

MINUTES OF SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING - TUESDAY, MAY 8, 1990

FOR FISCAL YEAR 7/1/90 - 6/30/91

21ST BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES

STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

A Special Meeting of the 21st Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford, Connecticut was held on Tuesday, May 8, 1990, pursuant to a "Call" issued by President Sandra Goldstein, in the Legislative Chambers of the Board of Representatives, Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, Connecticut. The Call was for 8:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 8:25 p.m. after both political parties had met in Caucus.

INVOCATION was given by Rep. Nicholas Pavia, R-10.

"Let us pray. Eternal God, guide our hearts and minds as we make the decisions that have to be made to serve all the citizens of Stamford. Give us all the strength to do what is right in your sight. We know that with You, God, all things are possible. Praise be your Holy Name for all ages. Amen."

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG was led by President Sandra Goldstein.

The "Call" of the Special Meeting was read by President Goldstein.

"I, Sandra Goldstein, President of the 21st Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford, Connecticut, and pursuant to Section 2-10-4 of the Stamford Charter, I hereby call a Special Meeting of said Board of Representatives on Tuesday, May 8, 1990, to consider and act upon the Operating Budget for the fiscal year 1990-1991, as transmitted by the Board of Finance on April 17, 1990, pursuant to provisions of Section 8-30-2 of the Stamford Charter."

ROLL CALL was taken by Clerk Annie M. Summerville. All 40 members were present.

The Chair declared a quorum.

MACHINE TEST VOTE: Test votes were taken by the President and the machine was in good working order.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN stated that the budget meeting was probably the most important meeting of the year. She said that what is done this evening will affect the citizens of Stamford in a way that no other meeting does. President Goldstein said the budget impacts the tax rate and what the citizens will pay for the rest of the year.

President Goldstein said the budget process was interesting, and she said it was one of the most efficient and effective series of Committee hearings. President Goldstein thanked Richard Lyons, Chairman of the Fiscal Committee and his extraordinary Committee members: Ms. Rinaldi, Mr. Rybnick, Mr. Hogan, Mr. Martin, Ms. Powers, Mr. Mollo, Mr. Clemmons, Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Esposito and Mr. Pavia. She said that the Committee did an excellent job and put in endless hours of work for approximately three solid weeks.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN stated she was impressed that the Fiscal Committee just didn't look at numbers; they evaluated procedures, management, and policy, and then voted to make appropriate cuts. President Goldstein said that she believed that no cut made would be coming back to the Board in the form of dollars put aside in the contingency budget.

President Goldstein thanked Commissioner Paul Pacter and Budget Director Frank Harrison for their time and effort spent at the Committee meetings. President Goldstein extended a special thanks to Annie Summerville for providing the largess at the Committee's hearing on Saturday, and to Anne Kachaluba for the work she did during the process in getting materials out to the Committee and the Board.

President Goldstein yielded the Chair to Fiscal Committee Chairman Richard Lyons.

BUDGET PRESENTATION: Richard Lyons, Chairman, Fiscal Committee.

MR. LYONS said the Fiscal Committee commenced hearings on April 16 and finished this evening at 6:45 p.m.

Mr. Lyons stated that as in the past, a running motion will be made. Mr. Lyons said the budget procedure will be page by page.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN stated that the procedure of a running motion was established in the past and was parliamentary sound. President Goldstein said that Mr. Lyons will make a motion to approve the operating budget with amendments proposed by the Fiscal Committee; Mr. Lyons will then go page by page and articulate each amendment. President Goldstein stated that if no further amendments are made on the page, we will proceed to the next page without voting on the amendment made by Fiscal; that is part of the running motion. She said a vote will be taken on the amendments made that are in addition to Fiscal's amendments, and if no further cuts are made or recommended by the Board, then we would proceed to the next page without taking a vote on the bottom line of the page. President Goldstein stated that Mr. Lyons would announce the figures on the bottom line of each page. She said that the procedure will be page by page without going back to any page.

MR. LYONS Moved to approve the operating budget as proposed by the Fiscal Committee of the Board of Representatives. The motion was Seconded.

PAGE 13 - REGISTRAR OF VOTERS CODE 101 - The Committee recommended a \$560 reduction on line .2940 Conferences and training leaving \$240 on that line; bottom line reads \$273,782.

PAGE 14 - BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES CODE 103 - The Committee recommended a \$760 reduction be made on .7905 budget reduction line; bottom line reads \$122,196.

PAGE 15 - BOARD OF FINANCE CODE 103 - The Committee recommended a \$600 reduction on line. 2923 copying and printing leaving \$2,400 on that line; bottom line reads \$156,319.

MRS. PERILLO asked why the Board of Finance uses professional consultants?

MR. LYONS stated that line pays for the city audit which is mandatory.

PAGE 16 - PLANNING BOARD CODE 104 - The Committee recommended a reduction of \$3,000 on line .1110 salaries leaving \$412,405 on that line and \$1,200 be made on line .7905 budget reduction line; bottom line reads \$465,558.

PAGE 17 - STAMFORD PARTNERSHIP CODE 106 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$50,000.

PAGE 18 - ZONING BOARD CODE 107 - The Committee recommended that \$1,000 be made on the .7905 budget reduction line; bottom line reads \$122,850.

