

Minutes of October 7, 1963
Meeting of the 7th Board of Representatives
Stamford, Connecticut

3786

A regular monthly meeting of the 7th Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford was held on Monday, October 7, 1963, in the Cafeteria of the Dolan Junior High School, Toms Road, Stamford, Connecticut

The meeting was called to order by the President, Paul D. Shapero, at 8:07 P.M.

INVOCATION: The invocation was given by Rev. Grover Wilson, First Presbyterian Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG: The President led the members in the pledge of allegiance to the flag

ROLL CALL was taken by the Clerk. There were 34 members present and 6 absent at the calling of the roll. However, one member arrived shortly thereafter, changing the roll call to 35 present and 5 absent.

The absent members were: Richard O'Neill, Armando Gurliacci, Allen Shanen, Stanley Kulowiec and Anthony Esposito.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES - Meeting of September 9, 1963

The Minutes of the above meeting were approved, with one correction on page 3776, correct second sentence of paragraph beginning with "MR. PHILPOT" to read as follows:

".....He said it makes no sense to have money appropriated in the budget before the job specification has been filed."

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING:

THE PRESIDENT announced that the November Board meeting will be held on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1963. He explained the reason for this is that the first Monday, which is normally the usual meeting date, falls the day before election and traditionally the Board never meets the night before election; also the following Monday happens to fall on Veterans Day which is a holiday.

THE PRESIDENT noted that Mr. Connors arrived at this time, changing the roll call to 35 now present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The President read the following report of the Steering Committee at this time:

STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT
Meeting held Monday, September 23, 1963

A meeting of the Steering Committee was held on Monday, September 23, 1963 in the Conference Room, City Hall.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M. The Chairman, Paul D. Shapero, presided. Present were the following members: Paul Shapero, Eleanor Austin, James Mulreed, John Kane, Fred Blois, William Murphy, Alan Ketcham, Daniel Baker, Anthony Truglia, Hilda Clarke and George Russell. Mr. Oppenheimer was also present as Chairman of the Urban Redevelopment Committee, a special committee.

The following members were absent: Ronald Schwartz and Allen Shanen.

The following matters were discussed and acted upon:

- (1) The four additional appropriations, approved by the Board of Finance at their meeting held September 12, 1963, were REFERRED TO THE FISCAL COMMITTEE, with one item in excess of \$2,000 referred to the EDUCATION, WELFARE & GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE as well.
- (2) Petition from CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, dated 9/6/63, requesting permission to erect and maintain Christmas lighting poles and/or arches across the major streets during the Christmas Season - REFERRED TO THE LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE and ORDERED PLACED ON AGENDA
- (3) Letter (dated 9/16/63) from Office of Supt. of Schools - Resolution concerning Preliminary Application for State Aid Grant for ROXBURY SCHOOL, for the purpose of adding eight new classrooms, an activity room and the necessary supplementary heating plant. (Pursuant to provisions of Chapter 173 of the Connecticut General Statutes (1958 Revision) - REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE and ORDERED PLACED ON AGENDA
- (4) CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY request dated 9/19/63 for a resolution to amend original "Cooperation Agreement" application to Federal Government for financial assistance to build low-rent public housing for the elderly, by increasing it from 100 units to 500 (Originally approved by Board on 6/5/61; amended 11/13/61 - See Minutes - pages 3143-3149 and pages 3260-61) REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE and ORDERED PLACED ON AGENDA
- (5) BOARD OF TAX REVIEW - Letter dated 9/20/63 requesting approval of sessions to hear appeals for revision of assessments, in accordance with Sec. 530, Chapter 53 of Charter (Copies sent to all Board members) - REFERRED TO LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE and ORDERED PLACED ON AGENDA
- (6) Concerning a Proposed Ordinance to Establish a Commission on Human Rights
(See Minutes of 9/9/63 - page 3773)

It was the decision of the Steering Committee (Mr. Baker dissenting) that this matter not be placed on the agenda this month, to enable the Legislative & Rules Committee to prepare its final draft of the proposed Ordinance so that members would have an opportunity to study it before adoption.

- (7) Petitions for acceptance of roads as city streets - REFERRED TO PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE and ORDERED PLACED ON AGENDA
- (8) Concerning appointment of a 7th Charter Revision Commission, as authorized by adoption of Resolution No. 425 at 9/9/63 Board meeting.

MR. SHAPERO informed the members that the appointment of this Commission would be announced before the October Board meeting.

- (9) Concerning replacements on Committees caused by resignation of Dr. Melvin Grove at the Sept. 9, 1963 Board meeting.

MR. SHAPERO announced the following Committee changes:

EDUCATION, WELFARE & GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE - JOHN J. MORRIS, JR.,
replacing Dr. Melvin Grove

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE - PETER J. SOMMA, JR., replacing
Dr. Melvin Grove

There being no further business to come before the Committee, upon motion,
duly seconded and CARRIED, the meeting was adjourned.

vf

PAUL D. SHAPERO, Chairman,
Steering Committee

FISCAL COMMITTEE:

MR. KANE, Chairman, presented his committee report at this time. HE MOVED for
SUSPENSION OF THE RULES to bring the following request before the Board. Seconded
by Mrs. Clarke and CARRIED:

- (1) \$8,000.00 - FIRE DEPARTMENT. Code 540.1801. Maintenance of Buildings (To provide
for new boiler and associated equipment to supply heat and hot water
to the Central Fire Station) (Mayor's letter 9/20/63)

MR. KANE said the Fiscal Committee unanimously approved this request. HE MOVED
for approval of the requested appropriation. Seconded by Mrs. Austin and CARRIED
unanimously.

MR. KANE MOVED for SUSPENSION OF THE RULES to bring the following request before the
Board. Seconded by Mrs. Austin and CARRIED:

- (2) \$46,000.00 - BOARD OF EDUCATION - For bus transportation for Senior High School
Pupils (As per letter from Mr. Franchina, dated 10/7/63)

MR. KANE MOVED for approval of the above request. Seconded by Mrs. Clarke.

