

MINUTES OF ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1987

20th BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES

STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

In compliance with Section 31-10-11 of the Charter of the City of Stamford, Connecticut, an Organizational Meeting of the newly-elected 20th Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford, Connecticut, was held on Tuesday, December 1, 1987, in the Legislative Chambers of the Board in the Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, Connecticut.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thom Serrani at 8:20 p.m.

INVOCATION was given by the Rev. Ronald S. James, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Stamford, 1101 Bedford Street, Stamford, CT.

"God of our common life, Your breath is within us all; help this city of ours, its leaders, this Board of Representatives, to serve You and for the people they represent; all of the people. Amen."

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Mayor Thom Serrani.

ANN MCAULIFFE, Administrative Assistant, Mayor's Office sang "America."

ROLL CALL was taken by Acting Administrative Assistant, Anne A. Kachaluba. There were 36 members present and 4 absent.

PRESENT

Judith Evanko (D)
Maria Nakian (D)
Thomas Pia (R)
Bobby Owens (D)
Patricia McGrath (D)
Richard Lyons (D)
Kurt Jetta (R)
Gerald Rybnick (D)
Frank Mollo (D)
Thomas Burke (R)
James Rubino (R)
David Martin (D)
Robert DeLuca (R)
Stanley Esposito (R)
William McManus (R)
Michael Fedele (R)
Audrey Maihock (R)
Ellen Bromley (D)

PRESENT

Kathleen Reilly (D)
Lathon Wider (D)
Donald Donahue (D)
Mildred Perillo (D)
Nicholas Pavia (R)
Dominick Cardillo (D)
Scott Morris (D)
Cathy Painter (D)
John Zelinski (D)
Naomi Schoenfeld (D)
Joseph DeRose (D)
Ruth Powers (D)
David Blum (D)
David Jachimczyk (D)
Mary Lou Rinaldi (D)
Thomas Russo (R)
John Boccuzzi (D)
Sandra Goldstein (D)

ABSENT

Annie Summerville (D) (excused)
Jeremiah Livingston (D) (excused)
Thomas Clear (D)
Katie Glover (D)

Rep. Thomas Clear arrived after Roll Call: 37 members present and 3 absent.

A quorum was present.

MAYOR THOM SERRANI asked that the members present raise their right hands and he administered the Oath of Office: "Do you members of the Stamford Board of Representatives having been elected to fill a position on this Legislative Body, do you solemnly swear that you will faithfully discharge the duties of said office according to law, so help you God? The members responded "I do." The Mayor congratulated the members of the 20th Board of Representatives.

APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY TELLERS

MAYOR THOM SERRANI appointed David Martin and Nicholas Pavia as Temporary Tellers.

The Mayor requested a Motion for a Temporary Chairperson.

MR. LYONS nominated Rep. Donald Donahue as Temporary Chairperson. The Motion was Seconded by many.

The Mayor Moved that nominations be closed. Seconded. The Motion was approved unanimously.

Mayor Serrani stated that 14 years ago, he stood in the Legislative Chambers and took the Oath of Office for the first time to serve in public office. He said that some members present this evening took the Oath for the first time. Mayor Serrani said that public service is a most honorable profession and that all members should be proud that they have made a commitment to maintain a viable democratic system of government in our community. Our government in Stamford is one of the most democratic forms of local government in the entire country. The Mayor stated that each member has a great responsibility placed upon them; a responsibility to the Oath of Office; the district and the City of Stamford. The Mayor said that as a representative, you not only represent one of 20 districts, collectively, you represent the interest of all 20 districts that make up the city; each representative has a dual purpose on the Board, to represent the narrow interest of the district and to represent the broader interest of the community at large.

Mayor Serrani asked that each member do his job with honor, be loyal to the Oath of Office and with that each member will bring honor to himself, to his family, the Board of Representatives and the community. The Mayor hoped that he and the Board will work together for a better Stamford and when the term comes to an end, each can look back on the years as productive for the community that we represent.

Mayor Serrani extended his best wishes to all on the start of the 20th Board.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN DONAHUE entertained Motions to elect a Temporary Clerk.

MRS. BROMLEY nominated Mary Lou Rinaldi. Seconded.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN DONAHUE called for a vote to elect Mary Lou Rinaldi as Temporary Clerk. APPROVED by voice vote.

TEMPORARY CLERK RINALDI took the Clerk's position.

