#### MINUTES OF MAY 10, 1978

#### SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING OF 15th BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

A Special Meeting of the 15th Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford was held on Wednesday, May 10, 1978 (to be adjourned to the following night, Thursday, May 11, 1978 to complete the work), pursuant to a "CALL" from the PRESIDENT, JOHN WAYNE FOX, in the Legislative Chambers of the Board, Second Floor, Municipal Office Building, 429 Atlantic Street, Stamford, Connecticut.

The meeting was called to order by the President at 8:18 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: The President led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL: Roll Call was taken by the Clerk, Diane Raymond.

There were 35 present and 5 absent; but by 9:30, four more members came in, with the attendance then becoming 38 present and 2 absent. the absent members were Leo Carlucci, and S. A. Signore (the latter excused due to illness)

The PRESIDENT declared a QUORUM.

CHECK OF THE VOTING MACHINE: The machine was found to be in working order.

"CALL" OF THE MEETING:

The following is the "CALL" of the meeting which was sent to all Board members and which President John Wayne Fox read:

"I, JOHN WAYNE FOX, PRESIDENT of the 15th Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford, Connecticut, and pursuant to Section 202 of the Stamford Charter, hereby call a SPECIAL MEETING of said Board of Representatives at the following time and place:

> WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1978 THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1978 at 8:00 P.M. in the MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING Legislative Chambers, Second Floor 429 Atlantic Street Stamford, Connecticut

for the following purpose:

To consider and act upon the CAPITAL and OPERATING BUDGETS for the fiscal year 1978-1979, as transmitted by the Board of Finance on Wednesday, April 19, 1978, pursuant to provisions of Chapter 613 of the Charter.

MR. FOX: There are just a few ground rules which I would like to set out before we begin. To begin with, I would ask the members of the Board to keep in mind this Board lacks the power to restore any item that has been eliminated by the Board of Finance. We cannot restore anything taken away by the Board of Finance. During this meeting, as is the usual practice of Budget Meetings, there will be a continuing motion made by the Chairperson of the Fiscal Committee on behalf of the Fiscal Committee with their recommendations on the budget.

Keep in mind that the Fiscal Committee is making their recommendations to the full Board, and the final action is up to the full Board. If, as we go along, any member wishes to deny an item, to reduce an item, or restore an item that the Fiscal Committee recommends we reduce, he or she is free to make a motion to that effect, always keeping in mind that we can never reverse what has already been done by the Board of Finance.

In terms of the voting requirements for specific motions, let me make it clear at this time that all votes taken can be passed upon by a majority of those present and voting. Therefore, the only vote needed on individual items will be a majority of those present and voting. However, the vote on the final resolution which adopts the Capital and Operating Budgets which must be filed with the Town and City Clerk's Office, does need an affirmative vote of 21 members of the Board; all other votes are by a majority of those present and voting. I don't think that it is necessary for me to remind the members of the Board that the duty we have before us this evening is a very important one.

We will take whatever time we need to deliberate and vote, and to eventually I hope, approve this Budget. I do hope that we can avoid some of what went on during our May 1st meeting, in particular what went on in relation to the fees for the parks and beaches. I do also hope that once an argument, or a position is made by one member of this Body, that we can avoid the necessity of beating that argument to death.

With those ground rules and with that understanding, I would call upon Sandra Goldstein, Chairwoman of Fiscal, and I would also point out that as Chairwoman, one of the procedures that we have followed in the past is that we will give her discretion to proceed as she deems fit.

# REPORT BY CHAIRWOMAN OF THE FISCAL COMMITTEE - SANDRA GOLDSTEIN

SANDRA GOLDSTEIN: The Fiscal Committee of the Board has met continuously since April 24, 1978 to examine the Budget as presented to us by the Board of Finance. We deliberated last Saturday in a 13-hour session to arrive at the Budget figures we present to you this evening. The many thorough departmental presentations with detailed supporting data represents encouraging progress in fiscal accountability in Stamford. Special thanks must be given to my fine committee who worked endless hours on this budget. Next, I'd like to thank Commissioner Hoffman and his staff for their analysis of revenues and their help in documenting the financial status of the City. Finally, our appreciation to the Board of Finance for lending us Marion Huffman to help us do research and to Mrs. Terenzio for her excellent clerical help. This year's budget reflects an interesting paradox. While it is tighter in many departments than in the past, the cost of running this Gity has increased despite deep cuts made by the Board of Finance and Fiscal. One of the major factors in this increase is that the pension is finally being funded at the auditors' recommended level, a fact which Fiscal wholeheartedly supports. It is fortunate that 1.5 Million Dollars in additional, unbudgeted revenue will be coming into the City coffers in fiscal '78-79. Fiscal believes this will preclude a tax rise in July.

