The Regular Meeting of the 27th Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford was held on Monday, June 4, 2007 in the Legislative Chambers of the Board of Representatives in the Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, 4th Floor, Stamford, Connecticut.

MINUTES


“Oh, God, our Father, tonight as we stand together with a strong voice to be heard … a voice to be heard throughout this community; a voice to be heard for a change and a voice for action. Let us be mindful of our responsibility to one another. Grant us health, strength and courage. This is my prayer. Amen.”

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: Led by President David R. Martin.

ROLL CALL: Conducted by Clerk of the Board Annie M. Summerville. There were thirty-five members present and five members absent/excused (Reps. Figueroa, Mirkin, Neary, Munger and Coppola).

VOTING MACHINE STATUS: The machine was in good working order.


COMMUNICATIONS:

1. President Martin wished Reps. Fedeli, DeLuca, Coppola, Mirkin, Munger and Diamond a happy birthday.
2. The deadline for items for next Monday’s Steering Committee meeting is this Thursday at 9:00 a.m.
3. The softball game against the Mayor’s Team will be held on Thursday, June 21, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. Rep. DeLuca asked that those who are interested in playing notify him as soon as possible.
4. President Martin stated that it has been one of his goals that the various people who come before the Board as well as the public in general would have respect for this Board. While we all deserve respect, respect for legislative bodies is really hard to get. If you do polls of the American public, they don’t think that Congress is doing a very good job; if you go to England, they don’t think parliament is doing a very good job; if you go to Israel, you’ll find the same thing. But, he does not want this Board to be like some other boards where people come down and don’t respect the Board, but rather are in fear of it.

And, in that regard, it is appropriate for us to all behave in a way that engenders respect. It is also important that we respect one another, not just those who come before a committee. In that regard, in the May 17, 2007 edition of the Stamford Advocate, he [President Martin] was quoted as saying; “either they have a hidden agenda or they don’t know what they are talking about.” President Martin stated he did say this and believes this was an inappropriate comment, adding, “The truth is that we are all emotional at times and feel very passionate about the causes we believe in and work hard to achieve. But, I say to you that not only was this disrespectful to some of the members in ways that were inappropriate, and I have some excuses. I was tired, I was upset about something else, I don’t think I said this in the context in which it was printed, and I didn’t mean it in the way that it came out, but those are all excuses, and the reality is I cannot complain about the Advocate. This was disrespectful to the rest of the Board and to the people referred to. This brings disrespect to the Board. The best that come of this is that I sit here apologizing to the Board, so I am sorry to those disrespected, and that means every one on the Board. Furthermore, I hope that when people come to our committee meetings that they be treated with respect. That doesn’t mean that you have to give up your passion, it doesn’t mean you have to give up your opinions, but it is important that everyone treat one another respect, and I apologize for those comments.”

HONORARY RESOLUTIONS:

1. SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION; honoring Dr. Danoff. 
   04/01/07 – Submitted by Rep. Skigen 
   APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

2. SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION; honoring and thanking Gino Lupinacci for his efforts on the All Wars Memorial. 
   05/10/07 – Submitted by Rep. DeLuca 
   APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
3. SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION; congratulating the 2007 Black Butterfly Debutantes. 
05/10/07 – Submitted by Rep. Mitchell

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

STANDING COMMITTEES

STEERING COMMITTEE: Meeting: Tuesday, May 15, 2007
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.

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE: Annie M. Summerville, Chair
John J. Boccuzzi, Vice Chair

The Appointments Committee met on May 29, 2007. Present were Chair Summerville and Committee Member Reps. Blackwell, DePina, Layton and Molgano; excused was Vice Chair Boccuzzi; absent were Committee Member Reps. Aposporos and Munger.

1. **A27.088**

**Tax Assessment Board of Appeals**

Christopher L. Campbell (D) Addition to Board
5 Hundley Court #1B
Stamford, CT 06902
Term Expires: N/A
02/14/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
04/04/07 – No Action Taken
05/07/07 – No Action Taken
05/29/07 – Committee rejected 5-0-0 without prejudice

Chair Summerville moved to reject Item No. A27.088 because the candidate has been unable to appear for an interview. Said motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote (Rep. Mitchell abstaining).

2. **A27.099**

**Stamford Golf Authority**

Patricia McGrath (D) Reappointment
99 Unity Road
Stamford, CT 06905
Term Expires: 1/1/2010

APPROVED ON CONSENT AGENDA
Chair Summerville moved the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item No. 2; said motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

FISCAL COMMITTEE: Randall M. Skigen, Chair
(Votes) Linda Cannady, Vice Chair
(Attendance) Meeting: Tuesday, May 29, 2007

7:00 p.m. – Republican Caucus Room

The Fiscal Committee met on May 29, 2007. Present were Chair Skigen and Vice Chair Cannady, Committee Member Reps. Day, DeLuca, Fedeli, Figueroa, Giordano, Lyons and Mirkin; excused was Rep. Mitchell. Also present were Ellen Bromley, City Social Services; Karen Cammarota of the Grants Office and Mike Pensiero of Technology.

