

*The Regular Meeting of the 27th Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford was held on **Monday, July 7, 2008** in the Legislative Chambers of the Board of Representatives in the Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, 4th Floor, Stamford, Connecticut.*

MINUTES

President David R. Martin called the meeting to order at 8:43 p.m.

INVOCATION: Led by Rep. Franzetti.

“Lord, as we assemble here tonight, we ask for Your blessing and favor to help us make the decisions that will please You. And, Lord, on this State of the City night, we ask that You bless our mayor and his cabinet, give them Your wisdom and guidance, to help them lead Your people in the City of Stamford. And, lastly, Lord, we ask that You protect and watch over our men and women in the military, keep them strong and bring them home safely. We ask this in Your name, 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 members present and ten members absent/excused (Reps. Berns, Figueroa, Gabriele, Lodato, C. Martin, Mitchell, Neary, Pia, Skigen and Young).

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

MOMENTS OF SILENCE: For the late: Dr. Cyrus Theodore Green and Renee Durham by Clerk Summerville; Anna Rizzi, Robert C. Sclafani, Sr., Jennie Romaniello, Ann Scutti, Susan Elizabeth Perretta, Mary Louise DeLuca and Ralph J. Kara by Rep. Giordano; Catherine Mathews and Michael A. Rubino, Sr., by Reps. Giordano and Zelinsky; and Rose Marie Sobieski, Salvatore A. Rabita, Sydney Landeau and Guglielmo Labrosiano by Rep. Zelinsky.

COMMUNICATIONS: President Martin announced:

1. Reps. John Zelinsky, Linda Cannady, Cynthia Martin and Pat Miller were celebrating a July birthday.

2. Marion McGarry will now serve on the Parks & Recreation Committee.

HONORARY RESOLUTIONS:

1. [SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION](#);
congratulating Bobby Augustyn on his 30 years of
coaching the Stamford High School baseball team.
06/02/08 – Submitted by Rep. Zelinsky **APPROVED BY
UNANIMOUS
VOICE VOTE**
2. SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION;
congratulating the Westhill High School State
Baseball team on winning the State Championship.
06/09/08 – Submitted by Rep. Day **HELD/ NO
ACTION
TAKEN**
3. [SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION](#);
congratulating Pilgrim Towers on its 40th
Anniversary (June 29th celebration).
06/09/08 – Submitted by Rep. Giordano **APPROVED BY
UNANIMOUS
VOICE VOTE**

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS: Given by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy. A transcript of the Address is attached hereto.

STANDING COMMITTEES

STEERING COMMITTEE: Meeting: Tuesday, June 9, 2008
([Report](#)) 7:00 p.m. – Democratic Caucus Room

Majority Leader Boccuzzi moved to waive the Steering Committee Report. Said motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE: **Annie M. Summerville, Chair**
([Attendance](#)) **John J. Boccuzzi, Vice Chair**
([Votes](#)) Meeting: Tuesday, July 1, 2008
([Report](#)) 7:00 p.m. – Democratic Caucus Room
7:30 p.m. (with Personnel Committee)

Chair Summerville reported that the Appointments Committee met on July 1, 2008. Present were Chair Summerville and Vice Chair Boccuzzi and Committee Member