MRS. GOLDSTEIN (continuing)... The rationale for our cuts is as follows:

PERSONNEL - There has been a net gain of 28 persons in the current budget. This increase is due to funding the Fire Department and Police Department at full strength and in giving the Sewage Treatment Plant, Division of Equipment, Maintenance, Traffic Department, and the Tax Collector's Office enough personnel to work effectively and efficiently. In the departments just noted, Fiscal adjusted the salaries of new and vacant positions to reflect realistic starting dates. We also made salary cuts and corresponding cuts in car allowance in Departments such as Public Works where large personnel turn-over causes interim vacancies. However, none of these cuts is meant to indicate lay-offs.

<u>TELEPHONE</u> - Because of the large number of additional telephone appropriations, the Internal Auditor presented Fiscal with a detailed analysis of CENTREX costs. Based on Mrs. Ruszkowski's data, it was prudent to leave the telephone accounts as projected in the proposed budget. We urge the Finance Department to establish controls on toll calls and analyze each department's need for extra phones and attempt to reduce costs next year.

<u>POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENT</u> - In making cuts in the Police Department, it was our intent to respect the proposed reorganization of the Department; therefore, salary cuts do not reflect a personnel cut. Rather, they reflect partial funding for the year. This philosophy extends also to the Fire Department where a new Charter provision has made the current eligibility list inactive. New testing will prevent the hiring of additional firefighters until after the first quarter.

<u>TRAFFIC DEPARIMENT</u> - Fiscal believes that proper funding of this department is essential to smooth, efficient traffic flow. Once again, our cuts primarily reflect a phasing in of personnel.

EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE - In recent years, Stamford has been faced with high replacement costs for new machinery and equipment due to the lack of a comprehensive maintenance program in the Public Works Department. Such a maintenance program is part of the proposed budget and one that will ultimately save the City dollars. We have, therefore, funded the Equipment and Maintenance Department for two-thirds (2/3) of the year to correspond to the opening of the new maintenance garage.

<u>NEW EQUIPMENT</u> - A grant permitting the City to participate in a Federal Surplus Equipment Program will come before the Board next month. Because it is impossible to determine at this time which, if any, of this used surplus equipment will be available to us, Fiscal thought it prudent to grant on a need basis, requests for new equipment.

SOCIAL SECURITY - In the Board of Finance's Letter of Transmittal, it was stated that \$25,000.00 could safely be cut from the Social Security and Insurance Accounts to reflect their personnel cuts. However, the figures in the budget did not reflect any new personnel. Therefore, no savings could be made in these accounts.

BOARD OF EDUCATION - The amount recommended for funding Education represents a 5.7% increase over last year.

## MRS. GOLDSTEIN (continuing):

<u>SERVICE CONTRACTS</u> - Fiscal has noted throughout the budget, monies set aside for Service Contracts to service typewriters and other machines. We urge Mr. Canino, the Purchasing Officer, to come up with a comprehensive total service contract for those people who are housed in the Municipal Office Building, and perhaps save us money there. Those are savings that we hope will be realized next year.

The Operating Budget recommended by Fiscal is <u>\$86,682,369.00</u>. This represents a <u>\$713,294.00</u> cut in the Budget as presented by the Board of Finance.

The Capital Projects Budget recommended by Fiscal is <u>\$8,185,279.00</u>. This amount is well within the safe debt limit for the City.

Fiscal was determined to present a budget that would hold the line on taxes. At the same time, we were adamantly opposed to artifical cuts that would have departments constantly returning for additional appropriations. We also wished to maintain the same level of services to our citizens and to see our pensions properly funded. We believe this budget reflects our goals and we hope the Board will support our recommendations.

MR. ZELINSKI requested two minutes to make a general statement, a short Minority Report as a member of Fiscal who did not agree with certain statements in Mrs. Goldstein's report. The CHAIR ruled that this would not be in order at this point of the meeting, and that Mr. Zelinski would have the opportunity to address any and all issues as they came up.

## OPERATING BUDGET 1978-1979 - MAYOR'S AND BOARD OF EDUCATION

MRS. GOLDSTEIN: I would like to point out to the members of the Board that I have some material on the desk for them that I hope will make it easier to follow the budget process. First, I'm sure everyone is aware that the Code numbers in the new Operating Budget have been danged. Also, certain accounts have been broken out into many accounts, such as Stationery and Supplies which was an all inclusive item which included Stationery, Printing, Photo-Copying, Postage and Subscriptions, are listed in this letter I have for you to help you in analyzing the presentations made this evening. You have also another documents called "Tax Rate Implications of the 1978-79 Budget". Now this is information that the Finance Commissioner was kind enough to draw up for the Committee and the Board which talks about what our revenues will be, what our expected collections will be, and what our Tax Collections required will be. And I hope this will help the members of the Board. I believe we can proceed. Mr. President, I will proceed, unless there is any comment on any particular item.

MR. FOX: That is the way it is; if there is any comments or anyone wants to make any reduction, they are free to do that. It is a continuing motion that is being made.