1. F27.245 APPROVAL; of an agreement with Sprint Solutions, Inc. for wireless communications services.
   05/01/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
   06/14/07 – To be considered by Board of Finance
   05/29/07 – Committee approved 8-0-0

2. F27.244 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Bioterrorism Emergency Response; funds to supplement original grant amount.
   04/24/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
   05/03/07 – Approved by Board of Finance
   05/29/07 – Committee approved 8-0-0

3. F27.250 GRANTS RESOLUTION; authorizing the Mayor to make application for funding assistance from the U.S. Department of Justice through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant.
   05/10/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
   05/29/07 – Committee approved 8-0-0

4. F27.243 ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Enhanced Senior Services Transportation Program; Contracted Services; to provide transportation assistance to elderly and disabled residents.
   05/01/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
   05/29/07 – Committee approved 8-0-0
5. **F27.251** ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget) $8,000.00  
WIC Grant; represents increase to the FY 06-07 grant from the CT Dept. of Public Health.  
05/14/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy  
06/14/07 – To be considered by Board of Finance  
05/29/07 – Committee approved 9-0-0

6. **F27.246** ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Self Insurance; Medical & Life Insurance; requesting funds from 05-06 surplus in Medical & Life account for unanticipated claim experience.  
05/04/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy  
06/14/07 – To be considered by Board of Finance  
05/29/07 – Held in Committee

7. **F27.242** ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Police Department; Gasoline; additional funding request for this account.  
04/24/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy  
06/14/07 – To be considered by Board of Finance  
05/29/07 – Held in Committee

8. **F27.241** ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Police Department; College Tuition; additional funding request for this account.  
04/24/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy  
06/14/07 – To be considered by Board of Finance  
05/29/07 – Held in Committee

9. **F27.240** ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Police Department; Overtime; additional funding request for this account.  
04/24/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy  
06/14/07 – To be considered by Board of Finance  
05/29/07 – Held in Committee

10. **F27.252** RESOLUTION; requiring a revaluation in 2007.  
05/14/07 – Submitted by Rep. Lodato  
05/29/07 – Held in Committee
11. F27.249  PROPOSED ORDINANCE; for publication; requiring revaluations be performed every two years and that all revaluations be phased-in over two-year time periods.  
05/10/07 – Submitted by Reps. Skigen, Mirkin & DeLuca  
05/29/07 – Held in Committee  

Chair Skigen reported that Item Nos. 6 through 11 were held either because the Board of Finance had not acted on the item or because the invitees were unable to attend due to the Board of Finance mill-rate setting meeting schedule.  

Chair Skigen moved the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item Nos. 1 through 5 above; said motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.  

LEGISLATIVE & RULES COMMITTEE:  
James D. Diamond, Chair  
Arthur Layton, Vice Chair  

Meeting:  Monday, May 21, 2007  
7:00 p.m. – Democratic Caucus Room  

The Legislative & Rules Committee met on May 21, 2007. Present were Committee Member Reps. Berns, Day, Esposito, Heaphy, Lodato, C. Martin and Zelinsky. Absent/excused were Committee Member Reps. Diamond, Layton, Lombardo and Mitchell. Also present were Rep. Adams; Tom Cassone, Esq., Vince Tufo and Richard Fox of the Housing Authority; Sandy Goldstein and John Ruotolo of the DSSD; and Ellen O’Neill of Keep America Beautiful.  

1. LR27.035  PROPOSED ORDINANCE; for public hearing & final adoption; regarding graffiti.  
12/21/06 – Submitted by Director Callion  
01/22/07 – Held in Committee 8-0-0  
02/26/07 – Committee approved 8-0-0 (as amended)  
03/05/07 – Approved for publication  
03/19/07 – Public hearing held; Committee approved 7-1-2 (as amended) for republication  
04/04/07 – Amendment defeated, ordinance defeated; reconsidered, returned to Committee  
04/16/07 – Committee approved 8-0-0 (as amended)  
05/07/07 – Approved for publication; emergency waive of republication defeated  
05/21/07 – Committee approved 7-0-0  

APPROVED BY MACHINE VOTE 25-10-0
Chair Diamond reported that this item was approved on Consent by the Committee.

Chair Diamond moved the item, noting that this ordinance has been pending for six months. During the public hearing the Committee received nothing but support from neighborhood associations and members of the public. The item was amended a number of months ago to eliminate most residential properties from the ordinance, and that was a controversial move. Nonetheless, Chair Diamond believes this is a good step forward in that graffiti is a problem and a greater problem in some neighborhoods than others. During Committee hearings, the Committee learned that most of the properties affected are commercial or city-owned. This ordinance is not perfect, but nonetheless, it ought to be approved tonight. Chair Diamond's motion was seconded.