Vice Chair Cannady reported that the Fiscal Committee met on June 30, 2008. Present were Chair Skigen and Vice Chair Cannady and Committee Member Reps. Day, DeLuca, Fedeli, Figueroa, Giordano, Mirkin and Rauh. Absent/excused were Committee Member Reps. Lyons and Mitchell. Also present were Hugh Murphy and Bill Dunn of the Board of Ed Finance Department; Al Barbarotta of the Board of Ed Facilities Department; Robert McGrath, Stamford Fire & Rescue; Peter Privitera, Director of OPM; Sandra Dennies, Director of Administration; Karen Cammarota, Grants Office; Bill Callion, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare; Donna Loglisci, Town and City Clerk; Peter Brown, Stamford Fire & Rescue; Joshua Starr, Superintendent of Schools; and Richard Freedman, Chair, Board of Education.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1. F27.413 | GRANTS RESOLUTION; authorizing the mayor to sign an agreement with the Connecticut DEP for a grant to purchase and install playground equipment at Scalzi Park; amount of grant: \$35,000.
05/23/08 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
06/30/08 – Committee Approved 7-0-0 | APPROVED ON
CONSENT
AGENDA |
| 2. F27.411
\$4,000.00 | ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Project Lifesaver; Program Supplies; to provide tracking devices for low-income senior citizens with memory difficulties.
05/23/08 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
06/09/08 – Approved by Board of Finance
06/30/08 – Committee Approved 7-0-0 | APPROVED ON
CONSENT
AGENDA |
| 3. F27.412
\$10,000.00 | ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Grants Budget); Safe Neighborhoods; Investigations; US Dept. of Justice grant funds to reduce violent gang and firearms crimes.
05/28/08 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
06/09/08 – Approved by Board of Finance
06/30/08 – Committee Approved 7-0-0 | APPROVED ON
CONSENT
AGENDA |
| 4a. F27.409
\$2,000,000.00 | ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); Engineering; Photovoltaic Generation systems at Rippowam Middle School and the Magee Avenue Highway Garage; source of funding: Clean Renewable Energy Bonds.
05/23/08 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
05/27/08 – Approved by Planning Board
06/09/08 – Approved by Board of Finance
06/30/08 – Committee Approved 8-0-1 | APPROVED ON
CONSENT
AGENDA |
| 4b. F27.417 | BONDING RESOLUTION ; Amending the Capital budget for FY 2007-08 and authorizing the use of | APPROVED ON
CONSENT |

general obligation bonds in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the installation of a solar photovoltaic system at the Highway Vehicle Maintenance Facility.

06/09/08 – Submitted by Bond Counsel
06/30/08 – Committee Approved 8-0-1

AGENDA

4c. [F27.418](#)

BONDING RESOLUTION; Amending the Capital budget for FY 2007-08 and authorizing the use of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the installation of a solar photovoltaic system at the Rippowam School.

06/09/08 – Submitted by Bond Counsel
06/30/08 – Committee Approved 8-0-1

**APPROVED ON
CONSENT
AGENDA**

Suspension of the Rules Item (committee approved 9-0-0)

A motion to suspend the rules to take up an item not appearing on the Agenda was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

5. [F27.420](#)

REJECTION; of Board of Education capital project closeouts (Rippowam Code compliance and general improvement grant, Stamford Academy, Alternatives for Success); funds to be used to replace the turf at Boyle Stadium.

06/05/08 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
06/30/08 – Committee failed to reject 0-9-0

**FAILED TO
REJECT BY
UNANIMOUS
VOICE VOTE**

A motion to reject the capital project closeouts (Item No. F27.420) was made, seconded and FAILED by unanimous voice vote.

6. [F27.414](#)
\$925,000.00

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Capital Budget); Board of Education; Athletic Fields Renovations; to replace astro-turf with new synthetic infill turf and complete related drainage and site improvements.

06/06/08 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
06/18/08 – Approved by [Planning Board](#)
07/10/08 – To be considered by Board of Finance
06/30/08 – Committee Approved 9-0-0 (subject to Board of Finance approval)

**RETURNED TO
COMMITTEE BY
UNANIMOUS
VOICE VOTE**

A motion to hold Item No. F27.414 was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

7. [F27.410](#)
\$54,350.00

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget); Town Clerk; Contracted Services; to re-film and scan all approximately 13,000 city maps

**APPROVED ON
CONSENT
AGENDA**

for conversion to electronic images.
05/23/08 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
06/09/08 – Approved by Board of Finance
06/30/08 – Committee Approved 9-0-0

