

The Regular Meeting of the 25th Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford will be held Wednesday, April 4, 2001 at 8:00 p.m. in the Legislative Chambers of the Board of Representatives in the Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, Connecticut.

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:55 p.m.

INVOCATION: By Rep. Sherer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: Led by President Carmen L. Domonkos.

ROLL CALL: Led by Clerk of the Board Annie M. Summerville. There were thirty-five members present; absent was Rep. Gaztambide; excused were Reps. Imbrogno, Nanos, DePina and Mitchell. Rep. Mitchell arrived after roll call.

MACHINE TEST VOTE: The machine was in good working order.

PAGES:

MOMENTS OF SILENCE: For the late:

Kathleen S.M. Shephard, by Reps. Mellis and Giordano; Margaret F. Cacace, by Reps. Mellis, Giordano, Domonkos and Loglisci; William G. Costello, by Reps. Giordano, Loglisci and MacInnis; Elaine Coleman and H. Ames Richards, Jr., by Rep. Mellis; Victoria G. Bogacz, Victor M. Chiappetta, Frank N. Ciliberto Helen M. Lodato and Elvino Ferullo by Reps. Giordano and Loglisci; Margaret Calyanis, by Reps. Loglisci and Mobilio; Thomas F. O'Connor, Charles F. Sommerer, Mario Robinson, Helen Andrews, Robert W. Hornlein, James J. Farrell, by Rep. Giordano; Jennie R. Gervasio, Helen Smeriglio, John V. Tumminello, Florence Boccadoro, and Richard Bates, by Rep. Loglisci; and Henry Zirkowsky, by Rep. O'Neill.

STANDING COMMITTEES

STEERING COMMITTEE: Meeting: Wednesday, March 14, 2001
7:00 p.m. - Democratic Caucus Room

Upon motion duly made and seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote, the Steering Committee Report was waived.

Rep. Martin reported that the Fiscal Committee met on Monday, March 19, 2001. Present were Committee Member Reps. Martin, Owens, DeLuca, Loglisci, Giordano, Green-Carter, Lyons, Mellis, Nanos, Poltrack and Sherer.

1. [F25.351](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); Long Ridge Fire Co.; Paving Apparatus Ramp; reconstruction of drains and pave apparatus ramp.
\$25,700.00
02/28/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/08/01 - Held by Board of Finance
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0

**APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA**

Secondary Committee: Public Safety & Health

Waived

2. [F25.352](#) RESOLUTION (formerly Exhibit A); Long Ridge Fire Co.; Paving Apparatus Ramp; in connection with F25.350 above.
02/28/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0

**APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA**

3. [F25.353](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grant Funded Budget); 911 Grant; Salaries; to align budget with state allocation.
\$534.00
02/28/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/08/01 - Approved by Board of Finance
03/19/01 - Committee approved 7-0-0

**APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA**

4. [F25.354](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grant Funded Budget); Community Employment Incentive Program; Direct Service Grant; to align budget with state allocation.
\$13,019.00
02/28/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/08/01 - Approved by Board of Finance
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0

**APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA**

Secondary Committee: Housing/Community Development/Social Services

Waived

5. [F25.355](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); Engineering; Selleck Street; reconstruction and re-alignment of Selleck Street from West Avenue to Brown House Road.
\$44,445.00
02/28/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy

**APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA**

03/08/01 - Approved by Board of Finance
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0

Secondary Committee: Operations

Concur

6. [F25.356](#) RESOLUTION (Formerly Exhibit A); Engineering; Selleck Street; in connection with F25.354 above.
02/28/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0 **APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA**
7. [F25.357](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Police; Overtime; balance projected to cover overtime costs through remainder of fiscal year.
\$500,000.00
02/28/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/08/01 - Approved by Board of Finance
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0 **APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA**

Secondary Committee: Public Safety & Health

Waived

8. [F25.358](#) REVIEW; of 2000-01 Pro Forma results of Operation for the City of Stamford (7/1/2000-12/31/2000).
03/07/01 - Submitted by Rep. DeLuca
03/19/01 - Report Made **REPORT
MADE**

Chair Martin reported that this report was prepared by Mr. Hamilton and Dena Diorio. At mid year, it is projected there will be a budget surplus at year end of approximately \$4.2 million. The primary positive contributors are that the tax collection rate is very high and interest rates are higher than budgeted. Intergovernmental revenue is also higher. Finally, there is a \$1 million revenue in the building department. That puts us about \$7-8 million ahead on the revenue side. On the expenditures side, the City is \$2 million in the red in the overtime accounts. There is a lot of overtime involved with snow removal.