Rep. Adams stated that he has been against this ordinance from its outset. He believes it is wrong to victimize the victim again with $90 fines a day, which will probably go up to $250 a day. He believes this is wrong and unfair, and as representatives, we should represent all of our constituents, not just one side (commercial or residential). Rep. Adams urged his fellow representatives to stand by him and vote this down.

The item was approved by a machine vote of 25-10- (Reps. Blackwell, Boccuzzi, Day, DeLuca, Diamond, Esposito, Fedeli, Franzetti, Giordano, Heaphy, Hunter, Larobina, Layton, Lodato, Lombardo, Lyons II, Mallozzi, C. Martin, D. Martin, Molgano, Rauh, Skigen, Summerville, White and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Adams, Aposporos, Berns, Cannady, DePina, Greenberg, McCullen, Mitchell, Pia and Young opposed) (See RCS Vote Record No. 836).

2a. LR27.039 PROPOSED ORDINANCE; for public hearing & final adoption; amending Ordinance No. 1050 regarding tax relief for senior homeowners by increasing the amount of the excluded fair market value of a residence from $600,000 to $800,000. 03/12/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy 04/16/07 – Committee approved 6-2-1 05/07/07 – Approved for publication 05/21/07 – Committee approved 7-0-0

2b. LR27.048 PROPOSED ORDINANCE; for public hearing & final adoption; amending Sec. 220-8 of the Code to increase income limits for eligibility for senior citizens and veterans tax relief; such income limits to be increased from 65K and 80K to, respectively, 85K and 100K. 04/04/07 – Submitted by President Martin, Reps. Day, DeLuca, Fedeli and Mirkin 04/16/07 – Committee approved 8-1-0 (as amended)
3. **LR27.049**  
PROPOSED ORDINANCE; for publication; of a tax abatement agreement between the City and Fairfield Court Limited Partnership.  
05/04/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy  
05/21/07 – Committee approved 7-0-0  
APPROVED ON CONSENT AGENDA

4. **LR27.051**  
PROPOSED ORDINANCE; for publication; amending Chapter 146, Housing Standards, Article III, Housing Blight, Section 146-50, Blight Lien Authorized to provide for allowing liens on certain blighted properties, in accordance with Public Act 06-185.  
05/10/07 – Submitted by Rep. Diamond  
05/21/07 – Held in Committee  
HELD IN COMMITTEE

5. **LR27.052**  
PROPOSED ORDINANCE; for publication; amending Chapter 146, Housing Standards, Article III, Housing Blight, Section 146-48, to increase the fines up to $250.  
05/10/07 – Submitted by Rep. DeLuca  
05/21/07 – Held in Committee  
HELD IN COMMITTEE

6. **LR27.050**  
REVIEW; of sublease practices of not-for-profit organizations who lease city property.  
05/10/07 – Submitted by Rep. Diamond  
05/21/07 – Held in Committee  
HELD IN COMMITTEE

7. **LR27.046**  
APPROVAL; of amendment to Rules of the Board re: motion to limit debate.  
04/04/07 – Submitted by President Martin  
04/16/07 – Held in Committee 7-2-0  
05/07/07 – No action taken  
05/21/07 – Held in Committee  
HELD IN COMMITTEE

Chair Diamond moved the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item Nos. 2a, 2b and 3; said motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:** Mary Lisa Fedeli, Chair  
(Attendance)  
Pauline S. Rauh, Vice Chair
Meeting: Wednesday, May 23, 2007
7:00 p.m. – Democratic Caucus Room

The Personnel Committee met on May 23, 2007. Present were Committee Chair Fedeli and Vice Chair Rauh and Committee Member Reps. Boccuzzi, Cannady, Figueroa, Greenberg, Layton, Lodato and Skigen; absent/excused was Rep. Lodato. Also present were Reps. DeLuca and Franzetti; Dennis Murphy and Fred Manfredonia of Human Resources and Anne Marie Mones of Risk Management.

1. **P27.049**  
   APPROVAL; of an agreement with Webster Risk Services, Inc. for workers’ compensation and heart and hypertension claims administration.  
   04/18/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy  
   05/03/07 – Approved by Board of Finance  
   05/23/07 – Committee approved 8-0-0
   __APPROVED ON CONSENT AGENDA (as amended) (Rep. C. Martin abstaining)__

Chair Fedeli reported that the contract was amended by adding to the contract language that states that Webster is in compliance with all worker’s compensation law.

2. **P27.050**  
   RESOLUTION; requesting concessions by unions for establishment of bi-monthly payroll and use of city-owned vehicles.  
   05/10/07 – Submitted by Reps. DeLuca, Day, Martin & Mirkin  
   05/23/07 – Held in Committee 8-0-0
   __HELD IN COMMITTEE__

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item No. 1 was made, seconded and approved by voice vote (Rep. C. Martin abstaining).