8. F27.408 REVIEW; parking lot and city Fire Department project at SEMS headquarters and source of funding.
05/19/08 – Submitted by Rep. Mirkin
06/30/08 – Report Made **REPORT MADE**
9. F27.407 REVIEW; City's long-term financial projections for Smith House and potential remedies.
05/08/08 – Submitted by Reps. Mallozzi, Rauh, Franzetti, McGarry and Zelinsky
05/27/08 – Report Made
06/02/08 – Held in Committee
06/30/08 – Held in Committee 9-0-0 **HELD IN COMMITTEE**

Secondary Committee: Public Safety & Health

A motion to waive the Public Safety & Health Committee Report was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

10. [F27.415](#) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION (Operating Budget; Board of Education; Energy-related; emergency appropriation from 2008-09 energy contingency reserve to fund anticipated shortfall in account.
\$600,000.00 06/06/08 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
07/10/08 – To be considered by Board of Finance
06/30/08 – Failed in Committee 2-7-0 & Held in Committee 9-0-0 **HELD IN COMMITTEE**

Rep. Mirkin noted that this item failed in Committee by a vote of 2-7-0, and then the Committee voted to hold the item by a vote of 9-0-0.

Suspension of the Rules Item (Committee approved 9-0-0)

A motion to suspend the rules to take up an item not appearing on the Agenda was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

11. [F27.419](#) [RESOLUTION](#); acceptance a gift of \$10,000.00 from George A. Fuller Company, Inc. to offset the cost of the 4th of July fireworks.
06/30/08 – Committee approved 9-0-0 **APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE**

A motion to approve Item No. F27.419 was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item Nos. 1 through 4a, 4b and 4c, was made, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

LEGISLATIVE & RULES

COMMITTEE: **James D. Diamond, Chair**
 Arthur Layton, Vice Chair

No meeting

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: **Mary Lisa Fedeli, Chair**

(Attendance)

Pauline S. Rauh, Vice Chair

(Report)

Meeting: Tuesday, July 1, 2008

7:30 p.m. – Democratic Caucus Room

(with Appointments Committee)

Chair Fedeli reported that the Personnel Committee met on July 1, 2008. Present were Committee Chair Fedeli, Vice Chair Rauh and Committee Member Reps. Boccuzzi, Cannady, Figueroa, Gabriele, Layton and Lodato. Absent/excused was Committee Member Rep. Skigen. Also present were Reps. Aposporos, DePina, Molgano and Summerville; Brent Larrabee, Chief of Police; Rev. Perry, Adele Gordon and Mr. Maloney of the Stamford Police Commission; Dick Lyons, Lee Rizzuto and Ralph Murray of the Stamford Fire Commission; Bob McGrath, Stamford Fire Chief; Bill Callion, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare; Dennies Murphy, Director of Human Resources and Maggie Murray of Human Resources.

1. P27.077	REVIEW; of testing and hiring procedures for police and fire departments. 06/03/08 – Submitted by Clerk Summerville and Chair Fedeli 07/01/08 – Report Made	REPORT MADE
------------	---	------------------------

Secondary Committee: Appointments

Report Made

Chair Fedeli noted that it was a very comprehensive meeting with the Director of Personnel, Fire and Police Chiefs and personnel. A lot of information was exchanged, and it is her intention to take this up again in a few months to follow up.

2. P27.078 REJECTION; of a tentative labor agreement regarding the Turn of River Fire Department management agreement. **NO ACTION TAKEN**
06/05/08 – Submitted by Chair Fedeli
07/01/08 – No action taken

LAND USE/URBAN

REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Harry Day, Chair

[\(Attendance\)](#)

[\(Report\)](#)

Patrick J. White, Vice Chair

Meeting: Wednesday, June 25, 2008
7:30 p.m. – Republican Caucus Room
- and -

[\(Attendance\)](#)

Meeting: Monday, July 7, 2008

[\(Votes\)](#)

6:30 p.m. – Republican Caucus Room

[\(Report\)](#)

Chair Day reported that the Land Use/Urban Redevelopment Committee met on June 25, 2008. Present were Chair Day and Vice Chair White and Committee Member Rep. Gabriele; absent/excused were Committee Member Reps. Boccuzzi, Diamond, Franzetti, Lombardo, Mitchell and Summerville. Also present was Judy Brewton. No quorum was present.