PAGE 19 - ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS CODE 108 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$54,922.

PAGE 20 - ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD CODE 110 - The Committee recommended that \$770 be made on .7905 budget reduction line; bottom line reads \$219,673.

PAGE 22 - HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION CODE 113 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$126,871.

PAGE 23 - COMMISSION ON AGING CODE 114 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$361,246.

PAGE 24 - COA-OUTREACH PROGRAM CODE 117 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$64,038.

PAGE 25 - FAIR RENT COMMISSION CODE 115 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$87,408.

PAGE 26 - PATRIOTIC OBSERVANCES COMMISSION CODE 116 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$22,450.

PAGE 27 - DIAL-A-RIDE GRANT CODE 118 - The Committee recommended no reductions.

MR. FEDELE asked the Chairman for an explanation on line .5501 contracted services \$128,367.

MR. MARTIN stated that there is a decrease in the salary and part-time salary accounts. He said he believed the department is being reorganized, and that is probably why line .5501 has the \$128,367 on it.

MR. DeLUCA asked for more details on the line item, and on line .7901 program expansion.

MS. POWERS stated that the object of this was that services would be contracted out after six months because the service is too expensive to operate with city employees. She said there was a reduction in employees' salaries and moved to contracted services.

Ms. Powers said that the \$47,070 on line .7901 program expansion was for the employee who won an award and this was for retroactive pay.

MR. FEDELE said the original salary intent was for \$197,982; the proposed salary on that line is now for \$98,946 and there is a request for \$128,367 for contracted services totalling over \$200,000.

MR. FEDELE Moved to cut \$20,000 from line .1110 salaries leaving that line \$78,946. Seconded.

MS. DOMONKOS stated that the Dial-A-Ride program was now operating north of the Parkway and she wondered if part of the salaries were for the expense of operating that. She stated she would not like to see a cut made because it took a long time to get the service north of the Parkway.

MS. MAIHOCK asked if the salaries had anything to do with the services for North Stamford?

MS. RINALDI stated that the program north of the Parkway is for a two-month trial period; she said no decision has been made and the service is not in place in this budget.

MS. POWERS stated that she received clarification from Commissioner Pacter; part of the increase was due to union increases.

MR. LYONS said the Dial-A-Ride Department did not appear before the Committee. He said the benefits may be nil by the \$20,000 reduction and the liabilities may be great. He said the program services senior citizens over 62 years of age and believed the Board would be error by making a \$20,000 reduction in the budget.

MR. BLUM stated that Dial-A-Ride serves citizens by taking them to doctor appointments and senior citizen meetings. Mr. Blum said he would not support a \$20,000 reduction.

MR. MARTIN stated that the Department requested \$423,159 with nothing included for contracted services and \$197,892 on the salary line. Mr. Martin said that the Mayor in making his reduction, had an agenda regarding contracted services thereby reducing the salary line in the Dial-A-Ride area.

Mr. Martin said the program expansion has to do primarily with trying to increase the amount of handicapped coverage. He said there were meetings held to combine handicapped services with Dial-A-Ride services. Mr. Martin stated that program expansion was cut from \$141,054 to \$47,070; also, there were law suits in the Department and it could be possible that a certain amount is to keep people on the payroll resulting from the suits. Mr. Martin stated that he would oppose the cut.

MR. FEDELE said the purpose of the cut was not to cut service from senior citizens. He said that the service north of the Parkway was not included in this budget. He said that he was one of the proponents for the service, and this budget will not service the seniors north of the Parkway.

Mr. Fedele stated that \$128,367 for contracted services added to \$98,946 salaries would make up the number (\$197,892) that was originally submitted by the department. He said there was a \$20,000 difference in the account; totally the two accounts would bring the sum over \$200,000. Mr. Fedele wanted to know the reason for the increase.

MR. BOCCUZZI stated that lines on part-time, overtime and car allowance were reduced; some by 50% or better. He said if you go to contracted services, there is a reduction in overtime, part-time and car allowance. If all these numbers were put together, you would come close to the number Mr. Fedele is looking for.

MS. RINALDI Moved the question. Seconded.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN called for a vote to Move the question. APPROVED by voice vote with no dissenting votes.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN called for a vote to reduce line item 118.1110 salaries, page 27 Dial-A-Ride Grant by \$20,000. DEFEATED by a vote of 31 no and 7 yes votes with one abstention; bottom line reads \$308,807.

PAGE 28 - BOARD OF TAX REVIEW CODE 119 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$5,788.

PAGE 29 - SECTION TOTAL - \$2,436,888.

PAGE 30 - MAYOR'S OFFICE CODE 201 - The Committee recommended a \$1,000 reduction on line .2940 conferences and training, leaving that line \$4,000 and \$4,000 on line .7905 budget reduction line; bottom line reads \$360,740.

MRS. MAIHOCK had a question on line .2740 telephone. She wanted to know if the total of \$15,000 included two cellular phones that were mentioned in the back-up material?

MR. LYONS stated that was the total phone bill; it included the cellular phones.