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Meeting: Wednesday, May 30, 2007
7:30 p.m. – Republican Caucus Room

The Land Use-Urban Redevelopment Committee met on May 30, 2007. Present were Chair Day and Vice Chair White and Committee Member Reps. Boccuzzi, Diamond, Greenberg, Lombardo, Mitchell and Summerville. Absent/excused was Committee Member Rep Franzetti. Also present were Rick Redniss, Edward Gentile and Lou Casolo of Engineering, Bill Hennessey and Ellen Bromley.
1. **LU27.024**  
PROPOSED ORDINANCE; for **public hearing and final adoption**; establishing “green” building code standards for newly constructed municipal buildings.  
12/05/06 – Submitted by Reps. Day and Martin  
01/24/07 – Held in Committee 7-0-0  
03/22/07 – No quorum; report made  
05/07/07 – Committee approved 6-0-0  
05/07/07 – Approved for publication  
05/30/07 – Committee approved 5-0-0

2. **LU27.025**  
REVIEW; possible changes in EPB aquifer protection regulations to conform to DEP model municipal regulations.  
12/11/06 – Submitted by Chair Day  
01/24/07 – No action  
02/08/07 – Report Made & Held in Committee  
03/05/07 – Report Made  
03/22/07 – No action taken  
05/30/07 – Held in Committee

3. **LU27.034**  
**RESOLUTION**; noticing intent to relocate a portion of Washington Boulevard.  
05/10/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy & Bill Hennessey  
05/30/07 – Committee approved 5-0-2

4. **LU27.027**  
REVIEW; identification of city accepted, non-accepted and private roads.  
02/07/07 – Submitted by Clerk Summerville  
03/12/07 – Placed on Pending Agenda  
05/30/07 – Report Made

Chair Day reported that at the request of Clerk Summerville, a discussion of the accuracy of this list was held. This item will be followed up in six months.

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item Nos. 1 and 3, was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**: John R. Zelinsky, Jr., Chair  
(Attendance)  
(Votes)  
Meeting: Wednesday, May 23, 2007
The Operations Committee met on May 23, 2007. Present were Chair Zelinsky and Vice Chair Mirkin and Committee Member Reps. Adams, Berns, Coppola, Larobina, Lodato, Munger and White; absent/excused were Committee Member Rep. Mallozzi. Also present were Rep. DeLuca; Pepi Barbarotta of Parks/Facilities; Phil D’Amico of Parks; Alex Tergis, Public Service Bureau Chief; Taylor Bova of Operations; Erin McKenna of the Land Use Bureau; Ben Barnes, Director of Operations; and Tom Cassone, Esq., Director of Legal Affairs and former Board of Representatives Member Brian O’Neill.

1. **O27.023**

   SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION; in support of maintaining the trees in front of the Government Center.
   05/23/07 – Held in Committee 5-4-0

   Chair Zelinsky moved Item No. O27.023. Said motion was seconded.

   Rep. Adams stated he is against eliminating backyard pickup in that this is a service that citizens pay for. As a result of the tax increases, for the city to reduce services should not be allowed. The City should find a way to provide the service that the citizens pay for through greater efficiencies.

   Rep. White stated that he agrees with Rep. Adams. This is an ordinance, it is service provided to those districts in Stamford that pay for it, and when you break down the amount of money that is actually spent, it comes to $28 per household per year. With the recent revaluation that shifted more of the onus of the tax burden once again from commercial to residential, and a tax increase on top of that, saying we are improving services by dropping backyard pickup is really not fair to the people who actually get this service. There is a link that has been made to recycling, and while they are related, this is really a separate issue. The issue before us deals with backyard pickup. This service should be continued. He urges his fellow board members to vote against publication.

   Rep. Lyons stated that this is a contentious item, it has been around for a long time and it is considered a luxury item. Constituents in his district are both for and against it.
After this budget season where people demanded that taxes be kept as low as possible, everyone knew there would be reductions in services, and unfortunately, we have a choice. Although people may say that it is not related to recycling, either we eliminate citywide recycling or end the luxury of pulling the garbage from backyards or redeploy those laborers and eliminate the contract with a private vendor that does the recyclables collection. Rep. Lyons welcomes a public hearing on the matter. Stamford probably collects household waste in one of the most inefficient and archaic manners in the United States, if not the State of Connecticut. The City of New York uses fewer men to collect trash than we do in the City of Stamford. The whole area needs to be reviewed to determine how we become more efficient, and he supports publication of the ordinance.