Chair Day reported that the Committee reconvened on July 7, 2008. Present were Chair Day and Committee Member Reps. Boccuzzi, Diamond, Franzetti, Lombardo and Summerville. Absent/excused were Committee Member Reps. Gabriele, Mitchell and White. Also present was Judy Brewton.

1. [LU27.049](#) ORDINANCE; **for public hearing & final adoption**; designating the Orient Lodge as a historic property. **APPROVED ON CONSENT AGENDA**
04/28/08 – Submitted by President Martin
05/21/08 – Committee approved 6-0-0
06/02/08 – Approved for publication
06/25/08 – Item continued to 7/7/8
07/07/08 – Committee approved 6-0-0

Chair Day stated that the public hearing was held at the first meeting.

Chair Day moved to approve the Consent Agenda, consisting of Item No. 1, said motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE: John R. Zelinsky, Jr., Chair
Scott Mirkin, Vice Chair**

No meeting

**PUBLIC SAFETY &
HEALTH COMMITTEE: Richard Lyons, II, Chair**

(Attendance)

Meeting: Thursday, June 19, 2008

(Report)

7:00 p.m. – Republican Caucus Room

Chair Lyons reported that the Public Safety & Health Committee met on June 19, 2008. Present were Chair Lyons and Committee Member Reps. Adams, Mirkin, Larobina, Coppola, Berns and Aposporos. Absent/excused were Committee Member Reps. DePina, Pia, C. Martin and Zelinsky. Also present was Director Callion and Chief of Police Larrabee.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| 1. 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
07/09/07 – Motion to place on Agenda failed
08/23/07, 09/27/07, 10/01/07 – Report Made
11/15/07 – Held in Committee 9-0-0
01/31/08 – Report Made
02/28/08, 03/03/08, 03/27/08, 04/07/08, 05/29/08,
06/02/08 – Report Made & Held in Committee
06/19/08 – Held in Committee 7-0-0 | REPORT MADE
& HELD IN
COMMITTEE |
|-----------------------------|--|--|

Chair Lyons stated a report has been made, and he encouraged any members who want to offer suggestions do so before next month's meeting.

- | | | |
|-------------|---|----------------------------|
| 2. PS27.033 | REVIEW; city and Board of Education policies for mandatory reporting to the Stamford Police Youth Services Bureau.
05/08/08 – Submitted by Chair Lyons
05/29/08 – Held in Committee 9-0-0
06/02/08 – Held in Committee
06/19/08 – Held in Committee 7-0-0 | NO ACTION
TAKEN |
|-------------|---|----------------------------|

Secondary Committee: Education

No action taken

Chair Lyons stated this item was held due to scheduling problems with the Board of Education. This matter will probably be taken up in conjunction with a meeting with the Education Committee.

3. PS27.034 APPROVAL; of a tentative management agreement with the Turn of River Fire Department. **NO ACTION TAKEN**
06/09/08 – Submitted by Steering Committee
07/07/08 – No action taken

No agreement was submitted for review for Item No. 3.

As Secondary Committee:

4. F27.407 REVIEW; City's long-term financial projections for Smith House and potential remedies. No action taken
05/08/08 – Submitted by Reps. Mallozzi, Rauh, Franzetti, McGarry & Zelinsky
05/29/08 – Held in Committee 8-0-0
06/02/08 – Held in Committee
06/19/08 – No action taken

Chair Lyons stated that this item was held by the Fiscal Committee this month.

PARKS & RECREATION

COMMITTEE: Linda Cannady, Co-Chair

Joseph Coppola, Co-Chair

No meeting

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Polly Rauh, Chair

[\(Attendance\)](#)

Michael L. Molgano, Vice Chair

[\(Report\)](#)

Meeting: Thursday, June 26, 2008

7:00 p.m. – Democratic Caucus Room

Chair Rauh reported that the Education Committee met on June 26, 2008. Present were Chair Rauh and Vice Chair Molgano and Committee Member Reps. Lodato, Miller and Young; absent/excused were Committee Member Reps. C. Martin and J. Pia. Also in attendance were Jackie Heftman; Amy Karwan; J. Starr, Superintendent of Schools; Richard Freedman, Chair, Board of Education, and Bill Dunn.