9. [F25.360](#) RESOLUTION; regarding the Connecticut Community Health Care Program Grant; coordinates prenatal, postpartum and well child care to low income women and children; amount of grant: \$165,080.
03/08/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0 **APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA**

10. [F25.361](#) RESOLUTION; authorizing a contract for a Community Employment Incentive Program; funds to be contracted to CTE; amount of grant: \$102,887.
03/08/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0 **APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA**
11. [F25.362](#) RESOLUTION; authorizing the mayor to enter into agreements with the State of CT to receive maximum state funding for the purpose of increasing the capacity and quality of school readiness and child day care; amount of grant: \$2,614,057.
03/08/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0 **APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA**
12. [F25.363](#) RESOLUTION; authorizing the mayor to enter into agreements with the State of CT for funding assistance regarding operation of the Stamford Day Care Program; amount of grant: \$1,648,296.
03/08/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0 **APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA**
13. [F25.364](#) RESOLUTION; authorizing application under the Social Services Block Grant for a program of counseling services to the elderly; amount of grant: \$54,888.
03/08/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0 **APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA**
14. [F25.365](#) RESOLUTION; authorizing the mayor to file an application and enter into an agreement with the State Dept. of Health Services for the purpose of providing a program of Health Education/Risk Reduction for Stamford residents.
03/08/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0 **APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA**
15. [F25.366](#) RESOLUTION; authorizing an agreement with the **APPROVED**

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| | CT Dept. of Education regarding a quality enhancement program; amount of grant: \$142,464.
03/08/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0 | ON CONSENT
AGENDA |
| 16. F25.367 | RESOLUTION; authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement for a program of senior health services; amount of grant: \$41,262.
03/08/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0 | APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA |
| 17. F25.368 | RESOLUTION; regarding the 2001/02 Women's, Infant's and Children's (WIC) Nutrition Program; amount of grant: \$340,000.
03/08/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0 | APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA |
| 18. F25.369 | RESOLUTION; authorizing an agreement with the State for funding of the Youth Services Bureau; amount of grant: \$61,073.
03/08/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0 | APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA |
| 19. F25.370 | RESOLUTION; authorizing submittal of an application to the U.S. Dept. of Justice for the Local Law Enforcement Program; amount of grant: \$97,624.
03/08/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0 | APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA |
| 20. F25.371 | RESOLUTION; authorizing the Mayor to file applications and execute contracts with the Federal Transit Administration of the U.S. Dept. of Transportation.
03/08/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/19/01 - Committee approved 11-0-0 | APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA |

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item Nos. 1 through 7 and 9 through 20, was approved by unanimous voice vote.

LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE Maria Nakian, Chair
William MacInnis, Vice Chair
Meeting: Monday, March 26, 2001
7:00 p.m. - Democratic Caucus Room

Chair Nakian reported that the Legislative & Rules Committee met on Monday, March 26, 2001. Present were Committee Member Reps. Nakian, MacInnis, Esposito, Mitchell, Spandow, Skigen, Zelinsky, Fedeli and Sherer. Reps. Day and Gasparrini were excused. Also present were Rep. O'Neill; Andrew McDonald; Dr. Anthony Iton; Ann Sadowsky; Michael Jachimchyk and Barbara Yantorno. Public hearings were held on Item Nos.1 through 3.