## OPERATING BUDGET 1978-1979 - MAYOR'S AND BOARD OF EDUCATION (continuing)

MR. FOX: Let me make one or two points before we proceed. I'm informed there are a number of persons in the gallery that are smoking. We do have regulations which provide that there is no smoking, so if you are smoking, please stop. The other point I make before we go any further is that there are going to be a number of people on the Board who are going to want to speak this evening. I will go to those who have not spoken on a given issue before I go back to those who have already spoken once. Please proceed, Mrs. Goldstein.

MRS. GOLDSTEIN:

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS		
Page 3 - Code 101 - 13 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 106,032.00
BOARD OF REFRESENTATIVES		
Page 5 - Code 102 - 12 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 57,995.00
BOARD OF FINANCE		
Page 7 - Code 103 - 13 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 77,570.00
PLANNING BOARD - PLANNING UNIT		
Page 9 - Code 104 - 17 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 131,537.00
ZONING BOARD		
Page 11 - Code 107 - 12 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 15,388.00
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS		
Page 13 - Code 108 - 13 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 18,335.00
BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS		
Page 15 - Code 109. 2930 Stationery & Supplies	REDUCED TO	\$ 25.00
real and interreflected in reality	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 650.00
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD		
Page 17 - Code 110 - 15 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 34,818.00
SETTER CONCESSION		
SEWER COMMISSION Page 21 - Code 112 - 12 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 29,521.00
TRAN BEOTEC CONTENTS		
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION Page 23 - Code 113 - 14 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	¢ 66 000 00
	IVIAL AFFRIVED	\$ 00,009.00
COMMISSION ON AGING		
Page 25 - Code 114 - 18 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 120,715.00
FAIR RENT COMMISSION		
Page 27 - Code 115 - 11 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 33,224.00
PATRIOTIC OBSERVANCES COMMITTEE		
Page 29 - Code 116.4210 Fireworks Display	REDUCED TO	\$ -0-
	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 16,900.00
BOARD OF TAX REVIEW		
Page 33 - Code 119 - 2 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 650.00

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PERSONNEL BOARD OF APPEALS		
Page 35 - Code 120 - 4 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 4,850.00
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS -	SECTION TOTAL	\$ 714,194.00
MAYOR'S OFFICE		100 705 00
Page 37 - Code 201 - 16 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 129,705.00
TOWN AND CITY CLERK		
Page 39 - Code 210 - 25 sub-accounts and 41	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 198 167 00
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PROBATE COURT Page 43 - Code 220 - 5 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 11 450 00
Page 45 - Code 220 - 5 sub-accounts	TUTAL AFFRUVED	\$ II,+J0.00
DEPARTMENT OF LAW		
Page 45 - Code 230.5110 Professional Legal Services and 47	REDUCED TO TOTAL APPROVED	
(Note: Michael Morgan did not participate on Codes 230.5110 and 230.5150)	IVIAN ALIMITS	Ŷ 2/7,000100
COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE Page 49 - Code 240 - 16 sub-accounts	הידתהפפפג זאייההיי	¢ 01.352 00
Page 49 - Code 240 - 10 Sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 91,337.00
BUREAU OF ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS - TREASURY		
Page 51 - Code 241 - 7 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 68,743.00
BUREAU OF ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS - FINANCIAL RECORDS		
Page 53 - Code 242 - 7 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 112,627.00
BUREAU OF PURCHASES		
Page 55 - Code 243 - 14 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 119,563.00
CENTRAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT		
Page 57 - Code 244 - 8 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 86,606.00
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BUREAU OF DATA PROCESSING Page 59 - Code 245.2650 New Equipment	REDUCED TO	\$ -0-
	TOTAL APPROVED	
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET		
Page 63 - Code 247.1110 Sælaries	REDUCED TO	\$ 23.659.00
	TOTAL APPROVED	
ASSESSOR'S OFFICE		
Page 65 - Code 250 - 21 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 233,611.00
TAX COLLECTOR		
Page 67 - Code 260.1110 Salaries	REDUCED TO	\$ 143,087.00 (
Code 260.1201 OVER-Time	REDUCED TO	\$ 1,500.00
	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 188,092.00

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PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

Page	69	-	Code	270.2650	New Equipment	REDUCED TO	\$	900.00
			Code	270.2930	Stationery & Supplies	REDUCED TO	\$	3,000.00
			Code	270.2942	Travel Expenses	REDUCED TO	\$	250.00
			Code	270.3470	OSHA Safety Requirements	REDUCED TO	\$	200.00
			Code	270.5150	Professional Consultants	REDUCED TO	\$	6,000.00
						TOTAL APPROVED	Ŝ	248.722.00

MR. FOX said he would entertain a MOTION to RECESS for five minutes to see where we're going here.

MR. MORGAN SO MOVED. SECONDED. CARRIED.

RECESS lasted from 11:40 to 12:00 midnight.

MRS. GOLDSTEIN said she would like to take up the BOARD OF EDUCATION Budget now. She said there are many people in the gallery who have been waiting all night specifically for or against this budget and she felt she would like to take it up now and get it finished. That otherwise they would spend all night tomorrow night doing it and not get anything else done, so she asked the members to now go to Page 287 of the budget book.