1. [E27.027](#) REVIEW; status of district achievement re: NCLB requirements/timeline, Strategic Plan and State Dept. of Education accountability plan, 2008-09. **REPORT MADE**
06/3/08 – Submitted by Chair Rauh
06/26/08 – Report Made

Chair Rauh stated that there was an extensive review during which the superintendent informed the Committee that Stamford has been cited as a whole district in need of improvement, which will entail the State Department making plans and proceeding to come in and work with the District in a number of ways. More information will be provided at the end of July.

In addition, the Committee went through the progress of the scores and various tests and were informed that we should not be expecting change for a period of 7-9 years, which was distressing to the Committee.

As Secondary Committee:

- | | | |
|-------------|---|-----------------|
| 3. PS27.033 | REVIEW; city and Board of Education policies for mandatory reporting to the Stamford Police Youth Services Bureau.
05/08/08 – Submitted by Chair Lyons
05/29/08 – Held in Committee 9-0-0
06/02/08 – Held in Committee
06/26/08 – No Action Taken | No action taken |
|-------------|---|-----------------|

Chair Rauh stated that this item was held.

**HOUSING/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE: Elaine Mitchell, Chair**

[\(Attendance\)](#)

Philip J. Giordano, Vice Chair

[\(Votes\)](#)

Meeting: Monday, June 30, 2008

[\(Report\)](#)

6:30 p.m. – Republican Caucus Room

Vice Chair Giordano reported that the Housing-Community Development-Social Services Committee met on June 30, 2008. Present were Committee Vice Chair Giordano and Committee Member Reps. Aposporos, Blackwell, Figueroa and Miller. Absent/excused were Committee Member Reps. Molgano and Mitchell. Also present was Rep. Cannady and Tim Beeble, Director of Economic Development.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. <u>HCD27.037</u> | APPROVAL; of an expansion of the Scope of Work for the CDBG allocations to CTE, Inc. for replacement of the gym floor at the Lathan Wider Center to also include exterior lighting of the Basketball courts and the Center's street frontage.
06/02/08 – Submitted by Tim Beeble, Community Dev. Director
06/30/08 – Committee approved 4-1-0 | NO BOARD
ACTION
NECESSARY |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|

Vice Chair Giordano stated that the Committee approved Item No. 1; no action is required by the Board on this item.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: **Robert “Gabe” DeLuca, Chair**
(Attendance) **Terry Adams, Vice Chair**
(Votes) Meeting: Wednesday, June 18, 2008
(Report) 7:00 p.m. – Republican Caucus Room

Chair DeLuca reported that the Transportation Committee met on June 18, 2008. Present were Committee Chair DeLuca and Vice Chair Adams and Committee Member Reps. Blackwell, Franzetti, Giordano, Larobina, Young and Zelinsky. Absent/excused were Committee Member Reps. Lombardo. Also present were Ben Barnes, Director of Operations; and Josh Lecar, Transportation Director.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| 1. T27.041 | APPROVAL; of agreement between the City and URS Corporation AES to conduct a Stamford Downtown Light Rail Feasibility Study.
05/21/08 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy
06/09/08 – Approved by Board of Finance
06/18/08 – Failed in Committee 2-6-0 | APPROVED BY
MACHINE VOTE
19-11-0 |
|----------------------------|---|---|

Chair DeLuca moved Item No. T27.041; said motion was seconded.

Chair DeLuca noted that an amendment was made on Page 2: The completion date was changed to read “start date of July 7, 2008 ending January 31, 2009. This change was approved by a vote of 5-3-0 by the Committee.

Chair DeLuca noted that the Committee turned this item down. He moved the item for approval, stating that he hopes the Board approves it in that many community leaders have sent in letters of support, this could help to improve transportation in the city and get cars off the road.