1. LR25.131 **PROPOSED ORDINANCE; PUBLIC HEARING;** **APPROVED**
for final adoption; concerning designation of a **ON CONSENT**
Contract Compliance Officer. **AGENDA**
12/08/00 - Submitted by James Rubino
03/07/01 - Approved for publication
03/26/01 - Committee approved 8-0-0

2. LR25.136 **PROPOSED ORDINANCE; PUBLIC HEARING;** **APPROVED**
for final adoption; amending Chapter 19, Ethics **ON CONSENT**
Code, to correct references. **AGENDA**
01/31/01 - Submitted by Rep. Nakian
03/07/01 - Held in Committee
03/26/01 - Committee approved 8-0-0

3. LR25.133 **PROPOSED ORDINANCE; PUBLIC HEARING;** **RETURNED**
for final adoption; Amending Chapter 103 of the **TO**
Code of Ordinances Concerning Contractors **COMMITTEE**
("Responsible Employer Ordinance").
12/12/00 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/07/01 - Approved for republication
03/26/01 - Committee approved 8-0-0

Chair Nakian stated that this ordinance that provides for all contractors and proposers who submit RFQs be responsible employers to their employees in terms of providing adequate compensation, training and benefits. The contractors must comply with the Stamford Construction Jobs Agreement; they must comply with federal and state law regarding minimum wage; they must comply with federal and state law regarding apprentice training programs; they must comply with Connecticut law regarding hospitalization and medical benefits; and they must comply with Connecticut and federal law concerning classifying employees as employees rather than as independent contractors. Chair Nakian stated that these are either existing local, state or federal law.

Chair Nakian stated that this ordinance consolidates all the state and federal law into one ordinance, where it is easy to see what is required of a contractor. It also provides the City with sanctions on a local level for a violation of the provisions as opposed to remedies that would have to be sought through the State. The sanctions include cessation of work until compliance is obtained, permanent removal from further work, liquidated damages to the City, or barring the contractor from any future projects.

The Committee voted 8-0-0, and Chair Nakian moved the item. Said motion was seconded.

Rep. Loglisci asked about the Stamford Construction Jobs Agreement; he also asked whether this would impact small firms.

Rep. O'Neill stated he is opposed to the ordinance because it would place an unfair restriction on small, local contractors and will cause many of them to no longer bid on city contracts, thereby restricting the competitive bid process. Rep. O'Neill is concerned that this would increase the costs of city projects. Also, the City taxpayers will be subsidizing the training and other components and no studies have been done to see what impact this ordinance will have on the City.

Rep. Loglisci moved to return the item to Committee; said motion was seconded. Mr. Loglisci asked that the Committee review the Stamford Construction Jobs Agreement. The motion to return the item to committee was approved by voice vote (Reps. Nakian, Skigen, MacInnis, Mitchell and Fortunato opposed).

Chair Nakian stated that this is the second month this item has been before the Board for final adoption. If anyone has questions, she asked that they let her know prior to the next committee meeting.

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|-------------|--|------------------------------|
| 4 LR25.132 | PROPOSED ORDINANCE; <u>for publication;</u>
regulating the location and utilization of modular news racks within the Downtown Special Services District.
11/15/00 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/07/01 - Held in Committee
03/26/01 - Held in Committee | HELD IN
COMMITTEE |
| 5. LR25.137 | PROPOSED ORDINANCE; <u>for publication;</u>
amending Chapter 220, Article VII, Sec. 220-20, Effective date of Tax Exempt Status for Property Owned by Not-for-Profit, to change application deadline dates.
01/31/01 - Submitted by Rep. Nakian
03/07/01 - Held in Committee
03/26/01 - Held in Committee | HELD IN
COMMITTEE |

opposed)

Chair Skigen stated that the Committee approved this item 6-1-0; Chair Skigen moved the item. Said motion was seconded.

Rep. Loglisci stated he was the dissenting vote on this item, and acknowledged that it involves a small amount of money. Mr. Loglisci stated that this is a bad precedent to set. Mr. Loglisci stated that the item was previously approved, and he believes that this opens up the possibility of revisiting contracts in the future.

Chair Skigen stated that he doesn't disagree with many of Mr. Loglisci's comments, but the reason Mr. Azinge was hired as a seasonal at \$12 per hour is because they had lost two potential hires for this position. If they had to wait the two additional months to have the contract approved that they would lose Mr. Azinge as well. However, there was no commitment to Mr. Azinge that he would get the \$15 from the original date of hire, but they indicated they would try. This is their attempt to honor that commitment. Mr. Skigen stated that he didn't think this was the best precedent to set, but on balance he decided to support it.

The item was approved by voice vote with Reps. DeLuca, Mobilio, Fedeli, Morrow, Loglisci and Day opposed.

(Clerk Summerville noted that Representative Biancardi left the meeting. Chair Domonkos noted that Rep. Mitchell has joined the meeting.)