MR. PERILLO said he would like to have a vote on this.

MR. BAXTER said he'd like to continue on in the budget book and take up page 287 when they came to it. He made a Motion that a vote be taken on this.

MR. FOX called for a two-minute recess, which MR. MORGAN MOVED. SECONDED by Mr. WIDER.

RECESS lasted from 12:05 to 12:10 A.M.

MR. FOX said the order in which to take items up was discussed rather thoroughly during the last week and this evening, and in referring to the minutes of the past several years, it was the custom to follow the wishes of the Chairperson of the Fiscal Committee. It was, therefore, decided to go along with Mrs. Goldstein's request to now go to Page 287 to consider Board of Education.

BOARD OF EDUCATION Page 287 - Code 810.7110

REDUCED TO \$37,805.476.00 TOTAL APPROVED \$37,805,476.00

There were 27 YES votes and 10 NO votes, and the MOTION to APPROVE CARRIED. This was a reduction of \$251,000.00 from the figure approved by the Board of Finance. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:18 A.M. The PRESIDENT said the members would meet the next night at 8:00 p.m. sharp, Thursday, May 11, 1978, to complete the budget.

APPROVED:

Ichn Mayne Fox, Fresiden: 15th Board of Regresentatives

Bv:

Helen M. McEvoy, Administrative Assistant and Recording Secretary

> Note: The above meeting was broadcast over Radio Station WSTC in its entirety. HMM:MS

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STANFORD DUARD OP REPRESENTATIVES VOTING RECORD

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Bureau of Data Processing Code 245.2650 Motion by J. Zelinski to restore \$8,000 LOST	Dept. of Law Code 230,5150 Motion by J. Zelinski delete \$1,000 LOST (Morgan abstain-not participating)	Mayor's Office Code 201.9300 Motion by J. Boccuzzi to delete \$1,000 LOST	Patriotic Obser, Comm. Code 116.4210 Motion by R. Ferrara to delete \$9,000 CARRIED	Building Board of Appeals Code 109.2920 Motion by A. Maihock to delete \$25.00 LOST	VUTING SUBJECT	a. v. atknot	° C,	Date MAY 10, 1978

STANFURD INJARD OP REPRESENTATIVES WUTING RECORD SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING

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Tax Collector Code 260,1130 Motion by D. Blum to delete \$5,000 LOST	Тях Collector Code 260.1110 Motion by C. Festo to delete \$4,066 LOST	Tax Collector Code 260.1201 Motion by R. DeLhca to delete \$1,000 CARRIED	Tax Collector Code 260.1110 Motion by J. Zelinski to cut 2 positions LOST (\$18,682.)	Office Management & Budget Code 247.1100 Motion by R. DeLuca to delete \$992.00 CARRIED	VUTING SUBJECT	Leo Carlucci S. A. Signore	nt:	Date MAY 10, 1978

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Personnel Dept. Code 270.5150 Motion by E. Pollard to delete \$1,500 CARRIED	Personnel Dept. Code 270,2930 Motion by S. Darer to delete \$1,000 CARRIED	Personnel Dept. Code 270.2930 Motion by D. Blum to restore \$800 LOST	Tax Collector Code 270.2930 Motion by E. Pollard to delete \$3,000 LOST	Tax Collector Code 260.1130 Motion by J. Zelinski to delete \$2,500 LOST	VUTING SUBJECT	Absent: Leo Carlucci S. A. Signore		Uate MAY 10, 1978