Rep. Zelinsky stated he voted against this item. At the committee meeting, Mr. LeCarr spoke and advised that large cities such as Baltimore, Tampa and Portland have a tram system. Stamford is only 39 sq. miles and does not have the same population. Rep. Zelinsky reviewed a September 2007 document regarding light rail for Stamford, and it mentions that large cities such as Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Cleveland and Boston have light rail, and Stamford is not among these large cities. The proposed route will run along Bedford and Summer Streets. There is a great deal of heavy traffic on these one-way arteries, there are many accidents, speeders, light breakers, lane changers, and he cannot imagine what will happen if the City goes through with this trolley car service. He believes it would be horrendous and cause a great many more accidents.

Rep. Zelinsky continued staying that Mr. LeCarr said the study will analyze the cost of the project and whether the City will be required to purchase additional property and that this will not compete with the existing City bus service, which he does not believe. This is going to be something new and the residents will start taking the bus, thus hampering our city transit buses.

Rep. Zelinsky stated that there was no mention of the fare costs. Mr. LeCarr stated that the light rail system attracts a different type of passenger than buses – white collar workers and higher income passengers are more included to use the trolley service rather than the bus. Mr. LeCarr said that this will have a positive impact on property values. Mr. Zelinsky stated he spoke to a few realtors, and they do not believe that property values will be enhanced because of a trolley car run. Mr. LeCarr also mentioned that the cars will be driven by electricity, and a committee member asked what would happen if there was a power failure, and Mr. LeCarr stated that the trolley will cease to run. Rep. Zelinsky stated that more importantly is the cost. We are only talking about \$141,000; that is not a lot of money in the general overall budget of the City, but he asked Mr. LeCarr how many trolleys will be needed for the service, and he responded that it would be 4-5. He asked Mr. LeCarr how much each would cost, and Mr. LeCarr responded beyond \$4-5 million, so we are speaking \$16-\$20 million just for the cars.

Rep. Zelinsky stated that it was never mentioned until he asked how much this entire project would cost, and the figure was between \$110 and \$120 million – now that is a lot of money. Rep. Zelinsky inquired where the money would come from, and Mr. Barnes responded that we would receive federal and state funds. Rep. Zelinsky stated that this is all well and good, but there is federal money being spent on the Iraq war, the Federal government is in deficit, the State government is in deficit, and we should not kid ourselves ... the money is going to come from our constituents, our hard pressed taxpayers now, who are paying more for fuel, electricity, water, food ... everything is going up, and to have them have a future burden (not only them, their children probably also), they will have an added burden.

Rep. Zelinsky stated that the actual agreement, under the Scope of the Work reads: 1) issue identification and preliminary outreach; 2) review of alignments, service characteristics and vehicle type; 3) impact evaluation and funding strategy development; 4) public participation and research; and 5) final report and public presentations. Rep. Zelinsky stated we are putting the cart before the horse. The administration, before they even thought about asking for this money for a consultant, should have had some type of public outreach and input from the public to see if they really needed this. If not, we are wasting \$141,000, and if this comes to pass, they are not going to take cars off the road and everyone will be jumping on the trolley car. People from Shippan, North Stamford, East Side and West Side are not going to go up to Bull's Head, park their car some place and get on the trolley for a ride to the South End.

Rep. Zelinsky urged his colleagues to think about this twice. This is a luxury, not a necessity, and he believes we should all vote tonight as to whether this is really necessary and is this going to benefit the majority of our residents. He thinks not.

Rep. White stated that he has the opposite opinion and is in support of this study. The most efficient ways of transporting people is light and heavy rail. The intense commercial and residential development in the South End will make this the most efficient way of moving masses of people. We are in gridlock now, and it will only get worse, and the most efficient solution would be a light rail system. In order to qualify and request federal funds, a study must be completed as a necessary first step, and he believes we should take that first step. This is money wisely spent, whether we ultimately go through with it or not, and he wholly supports a light rail system in Stamford.