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|------------|--|---|
| 3. P25.098 | APPROVAL; of employment agreement between the City of Stamford and Lorraine Gilden, Clerk/Staff Analyst for the Board of Finance.
03/09/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/28/01 - Held in Committee | HELD IN
COMMITTEE |
| 4. P25.099 | APPROVAL; of employment agreement between City of Stamford and William Stover as Director of Human Resources & Labor Negotiator.
03/13/01 - Submitted by Andrew McDonald, Esq.
03/28/01 - Committee approved 7-0-0 | APPROVED BY
UNANIMOUS
VOICE VOTE |

Chair Skigen moved the item. Said motion was seconded.

Rep. Zelinsky stated he had three concerns regarding approval of Mr. Stover. The first is that he is a resident of Pennsylvania and doesn't pay taxes in Connecticut and Stamford. Also, Mr. Stover will not move to Stamford. He added that it is not fair to the Stamford taxpayers to have a city employee living in Pennsylvania. The next concern is that he telecommutes on Friday, working only four days from city hall. He believes this sends the wrong message to the employees who do work five days a week at city hall. Rep. Zelinsky discussed the policy regarding telecommuting, and noted that Mr. Stover is the only full time city employee that telecommutes. Finally, Mr. Zelinsky reviewed Mr. Stover's resume, noting that Mr. Stover was originally a labor relations specialist and was quickly promoted to Assistant Director of Human Resources.

Rep. Zelinsky stated the Mayor supported Mr. Stover, mentioning that this position is equivalent to a cabinet level position. Mr. Zelinsky stated that he respects the Office of the Mayor, and as such will reluctantly vote for Mr. Stover. *(Mr. Zelinsky has submitted written comments that are attached hereto.)*

Rep. Loglisci stated that Mr. Stover does a good job, and does not blame Mr. Stover for his rapid rise. Mr. Loglisci added that we should look at the contracts that allow for so much sick time, for accumulating sick time, etc.

Mr. Boccuzzi added that if a person is paid for accumulated sick time, the person is reimbursed at the rate the days were earned.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item No. 1, was approved by voice vote.

LAND USE COMMITTEE Herman Alswanger, Co-Chair
Patrick White, Co-Chair
Meeting: Thursday, March 29, 2001
7:00 p.m. - Democratic Caucus Room

Chair White reported that the Land Use Committee met on Thursday, March 29, 2001. Present were Committee Member Reps. Boccuzzi, Hunter, Nakian, Spandow, and White. Excused were Reps. Loglisci, O'Neill, Shapiro and co-chair Alswanger. Others present were Rick Redniss and Mark Christiano, Rev. Winton Hill, Ross Burkhart, and Liz Rosenbaum and two Stamford residents.

1. LU25.050 **PROPOSED ORDINANCE; PUBLIC HEARING; **APPROVED**
for final adoption; and approval of sales agreement **ON CONSENT**
and declaration of restrictive covenants for the City's **AGENDA**
conveyance of 153 Franklin Street to Stamford
Affordable Homes, Inc. (subsidiary of New**

Neighborhoods, Inc.)
01/12/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
01/30/01 - Approved by Planning Board
02/08/01 - Approved by Board of Finance
01/24/01 - Held in Committee
03/29/01 - Committee approved 5-0-0

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item No. 1, was approved by voice vote.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE Bobby E. Owens, Chair
Harry Day, Vice Chair
Meeting: Thursday, March 22, 2001
7:00 p.m. - Democratic Caucus Room

Chair Owens reported that the Operations Committee met on Thursday, March 22, 2001. Present were Committee Member Reps. Owens, Nanos, Day, Morrow and Zelinsky. Also present were Tim Curtin and Mani Poola.