MR. PHILPOT asked if there was a letter from the Board of Education requesting
this appropriation as he had not seen such a letter.

THE PRESIDENT said the letter was received by him this afternoon at 5 o'clock.

MR. KETCHAM said it is his understanding that this \$46,000 was eliminated by the
Board of Education because of cuts made in their budget. He said it is also his
understanding that the Superintendent of Schools has seen fit to put in temporary
bus transportation for certain high school students during this interim period
and they are now receiving this transportation. He said it is also his under-
standing, as has been done in the past, for the Board of Education to share the
cost of this transportation with the parents of the students involved. He said
he also understands that the cost of this transportation has increased 125% this
last year, which is a pretty unreasonable increase, no matter how you look at it.
He said he knows there are parents who have two or three children in the country
districts and are paying \$90 per annum per pupil, instead of the \$40 that they
paid last year. He asked if this appropriation would have any bearing on reducing
the cost of transportation of these pupils by the taxpayers - the parents of these
children.

MR. KANE said this item was only brought to him at 7:30 P.M. tonight and he can only offer his opinion which is that the cost of transportation of these pupils will be reduced by the appropriation.

MR. PHILPOT asked the Chairman a question through the Chair. He said: "Do you know the dollar amount which that might result in per pupil - the dollar amount reduction?"

MR. KANE said he cannot supply this figure offhand.

VOTE taken on Mr. Kane's motion to approve the emergency appropriation of \$46,000 for bus transportation for Senior High School pupils. CARRIED.

- (3) \$419.00 - BUREAU OF ACCOUNTS & RECORDS - Salary Account, Code 116.0101 - Re-classification for Assistant Tabulating Supervisor from Grade S-12 to S-14 (\$4,951.00 to \$5,370.00) effective July 1, 1963 (Previously approved by Personnel Commission) (Mayor's letter 8/2/63)

MR. KANE said the Fiscal Committee approved the above request unanimously and he MOVED to grant this appropriation. Seconded by Mrs. Austin. CARRIED.

- (4) \$401.07 - BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES, Code 106.2201, for purchase of a Gray Autograph Machine, Model V-A, with carrying case (Mayor's letter of 9/3/63)

MR. KANE said the Fiscal Committee unanimously approved this item and he SO MOVED. Seconded by Mrs. Austin. CARRIED.

- (5) \$600.00 - HUBBARD HEIGHTS GOLF COMMISSION - Code 730.1801, Maintenance of Buildings (To complete the painting of Restaurant and Locker Buildings (Mayor's letter 9/5/63)

MR. KANE said the Fiscal Committee unanimously approved this item and he SO MOVED. Seconded by Mrs. Austin and CARRIED.

- (6) \$14,000.00 - REGISTRARS OF VOTERS, Code 102.5105, Primary Expense (As outlined in Mayor's letter of 9/11/63)

MR. KANE said the Fiscal Committee unanimously approved this item and he SO MOVED. Mrs. Clarke seconded the motion and said the Education, Welfare & Government Committee concurred in the approval. CARRIED.

LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE:

THE PRESIDENT said Mr. Baker has requested a five minute recess before hearing his committee report. The recess being over, the members resumed their seats.

MR. BAKER said the Legislative & Rules Committee met by way of telephone conference since there is nothing on their agenda which is controversial to be reported out.

- (1) Petition No. 298 - From CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, dated 9/6/63, requesting permission to erect and maintain Christmas lighting poles and/or arches across the major streets during the Christmas Season.

MR. BAKER MOVED for approval of the above petition. Seconded by Mr. Kane.

THE PRESIDENT called for a vote on approval of the above request, subject to the usual approval and contingent upon the satisfaction of the Police Department, the Corporation Counsel as to the maintenance of the proper insurance.

VOTE taken on the above request. CARRIED.

- (2) Resolution No. 426 concerning Preliminary Application for State Aid Grant for ROXBURY SCHOOL, for the purpose of adding eight new classrooms, an activity room and the necessary supplementary heating plant (Pursuant to provisions of Chapter 173 of the Connecticut General Statutes (1958 Revision) (Requested in letter of 9/16/63 from Office of Supt. of Schools)

MR. BAKER read a letter of request on the above matter from the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, enclosing Form #1. He said this form is the initial step required for the ultimate receipt of State Aid for the project and the first action required is for the Board of Representatives to pass a resolution for the authorization necessary to request this aid.

MR. BAKER MOVED for approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Mr. Sherman and CARRIED:

RESOLUTION NO. 426

AUTHORIZATION OF PRELIMINARY APPLICATION FOR STATE AID GRANT FOR ROXBURY SCHOOL EIGHT CLASSROOM ADDITION, AN ACTIVITY ROOM AND NECESSARY SUPPLEMENTARY HEATING PLANT, INCLUDED IN THE 1963-1964 CAPITAL PROJECTS BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$360,000.00

BE AND IT HEREBY IS RESOLVED that the Mayor of the City of Stamford, pursuant to and within the limitations of Section 10-283, Chapter 173 "Application for Funds" of the 1958 revision of the Connecticut State Statutes, is hereby authorized and directed to apply for State Aid for the ROXBURY SCHOOL addition to existing structure, consisting of an eight classroom addition, one activity room, with separate heating, electrical and septic system requirements and site improvements, and is further authorized to accept or reject State Aid Grant in the name of the City of Stamford for said Project.

MR. PHILPOT asked the Chairman what is the rule in regard to the circulation of communications such as the one from the Superintendent of Schools, referred to above. He said: "This is another one which I haven't received."

THE PRESIDENT said he does not think there is a rule, but what happens ordinarily is that Mrs. Farrell sends copies to the members of the Committee or Committees, involved, as well as to the President, Majority Leader and Minority Leader. He said in this particular case, copies were sent to the President, Majority Leader, Mrs. Austin, Minority Leader, the Chairman of the Education, Welfare & Government Committee, the Chairman of the Legislative & Rules Committee, as well as to the Chairman of the Fiscal Committee. He informed Mr. Philpot that if he would request a copy of any letter, he was sure he could be furnished with one.