MRS. MAIHOCK Moved to reduce line .2740 telephone by \$600 leaving that line \$14,400; that would be for one cellular phone. Seconded.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN called for a vote to delete \$600 from line .2740 telephone. DEFEATED by voice vote.

MR. STORK said that he sat in on this part of the process. He said he heard the Mayor's Executive Aide discussing an item in the budget where the Mayor's office pays for the awards that the city earns each year. Mr. Stork wanted to know what line in the budget this was under and the dollar amount.

MR. LYONS stated to Mr. Stork that it was under .9300 miscellaneous contingency. Mr. Lyons said this account was for certificates, city directory, professional journals, subscriptions, keys and plaques. Mr. Lyons said the city is a member of the associations that give the awards; we do not buy the awards.

MR. STORK said that the presentation did not come across clearly; it seemed that we paid for the auditing to see whether we deserved the award or not.

MR. LYONS stated the presentation was poorly phrased.

PAGE 32 - SYPCA CODE 205 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$147,612.

MRS. MAIHOCK questioned line .2610 maintenance of equipment. She said that in the 1988/89 period, the expenditure was \$110 and in this budget the amount is \$1,190. She wanted to know why there was such a large amount allowed for maintenance of equipment?

MR. LYONS stated this amount was for maintenance service contracts for equipment that is no longer covered by warranties.

PAGE 33 - TOWN AND CITY CLERK CODE 210 - The Committee recommended that \$2,000 be made on .7905 budget reduction line; bottom line reads \$500,045.

PAGE 35 - DEPARTMENT OF LAW CODE 230 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$676,082.

PAGE 36 - COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE CODE 240 - The Committee recommended that line .1230 college tuition be reduced by \$1,477 leaving that line \$1,500 and line .2940 conference and training be reduced by \$2,000 leaving that line \$6,000 and line .5210 stenographic service be reduced by \$2,000 leaving that line \$9,000; bottom line reads \$665,164.

MR. ZELINSKY requested that all remarks made at this meeting be recorded verbatim.

Mr. Zelinsky: "Thank you, Madam President. Through you to Chairman Lyons, on that line item 240.1230 college tuition, the reduction of, I believe, \$1,477 the reason for that; in otherwords, I was under the impression there were certain contractual obligations that are within the city or by the city employees; I was just wondering.

MR. LYONS stated that Commissioner Pacter was on hand during the deliberations and the Commissioner stated that one of the employees was considering to take courses but changed their mind. The Commissioner felt that the \$1,477 was appropriate.

PAGE 37 - BUR. OF ACCTS. & RECORDS CODE 241 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$137,149.

MRS. MAIHOCK questioned line .1220 car allowance. She wanted to know why there was such a large increase in the account; it was \$150 in fiscal year 1988/89 and in this budget, the amount was \$2,280?

MR. LYONS stated that the car allowance was by contractual agreements for MAA and MEA union employees using their cars for city services; these employess are entitled to this allowance.

PAGE 38 - BUR. OF ACCTS. & RECORDS CODE 242 - The Committee recommended a reduction of \$2,000 on line .1201 overtime, leaving that line \$3,500; bottom line reads \$361,896.

PAGE 39 - BUR. OF PURCHASES CODE 243 - The Committee recommended a \$1,000 reduction on line .2940 conferences and training, leaving the line \$600; bottom line reads \$267,784.

PAGE 40 - CENTRAL SERVICES DEPT. CODE 244 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$225,848.

PAGE 41 - BUREAU OF DATA PROCESSING CODE 245 - The Committee recommended a \$15,000 reduction on line .5150 professional consultants, leaving that line \$50,000; bottom line reads \$959,361.

PAGE 42 - PAYROLL DEPARTMENT CODE 246 - The Committee recommended a \$1,000 reduction on line .2923 copying and printing, leaving that line \$12,000 and a \$1,000 reduction on line .2940 conferences and training, leaving that line \$1,800; bottom line reads \$204,675.

PAGE 43 - RISK MANAGEMENT CODE 249 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$85,591.

MR. ZELINSKY: "Thank you, Madam President. Through you to Chairman Lyons, on page 43 Risk Management account 249.5150 professional consultants, I do see the original request was \$20,000, the Mayor did cut it to \$4,000, was there any explanation as to what the \$4,000 would be used for in that particular account?"

MR. LYONS stated that there was no explanation.

MRS. POWERS said Risk Management has various surveys done. She believed there was one done last year and said they have to consult due to specialized coverages.

PAGE 44 - ASSESSOR'S OFFICE CODE 250 - The Committee recommended no reductions; the bottom line reads \$741,041.

PAGE 45 - TAX COLLECTOR CODE 260 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$461,032.

PAGE 46 - PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT CODE 270 - The Committee recommended a \$2,000 reduction on line .2938 recruitment and hiring, leaving that line \$6,500; bottom line reads \$653,564.

PAGE 47 - LABOR NEGOTIATIONS CODE 271 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$90,568.

PAGE 48 - DEPT. OF TRAFFIC CODE 280 - The Committee recommended a \$10,000 reduction on line .2650 new equipment, leaving that line \$16,350; bottom line reads \$992,631.

PAGE 50 - DEPT. OF TRAFFIC PARKING CODE 281 - The Committee recommended that \$6,300 be made on .7905 budget reduction line; bottom line reads \$1,484,810.