ADOPTION OF THE RULES OF ORDER FOR THE 20th BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES

MR. BOCCUZZI Moved to make five (5) changes in the Rules of Order; the changes would be in the amount of people serving on certain Standing Committees:

Change #1 - Fiscal Committee - from 10 to 11 members.

Change #2 - Health & Protection Committee - from 5 to 7 members.

Change #3 - Parks & Recreation - from 5 to 7 members.

Change #4 - Education, Welfare & Government - from 5 to 7 members.

Change #5 - Transportation - from 5 to 7 members.

The Motion was Seconded.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN DONAHUE called for a voice vote to amend the Rules of Order concerning increased membership in the Committees as stated by Mr. Boccuzzi. APPROVED.

MR. DeLUCA Moved that on page 2 of the Rules, item 1, the second line should read "he/she" instead of "he" as now in the Rules. Seconded.

MRS. NAKIAN stated that the "he" was probably a typographical error.

MR. LYONS said that in the following paragraphs "he/she" is used.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN DONAHUE called for a voice vote to amend the Rules as per Mr. DeLuca's motion. APPROVED.

MR. DeLUCA referred to page 3 of the Rules under "Members." He said that on all his years on the Board, he has never really seen anyone stand when addressing the Chair. Mr. DeLuca Moved to delete paragraph 1. Seconded.

MR. ZELINSKI said that he would be in favor of deleting the first sentence of the paragraph but not the entire paragraph. He asked if Mr. DeLuca would amend his motion because there have been occasions where two or more members asked for recognition at the same time, and the President named the member entitled to the floor, preferring the one who rises in his/her place to the one who does not.

Mr. Zelinski said that if the motion was amended, he could vote for it, but if not amended, he would not vote for it.

MR. DeLUCA said that he would go along with Mr. Zelinski's amendment.

MR. WIDER said that he would also go along with Mr. Zelinski's amendment.

MR. LYONS stated that if a representative is looking for a Point of Personal privilege, and stands up, he could be allowed that privilege.

MRS. GOLDSTEIN said that she could not agree totally on the motion. She stated the Rules should indicate how to address the Chair. Mrs. Goldstein believed that what should be deleted from the paragraph, is "he or she shall arise" and address the Chair.

MR. DeLUCA said that was his intent.

MRS. GOLDSTEIN asked if it were agreeable that "he or she shall address the Chair as "Mr. etc."

MR. DeLUCA said that that was agreeable.

MR. ZELINSKI said that it would be proper to eliminate the two words "arise and." Mr. Zelinski believed that this was the original intent.

MR. BLUM questioned if that was referring to a Point of Order.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN DONAHUE said that was covered by Roberts Rules of Order. That was not being changed.

MR. BOCCUZZI Moved the question. Seconded.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN DONAHUE called for a vote to delete two words from the second sentence under "Members", the words being "arise and." The motion CARRIED by voice vote.

MR. DeLUCA referred to page 4, item 7. He stated that we do have Assistant Majority and Minority leaders and made a motion that the Assistant Majority leaders and Minority leaders in the absence of the Majority Leader or the Minority Leader shall have the right to vote at Steering. Seconded.

MRS. GOLDSTEIN said she did not agree with the motion. She said these people will be sitting on the Steering Committee and will have that privilege.

MR. DeLUCA said that he was not aware of that and withdrew the motion. The Seconder agreed.

MR. BOCCUZZI Moved to adopt the Rules of the 20th Board of Representatives as amended. Seconded.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN DONAHUE called for a voice vote to adopt the Rules as amended. APPROVED.

ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT FOR THE 20th BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES

MRS. POWERS nominated her friend and colleague, Sandra Goldstein to be President of the 20th Board of Representatives. Mrs. Powers said that during the past four years, Sandy's leadership of the 18th and 19th Boards has earned the respect of the entire community. Sandy tackled some very difficult issues and was not afraid to get involved in a pro-active way. Mrs. Powers said that it was with great pleasure that she place the name of Sandra Goldstein in nomination for President of the Board.

MRS. PERILLO seconded the nomination.

It was Moved and Seconded that nominations be closed.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN DONAHUE called for a voice vote to elect Sandra Goldstein as President of the 20th Board. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

MRS. SANDRA GOLDSTEIN assumed the Chair of the President of the 20th Board of Representatives.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN said that it was very humbling to be elected President of this Board that is the most revered legislative body in the country four times. She was moved and thanked all the members.