MR. PHILPOT said it seems to him that all members of the Board should receive copies of all letters to the Board, rather than just to the ones previously mentioned by the President.

THE PRESIDENT said perhaps this could be taken up at the Steering Committee meeting, but that it is his feeling it would create too much of a burden with such a small office staff.

- (3) CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY request dated 9/19/63 for a resolution to amend original "Cooperation Agreement" application to Federal Government for financial assistance to build low-rent public housing for the elderly, to increase it from 100 units to 500 (Originally approved by Board on 6/5/61 - See pages 3143-3149 of Minutes; amended on 11/13/61 - See pages 3260-3261 of Minutes)

MR. BAKER said the Committee wishes to keep the above matter in committee for the reason that they have not yet had an opportunity to secure all the information needed as to what is contemplated in this proposed change.

MR. SCHWARTZ said he felt it incumbent upon him to report to this Board that he had received a call after the start of this meeting from a representative of the Housing Authority and it was indicated that there would be no financial involvement on this matter so far as the City of Stamford is concerned, and what is involved is an attempt to meet a quota, which, if accepted would be involved in this year's budget from the Federal Government. He said if this is not passed tonight, it may preclude any financial assistance and is merely another step in the budgets which must be submitted to the Federal Government. He said there is a great need for housing for the elderly, which "we all recognize" and thinks it incumbent upon this Board not to put any obstacle whatever, either time-wise or otherwise in the way of the orderly procedure involved here.

MR. SCHWARTZ MOVED for suspension of the rules to bring this out of committee and on the floor for discussion. Seconded by Mr. Ketcham.

THE PRESIDENT said it is his understanding that Mr. Schwartz is moving that the Committee be discharged from consideration of this item and that it be brought out on the floor.

MR. SCHWARTZ replied that is correct.

THE PRESIDENT informed the members that a motion such as this requires only a simple majority vote.

MR. CONNORS asked Mr. Schwartz a question, through the Chair. He asked if this was a city-wide deal - in other words "all over the City of Stamford", and that there is no specific project involved, and will increase the units from 100 to 500.

MR. SCHWARTZ said this is correct.

Another member asked if Mr. Schwartz has any information as to why the Housing Authority wishes to raise this to 500 from 100. He said he had no information in this regard, except that it seems to be a basic need which is obvious.

Several members asked questions at this point.

MR. RODIN said he is a little bit puzzled as to why this information should be relayed through the Minority Leader to the Board members rather than through the Chairman of the Committee to whom it had been referred and if there is such an urgency, why the message is relayed through anyone except through the Committee and also why the Committee was by-passed and not given the information. He said he thinks it is rather irregular and undermines the committee system by relaying information after the meeting has started by other means than the normal channels.

MR. KETCHAM asked, through the Chair: "Mr. President, has the Legislative & Rules Committee met on this particular subject, or in fact, on any subject this month, since the Steering Committee meeting?"

THE PRESIDENT ruled the question out of order.

MR. BAKER said he was more than willing to answer this question. He said his Committee was canvassed by telephone on all of the items on the agenda - that three of the items which were reported out were approved and one item which was not reported out was not approved, because "we didn't have the information on it and one of the members of the committee was commissioned to obtain this information, which he was unable to do, and for that reason it was decided to hold this matter in committee." He said he could not recommend that the committee take action blindly on the matter with no information at all. He said had there been an urgency such is now being represented to the members, somebody connected with the Housing administration would have gotten in touch with him and let him know that there was such an urgency, which is the customary procedure in the years he has been on this Board.

MR. KELLY asked and was granted permission to be excused at this time. (9 P.M.)

MR. BAER MOVED THE QUESTION.

MR. PHILPOT requested a five minute recess at this time so that further information might be secured by Mr. Baker. The recess was granted.

The members resumed their seats at 9:05 P.M.

THE PRESIDENT stated the question now before the Board is to discharge the committee in order to consider the request of the City Housing Authority.

MR. SCARELLA asked if during the recess they have found out whether or not there is a deadline on this matter.

MR. SCHWARTZ said he has been informed that Mr. Edward S. Czescik, Chairman of the City Housing Authority will arrive shortly to answer any questions that the members might have - that he understands that there is a vital deadline, which if this is not passed tonight, will preclude us from getting assistance on the old age housing project from the Federal Government. He suggested the Board might go ahead with other business and return to this matter after Mr. Czescik has arrived.

MR. PHILPOT said it would appear that the way this matter has been presented to the Board tonight suggests a woeful lack of proper presentation on the part of the Housing Authority. He suggested waiting for Mr. Czescik's arrival, as there seems to be too much at stake to take any hasty action.

MR. CONNORS MOVED to go on to the next order of business until Mr. Czescik's arrival.

THE PRESIDENT yielded the Chair at this point to Mrs. Austin, Clerk and Majority Leader, so that he might speak on this matter.

MR. SHAPERO said this is not a partisan matter and he is not speaking to the question as to whether the Board should or should not act on this. He called the members' attention to the fact that this Board operates under a committee system so that it can operate in an orderly fashion so that information may be obtained, be developed and transmitted to the other members of the Board. He said: "What we are considering doing tonight is to get the information from Mr. Czescik by questioning him on

the floor of the Board. I caution you against this type of hasty, ill-advised action. I would call your attention to the fact that the City Housing Authority has discussed expansion of housing for the aged as far back as July, as this came out in the annual report, yet none of these requests or information or prospective plans were ever made known to this Board." He said the question is does this Board turn itself into a Committee of the Whole at a regular Board meeting and start inquiring and trying to get the information, or do we stick to our regular and normal way of doing business? He urged the members to consider very carefully what precedent they will be establishing by doing this.