PAGE 52 - STAMFORD RAILROAD STATION CODE 284 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$1,091,706.

PAGE 53 - EMPLOYEE TAXES AND INSURANCE CODE 290 - The Committee recommended that \$100,000 be made on .7905 budget reduction line; bottom line reads \$20,390,000.

PAGE 54 - PENSIONS & RETIREES BENEFITS CODE 293 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$1,816,118.

PAGE 55 - PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CODE 295 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$5,368.

PAGE 55 - SECTION TOTAL - \$32,318,785.

PAGE 56 - PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION CODE 301 - The Committee recommended a \$1,600 reduction on line .2940 conference and training, leaving that line \$7,000; bottom line reads \$2,226,691.

PAGE 58 - WEIGHTS & MEASURES CODE 320 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$34,596.

PAGE 59 - BUR. OF HIWAYS & MAINTENANCE CODE 310 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$2,162,480.

PAGE 61 - DIV. OF EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE CODE 311 - The Committee recommended that \$35,000 be made on .7905 budget reduction line; bottom line reads \$1,277,121.

PAGE 62 - SNOW REMOVAL & FLOOD CODE 314 - The Committee recommended a \$35,000 reduction on line . 2181 rock salt and sand, leaving that line \$315,000; bottom line reads \$609,159.

MR. ZELINSKY: "Thank you, Madam President. Through you to Mr. Lyons, what is the balance in the account as of now?"

MR. LYONS said he did not have the figure available. Mr. Lyons stated that an additional appropriation was requested this year. Mr. Lyons said that the rationale for the cut was that the mixture of sand and salt has been changed and a saving would be made because sand was cheaper than the salt.

PAGE 63 - LEAF PICK-UP CODE 315 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$171,900.

PAGE 64 - DIV. OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS CODE 320 - The Committee recommended that \$75,000 be made on .7905 budget reduction line; bottom line reads \$2,952,147.

PAGE 65 - GASOLINE CODE 321 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$113,832.

PAGE 66 - BUR. OF ENGINEERING CODE 330 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$1,075,308.

PAGE 67 - DIV. OF BUILDING INSPECTION CODE 332 - The Committee recommended that \$2,000 be made on .7905 budget reduction line; bottom line reads \$789,645.

PAGE 68 - OPERATION SHELLFISH CODE 338 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$37,756.

PAGE 69 - BUR. OF SANITATION CODE 340 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$265,830.

PAGE 70 - SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT CODE 341 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$1,943,410.

PAGE 72 - CONVENTIONAL INCINERATOR CODE 343 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$2,167,119.

PAGE 75 - DIV. OF EQUIP. & BUILDING CODE 346 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$1,253,786.

PAGE 77 - DIVISION OF COLLECTION CODE 350 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$3,195,925.

PAGE 78 - LAND FILL & REFUSE REMOVAL CODE 351 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$5,775,152.

PAGE 79 - SECTION TOTAL - \$26,051,857.

PAGE 80 - POLICE DEPARTMENT CODE 410 - The Committee recommended that \$45,000 be made on .7905 budget reduction line; bottom line reads \$17,548,701.

PAGE 83 - DOG WARDEN CODE 421 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$130,681.

PAGE 85 - PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH CODE 433 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$1,405,784.

PAGE 87 - PENSIONS & RETIREES BENEFITS CODE 440 (POLICE) - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$2,708,081.

PAGE 88 - FIRE DEPARTMENT CODE 450 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$12,012,459.

MRS. McGRATH wanted the record to note that she abstained on the budget for the Fire Department.

PAGE 90 - FIRE MARSHAL CODE 451 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$36,900.

PAGE 91 - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CODE 452 - The Committee recommended a \$1,000 reduction on line .2650 new equipment, leaving that line zero, and a \$2,000 reduction on line .5150 professional consultants, leaving that line \$500; bottom line reads \$72,457.

MR. DeLUCA Moved to delete \$72,457 from Code 452; this being the amount left after the above \$3,000 reductions made by the Fiscal Committee. Seconded. This would leave zero in that department.

Mr. DeLuca stated that his rationale for the reduction was that this department was a bureaucracy created during the last two years. Mr. DeLuca stated that prior to this, all emergencies were handled between the Police, Fire and Public Works Departments. He said he saw no reason for emergency management in view of the fact that we are in the process of consolidating the Stamford Ambulance Corps, the Stamford EMS and the Fire Department emergency service. He stated that he did not see why this department could not be consolidated with the either the Fire or Police Departments and the Public Works Department. Mr. DeLuca stated that the management director lives in Ridgefield and by the time the director could reach Stamford, the emergencies could be taken care of by the Police, Fire or Public Works Departments.

MR. MORRIS urged his colleagues to vote against Mr. DeLuca's motion. Mr. Morris stated that Emergency Management operates under several Federal mandates and is needed in the city. Mr. Morris said he would not support Mr. DeLuca's motion.

MR. ESPOSITO stated that part of the salaries were reimbursable but did not know the exact percentage.

MR. LYONS stated that 50% of the salaries were reimbursable.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN proceeded to a vote to delete the total of \$72,457 from Code 452 Emergency Management. DEFEATED by a voice vote; bottom line reads \$72,457.