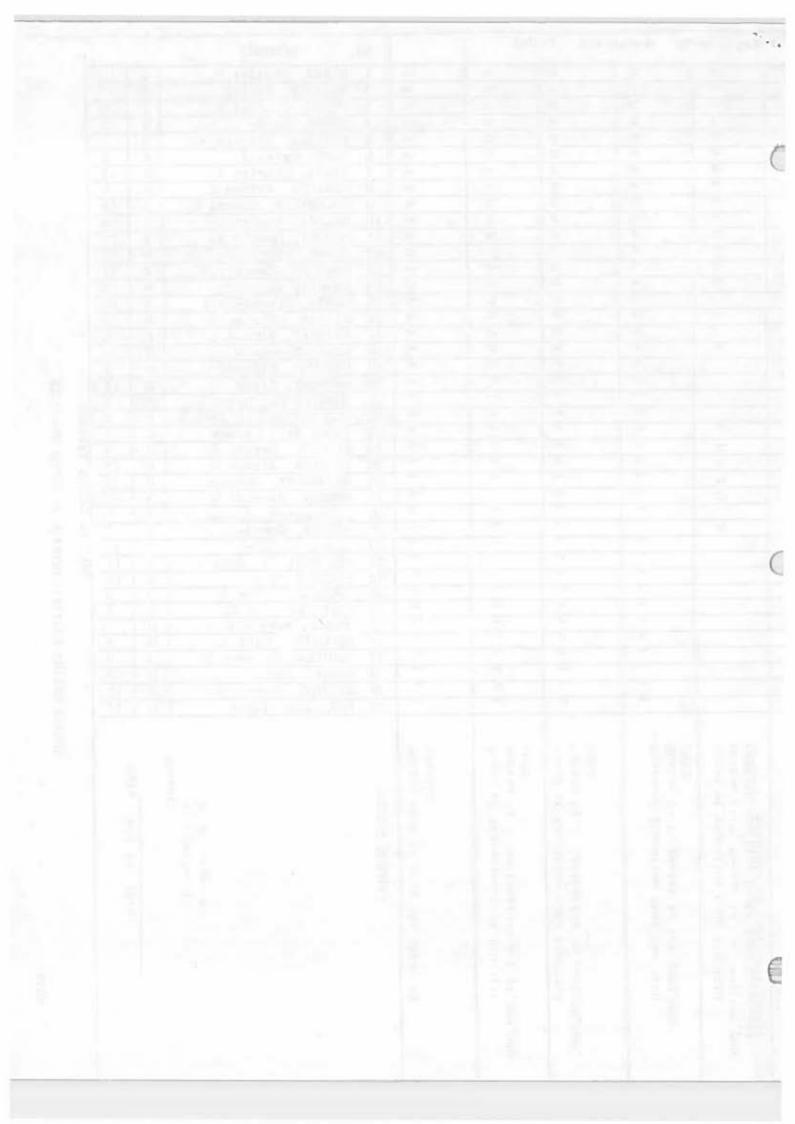
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Board of Education Code 810,7110 Motion by J. Boccuzzi to cut \$883,044 LOST	MOTION by C. Festo to MOVE the QUESTION CARRIED	MOTION by G. Baxter not to take up Bd. of Ed. Budget tonight. LOST	Personnel Dept. Code 270.5320 Motion by J. Zelinski to delete \$1,000 LOST	Personnel Dept. Code 270.2942 Motion by E. Pollard to delete \$250 CARRIED	VUTING SUBJECT	Leo Carlucci S. A. Signore	About -	Date MAY 10, 1978

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Board of Education Code 810,7110 Motion by M. Morgan to cut \$251,000,000 CARRIED (machine_broke_down_berefivefy	Bonrd of Education Code 810.7110 Motion by G. Baxter to cut \$883,000 LOST	Board of Education Code 810.7710 Motion by J. Livingston to cut\$150,000 LOST	Board of Education Code 810.7110 Motion by J. Zelinski to cut \$1,500,000 LOST	Motion made to MOVE the QUESTION CARRIED	VUTING SUBJECT	Leo Carlucci S. A. Signore	•	Date MAY 10, 1978

STANFORD BWARD OP REPRESENTATIVES VOTING RECORD

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PAGE 6.



## MINUTES OF MAY 10, 1978

#### SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING OF 15th BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

A Special Meeting of the 15th Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford was held on Wednesday, May 10, 1978 (to be adjourned to the following night, Thursday, May 11, 1978 to complete the work), pursuant to a "CALL" from the PRESIDENT, JOHN WAYNE FOX, in the Legislative Chambers of the Board, Second Floor, Municipal Office Building, 429 Atlantic Street, Stamford, Connecticut.

The meeting was called to order by the President at 8:18 P.M.

<u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG</u>: The President led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL: Roll Call was taken by the Clerk, Diane Raymond.

There were 35 present and 5 absent; but by 9:30, four more members came in, with the attendance then becoming 38 present and 2 absent. the absent members were Leo Carlucci, and S. A. Signore (the latter excused due to illness)

The PRESIDENT declared a QUORUM.

CHECK OF THE VOTING MACHINE: The machine was found to be in working order.

#### "CALL" OF THE MEETING:

The following is the "CALL" of the meeting which was sent to all Board members and which President John Wayne Fox read:

"I, JOHN WAYNE FOX, PRESIDENT of the 15th Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford, Connecticut, and pursuant to Section 202 of the Stamford Charter, hereby call a SPECIAL MEETING of said Board of Representatives at the following time and place:

> WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1978 THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1978 at 8:00 P.M. in the MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING Legislative Chambers, Second Floor 429 Atlantic Street Stamford, Connecticut

for the following purpose:

To consider and act upon the CAPITAL and OPERATING BUDGETS for the fiscal year 1978-1979, as transmitted by the Board of Finance on Wednesday, April 19, 1978, pursuant to provisions of Chapter 613 of the Charter.

MR. FOX: There are just a few ground rules which I would like to set out before we begin. To begin with, I would ask the members of the Board to keep in mind this Board lacks the power to restore any item that has been eliminated by the Board of Finance. We cannot restore anything taken away by the Board of Finance. During this meeting, as is the usual practice of Budget Meetings, there will be a continuing motion made by the Chairperson of the Fiscal Committee on behalf of the Fiscal Committee with their recommendations on the budget.