MR. SCARELLA said he would like to limit the questioning as to the time element involved, because it might be due to a slip either on the part of the Housing Authority or the Committee.

THE PRESIDENT took the Chair again.

MR. PHILPOT said Mr. Scarella raises one point and he thinks there is another that should be answered. He said it is his understanding that once approval is given by this Board, the Housing Authority has the right thereafter to go out and condemn land. He said if that right exists, then he would agree that to hurry the procedure would be a dangerous precedent and this Board might be creating the possibility that land could be appropriated in any section of the city. He said he thought Mr. Scarella's point should be delved into further.

THE PRESIDENT explained that the question now before this body is whether or not the Committee should be discharged so that this Board may consider the question as proposed by the City Housing Authority.

MR. SCARELLA said he thought a motion was made to go on to the next order of business.

THE PRESIDENT said he could not accept that motion, as there was a previous motion already on the floor (as made by Mr. Schwartz).

MR. SCHWARTZ said that in view of Mr. Connors' request, or rather, his motion to go on to the next order of business until the arrival of Mr. Czeszik, he would withdraw his previous motion.

MR. CONNORS MOVED to proceed to the next order of business. Seconded.

THE PRESIDENT said the question is now on Mr. Connors' motion and will require a two-thirds vote to carry, as it requires suspension of the rules.

VOTE taken on Mr. Connors' motion. LOST.

THE PRESIDENT said the question now is back to Mr. Schwartz' motion to remove this matter from the Legislative & Rules Committee.

He explained that to hold this in Committee does not mean the end of the matter - that it can be brought out and reported on at any subsequent meeting of the Board.

MR. CONNORS objected. He said he does not believe this should be brought out of Committee until this Board has received further information. He said that this Board has gone through this procedure in the past many times - they have waited for further information and that is the reason why he made his motion to wait until Mr. Czeszik's arrival.

THE PRESIDENT said in that case he can vote not to take it out of Committee.

MR. ROGERS MOVED FOR A ROLL CALL VOTE. Seconded and CARRIED.

THE PRESIDENT explained the parliamentary situation. He said a vote of "yes" will have the effect of removing this matter from the Legislative & Rules Committee and placing it on the floor and a vote of "no" will result in the matter staying in the Legislative & Rules Committee.

THE CLERK called the roll with the following vote: DEFEATED by a vote of 10 in favor and 24 opposed:

THOSE VOTING IN FAVOR

George Connors
William Hearing
Alan Ketcham
Paul Kuczo
Thomas Morris
David Oppenheimer
Romaine Philpot
Randolph Rogers
Patrick Scarella
Ronald Schwartz

THOSE OPPOSED

Fatsy Arruzza
Eleanor Austin
Jack Baer
Daniel Baker
Fred Blois
Vincent Caporizzo
Hilda Clarke
Samuel Cushing
Edward Dombroski
John Kane
Frances Lilliendahl
Carmine Longo
Richmond Mead
John Morris
James Mulreed
William Murphy
Charles Rodin
George Russell
Gerald Rybnick
Paul Shapero
Michael Sherman
Peter Somma
Anthony Truglia
Chester Walajtys

MR. PHILPOT asked the President if he could speak. He said: "This vote just taken has had the effect of making us vote in the opposite direction from the way many of us wanted to vote. What we really wanted to do was to delay action until Mr. Czescik had arrived to explain, so that we could explore the possibilities. I don't think that this vote that we have just taken means a thing."

MR. MULREED said he does not think the vote just taken closes the door on this matter as it is still in the Legislative & Rules Committee.

- (4) BOARD OF TAX REVIEW - Letter of 9/20/63 requesting approval of sessions to hear appeals for revision of assessments, in accordance with provisions of Chapter 53, Sec. 530 of Charter

MR. BAKER presented the following letter on the above matter and MOVED for approval. Seconded by Mr. Rodin and CARRIED:

Minutes of October 7, 1963

BOARD OF TAX REVIEW
City of Stamford, Connecticut
303 Main Street

September 20, 1963

Members of the Board of Representatives
City Hall
Stamford, Connecticut

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Section 530, Chapter 53 of the Stamford Charter, we are hereby notifying you that the Board of Tax Review will meet on the following dates, in the Assessor's Office, for the purpose of receiving applications for revision of assessments on the List of September 1, 1963:

On January 6, 1964	Monday	7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
On January 8, 1964	Wednesday	7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
On January 10, 1964	Friday	2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
On January 11, 1964	Saturday	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Appeal forms may be obtained in the Assessor's Office, January 1964
Monday thru Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The reason for not scheduling Board meetings beyond January 11, 1964 is to allow for executive sessions and the Assessor to make any and all changes on the Grand List, which must be completed by January 31, 1964. This has been the usual procedure of previous Boards.

Very truly yours,

(signed) Helen Michalsky
Secretary, Board of Tax Review

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

MR. BLOIS said although he has no formal report of the committee at this time, a couple of the members investigated two complaints, concerning the following:

- (1) COURTLAND HILL STREET - Petition from residents regarding repavement and completion of work being done by DeLeo Bros. (Signed by 43 property owners on street - Brought up by Mr. Philpot, 15th District Representative on 8/5/63 - See page 3763 of Minutes - Also see Minutes of 9/9/63, page 3773)

MR. BLOIS said his committee investigated the above regarding a storm drain that comes down Fairmont Avenue and Courtland Hill Street and through one of the property owners' homes there. He said they also inspected what had been a community septic tank, still open.

(2) TOMS ROAD

MR. BLOIS said his committee had been told to inspect a couple of situations on the above road. He said he would give a final report later, on both of the above matters.