MRS. MAIHOCK wanted to know why line .2916 administrative expense had such a large increase?

MR. LYONS said the funds were reimbursable by the Federal government and these expenses were incurred by other city agencies who assist the operations of emergency management. Mr. Lyons stated that these expenses will be billed back to the agencies.

PAGE 92 - ALARM ADMINISTRATION CODE 453 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$29,285.

PAGE 93 - PENSIONS & RETIREES BENEFITS CODE 460 (FIREMEN) - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$2,086,186.

PAGE 94 - VOLUNTEER FIRE & AMBULANCE CODE 470 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$4,013,472.

PAGE 95 - HARBORMASTER CODE 482 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$1,300.

PAGE 95 - SECTION TOTAL - \$40,045,306.

PAGE 96 - SOCIAL SERVICES DEPT. CODE 510 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$3,801,575.

PAGE 98 - ADMINISTRATION SNF CODE 521 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$599,431.

PAGE 99 - NURSING SERVICES SNF CODE 522 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$3,635,647.

PAGE 100 - DIETARY SERVICES SNF CODE 523 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$813,858.

PAGE 101 - PLANT MAINTENANCE SNF CODE 524 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$725,085.

PAGE 102 - HOUSEKEEPING SNF CODE 525 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$220,107.

PAGE 103 - LAUNDRY SNF CODE 526 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$150,359.

PAGE 104 - RECREATION SNF CODE 527 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$153,836.

PAGE 105 - SOCIAL SERVICES SNF CODE 528 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$84,161.

PAGE 106 - PHYSICAL THERAPY SNF CODE 529 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$93,842.

PAGE 108 - HEALTH DEPARTMENT CODE 550 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$1,290,460.

PAGE 110 - CODE ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE CODE 551 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$417,803.

PAGE 111 - DRUG FORENSIC LABORATORY CODE 552 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$104,327.

PAGE 112 - COST SHARING GRANT CODE 553 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$57,910.

PAGE 113 - VD CLINIC GRANT STATE CODE 554 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$12,300.

PAGE 114 - MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH CODE 557 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$139,834.

PAGE 115 - HEALTH RISK REDUCTION GRANT CODE 558 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$15,120.

PAGE 116 - TB CONTROL GRANT CODE 559 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$43,880.

PAGE 117 - PUBLIC SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM CODE 560 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$873,020.

PAGE 118 - HEALTH PROGRAM FOR PAROCHIAL & PRIVATE CODE 561 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$1,408,326.

PAGE 119 - SHAPE CODE 571 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$77,467.

MRS. MAIHOCK referred to line .1130 part-time. She said there was a great escalation on the line and she wanted to know what was the reason for the increase?

MR. LYONS stated that \$19,420 was requested by the department and the amount was reduced to \$8,395 which is the same amount that was in the 1989/90 budget.

MRS. MAIHOCK stated that two years ago, the amount was \$2,228. She stated that because a request is made for \$19,420, does not mean that the amount must be given to them. She said the department has to have a reason and rationale for their request.

MR. LYONS stated that the amount is the same this year as it was last year. He did not know the reason for the increase over what was in the budget two years ago.

PAGE 120 - WOMENS INFANTS AND CHILDREN CODE 573 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$240,722.

PAGE 121 - AIDS EDUCATION/RISK REDUCTION CODE 577 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$260,843.

PAGE 122 - NON-CITY HEALTH AGENCIES CODE 581 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$184,000.

PAGE 123 - SHELLFISH COMMISSION CODE 590 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$1,000.

PAGE 123 - SECTION TOTAL - \$15,404,914.

PAGE 124 - PARKS & RECREATION ADMINISTRATION CODE 601 -

MR. LYONS stated that line .7905 budget reduction was inadvertently left out of the budget book and that line should be part of the budget. The Committee recommended that a \$1,000 reduction be made on .7905 budget reduction line; the bottom line reads \$653,113.

PAGE 127 - PARKS & RECREATION/PARKS TERRY CONNERS CODE 620 - The Committee recommended a \$6,000 reduction on .1110 salaries, leaving that line \$155,930; bottom line reads \$379,360.

PAGE 129 - PARKS & RECREATION OPER. & MAINT. CODE 630 - The Committee recommended a \$12,500 reduction on .1110 salaries, leaving that line \$837,725; bottom line reads \$1,962,860.

PAGE 131 - PARKS & RECREATION PROGRAMS CODE 640 - The Committee recommended a \$2,000 reduction on .2650 new equipment, leaving zero on that line; bottom line reads \$691,158.

MRS. MAIHOCK asked about line .3480 uniforms. She wanted to know what kind of uniforms were bought from funds on this line?

MR. ESPOSITO stated that the Committee believed the item was for shirts for participants in summer playground activities.

MRS. MAIHOCK asked how many people would this item be for?

MR. LYONS stated that he did not know the answer to Mrs. Maihock's question.

MRS. MAIHOCK said that in the original 1989/90 budget, the amount was for \$5,200 and now it jumped to \$7,000. She wondered for what kind of uniforms and how many people were involved.

