police cars or motorcycles used by a town varies quite naturally with the population and size of area to be policed. Although the figures compiled from a study of 15 towns are of indirect value, each municipality must arrive at its own conclusions with respect to its own police set-up and the problems and conditions peculiar to it.

As you all know, we also went to the individual policeman for information. The committee was gratified at the response, receiving 118 completed questionnaires. On the whole, the answers were objective and useful to us as a hinge on which to fasten our framework of reference. Analysis of the replies was not easy, but was certainly made less difficult by the comments volunteered by the men. These comments, in general, enabled the committee to evaluate the statistical results with somewhat greater reliability than would otherwise have been possible, because as might be expected, a very few indicated chronic dissatisfaction with everything. On the other hand, still fewer were really satisfied with everything. Certain it was that morale was bad and that it was being manifested to some extent in slackened endeavor.

Of course, the pay situation was one key to this, but not the "end all". The committee repeats here its opposition to the inclusion of police salaries in the Charter, as being dangerous to the men themselves. We feel that such a step will make it far more difficult to benefit from future increases. Accusations that this feeling represented opposition to increases is patently ridiculous.

Since it was our objective to assist all agencies concerned in a way that would enhance law enforcement beneficially, the matter of morale was studied for cause and effect. Bodies of people tend to factionalize, and a police department of 180 men, more or less, is no exception, although it should be exceptional in this regard. Events which affected police morale from time to time had different degrees of effect on different groups.

Historically, the events which contributed to the morale of one segment or another or the entire force, began with consolidation. Then followed the closing of Precinct II, and the resulting overcrowding of the City Hall station house, which had to be remedied with a new building. In the meantime, a new Chief was appointed from civil life. All these factors influenced the morale.

Since the office of Chief was more administrative than it was technical, in the field of law enforcement, the appointment of a civilian was acceptable to the official representatives of the electorate after some initial difficulty. That the new Chief was able to overcome deficiencies in police technology is a tribute to his ability. The committee recommends, however, to all who may, in the future have appointing or confirming authority, that when there is believed to be no qualified person serving within our department, they shall then consider another available police sources before resorting to an anomalous appointment.

Meanwhile, the population growth of Stamford was phenomenal, and increases in public expenditures trailed the growth. Among the departments to be affected was law enforcement. In order to meet the requirements of growing city's need for enforcement, the Chief of Police saw fit to create a modernized system of records, and a Youth Bureau, along with other changes. In these instances, it is to his credit, the Chief's, that such valuable assets can be pointed to with pride. Your committee questions the structure of a Charter which permits unilateral action, as in these instances, for the reason that in order to man the activities, it was necessary to remove officers from routine police duties to man the new Bureaus. No great wisdom is required to deduce the consequences of the action. The very presence of a uniformed policeman on a beat is many times a deterrent to lawlessness. When taken away from his beat, or when new men are not placed on new beats in populated places, more business is created for records rooms and Youth Bureaus. Far better, we feel, it would be to obtain additional personnel for specific duties and both the cause and effect can be seen in the Southfield Village episode. Suffice it to say that each man on duty in the Records room, the Youth Bureau and other activities which could be manned by civilians, is one man less on duty in the street, where prevention might diminish the duties in both departments.

Regarding the population growth in Stamford, we feel it is pertinent here to cite an obvious fact, to wit, response by a public to legal standards of a city varies directly with the enforcement of those standards. Whichever is the chicken, and which the egg is of little consequence; however, of tremendous import is the fact that some of Stamford's citizens and visitors show a blatant disrespect for the law. Traffic signs are habitually ignored. In some places, there are installed new limiting parking signs which are ignored by the public and police officers alike. Lanes are painted in the streets to define directional movement, but rarely is an officer located there to enhance public understanding. Speed limits are meaningless expenditures using commercial and police talents devoid of effect.

The committee recommends to each member of the department and its management that this situation is within their power to correct. If done properly, it will redound to the credit of that department.

During the course of our work, we made numerous suggestions to the various officials and individuals with whom we met. Most were accepted enthusiastically, or at least, graciously. One of these we would like to note here officially. We did suggest to the Personnel Commission that they consider the use of outside

sources, such as Princeton Examining Service, the State Employment Department, or other commercial institutions, to prepare, administer and grade appointive or promotional examinations. Such a step would undoubtedly help to eliminate suspicions on the part of persons taking such examinations.

Lastly, we recommend that the Charter be amended to eliminate the Classified position on the Personnel Commission. Regardless of the quality of the elected representative of the Classified Service, the other services will number in their membership those who feel they are not adequately represented. Such a Charter revision would effectively eliminate the problem of partisan membership with which this Board wrestled so much earlier in the year.

The summary of other recommendations has previously been rendered to each individual member of this Board.

Jack Cummings, Chairman
Police Fact-Finding Committee

MR. RHOADES: "Does anyone wish to be heard in connection with this report? Mr. Cummings has already indicated that a supplemental report has also been submitted, in writing, to the members of this Board, which has been boiled down from a tremendous mass of data, gathered by this Committee over a period of many months of very hard work. The President wishes to personally thank the Committee for their efforts along the lines of those indicated by the Board's original motion."