(3) RE: SALT ON CITY STREETS IN SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS (See Minutes of 9/9/63, page 3774)

MR. KUCZO asked if any word has been received from the Corporation Counsel on the above matter - that this has been before the Board since February. He said he has heard many decisions from the Corporation Counsel since he first brought this up, on other matters not half as pressing. He said not only does the taxpayer have to pay for damage done to his car caused by the use of salt on the roads, but also has to pay taxes which help to buy the salt that harms his car. He said he thought this was adding insult to injury. He pointed out that there have been several articles recently, both in the New York Times, the Stamford Advocate and the Connecticut Motorist. He requested the privilege of reading an article from the last named periodical, citing damage done to trees, shrubs and grass by the use of large amounts of chloride, which can be toxic. He said the article said both sodium chloride and calcium chloride are being used in snow and ice removal during winter months - as much as 60,000 tons being spread on the highways each year, and that highway engineers were hopeful that a less harmful way of removing snow and ice can be found.

MR. KUCZO MOVED that this Board send a letter to the proper authority, instructing them to cease buying salt and forbid the use of salt on city streets until such time as the Corporation Counsel has made a decision.

THE PRESIDENT informed Mr. Kuczo that his motion is out of order, but he can bring it up under new business later if he wishes.

MR. PHILPOT said he wished to make a remark in connection with Mr. Blois' report. He said: "The situation there on Courtland Hill is not good. Apparently for years sewage has drained down on Fairmont Avenue to that lot at the end and there appears to be a common septic tank or sewer, at that point. The mouth of that is blocked with a stone. There have been many complaints about this to the Health Department and they have been down there on several occasions - nothing has been done." He said he was wondering how the Health Department could be made to do what they should do in an area where some action is necessary. He said that Mr. Blois and Mr. (Tom) Morris have investigated and are doing their best to see what can be done, but so far, nothing has happened. He said also, the sidewalks on Courtland Hill are still all torn up.

HEALTH & PROTECTION COMMITTEE:

MR. TRUGLIA reported on the following matter.

CONTAMINATION OF STAMFORD WATERS - Two letters regarding this: (1) From Mrs. Marie Ritch (letter of 5/13/63); and (2) From Edward R. Jobson, Jr. (letter of 5/7/63) - See Minutes of 6/3/63, page 3690 and Minutes of 9/9/63, page 3774)

MR. TRUGLIA read the following letter from the Department of Health on the above complaint:

Minutes of October 7, 1963

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
City of Stamford, Connecticut

October 2, 1963

Mr. Anthony Truglia, Chairman
Health & Protection Committee
Board of Representatives
City Hall
Stamford, Connecticut

Re: Contamination of Stamford Waters

Dear Mr. Truglia:

A conference was held in the Stamford Health Department on September 17, 1963 concerning newspaper publicity of contamination of Stamford waters and improper operation of municipal sewerage facilities. Attending conference were: Andrew M. Thorpe, Public Health Engineer of the Stamford Health Department; Mr. Anthony Truglia, Chairman of the Health and Protection Committee of the Board of Representatives and Dr. James J. Costanzo, Director of Health.

On April 23, 1963, Mr. Thorpe received a complaint from Mr. John Gacher of the Gacher Boat Works, complaining about sewage in his boatyard ways. Upon investigation by Mr. Thorpe, sewage was found in the harbor area affecting all the boatyard ways.

On April 23, 1963, Mr. Thorpe contacted Mr. Norman Wagner, Supervisor of the Sanitation Sewage Treatment Plant, and informed him about raw sewage found in the harbor. Mr. Wagner informed Mr. Thorpe that sewage had to be by-passed on April 22nd for thirty minutes for repair of valves at the plant.

On May 9, 1963, Mr. Thorpe called the State Health Department for a review of Stamford waters and inspection of Municipal Sewage Plant and pumping stations.

On May 27 and June 7, 1963, inspections were made by Mr. Charles A. Jaworski, Principal Sanitary Engineer of the State Health Department and Mr. Thorpe, Norman Wagner and Romeo Bacher of the sewage treatment plant. After inspection and discussion, Mr. Jaworski of the State Health Department reported that proper procedures are being employed in the routine operation of the municipal sewage facilities.

The Health Department is following up these investigations of the entire waterfront area with hearings and inspections.

Very truly yours,

(signed) James J. Costanzo, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

JJC/sz
CC: Mayor Hickey

Re: Dangerous traffic hazard on SUMMER STREET at location of Ridgeway Shopping Center (Letter dated 6/17/63 from 46 nearby residents of 5th, 6th and 8th Districts)

MR. TRUGLIA said the above item would be kept in committee until they have had a reply to their letter to Mr. Oefinger of the Police Department. (See Minutes of September 9, 1963, page 3774)

MR. KETCHAM said he would like to ask about the first item reported on by Mr. Truglia concerning contamination of Stamford waters. He asked Mr. Truglia, through the Chair, what was the date of the letters of complaint. He said one letter was from a resident of the Shippan area and the other from a resident of Southfield Point.

MR. TRUGLIA said both letters were dated in May of this year. The one from Mrs. Marie Ritch being dated May 13, 1963 and the one from Mr. Edward R. Jobson was dated May 7, 1963.

MR. KETCHAM said: "Thank you. Tonight is October 7th - we have taken six months to find out that Mr. Wagner shut a valve in our sewage treatment plant. I wonder how long it would take us if we really had something to do? I wonder if anyone has taken the trouble to find out what is the capacity of our sewage treatment plant, and what would happen if a breakdown occurred in any one of the units? Also, has anyone taken the trouble to find out if we are over-building our sewer lines in the various areas of the country districts and thus over-burdening the sewage treatment plant? I wonder if anyone has taken the trouble to find out whether there is a policy not of by-passing the sewer plant, but opening the sewer floodgates on the Rippowam River at the various bridges? This could lead to a very, very serious problem. I, for one, admire the efficiency of the Health Department and believe they are dedicated conscientious men, but they can only inspect when they are called in. They are certainly very thorough, no doubt. The conditions have been corrected from time to time. However, I think this whole problem of our sewage disposal system will bear investigation."

MR. TRUGLIA said, as the Chairman of the Health & Protection Committee, he would like to go on record as approving the enforcement of Ordinance No. 65 by the Mayor in reference to some of the disgraceful conditions under which some of the tenants are forced to live by their landlords.