MR. BLUM Moved to reduce \$1,000 from .3480 uniforms. Seconded.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN proceeded to a vote to reduce line .3480 uniforms by \$1,000. DEFEATED by voice vote; bottom line reads \$691,158..

PAGE 132 - PROJECTS MUSIC CODE 641 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$40,765.

PAGE 133 - STERLING THEATRE CODE 642 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$95,418.

PAGE 134 - FEE SUPPORTED PROGRAMS CODE 645 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$206,312.

PAGE 146 - BRENNAN GOLF COURSE CODE 670 - The Committee recommended no reductions; the bottom line reads \$460,280.

MRS. MAIHOCK stated that on line .2750 gasoline, in the 1989/90 budget, the amount was \$4,200 and for 1990/91, the figure is \$6,400. She asked what was the reason for the increase?

MR. LYONS stated that the cost of gasoline has increased and the usage has increased; also there was better maintenance of the course.

PAGE 147 - SECTION TOTAL - \$4,489,266.

PAGE 148 - FERGUSON LIBRARY CODE 710 - The Committee recommended no reductions; the bottom line reads \$4,432,938.

PAGE 149 - STAMFORD MUSEUM CODE 720 - The Committee recommended no reductions; the bottom line reads \$849,522.

PAGE 150 - EMERGENCY SHELTER CODE 725 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$45,000.

PAGE 152 - COMMUNITY CENTERS CODE 745 - The Committee recommended no reductions; bottom line reads \$169,260.

PAGE 152 - SECTION TOTAL - \$5,496,720.

PAGE 153 - BOARD OF EDUCATION CODE 810

The record will note that Rep. Dominick Cardillo left the Floor and did not participate or vote on the Board of Education budget.

The Committee recommended a \$1,000,000 reduction on .7110 Board of Education, leaving that line \$94,513,543; bottom line reads \$94,513,543.

MR. ESPOSITO stated that after more than two weeks spent in reviewing the departmental budgets, the Fiscal Committee met on Saturday, May 5, to make its recommendations. Mr. Esposito said he had the highest praise for the Committee who was charged with a most difficult task to recommend a budget that would be fair to all the taxpayers in the city especially in light of the economic situation that lies before everyone.

Mr. Esposito said the recommendations were the result of countless hours of questions and interactions between members of the Committee, department heads and staff. He stated that the final tax increase will probably be more than he would like to see but thought most citizens would sacrifice for the things that are most important.

Mr. Esposito stated that he, personally, had a big stake in the city's educational budget as he has three children in the school system. He said it was not his intent or the intent of Committee members to short-change the educational system in the city. Mr. Esposito said that prior to the formal start of Saturday's meeting, Chairman Richard Lyons stated that in his final discussion with Dr. Papallo, Dr. Papallo indicated that he could live with a final cut of \$1,000,000.

MR. ESPOSITO (continuing) said that based on that information, the Committee recommended the cut of \$1,000,000.

Mr. Esposito stated that Chairman Lyons requested him to verbalize the cut because the Chairman of the Committee can only ask for motions rather than make them. Mr. Esposito stated that the Board of Representatives has always been more than fair in dealing with the Board of Education's budget and the record speaks for itself. He said the Committee made the recommended cut fairly, with the best interest of the community, and if the economic picture looked brighter, no cuts would be preferred, least of all, in the education budget.

MR. LYONS said he wanted to correct one statement made by Mr. Esposito. Mr. Lyons stated that in his conversation with Dr. Papallo, Dr. Papallo would have preferred no cuts. Mr. Lyons stated that Dr. Papallo will accept what the Board does and Dr. Papallo's position was that there was too much cut already.

MR. ZELINSKY: "Thank you, Madam President. This year I have received more letters, postcards, and telephone calls in support of the Board of Education budget than any year that I have served on this Board, which is 13 years. I also attended the public hearing of the Board of Finance and our Fiscal Committee and witnessed an overwhelming public concern expressed by the approximately 1,000 residents of our city supporting the Board of Education budget. People spoke and said they were willing to pay more taxes for better education. While I am deeply concerned about the higher taxes that will be forced on our residents because of the economic conditions, I do not believe by cutting the Board of Education budget by the \$1,000,000, which by the way, represents a 1/2 of percent mill increase in District A, which is the highest mill rate district, an average homeowner now paying \$2,500 in taxes would result in a \$12.50 tax increase if the \$1,000,000 is not cut. So that's what we're talking about in dollars and cents here.

"I would like to quote briefly from one of the many letters that I received from my constituents: 'Dear Mr. Zelinsky: I am writing to ask you to support the Board of Education's budget request submitted by Superintendent Papallo. The budget has already been reduced by over \$3,000,000 and any further cuts will start to impact needed programs and staffing. The Board of Education is not asking for anything new; there are no new programs in this budget. They are asking for the dollars they need in order to basically continue what is currently going on in the schools. I am quite proud of Stamford's public schools, but I am concerned that further budget cuts could result in larger class sizes which would be to the detriment of all of Stamford's students. I enjoy living in Stamford and I am pleased to see that the March, 1990 of Parent Magazine included Stamford as one of the ten best cities in the United States for raising kids. It cited Stamford's great schools as one of the reasons. While I happen to have children in the Stamford public schools, I would still be writing you to support the school budget even if I did not.