1. O25.044 **PROPOSED ORDINANCE; for publication;** **APPROVED**
amending Chapter 227 Concerning the Care of Trees **ON CONSENT**
and Shrubs Within the Limit of any Public Road to **AGENDA**
remove the Director of EPB as Tree Warden and
appoint a licensed arborist to fill the position.
02/28/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/22/01 - Committee approved 5-0-0

2. O25.045 **APPROVAL;** of agreement for construction **APPROVED**
drawings and contract drawings to improve safety **ON CONSENT**
and operations with Diversified Technology **AGENDA**
Consultants for the reconstruction of Grenhart Road
Park; amount of contract: \$65,160.
02/28/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/08/01 - Approved by Board of Finance
03/22/01 - Committee approved 5-0-0

3. O25.042 **APPROVAL;** of amendment to agreement with Fuss **APPROVED**
& O'Neill for engineering services related to the **ON CONSENT**
widening of West Avenue; amount of contract: **AGENDA**
\$32,000.
02/20/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/08/01 - Approved by Board of Finance

03/22/01 - Committee approved 5-0-0

4. O25.043 APPROVAL; of amendment to agreement with Fuss & O'Neill for engineering services related to the widening of Atlantic Street; amount of contract: \$144,000.
02/20/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/08/01 - Approved by Board of Finance
03/22/01 - Committee approved 5-0-0 **APPROVED
ON CONSENT
AGENDA**
5. O25.046 APPROVAL; of contract with AFB Construction Management of Trumbull, Inc. for agreement for management services for City Building Maintenance Operations; amount of contract: \$120,000 per year.
03/08/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/22/01 - Committee approved 5-0-0
04/11/01 - To be considered by Board of Finance **RETURNED TO
COMMITTEE**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, Item No. O25.046 was approved by unanimous voice vote to be returned to committee.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Consent Agenda, consisting of Items No. 1 through 4, was approved by voice vote.

**PUBLIC SAFETY & HEALTH
COMMITTEE**

Alice Fortunato, Chair
Richard Lyons, Vice Chair
Meeting: Monday, March 19, 2001
8:00 p.m. - Democratic Caucus Room
(in conjunction with Fiscal Committee)

Chair Fortunato reported that the Public Safety & Health Committee met on Monday, March 19, 2001, in conjunction with the Fiscal Committee on secondary items. Present were Committee Member Reps. DeLuca, Fortunato, Kernan, Lyons and MacInnis. Excused were Reps. DePina, Biancardi, Mobilio, O'Neill and Skigen.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE: Donald B. Sherer, Co-Chair

Mary L. Fedeli, Co-Chair
Meeting: Wednesday, March 28, 2001
7:30 p.m. - Republican Caucus Room

Co-Chair Sherer reported that the Parks & Recreation Committee met on Wednesday, March 28, 2001. Present were Committee Member Reps. Sherer, Imbrogno, White, O'Neill and Cannady. Excused were Reps. Poltrack, Graber and Fedeli. Also in attendance was Rep. Giordano.

1. PR25.066 APPROVAL; of E. Gaynor Brennan Municipal Golf Course Rates for the 2001 Season. **APPROVED
BY VOICE
VOTE**
02/20/01 - Approved by Golf Commission
02/28/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/29/01 - Committee approved 5-0-0

Co-Chair Sherer moved Item No. PR25.066; said motion was seconded. Chair Sherer moved to amend the proposed fees by charging resident seniors with a pass \$3 for 18 holes and \$2 for 9 holes. Said amendment was approved by unanimous voice vote. The main motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

2. PR25.056 RESOLUTION; approving Parks & Recreation Commission's recommendations for opening and closing times for city-owned parks (**times to be published - public hearing to be required**). **HELD IN
COMMITTEE**
05/01/00 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
08/02/00 - Committee approved 6-4-0
02/27/01 - Held in Committee

Rep. Sherer stated that one of the complaints from the Police Department was that there were different times for different parks, and this is evolving into the same situation, with three different sets of times.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE Ellen Mellis, Chair
Philip Giordano, Vice Chair
Meeting: Wednesday, March 21, 2001
7:00 p.m. - Republican Caucus Room

1. E25.040 APPROVAL; of agreement with Fuller & D'Angelo, PC for architectural and engineering services for Northeast Elementary School; amount of contract: \$144,530.00. **NO
REPORT**
02/28/01 - Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
03/08/01 - Held by Board of Finance

Rep. Mellis stated the item was held due to the fact that the Board of Finance did not take up the item.