CONCERNING ENFORCEMENT OF ORDINANCE NO. 65

MR. MORRIS said that back some time in May before Ordinance No. 65 became a political issue, he had sent a letter to the Steering Committee, advising them that this ordinance was not being enforced by the City. He said he notes by a recent news article that this ordinance is not being enforced. He said he thinks this Board should investigate why these conditions have not been cleared up - that back in 1957 or 1958 these conditions were supposed to have been cleaned up, which has not been done. He said he thinks the Board of Representatives should investigate why the ordinance has not been enforced in the City of Stamford.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE:

MR. RUSSELL presented his committee report. He said a meeting of the Committee was held on Tuesday, October 1, 1963 in the Conference Room, City Hall, with the following members present: James Mulreed, Peter Somma and George Russell.

October 7, 1963

(1) Acceptance of Roads as City Streets:

MR. RUSSELL said the committee agreed to approve the following roads for acceptance. He said they have been certified by the City Engineer for acceptance, were inspected and the maps referred to are filed in the Office of the Town and City Clerk.

MR. RUSSELL MOVED for acceptance of the following streets as city streets. Seconded by Mr. Cushing and CARRIED:

AMHERST PLACE - Extending from the southerly end of street and extending 400 feet northerly. Width 30 feet, as shown on Map No. 7457.

BUBSEY LANE - (A portion of) Extending from the westerly property line of Club Road approximately 200 feet in length. Width 30 feet, as shown on Map No. 7381.

BUCKINGHAM DRIVE - Extending from easterly property line of Long Ridge Road easterly and northerly and ending as shown on Map No. 7475, approximately 1,200 feet in length, width 30 feet.

CLUB ROAD - Extending approximately 325 feet from already accepted portion, northerly to and including a permanent turnaround. Width 30 feet, as shown on Map No. 7381.

DEEP VALLEY ROAD - Extending from the westerly property line of Riverbank Road westerly to and including a temporary turnaround, approximately 1,430 feet, width 22 feet, as shown on Map No. 7680.

EASTOVER ROAD - Approximately 1,200 feet, extending from the north property line of Intervale Road northerly to and including a temporary turnaround, width 27 feet, as shown on Map No. 7432.

HIGH VALLEY WAY - Extending approximately 360 feet northerly from the northerly side of Deep Valley Road, to and including a permanent turnaround; width 22 feet, as shown on Map No. 7680.

MICHAEL ROAD - Extending approximately 956 feet from the westerly property line of Cascade Road, westerly to and including a temporary turnaround; width 27 feet, as shown on Map No. 7635.

SHELTER ROCK ROAD - Length, approximately 2,330 feet, extending from southerly property line of Rocky Rapids Road, southerly, as shown on Map No. 7388; width 27 feet.

WARWICK LANE - Extending from easterly property line of Buckingham Drive easterly to the westerly property line of Amherst Place approximately 425 feet; width 30 feet, as shown on Map No. 7457.

CONCERNING WIDTH OF ROADS:

MR. RUSSELL said he would like to make a comment. He said: "In looking at this

particular group of roads and some roads accepted in the past, a little too often I notice that waivers were given to the width of the road and many times, for no strong reason. I think if you will look at the past record of this Board, we have indicated disapproval of reducing the width of these roads lower than the so-called "minimum width" which is in our own ordinance, but which the Planning Board has the right to waive. I say this because two of these roads are only 22 feet wide and some of these roads get to be almost a mile long and if a car parks on either side of the road, it means just barely one lane open. I think this is a dangerous condition when children are playing in the street, because most of these roads have no sidewalks. The Committee has discussed this and intends to take it up with the Planning Board and see if they can be a little more stringent in waiving the width of roads."

MR. SCARELLA said he would like to know just what recommendation the Planning and Zoning Committee is making.

MR. RUSSELL said that technically, this Board does not have to accept roads if the Board does not wish to do so. He said although the Planning Board can grant a waiver, there is nothing that binds the Board of Representatives to accept the road and this is something that should be resolved. He said that sometimes the Board accepts a road less than minimum width, thinking it will only be a short road and he knows of at least two occasions when these roads have then later been extended twice and are now very long roads and go past a great many homes.

MR. RUSSELL said there is another problem - namely the naming of these roads, and there is one particular case where they have been approached by some of the residents who want to change the name of the road. He said he thinks the Planning Board should be very careful in the names of roads that are accepted and certainly should be doubly careful that there is no duplication of names because we are already in the process of changing the names of roads where there is a duplication of names which should have been taken care of in the subdivision planning layout. He said this is another problem which they hope to resolve with the Planning Board.

(2) Proposed resolution concerning acceptance of streets built prior to consolidation, which have never been accepted as city streets:

MR. RUSSELL said this matter has been in the committee for a long while, which concerns the acceptance of old roads, and has to be accomplished by the adoption of a resolution, which is first published and then, at the following Board meeting, if there are no objections to the acceptance of these roads, there is final adoption of the resolution.

MR. RUSSELL MOVED for publication of the following:

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford, will, by resolution, at the next regular meeting of said Board, on November 12, 1963, accept the following named streets and highways, which were open to vehicular travel prior to April 16, 1950, as public streets and highways, unless the owners thereof shall, prior to such date, specifically indicate in writing to the Board of Representatives, at the office of said Board in the City Hall, Stamford, Connecticut, their intention to maintain said streets and highways in a private status. The resolution follows:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION CONCERNING ACCEPTANCE OF
STREETS OPEN TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC PRIOR TO
APRIL 1950 (Date of consolidation) WHICH HAVE
NEVER BEEN ACCEPTED AS CITY STREETS

BE IT RESOLVED and it is HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford that said Board, by its proposed and published resolution of October 7, 1963, accepts the following named streets and highways which were open to vehicular traffic prior to April 16, 1950 as public streets and highways:

ELMWOOD STREET - For approximately 315 feet from George Street to Ferro Drive

FERRO DRIVE ---- For approximately 432 feet from Elmwood Street to Martin Street

WEBB AVENUE ---- From the already accepted portion southerly to Dora Street

MR. RUSSELL said if there are any questions in regard to these roads, the committee would be glad to answer them.