Rep. Zelinsky read from the Operations Committee Report:

- The revised ordinance provides both trash and recycling backyard pick up for those who are unable to bring it to the curb; this was re-instated after determining that the City will be able to continue the service for both functions.
- It is his intention is to continue curbside recycling, adding that he doesn't have funds for both backyard pickup and recycling.
- The Director of Operations should have the ability to determine reasonable and minor changes in the location of recycling and collection bins.
- In order to deal with the budget reduction, he is reducing the solid waste collection budget by $1,043,000, reducing the recycling contract of $1.25 million by $970,000; reduced a foreman position and instituted overtime reductions that come to a $1.043 million reduction.
- There are 12 garbage men on 6 routes, 5 days a week (30 routes). 2 will be pulled from the teams (12 people total) and put into the curbside recycling program at a cost of approximately $710,000. There will be an additional cost of approximately $250,000 to lease recycling trucks. This saves $1.043 million, provides curbside recycling and maintains the overall level of manpower, which is critical to respond to other things such as snow plowing, storm response, etc.
- Other modifications to the garbage collection services are being made, including new solid wastes carts and a retrofitting of existing trucks.
- This new program will save on worker’s comp, improve efficiency and improve the convenience for people.
- Benefits include the discontinuation of two types of recycling – this will improve compliance.
- To institute recycling, ten trucks at a cost of $165,000 per truck are needed. (They will be leased for $250,000/year.)
- There are 143 hardship cases for back yard recycling and they are estimating about 500 hardship cases that will require backyard trash pickup. These are handled on a separate route.
- Mr. Barnes will develop policies as to who qualifies for hardship backyard pickup. Currently, there are no formal policies, and it is handled informally on a case-by-case basis. They have never had any problems with this system.
• The Enviro Contract requires 20 days termination notice and costs about $1.5 million/year.
• There will be a hiatus over the summer between July 1, when the Enviro contract will be terminated, and mid-September, when the leased trucks will be delivered. During this period, people will have to go to the recycling centers. If possible, he may set up recycling centers in supermarkets or at other convenience locations around town.
• He is reluctant to order the equipment until the ordinance is amended.

Rep. Boccuzzi stated everyone is trying to figure out how to operate the City with the budget that was handed to us by the Board of Finance. He noted that Rep. Zelinsky read some figures as to how the Operations Department can cope with the cuts handed down. When the Board of Finance set the mill rate the other night, they set it with the idea that this program would be cut from the Operations Department. The money is not there to continue this service, and while some say we could do away with something else and still keep backyard pickup, he has not heard anybody mention what services they would like to do away with in order to keep backyard pickup. The Board of Finance is going to stay pretty fast on the amount of money that they cut in the event the Administration requests an additional appropriation for backyard pickup. Our choice is to either eliminate backyard pickup and have them re-allocate the savings while maintaining jobs, or we are going to have backyard pickup and the money has to come from someplace else. Where the cuts will be made, he doesn’t know. He heard from the Board of Finance and our Fiscal Committee that there is no way they could find any additional funds from anywhere in the budget to try and fund the backyard pickup function. Rep. Boccuzzi added that he believes we will have to eliminate backyard pickup, have people bring the cans to the front, making sure that those who are unable to bring them out and seniors should be accommodated.

Rep. Boccuzzi noted to those who suggest the Rainy Day Fund be tapped to provide this service, they ought to be aware that the Rainy Day Fund is not to cover operating costs, it is only for emergencies. Rep. Boccuzzi stated he is voting in favor of publication of the ordinance. This is a nice luxury, but he does not know how many cities in the State have backyard pickup, and he doesn’t believe there are any here or probably very many in the entire United States. He asked his fellow representatives to vote with him for publication.

Rep. White stated that no one really knows how many hardship cases there will be, noting that there were 143 hardship cases for recycling. With refuse pickup, there are 25,000 stops, and they anticipate 500 hardship cases, and he questions that number. Trying to keep this straight logistically is going to be a nightmare, and any savings will quickly erode. To him, $28 per year per household is certainly worth keeping backyard pickup, and again, this is a separate issue from the recycling issue.

Rep. Diamond stated he has reservations about eliminating this city service. The taxpayers are experiencing tax increases and service cuts; nevertheless, he was persuaded by Rep. Boccuzzi’s comments that we ought to have a public hearing. He
wants to hear the public; sometimes we expect a lot of feedback and it comes, and sometimes we get silence. He is going to vote for publication and reserves his right to vote against this next month.


Suspension of the Rules

Chair Zelinsky moved to suspend the rules to take up an item not appearing on the Agenda. Said motion was seconded and FAILED by a vote of 17-17-0 (Reps. Adams, Aposporos, Berns, Cannady, DePina, Esposito, Franzetti, Giordano, Heaphy, Hunter, Mallozzi, C. Martin, McCullen, Mitchell, White, Young and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Blackwell, Boccuzzi, Day, DeLuca, Diamond, Fedeli, Greenberg, Larobina, Layton, Lodato, Lombardo, Lyons, D. Martin, Molgano, Pia, Rauh and Skigen opposed (See RCS Vote Record No. 838).