Keep in mind that the Fiscal Committee is making their recommendations to the full Board, and the final action is up to the full Board. If, as we go along, any member wishes to deny an item, to reduce an item, or restore an item that the Fiscal Committee recommends we reduce, he or she is free to make a motion to that effect, always keeping in mind that we can never reverse what has already been done by the Board of Finance.

In terms of the voting requirements for specific motions, let me make it clear at this time that all votes taken can be passed upon by a majority of those present and voting. Therefore, the only vote needed on individual items will be a majority of those present and voting. However, the vote on the final resolution which adopts the Capital and Operating Budgets which must be filed with the Town and City Clerk's Office, does need an affirmative vote of 21 members of the Board; all other votes are by a majority of those present and voting. I don't think that it is necessary for me to remind the members of the Board that the duty we have before us this evening is a very important one.

We will take whatever time we need to deliberate and vote, and to eventually I hope, approve this Budget. I do hope that we can avoid some of what went on during our May 1st meeting, in particular what went on in relation to the fees for the parks and beaches. I do also hope that once an argument, or a position is made by one member of this Body, that we can avoid the necessity of beating that argument to death.

With those ground rules and with that understanding, I would call upon Sandra Goldstein, Chairwoman of Fiscal, and I would also point out that as Chairwoman, one of the procedures that we have followed in the past is that we will give her discretion to proceed as she deems fit.

# REPORT BY CHAIRWOMAN OF THE FISCAL COMMITTEE - SANDRA GOLDSTEIN

SANDRA GOLDSTEIN: The Fiscal Committee of the Board has met continuously since April 24, 1978 to examine the Budget as presented to us by the Board of Finance. We deliberated last Saturday in a 13-hour session to arrive at the Budget figures we present to you this evening. The many thorough departmental presentations with detailed supporting data represents encouraging progress in fiscal accountability in Stamford. Special thanks must be given to my fine committee who worked endless hours on this budget. Next, I'd like to thank Commissioner Hoffman and his staff for their analysis of revenues and their help in documenting the financial status of the City. Finally, our appreciation to the Board of Finance for lending us Marion Huffman to help us do research and to Mrs. Terenzio for her excellent clerical help. This year's budget reflects an interesting paradox. While it is tighter in many departments than in the past, the cost of running this City has increased despite deep cuts made by the Board of Finance and Fiscal. One of the major factors in this increase is that the pension is finally being funded at the auditors' recommended level, a fact which Fiscal wholeheartedly supports. It is fortunate that 1.5 Million Dollars in additional, unbudgeted revenue will be coming into the City coffers in fiscal '78-79. Fiscal believes this will preclude a tax rise in July.

MRS. GOLDSTEIN (continuing)... The rationale for our cuts is as follows:

<u>PERSONNEL</u> - There has been a net gain of 28 persons in the current budget. This increase is due to funding the Fire Department and Police Department at full strength and in giving the Sewage Treatment Plant, Division of Equipment, Maintenance, Traffic Department, and the Tax Collector's Office enough personnel to work effectively and efficiently. In the departments just noted, Fiscal adjusted the salaries of new and vacant positions to reflect realistic starting dates. We also made salary cuts and corresponding cuts in car allowance in Departments such as Public Works where large personnel turn-over causes interim vacancies. However, none of these cuts is meant to indicate lay-offs.

TELEPHONE - Because of the large number of additional telephone appropriations, the Internal Auditor presented Fiscal with a detailed analysis of CENTREX costs. Based on Mrs. Ruszkowski's data, it was prudent to leave the telephone accounts as projected in the proposed budget. We urge the Finance Department to establish controls on toll calls and analyze each department's need for extra phones and attempt to reduce costs next year.

<u>POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENT</u> - In making cuts in the Police Department, it was our intent to respect the proposed reorganization of the Department; therefore, salary cuts do not reflect a personnel cut. Rather, they reflect partial funding for the year. This philosophy extends also to the Fire Department where a new Charter provision has made the current eligibility list inactive. New testing will prevent the hiring of additional firefighters until after the first quarter.

<u>TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT</u> - Fiscal believes that proper funding of this department is essential to smooth, efficient traffic flow. Once again, our cuts primarily reflect a phasing in of personnel.

EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE - In recent years, Stamford has been faced with high replacement costs for new machinery and equipment due to the lack of a comprehensive maintenance program in the Public Works Department. Such a maintenance program is part of the proposed budget and one that will ultimately save the City dollars. We have, therefore, funded the Equipment and Maintenance Department for two-thirds (2/3) of the year to correspond to the opening of the new maintenance garage.

<u>NEW EQUIPMENT</u> - A grant permitting the City to participate in a Federal Surplus Equipment Program will come before the Board next month. Because it is impossible to determine at this time which, if any, of this used surplus equipment will be available to us, Fiscal thought it prudent to grant on a need basis, requests for new equipment.