MR. CONNORS seconded Mr. Russell's motion. CARRIED for publication.

PICNIC COMMITTEE:

MR. RUSSELL said the Picnic Committee has not met formally, but it is expected that they will end up in the "black" as the bills have all been paid, with the exception of being short a few dollars which he has paid out of his own pocket and there will be an auditing next month.

PETITIONS:

- (1) Petition No. 298 from CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, dated 9/6/63, requesting permission to erect and maintain Christmas lighting poles and/or arches across the major streets during the Christmas Season

The above petition was previously approved under the Legislative & Rules Committee report.

- (2) Petition No. 299 - VETERANS' DAY PARADE, November 11, 1963 - Requested by the Veterans' Day Committee

The above petition was approved unanimously, subject to the usual requirements of insurance coverage and permission from the Police Department, etc.

OLD BUSINESS:

Concerning use of Salt on City Streets in Snow Removal Operations

MR. KUCZO MOVED that this Board send a letter to the proper authorities, instructing them that they cease buying salt and forbid the use of it, as it is in direct violation of city ordinances.

THE PRESIDENT said he does not understand what Mr. Kuczo means when he says "the proper authorities".

MR. KUCZO said: "The Purchasing Agent, for instance, that would be one, since he handles the purchase of it, and also the Public Works."

THE PRESIDENT said he believes this is not within the province of this Board. He asked if there was a seconder to the motion.

MR. MEAD said he would second the motion.

THE PRESIDENT re-stated the motion. He said: "A motion has been made and seconded that this Board send a letter to the Purchasing Agent, directing that he cease from buying salt."

MR. ROGERS said that while he understands that this may not be within the province of the Board, he can sympathize with Mr. Kuczo and his long and lonely battle against the use of salt. He said: "I know this has been the source of some humor in the Board, but seriously, he has a good point. I know that the Corporation Counsel has informed us that this is a difficult question to answer, but we have waited a long time to hear from him on this matter and I can only say that I heartily support Mr. Kuczo's stand."

MR. RUSSELL said he would like to offer a new thought about the salt problem. He said he did not think this letter to the Purchasing Agent would be the right thing to do for the reason that salt and the use of various salt products on roads in colder areas of this country is a very common practice and the farther north you go, the stronger the salt formula becomes. He said if you travel up to Buffalo and that area, they use almost straight salt and very little sand. He said in this day and age there are different types of salt or chemicals of a salt nature, that are not corrosive - that he doesn't know the cost in large quantities, but it is possible for a home owner to buy these products for use on private driveways where you can track it into the house and it is not corrosive and they also have a more lasting effect than ordinary salt that is added to sand.

He said it is his opinion that perhaps the Purchasing Agent and the Commissioner of Public Works should seriously sit down and confer with a group that is interested and discuss this subject thoroughly - that it is not just a question as to whether or not it is a violation of a city ordinance, but the question of how the roads are sanded for safe travel is maybe more serious than the impact of whether an ordinance is proper or not. He said: "We do know, for a fact, that salt is a very common ingredient in sand in the colder areas of the country and there are certain organic type ingredients that can be added to sand, which are not corrosive like the common ordinary type of salt with which we are familiar. However, it might be a good idea to look into the whole problem a little more intelligently and come up with the answer to it. Maybe the ordinances are wrong and will have to be changed. But, we do have the problem in the winter time of properly sanding roads and maintaining those roads free of ice on hills. But, this has gone on for a long time and perhaps now is the time to sit down and iron it out, so that we can either up-date the ordinances to meet today's standards and at least discuss it and come up with the right answers."

MR. BAKER asked, through the Chair, a question of Mr. Kuczo. He said: "Where in our Charter do you find any authority to send a letter to any agent of the municipal government, directing that agent to do or not to do, certain things?"

MR. KUCZO said the question is the question of enforcing ordinances that are now on the city's books - that he has been trying to get the answer to his question about the use of salt on city streets since February, and, as yet has not received an answer from the Corporation Counsel. He said: "Now, is there some way we can settle it - should we put it back into the Public Works Committee, or what?"

THE PRESIDENT informed Mr. Kuczo that he would promise to look into the matter to ascertain what the problems are and undertake to get an opinion for him. He asked him if he would withdraw the motion in favor of doing it this way. He said one of the problems that is most confusing to any Corporation Counsel is whether or not the mixture presently being used by the Public Works Department is considered salt in the interpretation of the law. He said the law says "salt" and to his knowledge they are not spreading "salt" but that it may be some derivative of salt. He said it may be possible for Mr. Blois to find out just what is being spread on the streets and whether or not it is corrosive.

MR. KUCZO said he will withdraw his motion in favor of following the suggestion as outlined by the President.

Concerning copies of all communications to the Board:

MR. PHILPOT: "I have no wish to increase Mrs. Farrell's labors, but will it be possible for you to assure us that we will receive copies of all communications? I would appreciate it."

THE PRESIDENT said he could not make such a promise, as he does not believe we have the staff or the facilities to insure it. "What I would like to do is to discuss it with you and the Majority and Minority Leaders and the members of the Steering Committee outside of this meeting - will you agree to that?"

MR. PHILPOT said it was agreeable to him.

Concerning request of CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY for amendment to original "Cooperation Agreement". (Discussed previously under item #3 of Legislative and Rules Committee report)

MR. PHILPOT said he imagines the above matter is now beyond reconsideration, but since Mr. Czeszik, Chairman of the Housing Authority came down to give the Board the benefit of his comments....."If it is the sense of the Board to hear him so that we can, at least, clarify our own minds on the subject, I think we owe it to the senior citizens and to ourselves and as an act of courtesy to Mr. Czeszik, since he took the trouble to come down here this evening - may we listen to him, sir?"