3. PROPOSED ORDINANCE; for publication; amending Chapter 227 Trees & Shrubs, Article I, Section 227.1.1 Rules and Regulations, Violations & Penalties to provide for 1) 30 days written notice and 2) to create a new Paragraph F regarding the trees in front of the Government Center. 05/23/07 – Submitted by Rep. Zelinsky
05/23/07 – Committee approved 1) 8-0-0 and 2) 5-3-1

PUBLIC SAFETY & HEALTH COMMITTEE: Richard Lyons, II, Chair
(Attendance)
Meeting: Thursday, May 31, 2007
(Report)
7:00pm – Democratic Caucus Room

The Public Safety & Health Committee met on May 31, 2007. Present were Chair Lyons and Committee Member Reps. Adams, Berns, Coppola, DePina, C. Martin and Zelinsky; absent/excused were Committee Member Reps. Aposporos, Mirkin and Pia. Also present were Bill Callion, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare; Fire Chief McGrath; Chiefs Fahan, Didelot, Passaro, Bennett and acting Chief Whitbred; and Scot Lutinski of SEMS.
1. PS27.019 REVIEW; of progress on the citywide radio system implementation. 
   04/04/07 – Resubmitted by Rep. Coppola 
   05/31/07 – Report Made

2. PS27.024 REVIEW; draft policies & procedures manual for CCTV cameras. 
   04/06/07 – Submitted by Director Callion 
   05/31/07 – Report Made & Held in Committee

Chair Lyons asked that any board members with concerns attend next month’s committee meeting or send concerns via email.

3. PS27.025 REVIEW; of citywide fire department response times. 
   05/10/07 – Submitted by Reps. Lyons & Coppola 
   05/31/07 – Report Made

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE: Linda Cannady, Co-Chair
(Attendance) Joseph Coppola, Co-Chair
(Report) Meeting: Thursday, May 24, 2007

7:00 p.m. – Democratic Caucus Room

The Parks & Recreation Committee met on May 24, 2007. Present were Co-Chairs Cannady and Coppola and Committee Member Reps. Heaphy, McCullen, Pia, White and Young; absent/excused were Reps. Lyons and Fedeli. Also present were Reps. Adams and Layton.

1. PR27.020 REVIEW; establishment of a dog park in the City of Stamford. 
   04/27/07 – Submitted by Reps. Skigen, Layton & Heaphy 
   05/24/07 – Report Made

2. PR27.019 REVIEW; citywide field maintenance including Board of Education fields. 
   02/09/07 – Submitted by Reps. Pia, Molgano and Coppola 
   02/20/07 – Held in Committee
EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Polly Rauh, Chair
Michael L. Molgano, Vice Chair

No meeting; no report.

HOUSING/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE: Elaine Mitchell, Chair
(Attendance) Philip J. Giordano, Vice Chair
(Votes)  
(Report) Meeting: Tuesday, May 22, 2007
6:30 p.m. – Democratic Caucus Room

The Housing/Community Development/Social Services Committee met on May 22, 2007. Present were Chair Mitchell and Vice Chair Giordano and Committee Member Reps. Aposporos, McCullen, Molgano, Munger and Figueroa; absent/excused was Rep. Blackwell. Also present were Gary Shannon of Stamford Youth Foundation; Steve Dougherty of Laurel House; Jeannine Egdorf of Child Guidance; Jeanne Franklin of Stamford Senior Center, Inc.; Bill Brucker of Family Centers; Karen Cammarota of the Grants Office; Johnnie Malloy of St. Luke’s Lifeworks; S. M. Abbazia of Piper’s Hill; Nadine Phillips of Witness Project; Lisa Bazernore of Horizons; Sandra Dennies, Director of Administration and Ben Barnes, Director of Administration.

1. HCD27.026 RESOLUTION; approving submittal of list of programs to the State Dept. of Revenue Services in accordance with the provisions of the CT Neighborhood Assistance Act.  
   APPROVED ON  
   CONSENT  
   AGENDA
   04/05/07 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
   06/14/07 – To be considered by Board of Finance
   05/22/07 – Committee approved 5-0-0

Chair Mitchell reported there were 12 agencies that presented, two that didn’t appear and one agency did not submit the application, Piper’s Hill. They requested permission to submit it later, and the Committee approved this request 6-0-0. The two agencies not present were the Boys & Girls Club and the Stamford Health System. Their applications were read into the record by Karen Cammarato.

2. HCD27.017 REVIEW; formula of the commercial linkage REPORT
ordinance funding summary.  
11/09/06 – Submitted by Reps. Mitchell and Skigen
11/21/06 – Held in Committee
01/09/07 – Placed on Pending Agenda
03/20/07 – Committee voted 5-0-0 to continue review of matter
04/11/07 – Placed on Pending Agenda
05/22/07 – Report Made

Sandy Dennies and Ben Barnes have suggested that to make it less complicated that we should look at a percentage of the amount collected for commercial buildings. For example, if $1 million is collected and 5% is the percentage, that $50,000 would be earmarked for the Affordable Housing Fund. Sandy Dennies is going to have a suggested draft of an amended ordinance next month.