<u>SOCIAL SECURITY</u> - In the Board of Finance's Letter of Transmittal, it was stated that \$25,000.00 could safely be cut from the Social Security and Insurance Accounts to reflect their personnel cuts. However, the figures in the budget did not reflect any new personnel. Therefore, no savings could be made in these accounts.

BOARD OF EDUCATION - The amount recommended for funding Education represents a 5.7% increase over last year.

#### MRS. GOLDSTEIN (continuing):

<u>SERVICE CONTRACTS</u> - Fiscal has noted throughout the budget, monies set aside for Service Contracts to service typewriters and other machines. We urge Mr. Canino, the Purchasing Officer, to come up with a comprehensive total service contract for those people who are housed in the Municipal Office Building, and perhaps save us money there. Those are savings that we hope will be realized next year.

The Operating Budget recommended by Fiscal is <u>\$86,682,369.00</u>. This represents a <u>\$713,294.00</u> cut in the Budget as presented by the Board of Finance.

The Capital Projects Budget recommended by Fiscal is <u>\$8,185,279.00</u>. This amount is well within the safe debt limit for the City.

Fiscal was determined to present a budget that would hold the line on taxes. At the same time, we were adamantly opposed to artifical cuts that would have departments constantly returning for additional appropriations. We also wished to maintain the same level of services to our citizens and to see our pensions properly funded. We believe this budget reflects our goals and we hope the Board will support our recommendations.

MR. ZELINSKI requested two minutes to make a general statement, a short Minority Report as a member of Fiscal who did not agree with certain statements in Mrs. Goldstein's report. The CHAIR ruled that this would not be in order at this point of the meeting, and that Mr. Zelinski would have the opportunity to address any and all issues as they came up.

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# OPERATING BUDGET 1978-1979 - MAYOR'S AND BOARD OF EDUCATION

MRS. GOLDSTEIN: I would like to point out to the members of the Board that I have some material on the desk for them that I hope will make it easier to follow the budget process. First, I'm sure everyone is aware that the Code numbers in the new Operating Budget have been danged. Also, certain accounts have been broken out into many accounts, such as Stationery and Supplies which was an all inclusive item which included Stationery, Printing, Photo-Copying, Postage and Subscriptions, are listed in this letter I have for you to help you in analyzing the presentations made this evening. You have also another documents called "Tax Rate Implications of the 1978-79 Budget". Now this is information that the Finance Commissioner was kind enough to draw up for the Committee and the Board which talks about what our revenues will be, what our expected collections will be, and what our Tax Collections required will be. And I hope this will help the members of the Board. I believe we can proceed. Mr. President, I will proceed, unless there is any comment on any particular item.

MR. FOX: That is the way it is; if there is any comments or anyone wants to make any reduction, they are free to do that. It is a continuing motion that is being made.

# OPERATING BUDGET 1978-1979 - MAYOR'S AND BOARD OF EDUCATION (continuing)

MR. FOX: Let me make one or two points before we proceed. I'm informed there are a number of persons in the gallery that are smoking. We do have regulations which provide that there is no smoking, so if you are smoking, please stop. The other point I make before we go any further is that there are going to be a number of people on the Board who are going to want to speak this evening. I will go to those who have not spoken on a given issue before I go back to those who have already spoken once. Please proceed, Mrs. Goldstein.

MRS. GOLDSTEIN:

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS Page 3 - Code 101 - 13 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	e 106 032 00
rage 5 - Cole IVI - 15 Sib-accounts	IUIAL AFERDVED	\$ 100,052.00
BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES		
Page 5 - Code 102 - 12 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 57,995.00
BOARD OF FINANCE		
Page 7 - Code 103 - 13 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 77,570.00
PLANNING BOARD - PLANNING UNIT		
Page 9 - Code 104 - 17 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 131,537.00
ZONING BOARD		
Page 11 - Code 107 - 12 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 15,388.00
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS		
Page 13 - Code 108 - 13 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 18.335.00
		2 3 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS		
Page 15 - Code 109. 2930 Stationery & Supplies	REDUCED TO	\$ 25.00
	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 650.00
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD		
Page 17 - Code 110 - 15 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 34,818.00
SEWER COMMISSION		
Page 21 - Code 112 - 12 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 29,521.00
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION		
Page 23 - Code 113 - 14 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 66 009 00
age 23 - Code 113 - 14 Sub-accounts	TOTAL ALLWARD	\$ 60,009.00
COMMISSION ON AGING		
Page 25 - Code 114 - 18 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 120,715.00
FAIR RENT COMMISSION		
Page 27 - Code 115 - 11 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 33 224 00
		4 33,224,00
PATRIOTIC OBSERVANCES COMMITTEE		
Page 29 - Code 116.4210 Fireworks Display	REDUCED TO	\$ -0-
	TOTAL APPROVED	\$ 16,900.00
BOARD OF TAX REVIEW		¢ (=0.00
Page 33 - Code 119 - 2 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	φ 00.00