'The overall quality of life in our city depends on our school system. Without a good school system, our crime rate and drug problem will increase. We will see more people on welfare. Stamford's business community needs an educated work force. I am sure all homeowners in the city do not want to see their property values decline because Stamford develops a reputation for having a poor school system. I do have some concerns about some trends that I am seeing. The allocation of the city's funds to the Board of Education has been decreasing since 1975 when it represented 44% of the city's expenditures.

MR. ZELINSKY (continuing) 'In 88/89, it represented only 36% of the city's expenditures. Of a 169 towns in Connecticut, Stamford's rank with respect to support and effort of public education is 155. Only 14 towns in the state demonstrate lower effort for funding public education than does Stamford. Over the past decade, the Board of Education has reduced staff 10% while other city departments have increased their staff by 12%.

'I look forward to your positive support of the Stamford School System.'

"It is signed by one of my constituents. Based on what I have said, I will not vote for the proposed \$1,000,000 reduction and I would ask my colleagues to do the same. Thank you."

MR. WHITE said that as most Board members know, he is a teacher and therefore, will not vote on the budget. He said he did not leave the Floor because he did want to take part in the debate and discussion. Mr. White said he will exercise that option.

Mr. White stated that he has always thought the bloodletting that traditionally takes place over the education budget was destructive and needless. He believed the major reason for the animosity besides the size of the budget, is that certain Board members suspect that some monies in the budget are being unwisely allocated, therefore, resorting to budget chopping as a way perhaps of forcing the Board of Education to reduce its spending; to redirect its spending.

Mr. White said that this process was remote and crude.

Mr. White stated that he was requesting that in the future, the Board of Representatives and Board of Finance setup in December and January, a series of meetings with the Board of Education; that the appropriate leadership of the Board and the Board of Finance sit down with a delegation from the Board of Education and go over the budget together, line by line; item by item. Mr. White said that in the process of discussion, it may be possible for the Board of Education to make suggested cuts in the budget ahead of time, thus, satisfying the Board of Finance and Board of Representatives that money is being carefully and wisely allocated.

Mr. White said that in return for such input, the Boards of Finance and Representatives would agree ahead of time not to cut the budget when officially presented or offer to keep such cuts within previously agreed parameters. Further stating, Mr. White said this would save time, prevent rancor and in general, satisfy all.

Mr. White said as an addendum, and he hoped that it did not sound gratuitous, he said that the reason Stamford finds itself in the present budget crunch is really because of the Government Center building; not so much of the purchase per se but in the manner in which it was accomplished; GTE said the price, and we said, "marvelous, we buy." Mr. White said there were no negotiations, no bargain lease; none that he could discern took place. Mr. White stated GTE named a figure which he thought was overblown, and we paid. He said we were also charged for the inhouse furniture. Mr. White stated that a result of all of this, we are saddled with a debt load draining our financial resources at a time of straitened economic circumstances.

MR. WHITE (continuing) said he belabored this issue at this time, because he believes the education budget, which should be subject to the same scrutiny as any other appropriation, is taking the major rap for the financial hold because of this building.

MS. SCHOENFELD stated that she could not support the \$1 million cut on the Board of Education budget. She felt that all the monies were needed to maintain our quality of education.

MR. BLUM said that he could not support the \$1 million cut to the education budget. He said that he believes that children must be educated, today, tomorrow and in the future and by cutting the budget, programs will be cut.

MR. BOCCUZZI said this year's budget is increased over last year's budget by \$6,345,681. He stated that there is no cut from last year's. He said the budget is being increased by \$6 million plus. He said he was in favor of the \$1 million cut and urged his colleagues to vote the \$1 million cut.

MR. RUBINO stated that in recent weeks, he expressed concern over economic development in the city. He said economic development cannot happen without human development. He said a solid educational system is needed to produce a solid work force for the city which will drive the economy into the next century and insure competitiveness. Mr. Rubino said that he would vote no on the \$1 million cut.

MR. DeLUCA stated that originally, he was in favor of a higher cut, but now would vote for the \$1 million cut. Mr. DeLuca echoed Mr. Boccuzzi's words that nothing is being taken away from the budget; \$6 million is being added. Mr. DeLuca said that all other city departments were asked to come in with a 5% increase which they did.

Mr. DeLuca said he was annoyed with the scare tactics; the calling of Board of Finance members whose children came home from school crying; a full page ad in the newspaper paid by the Stamford Education Association and a flyer he received in the mail, which he distributed to all member, saying, "Please, please, don't crush the poor seniors." Mr. DeLuca stated that without any cut, the senior citizens are going to be devastated. He said there were 19,200 senior citizens living in Stamford, many of which are on fixed incomes. Mr. DeLuca said a tax increase of \$150 or \$200 a year will definitely make a difference to them.

Mr. DeLuca said it was a myth that the real estate values will go down if we do not have a good educational system. He said real estate value is down throughout the entire country and has been down for the past three years and that was not due to any educational systems. Mr. DeLuca said that education is not conducive with money; it is the teacher-student relationship. Mr. DeLuca further stated that the \$1 million cut will not lay off the administrators who should be laid off. He said the ones that will be touched will be the teachers, and that was sad.