President Goldstein said that there were newly elected members on the Board who have never been elected before; some that are new but have served before and some that have been members of the Board for a longer time. She said that all looked forward to serving the community. She said that this Body was a cross-section of the community. President Goldstein said that Mr. Russo is the youngest member ever elected to a Board and Mr. Rybnick is the revered oldest member of the Board.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN said that the Board considers and acts upon matters that range from Appointments to Planning, to Zoning, to Fiscal and to many, many different areas of governmental business from the small to the great. She said that she hoped and prayed for all that we bring the kind of intelligence, integrity and honor that the Board of Representatives has been in the past.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN appointed two permanent Tellers: Mr. Morris and Mr. Esposito. Mr. Mollo and Mr. Russo were appointed Alternate Tellers.

ELECTION OF A CLERK FOR THE 20th BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN said that nominations were in order to elect a permanent Clerk for the 20th Board.

MS. EVANKO nominated Annie M. Summerville for Clerk of the Board. Seconded. (Rep. Summerville could not be present this evening due to a death in the family)

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN called for a voice vote to confirm Annie M. Summerville as Clerk of the 20th Board. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Rinaldi would stay on as the Temporary Clerk for the remainder of the meeting.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY ACTING MAYOR

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN said that nominations were in order to elect a Deputy Acting Mayor.

MR. JACHIMCZYK said that there were many true and wonderful things that he could say about the person that he is about to nominate for Deputy Acting Mayor and that by just mentioning his name would say it all: Mr. Jachimczyk nominated Gerald Rybnick, his partner and friend, for Deputy Acting Mayor. Seconded by many. Nominations closed.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN called for a voice vote to elect Gerald Rybnick as Deputy Acting Mayor. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

MR. RYBNICK thanked all the members for electing him Deputy Acting Mayor and for their confidence in him.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN said the next Order of Business is to announce the names of the Majority and Minority Leaders: Each leader is selected by his caucus. The Democratic Majority Leader is John Boccuzzi. The Minority Leader is James Rubino. The Assistant Majority Leaders are Mildred Perillo and Richard Lyons. The Assistant Minority Leaders are Audrey Maihock and Nicholas Pavia.

Donald Donahue was appointed Parliamentarian. Richard Lyons is the Assistant Parliamentarian.

APPOINTMENT OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN said that the first name called will be the Chair and she will indicate the Vice Chair.

A copy of the Committee List is attached to these Minutes.

APPOINTMENT OF VARIOUS COMMITTEESSTANDING COMMITTEES:

1. Steering - 20 members
2. Appointments - 10 members
3. Fiscal - 11 members
4. Legislative and Rules - 10 members
5. Personnel - 8 members
6. Planning and Zoning - 9 members
7. Public Works and Sewer - 9 members
8. Health and Protection - 7 members
9. Parks and Recreation - 7 members
10. Education, Welfare and Government - 7 members
11. Urban Renewal - 7 members
12. Housing and Community Development - 5 members
13. Environmental Protection - 3 members
14. Transportation - 7 members
15. Labor Contracts Liaison Committee - 5 members

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

1. House - 3 members
2. Coliseum Authority Liaison Committee - 3 members
3. Special Committee to Assess Priority Issues - 8 members
4. Ethics Committee - 5 members

RESOLUTIONS

1. SENSE-OF-THE-BOARD RESOLUTION HONORING MONSIGNOR JOHN PATRICK CARROLL-ABING. Submitted by Rep. John J. Boccuzzi 11/18/87.

MR. BOCCUZZI Moved to approve the resolution honoring Monsignor John Patrick Carroll-Abbing. Seconded.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN called for a voice vote to approve the resolution. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

President Goldstein announced that the regular December meeting of the 20th Board will be held on December 7, 1987. Following the adjournment of this evening's meeting, the Steering Committee will meet in the Democratic Caucus Room.

ADJOURNMENT

MR. BOCCUZZI Moved for adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. after the motion to adjourn had been Seconded and Carried.

Anne A. Kachaluba

Anne A. Kachaluba, Acting Administrative
Assistant and Recording Secretary
20th Board of Representatives

Sandra Goldstein
Sandra Goldstein, President
20th Board of Representatives

SG:AMS:ak
Enclosures