There were several members who spoke in praise of the Committee's efforts in presenting such a fine report.

MR. BAKER MOVED for a vote of commendation for the work of the Committee. Seconded by Mrs. Zuckert and CARRIED unanimously.

Re: Death of Police Captain Harold Herbert:

MR. RHOADES: "The late Captain Harold Herbert was a police officer who, under the precise rules laid down by this committee, under the rules laid down by the Police Department itself and under those rules which the citizens of Stamford would write, if they could, was one of the best."

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Captain Harold Herbert.

MR. CUMMINGS: "I would like to make one more point - I had two. The other point was the fact that this committee deserves more commendation than was presented in the report, or stated so capably by Mr. Baker. We had a bi-partisan committee of 8 members. Many of the recommendations - all of the recommendations were concurred in by the one member of our committee now absent, some were initiated by him (Patrick J. Fortunato, deceased member). But, it has been pure pleasure to work with 7 other people who have devoted so much of their time, without any consideration at any time, having come into our deliberations which was political. There were none and for this they are all to be commended."

Note for record: The Police Fact-Finding Committee was initiated on September 8, 1958 by the adoption of Resolution No. 284 - for further details, see pages 2013 through 2017 of those Minutes. The members of this Committee were as follows:

Democrats

George V. Connors
Anthony Kolich, Jr.
Patrick J. Fortunato (dec'd)
Bernard B. Geronimo

Republicans

Jack S. Cummings, Chairman
Joseph A. Cullen
Alan H. Ketcham
John DeForest

MR. HUIZINGA: "I cannot help but be reminded of another special committee, which was appointed by this Board several years ago, to investigate police enforcement pertaining to traffic accidents, I believe. At that time a comprehensive report was submitted. I don't believe, really, that anything ever came from that report. I have just been reading over the summary that we have before us, with the ten recommendations. It is quite obvious that most of this has to do with Charter change, and no doubt will be submitted to the Charter Revision Committee.

"However, there are a few of these recommendations which do not necessarily apply to Charter change. I refer specifically to recommendation No. 5, which speaks about setting up a more efficient training program. Recommendation No. 8 which speaks about recommending civilian employees in certain jobs, and the final one, which recommends an additional public health nurse.

"I am a little reluctant to make a motion, without some further discussion on this, so I would like to see if anyone else feels as I do - that a copy of the entire report, as well as the recommendations, I believe, should be submitted to the Board of Public Safety, as well as to the Chief of Police, asking them for their comments, particularly as applies to those three recommendations I mentioned, and what steps, if any, they plan to take regarding these recommendations. I would just like to make this suggestion for further discussion by the Board and see if a motion can come out of it."

MR. TOPPING said he would like to see items No. 1, 6, 7 and 9 referred to the Charter Revision Committee.

MR. TOPPING: "I think we should get busy and do something about this now. This Committee has spent about a year on this thing and I don't think we should let it die, at all. The action should be taken at this particular meeting here tonight, and I so MOVE."

MR. RHOADES: "There is a question, Mr. Topping, about the permanence of the Charter Revision Committee. The present members of this Committee expire (if I may use that term) or rather, the term of the members of this Committee will end at the next meeting of this Board and I question whether or not, if we take action like this, that it will carry over to the next Board. (6th Board)

"The President feels, that in all probability that those of you who will remain on the Board should bring it up again at the December or January meeting of the new Board and have it referred to the Charter Revision Committee then. However, this motion is entirely in order if you wish to vote on it at this time."

MR. MILANO said he thought the matter should be tabled until the new Board takes office and that it would be a good idea if the present members, some of whom will be on the new Board, would bring it before the new Board for action at that time.

MR. NOLAN said he thought the proper way to handle this would be to keep it on file, with the idea in mind that it could be brought to the attention of the new Board. He said: "Mr. Topping said he did not want to see this matter die, and if you should

refer it to the Charter Revision Committee now, it might die with the end of the Committee."

MR. RHOADES: "The complete report will be printed in the Minutes of this meeting. Mrs. Farrell asked that question a few moments ago."

NEW BUSINESS:

Re: Flowers to be sent to ill Board member - Vincent Vitti:

MR. LEWIS called the Board's attention to the serious illness of Mr. Vitti and MOVED that flowers be sent to him in the hospital where he is confined. Seconded by Mr. Russell and CARRIED unanimously.

Next Board meeting:

MR. RHOADES announced that the next Board meeting would be held on November 9th because of interference with election day. This would bring the Steering Committee meeting on October 26. There being no objection, this was agreed upon.

Re: Care of Veterans' Graves:

MR. BLOIS inquired if a reply had ever been received from a letter sent to the Mayor on this matter.

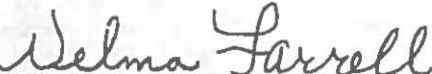
Note: See page 2600 of Minutes of June 1, 1959. Letter dated June 4, 1959 sent to Mayor at that time, with copies to Mr. Blois and Mr. Connell of the Park Dept. No reply was requested, the letter being informational.

VF


ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Mr. Baker, seconded by Mr. Nolan and CARRIED, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Velma Farrell
Executive Secretary

APPROVED:


Norton Rhoades, President