Mr. DeLuca stated that going back approximately 10 years ago, there were 20,000 students, and 76 administrators; now we have 11,500 students, 75 administrators, and 250 educational aides. He said the myth is that there will be larger size classes which will hamper education; he did not believe that larger classes would have that much influence on education. He said many of his classmates went on to be highly professional people and they came from classes which numbered 30 or 35 students.

MR. DeLUCA stated that we should go back to the entire education society; staff, teachers, etc. and have them agree to a 5% cut in salary. He said this is being done in private industry, and the unions are agreeing to that rather than have people laid-off. Mr. DeLuca further stated that people should be contributing to their medical coverage; private industry use to pay 100% but at present, many employees are contributing. Mr. DeLuca said that these are some of the ways we can cut without laying-off staff.

Mr. DeLuca said that there are two vacant floors here at the Government Center and the country club at Hillandale Avenue should be done away with. He said that would be a way of showing good faith to the community showing that you are willing to move into the Government Center in order to keep the taxes down.

Mr. DeLuca said there were many ways to work together and compromise to help, and said he will vote for the \$1 million cut but doubts whether he will vote on the entire budget.

MR. LYONS stated that the Committee tried to strike a balance for the taxpayers and the education system. He said the Committee believed that the \$1 million will not effect the lay-off of teachers. Mr. Lyons stated that there was an incentive program in effect and the figures would be coming out today. He said the program will help the Superintendent and the Board of Education to allocate the reduction without affecting programs and lay-offs.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN asked Mr. Lyons if his Committee made any recommendations as to Hillandale Avenue?

MR. LYONS said that the discussion came up and the Superintendent advised the Committee that he was never formally requested to study a move to the Government Center. Mr. Lyons further stated that the Committee formally requested and invited the Superintendent and the Board of Education to make the study and effect the move as quickly as possible.

Mr. Lyons stated that in the seven years he has been involved with the educational budget, this year was the probably the most direct, frank and productive hearing ever had on the general policies and what the problems are as far as education. Mr. Lyons stated that many dollars have been spent on the fine educational system we have and this will continue; but also, economy must be made where necessary and where it will not hurt the children. Mr. Lyons stated that the Superintendent, the Board of Education and the Fiscal Committee were in agreement.

MR. CARDILLO left the Floor and stated that he would not be voting on the education budget.

MR. WHITE wanted the record to note that he would not be voting on the education budget.

MR. LYONS read the bottom line total for the Board of Education's budget; \$94,513,543. This represented a \$1 million cut as recommended by the Fiscal Committee. This was in accordance with the procedure of a running motion.

PAGE 154 - BOARD OF EDUCATION NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS CODE 820 - The Committee recommended no reductions; the bottom line reads \$997,376.

PAGE 156 - SECTION TOTAL - \$95,510,919.

PAGE 157 - DEBT SERVICE CODE 900 - The Committee recommended no reductions; the bottom line reads \$30,342,059.

PAGE 158 - SECTION TOTAL - \$30,342,059.

PAGE 158 - TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET - \$252,096,714. Total reductions in the Operating Budget - \$1,376,767.

MR. LYONS Moved for the adoption of the resolution approving the Operating budget for fiscal year July 1, 1990 to June 30, 1991. His motion was Seconded. Mr. Lyons read the resolution. A copy of the resolution is attached to these Minutes. The total Operating budget for fiscal year 1990/91 is \$252,096,714.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN called for a vote to approve the Operating budget for fiscal year July 1, 1990 to June 30, 1991 in the amount of \$252,096,714. APPROVED by a vote of 37 yes, 2 no votes and 1 abstention.

MR. LYONS stated that the Fiscal Committee during their deliberations had many discussions on policies, procedures and fiscal matters that affect the city now and in years to come. The Fiscal Committee by a unanimous vote sent a letter to the President of the Board of Representatives asking that the President on behalf of the Board forward the letter to the Mayor, the Board of Finance and Board of Education. Mr. Lyons said this was being done to help make the fiscal decisions more effective for all citizens of Stamford. Mr. Lyons read the letter. A copy of the letter was received by all members and is attached to these Minutes.

MR. LYONS Moved that the letter be forwarded to the Mayor, the Board of Finance and the Board of Education. The motion was Seconded.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN called for a vote to approve the letter and that it be distributed to the said parties. APPROVED by voice vote with three absentions: Mr. White, Mr. Cardillo and Ms. Domonkos.

MR. LYONS thanked his Committee for the outstanding job they did under very trying circumstances. He said the department heads appearing before the Committee suffered severe reductions at the Mayor's level and the Board of Finance level. Mr. Lyons stated the Committee acted responsibly. He said he did not think that the cuts made will return as additional appropriations, and once again, thanked his Committee.

PRESIDENT GOLDSTEIN thanked the Committee and the Board for all the work done over the last weeks and this evening.

ADJOURNMENT: Upon a motion duly made and Seconded, and Approved by a voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

By Anne A. Kachaluba
Anne A. Kachaluba, Administrative
Assistant and Recording Secretary
21st Board of Representatives

APPROVED:

Sandra Goldstein
Sandra Goldstein, President
21st Board of Representatives
SG:ak