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item No. 1 above, was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE:  Robert “Gabe” DeLuca, Chair
(Territory)  Terry Adams, Vice Chair
(Votes)  Meeting: Thursday, May 24, 2007
(Report)  7:00 p.m. – Republican Caucus Room

The Transportation Committee met on May 24, 2007. Present were Committee Members DeLuca, Adams, Mirkin, Young, Blackwell, Giordano and Zelinsky; also present were Rep. McCullen, Housing Authority Director Fox, Sandra Wells of the Oak Park Tenant Association and Housing Authority Atty. Shteyngar.

1. T27.028  REVIEW; of contract with Law Enforcement Systems, Inc. regarding collection of past-due parking tickets.
05/04/07 – Submitted by Reps. Mirkin, DeLuca and Franzetti
05/24/07 – Held in Committee

2. T27.027  PROPOSED ORDINANCE; for publication; regarding parking enforcement on Housing Authority properties.
03/28/07 – Submitted by Stamford Housing Authority
05/24/07 – Committee approved 5-2-0

A motion to approve Item No. T27.027 was made and seconded. Chair DeLuca stated that the primary purpose of this ordinance is to preserve the parking spaces for the tenants. Presidents of the Tenants’ Associations and Representative Queen McCullen
came to the meeting and spoke in favor of this ordinance – to give the police authority to
ticket cars that don’t have Housing Authority stickers on them. Richard Fox has met
with Director Callion and Chief Larrabee, who indicated they have no problem in
enforcing these regulations. The Police Department will also be involved in towing cars
that are illegally parked there. This is something that the tenants want; when they come
home late at night, the parking spaces are taken up by non-residents, and they have to
park blocks away. There was a question as to why tenants don’t have assigned parking
spaces, and the Housing Authority responded they don’t think this is needed and that
the current practice has been in effect for years, and they have only experienced
problems in the last few years with non-residents parking on their property.

Rep. Adams stated that he was at the Committee meeting, and he disagrees with this
ordinance. He believes that we are treading new ground, this is private property owned
by the Federal Government. We are asking taxpayers to fund going on to private
property to control and solve their parking problem. He thinks this should go back to
committee to work out some details. In speaking with residents, they want assigned
parking spaces so they don’t have to come home every night to look for spaces. Rep.
Adams added that he spoke with Mr. Fox at the Committee meeting, advising him that if
he has enough parking spaces, why not just put numbers to the permits that are on the
car to provide an assigned space. Mr. Fox responded that the Committee can’t tell the
Housing Authority how to manage its property. However, Mr. Fox is coming to the City
to enforce his parking problems.

Rep. Adams added that we are opening up the doors to any non-profit organization that
wants this service – whether it be Mutual Housing, St. Luke’s, NHS. The Chief of Police
is talking about understaffing, yet we are embarking on more enforcement and
something is going to have to give. Rep. Adams believes this should go back to
Committee so that a lot of the details can be ironed out between Mr. Fox and the
residents who want assigned parking spaces. If you have 125 parking spaces and 125
permits, the parking doesn’t have to be on a first come-first serve basis. This would
solve at least 50% of the Housing Authority’s problem.

Rep. Lyons stated that many months ago his Committee asked the Housing Authority to
come up with some initiatives to help with both safety and quality of life issues. This
ordinance was brought to the Committee’s attention in March when they consulted with
Chief Larrabee and Director Callion’s office about changing this ordinance regarding
towing of vehicles and parking enforcement on Housing Authority properties. Although
the Housing Authority properties may be financed with federal or state dollars and they
may have different financial requirements about their operations, we must make no
mistake that the City plows those very streets, we police the very neighborhoods, we
offer fire protection to those buildings, and we offer health inspection services and
different city services to those very residents. They are city residents, although they
may reside inside Stamford Housing Authority properties. He can understand the
concerns about assigned parking spaces, and he believes this is an issue that this
Board can put significant pressure on the Housing Authority to address and to deal with,
but he asks that the Board fully consider this ordinance for publication. Rep. Lyons
Rep. McCullen stated that on behalf of residents of Fairfield Court, they do want assigned parking spaces, and they have requested this of Mr. Fox. She added that residents have had this problem since Day One; this evening she will go home late and be unable to find a parking space. Rep. McCullen requested that the item go back to Committee so that Mr. Fox can return to the Committee and work on a compromise on assigned parking spaces.

Rep. C. Martin moved that the item be sent back to Committee; said motion was seconded.

Rep. DeLuca stated that he is against sending this back to Committee. Just like the backyard garbage pickup issue, we should have a public hearing to hear what the public has to say on this item. He doesn’t see what effect the assignment of parking spaces is going to have, because that would not prevent someone from taking someone’s space. Rep. DeLuca stated we should vote for publication, let the tenant associations come in and speak and hear what they say. Rep. DeLuca added that there were people at the Committee meeting who said they were in favor of the proposed amendment. As Mr. Lyons says, this is nothing new, we asked the people to come in with initiatives, they came in, and now we are going to shoot them down. Unfortunately, the way the people at the meeting were treated was not exactly what he would like to see and in certain cases it was uncalled for, but he urges the Board to vote for publication tonight.