THE PRESIDENT said that is a decision that the Board will have to make and is not his to make.

MR. SCARELLA said he thinks it would be necessary for a member of the Board to make a motion to rescind the previous action taken on this matter.

There was considerable discussion at this point.

MR. SHERMAN MOVED that this Board allow Mr. Czeszik to address the Board.
Seconded.

THE PRESIDENT said he would entertain that motion.

MR. BAKER objected. He said this Board in its deliberations have decided to vote their confidence in the operation of the committee system - the committee is still in function and has the matter under advisement and will report out on it at an early date and will recommend such action as it deems appropriate. He said: "If, in view of the committee, emergency action is indicated, the committee will recommend that such emergency action be taken. In doing this, we would then preserve our committee system and would also be able to meet any action deemed necessary."

THE PRESIDENT called the members' attention to the fact that under the rules of the Board, Mr. Czeszik may address the Board, but under parliamentary rules, this does not return us to a re-consideration of a matter upon which we have already voted.

VOTE taken on Mr. Sherman's motion to hear from Mr. Czeszik. LOST, by a vote of 15 in favor and 17 opposed.

THE PRESIDENT thanked Mr. Czeszik for coming to the meeting and said: "I am sure that the members who voted against hearing from you at this time meant no discourtesy - everyone appreciates the fact that you came down here and I am sure that the Committee or any interested members of the Board will be happy to have you meet with them at their regular hearing. I think the vote against having you speak was a vote to retain the committee system and had nothing to do with you as an individual or in regard to the office which you hold."

NEW BUSINESS:

Concerning bus transportation for school children to Roxbury School -
(Requested in letter of Sept. 30, 1963 from Michael Sherman,
18th District Representative)

MR. SHERMAN spoke regarding the above letter. He said a very hazardous condition exists on Stillwater Road where school children presently have to walk to attend Roxbury School. He said since January there have been three accidents at this point, involving the sidewalk located at a curve in the road. Also, adding to the dangerous condition is a large development of houses on the left side of Stillwater Road, adjacent to the sidewalk which is used by school children, and an additional hazard of heavy equipment going back and forth in the area. He said the parents of children in the area, especially young children of kindergarten age - the parents are seeking some remedy so that they will not be forced to walk to school using this particular sidewalk, because of the many accidents on this route.

He urged that some means be provided to protect these children - either through proper police supervision of the children going to and from school, or else bus service be provided to transport these children.

THE PRESIDENT said Mr. Sherman's letter would be referred to the proper committee at the October meeting of the Steering Committee.

Concerning enforcement of Ordinance No. 65:

MR. MORRIS MOVED that this Board have an investigation of why Ordinance No. 65 is not being enforced.

THE PRESIDENT asked Mr. Morris to be more specific. He said the Charter outlines the investigating privileges of the Board of Representatives in which it states

that the Board of Representatives shall have power by a two-thirds vote of its entire membership to investigate officers, departments or agencies. He said the ordinance in question is enforced by the Health Department. He informed Mr. Morris that he believes his motion should be directed to a specific field of investigation and that it would be up to him that the motion be stated to request that the Board investigate the Department of Health in their investigation of Ordinance No. 65.

MR. MORRIS said: "That's the way I shall have it, then." He said the date of enactment of the ordinance was August 30, 1957. He quoted passages from the ordinance.

THE PRESIDENT SAID: "Your motion is then, that this Board appoint a special committee to investigate the enforcement of Ordinance No. 65 by the Health Department?"

MR. MORRIS: "Yes --- and the Building Department."

Mr. Morris' motion was seconded by Mr. Connors.

THE PRESIDENT explained this will take a two-thirds vote of this Board.

MR. MORRIS asked for a roll call vote. The Clerk called the roll, with the members voting 6 opposed, 26 in favor with 2 abstentions, as follows:

THOSE VOTING IN FAVOR

Patsy Arruzza
Eleanor Austin
Jack Baer
Fred Blois
Vincent Caporizzo
Hilda Clarke
George Connors
Samuel Cushing
Edward Dombroski
William Hearing
John Kane
Alan Ketcham
Paul Kuzo
Frances Lilliendahl
Carmine Longo
Richmond Mead
John Morris
Thomas Morris
David Oppenheimer
Romaine Philpot
Charles Rodin
Randolph Rogers
George Russell
Ronald Schwartz
Peter Somma
Chester Walajtys

THOSE OPPOSED

Daniel Baker
James Mulreed
William Murphy
Gerald Rybnick
Patrick Scarella
Anthony Truglia

ABSTENTIONS

Paul Shapero
Michael Sherman

MR. BAKER asked to be excused at this time.

Concerning carry-over of Committees to another Board after election:

MR. PHILPOT: "Is it your feeling, Mr. President, that a committee investigation created by this Board, would lapse with the election of a new Board, or would its powers carry over?"

THE PRESIDENT said his feeling is that it would be a committee of THIS Board, and of course, some of the members of that Committee may no longer be members of the Board, with the election of a new Board ---- that the committee would lapse, but its personnel would carry over.

MR. CONNORS said he would think that ALL committees would be more or less abolished with the election of a new Board and you would start all over.

Concerning opening of the "Smith House"

MR. MORRIS said that in February (2/4/63 - page 3577 of Minutes) this Board appropriated funds for the Smith House. He said: "I was up at the Smith House yesterday and peeked in the window - it's a glorious edifice, but it is uninhabited. We were promised that it would be opened very shortly - the personnel has not been hired....." He said he wondered when it would open.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon motion, duly seconded and CARRIED, the meeting was adjourned.

Velma Farrell

Velma Farrell
Administrative Assistant

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APPROVED:

Paul D. Shapiro

Paul D. Shapiro, President
Board of Representatives

Note: The proceedings of the above meeting were broadcast over Radio Station WSTC.

VF