URBAN REDEVELOPMENT Jim Shapiro, Chair

COMMITTEE

Joseph Gasparini, Vice Chair

1. UR25.004 REVIEW; of the Urban Redevelopment Commission's actions regarding the Mill River Corridor Project, including its Statement of Policy and the Delineation & Eligibility Report.
09/11/98 - Submitted by E. Steinberg, Executive Director, URC
05/03/99 - Report Made
12/13/99 - Held in Committee
- NO
REPORT**

*Secondary Committee: Land Use***HOUSING/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Elaine Mitchell, Chair
Lisa Poltrack, Vice Chair
Public Hearing: Tues., March 20, 2001
6:30 p.m. - Republican Caucus Room
- and -
Meeting: Wednesday, March 21, 2001
6:30 p.m. - Democratic Caucus Room

Chair Mitchell reported that the Housing/Community Development/Social Services Committee met on Tuesday, March 20, 2001. Present were Committee Member Reps. Blackwell, Cannady, Giordano, Mellis, Mitchell, Poltrack, Morrow and Spandow. Reps. DePina and Summerville were also in attendance. Tim Beeble, Phil McKain and Sonya van Norton from CTE, Jane Norgren from the Child Care Center and other agency representatives were also in attendance.

1. HCD25.44 APPROVAL; **second public hearing**; of Year 27 Annual Action Plan for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding and the HOME Investment Partnership Program.
01/08/01 - Submitted by Rep. Mitchell
01/30/01 - Public Hearing Held
03/20/01 - Second Public Hearing Held
- REPORT
MADE**

Chair Mitchell reported that this was the second public hearing, and the only speaker was from Adopt-a-House. A written report of her comments will be provided to all representatives.

2. HCD25.38 REVIEW; of the feasibility of enacting an ordinance providing a linkage between commercial development and affordable housing.
06/08/00 - Submitted by President Domonkos
- REPORT
MADE**

08/31/00 - Report Made
09/06/00 - Report Made
09/19/00 - Report Made
03/21/01 - Report Made

Chair Mitchell reported that the Committee met on March 21, 2001. Present were Committee Member Reps. Cannady, Giordano, Mellis, Mitchell, Morrow and Spadow. Reps. Blackwell and Poltrack were excused. Reps. Hunter and Tim Beeble were also in attendance. A copy of the ordinance was provided to everyone, and it will be placed on the May agenda as an ordinance. This ordinance will deal with the creation of a commercial linkage program, fees and the use of a trust fund, creation of a board of trustees, the terms of voting and duties and responsibilities.

3. HCD25.40 DISCUSSION; with representatives of Abeles, Phillips, Preiss & Shapiro regarding affordable housing study they are preparing. **REPORT
MADE**
10/11/00 - Submitted by President Domonkos
11/08/00 - Held in Committee
03/21/01 - Report Made

Chair Mitchell stated that the Committee received an overview of the study, and there will be a housing summit in May, with members of the Board of Representatives afforded an opportunity to make comments. A draft of the report will be made available to all representatives.

4. HCD25.39 REVIEW; of Housing Authority's plans regarding the Mill River Project. **REPORT
MADE**
10/10/00 - Submitted by Rep. Mitchell
11/08/00 - Held in Committee
03/21/01 - Report Made

Chair Mitchell reported that the consultant for the Housing Authority gave the committee a presentation on the creation of affordable housing in the Corridor. He stated they could create 100 units of mixed income rental housing at a cost of \$220,000 per unit. This could be accomplished by using a permanent mortgage rate of 5.5%, equity sources, grants and secondary debt. This will be an 80-20 project, 80% of the units will be at market rate, and 20% below market rate. They will be able to create 8 units more than the Mill River plan calls for.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE Gabe DeLuca, Chair
Peter C. Nanos, Vice Chair
Meeting: Thursday, March 22, 2001
7:00 p.m. - Republican Caucus Room

Chair DeLuca reported that the Transportation Committee met on Thursday, March 22, 2001. Present were Committee Members DeLuca, Nanos, Giordano, Blackwell and Zelinsky. Also present were representatives of Stamford cab companies and the State.

1. T25.031 REVIEW; of taxi services in Stamford. **REPORT**
03/07/01 - Submitted by Rep. Lyons **MADE**

Chair DeLuca reported that this matter was placed on the agenda due to numerous complaints from commuters regarding a lack of cabs. Currently, the cab companies have applications before the State to increase their fleet by four additional cabs.