Rep. Day stated that there is no basis to send this back to Committee. The arguments are not meritorious in that assigning spots is not going to solve the problem if people are still going to park illegally there. Secondly, it is not really federal property; this is quasi-Stamford property. This is not going to be setting any precedent. It is in the public interest to enact this.

Rep. Boccuzzi stated that he is going to vote for publication. He would like to hear what the different associations and tenants have to say. The only way we are going to know if they really want to additional enforcement is for the tenants themselves to come out and tell us.

Rep. Summerville stated that she worked for the Housing Authority for 30 years. Up until the administration of Richard Fox, there were assigned parking spaces, and the administrative costs were funded through the security line of the budget. They had a towing plan if cars were in the wrong spot. When she visits many neighborhoods in Stamford, they have residential parking zones in their neighborhoods. She would like to see this go back to Committee, because this is a significant change.
Rep. Summerville stated she received letters from every one of the tenant associations, they didn’t have the signatures of the tenants (just the presidents). Rep. McCullen says the residents in her complex want increased enforcement, but they want it with a plan, like other complexes, where everyone has one space per unit. St. John Towers, 28 Perry Street – these complexes have assigned spaces and you quickly learn that if you park in someone else’s space, you are going to get towed. These places post their rules, they don’t need the police department, and they tow illegally parked cars anyway. She would like to see it go back to Committee, noting that it is not acceptable for Director Fox to say we are trying to micromanage their operations. The Committee should look for a compromise on this issue. Chief Larrabee is a perfect gentleman and he is not going to lose support for this ordinance.

Rep. Summerville added that the Housing Authority may have a valid reason for not providing assigned parking spaces, but the answer that allegedly was given is not acceptable. Further, if changes are made, we can avoid having to republish the ordinance. She added that there is no urgency in enacting this ordinance, and one more month won’t make a difference. Rep. Summerville asked that we respect Ms. McCullen’s opinion as she lives there and knows what goes on there. She supports the police ticketing on their property, but not under these conditions where there has not been any effort from the Housing Authority to develop a plan.

Rep. Mitchell stated that she is in favor of sending it back to Committee because the ordinance is not addressing what the residents are requesting. They are requesting assigned parking throughout public housing. In working with the Housing Authority on other issues, she feels, in agreement with Rep. Summerville, that we need to sit at the table and solve the problem. Approving his ordinance does not solve the problem of assigned parking. The Housing Authority is responsible for security, the parking, for illegal cars being parked on their property, and they are responsible for getting those illegal cars removed like any other housing site in the City of Stamford.

Rep. Rauh stated that she was on the Housing Authority Commission for four years, and she strongly urges this go back to Committee, based on past experience. If this issue is not addressed; if we don’t get the issue on the table now and resolved, it won’t be. The Housing Authority has funding from a variety of sources for security, and this is a combined responsibility of the City and the Housing Authority. We are not dealing with a private association; we are dealing with a public organization that has responsibility and needs to take it. She urges the Board to take the month, go back and get the issues resolved.

Rep. Lyons stated that people need to understand that we are amending a citywide ordinance about traffic enforcement. He would rather that someone who is parked illegally in Housing Authority property receive a parking ticket for $35-$50 rather than be towed by a private tow company at costs in excess of $100 just because they happen to be in the wrong spot. He hopes that people understand what this ordinance is about. It is a citywide traffic enforcement ordinance, and it doesn’t just deal with Housing Authority properties. Even if it goes back to Committee, we should crystallize the fact
that this is a citywide issue. The issue of assigned parking can go on the agenda as a review item; it doesn’t deal with the amendment of this ordinance.

Rep. Boccuzzi stated that after listening to Rep. Summerville, he is going to vote to send it back to Committee. She persuaded him with her comments tonight and with her history with the Housing Authority to hold it up for one month and get some kind of a system in place.

Rep. Esposito moved the question; said motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

The motion to return to committee was approved by a machine vote of 34-0-0 (Reps. Adams, Aposporos, Berns, Blackwell, Boccuzzi, Cannady, Day, DeLuca, DePina, Diamond, Esposito, Fedeli, Franzetti, Giordano, Greenberg, Heaphy, Hunter, Larobina, Layton, Lodato, Lombardo, Lyons II, Mallozzi, C. Martin, D. Martin, McCullen, Mitchell, Molgano, Rauh, Skigen, Summerville, White, Young and Zelinsky in favor (See RCS Vote Record No. 839).

Clerk of the Board Summerville reported that Rep. Pia had left the meeting (time: 10:42 p.m.)

STATE & COMMERCE COMMITTEE: Paul A. Esposito, Chair

No meeting; no report.

MINUTES

1. May 7, 2007 Regular Board Meeting

2. May 14, 2007 Special Phase-In, Conveyance and Budget Meeting

III. OLD BUSINESS
IV. NEW BUSINESS

V. ADJOURNMENT