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PERSONNEL BOARD OF APPEALS Page 35 - Code 120 - 4 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	¢	/ 850 00	1
rage 55 - Code 120 - 4 Sub-accounts	IUIAL AFEROVED	Ş	4,000.00	
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS -	SECTION TOTAL	\$	714,194.00	
MAYOR'S OFFICE				
Page 37 - Code 201 - 16 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$	129,705.00	
TOWN AND CITY CLERK				
Page 39 - Code 210 - 25 sub-accounts and 41	TOTAL APPROVED	¢	198 167 00	
	IOIAI AIIROVED	Ŷ	190,107.00	
PROBATE COURT Page 43 - Code 220 - 5 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	¢	11 450 00	
Page 43 - Code 220 - 5 sub-accounts	IUIAL APPROVED	ą	11,430.00	
DEPARTMENT OF LAW	DEDUCED DO	•	40.000.00	
Page 45 - Code 230.5110 Professional Legal Services and 47	REDUCED TO TOTAL APPROVED			
(Note: Michael Morgan did not participate on Codes 230.5110 and 230.5150)		т		
Codes 250.5110 and 250.5150)				
COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE				
Page 49 - Code 240 - 16 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	ş	91,352.00	
BUREAU OF ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS - TREASURY				
Page 51 - Code 241 - 7 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$	68,743.00	
BUREAU OF ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS - FINANCIAL RECORDS				
Page 53 - Code 242 - 7 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$	112,627.00	
BUREAU OF PURCHASES				
Page 55 - Code 243 - 14 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$	119,563.00	
CENTRAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT				
Page 57 - Code 244 - 8 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$	86,606.00	
BUREAU OF DATA PROCESSING				
Page 59 - Code 245.2650 New Equipment	REDUCED TO	\$	-0-	
	TOTAL APPROVED	\$	420,571.00	
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET				
Page 63 - Code 247.1110 Salaries	REDUCED TO			
	TOTAL APPROVED	ş	25,319.00	
ASSESSOR'S OFFICE				
Page 65 - Code 250 - 21 sub-accounts	TOTAL APPROVED	\$	233,611.00	
TAX COLLECTOR				
Page 67 - Code 260.1110 Salaries	REDUCED TO		143,087.00	
Code 260.1201 OVER-Time	REDUCED TO TOTAL APPROVED		1,500.00 188,092.00	
	TOTAL AFLADAED	Ş	100,092.00	

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PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

Page 69 -	Code	270.2650	New Equipment	REDUCED TO	\$	900.00
2	Code	270.2930	Stationery & Supplies	REDUCED TO	\$	3,000.00
	Code	270.2942	Travel Expenses	REDUCED TO	\$	250.00
	Code	270.3470	OSHA Safety Requirements	REDUCED TO	\$	200.00
	Code	270.5150	Professional Consultants	REDUCED TO	\$	6,000.00
				TOTAL APPROVED	Ś	248.722.00

MR. FOX said he would entertain a MOTION to RECESS for five minutes to see where we're going here.

MR. MORGAN SO MOVED. SECONDED. CARRIED.

RECESS lasted from 11:40 to 12:00 midnight.

MRS. GOLDSTEIN said she would like to take up the BOARD OF EDUCATION Budget now. She said there are many people in the gallery who have been waiting all night specifically for or against this budget and she felt she would like to take it up now and get it finished. That otherwise they would spend all night tomorrow night doing it and not get anything else done, so she asked the members to now go to Page 287 of the budget book.

MR. PERILLO said he would like to have a vote on this.

MR. BAXTER said he'd like to continue on in the budget book and take up page 287 when they came to it. He made a Motion that a vote be taken on this.

MR. FOX called for a two-minute recess, which MR. MORGAN MOVED. SECONDED by Mr. WIDER.

RECESS lasted from 12:05 to 12:10 A.M.

MR. FOX said the order in which to take items up was discussed rather thoroughly during the last week and this evening, and in referring to the minutes of the past several years, it was the custom to follow the wishes of the Chairperson of the Fiscal Committee. It was, therefore, decided to go along with Mrs. Goldstein's request to now go to Page 287 to consider Board of Education.

BOARD OF EDUCATION Page 287 - Code 810.7110

REDUCED TO \$37,805.476.00 TOTAL APPROVED \$37,805,476.00

There were 27 YES votes and 10 NO votes, and the MOTION to APPROVE CARRIED. This was a reduction of \$251,000.00 from the figure approved by the Board of Finance.

## ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:18 A.M. The PRESIDENT said the members would meet the next night at 8:00 p.m. sharp, Thursday, May 11, 1978, to complete the budget.

APPROVED:

Ichn Wayne Fox, Tresident Lich Board of Japresentatives

Helen M. McEvoy, Administrative Assistant and Recording Secretary

> Note: The above meeting was broadcast over Radio Station WSTC in its entirety. HMM:MS

-Yes N-No A=Abstain O=Out					NU. MEMBERS				
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