Chair DeLuca moved to suspend the rules to take up a resolution urging the addition of taxi cabs in Stamford. Said motion was seconded and approved by voice vote (Rep. Sherer opposed).

Chair DeLuca stated that the resolution states due to population increases and due to the need to improve service, the Board of Representatives goes on record as approving the addition of four cabs. Chair DeLuca moved the resolution; said resolution was seconded.

Rep. Shapiro stated that anyone coming off a train at rush hour will confirm that commuters are hustled into cabs with any number of people, and the option to not have to share a cab doesn't exist.

Chair DeLuca stated that all cab company representatives and the State representative said that if this happens, the commuter should call them. This is definitely not allowed, regardless of what the cab driver says. Rep. Shapiro suggested a sign be posting stating that riders do not have to share cabs. Rep. DeLuca stated he would send a memo recommending this.

Rep. Kernan stated he is opposed to the expansion of the taxi fleets. He stated he frequently uses taxis, and seldom has to wait longer than ten minutes. Moreover, the drivers have a very hard time earning a living, with an \$80 minimum required each day in order to pay the owner

of the cab. Many drivers make as little as \$250/week. If the resolution passes, it will make it more difficult for the current drivers.

Rep. Skigen asked if any representative of the drivers was asked to appear at the hearing. Rep. DeLuca stated that the drivers were not invited.

Rep. Summerville stated that it is very clear that the City of Stamford has poor taxi service. The taxes are dirty, there is a problem with understanding addresses, there are more than one person in a cab, and some cab drivers don't always practice good hygiene. Rep. Summerville said that it is unfortunate that this matter has gone on for so long. She said that the issues relating to cabs do not stop with the passage of this resolution this evening.

Rep. DeLuca stated that had he known of the other concerns before the meeting, he would have brought these concerns to the attention of the State and the cab companies. He added that Jim Shapiro and he will work on drafting a letter to the State and the cab companies delineating the concerns expressed at the meeting.

Rep. Lyons stated that the City has very little leverage and very little enforcement power over the cab companies. It is a fully state-regulated entity, with one or two state inspectors for the entire state. Mr. Lyons stated that maybe the Board wants to consider a local ordinance regarding cabs. Mr. Lyons also added that the increase of cabs would provide the drivers with more opportunities to use cabs. Mr. Lyons also added that the only leverage the City ever had was when it controlled the train station and the starter's booth. Now that is gone, and the City has less leverage.

Ms. Green-Carter stated that the Clerk of the Board is not alone on this issue. She is thankful that she has always owned an automobile, but when she was without transportation, it was horrible having to deal with the taxi cab service. She stated that all of Ms. Summerville's comments are true. She also supported Mr. Lyons' suggestion that a local ordinance be considered.

Rep. Hunter stated that the cabs are very unreliable.

Rep. O'Neill asked about what increase the additional cabs will have on the traffic bottlenecks at the Transportation Center. Rep. DeLuca replied that Mr. Fedeli was not concerned about the additional cabs and in fact supported the applications.

Rep. DeLuca stated that since everyone seems to be on the same wave length, the resolution should be passed.

A motion to move the question was made and seconded; said motion was approved by voice vote with Reps. Kernan and Zelinsky opposed. The main motion was approved by voice vote with Reps. Kernan, Zelinsky, Owens, Skigen and O'Neill opposed. Rep. Green-Carter abstained.

ADMINISTRATION & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE Gloria DePina, Chair
Thomas Hunter, Vice Chair

HOUSE COMMITTEE Annie M. Summerville, Chair

RESOLUTIONS

1. Congratulating the Stamford High Hockey Team on its state championship. **HELD**
03/14/01 - Submitted by Rep. Skigen.

Rep. Zelinsky moved to suspend the rules to take up a resolution honoring the 210th anniversary of the Polish constitution. Said motion was seconded and approved by voice vote (Rep. Sherer opposed; Rep. Nakian abstaining). Rep. Zelinsky moved the resolution; said motion was seconded and approved by voice vote (Rep. Sherer opposed).

MINUTES

1. [March 7, 2001 Regular Meeting](#) **APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE**
2. [February 14, 2001 Special Meeting Minutes](#) **APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE**

COMMUNICATIONS

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made and seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 10:23 p.m.

*The proceedings are available on audio tape at the
Offices of the Board of Representatives.*

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