Rep. Day made a motion to move the question; said motion was seconded and approved by a vote of 23-7-0 (Reps. Blackwell, Boccuzzi, Cannady, Coppola, Day, DeLuca, DePina, Esposito, Fedeli, Giordano, Heaphy, Larobina, Layton, Lombardo, Lyons II, Mallozzi, D. Martin, McGarry, Miller, Munger, Rauh, Summerville and White in favor; Reps. Adams, Aposporos, Diamond, Franzetti, Mirkin, Molgano and Zelinsky opposed) (See [Vote Record No. 927](#)).

The motion to approve Item No. T27.041 was approved by a vote of 20-10-0 (Reps. Boccuzzi, Cannady, Day, DeLuca, DePina, Diamond, Esposito, Fedeli, Giordano, Heaphy, Layton, Lyons II, Mallozzi, D. Martin, McGarry, Miller, Mirkin, Rauh, Summerville and White in favor; Reps. Adams, Aposporos, Blackwell, Coppola, Franzetti, Larobina, Lombardo, Molgano, Munger and Zelinsky opposed) (See [Vote Record No. 928](#)).

Rep. Mirkin, a member of the prevailing side on the prior vote, moved to reconsider. Said motion was seconded.

Rep. Mirkin stated that the reason for this motion is that there are some other relevant points to be made by Rep. Franzetti, who is a member of the Transportation Committee. Rep. Mirkin stated he entered caucus this evening not knowing how he was going to vote, and after hearing the points raised by Rep. Franzetti, he was persuaded to not support this item. Although Rep. Zelinsky spent a fair amount of time giving his opinion, there are points that Rep. Franzetti can amplify on, and that is his reason to reconsider. He asked for the courtesy to have this discussion.

The motion to reconsider was approved by a vote of 16-14-0 (Reps. Adams, Aposporos, Blackwell, Coppola, Esposito, Fedeli, Franzetti, Larobina, Lombardo, McGarry, Miller, Mirkin, Molgano, Munger, Summerville and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Boccuzzi, Cannady, Day, DeLuca, DePina, Diamond, Giordano, Heaphy, Layton, Lyons II, Mallozzi, D. Martin, Rauh and White opposed) (See [Vote Record No. 929](#)).

President Martin noted that the motion on the floor is the approval of the contract.

Rep. Heaphy stated that she is in favor of the motion for the study. It is a reasonable cost, and an idea that very much goes along with the eloquent presentation by our Mayor – that we have to look to the future. We cannot just stay where we are with all the change around us and not consider the transportation challenges we face in the future. There are buses around town all of the time, and they are not going on these general routes – Bull’s Head to the South and eventually East Side-West Side. They are going in much different patterns or inter-city. This is not the purpose of the light rail. It would be a wonderful additional to our City to get it ready for the future, and she strongly urges her colleagues to support it.

Rep. Franzetti stated that he agrees whole heartedly with Mr. Zelinsky. The light rail system has critical concerns. A question asked was *why a light rail system?*, which was a reasonable question, and why other modes of transportation were not presented to the Committee. The Committee felt a study should consider all modes of transportation, evaluate them all and come up with the best mode of transportation – not just consider the light rail system. Then the Committee talked about fatal flaws – things that would make the system inoperable. The Atlantic Street bridge, which is 12’4” tall, and with the redevelopment in the South End, it will be raised to 14’ tall, which will not fit the rail system, so it will have to be raised higher. Mr. Barnes estimated that it will cost about \$18 million a foot above 14’. The trolley system can only go up a 6 percent incline, which precludes it going to the West Side. Another concern were the overhead wires. There can be no trees over the wires (as in Conrail). When this train goes up Bedford Street, some of the trees will have to be eliminated due to the overhead wires. This will require high power electricity, and as when a car hits a telephone pole, you can imagine when a car hits one of the poles and the wires are laying in the road.

Rep. Franzetti stated that all of the roads will have to be dug up to lay tracks. The traffic will be impossible for the months and months it will take to dig up the roads. We need to do a comprehensive study on all modes in the downtown area.

Rep. Diamond stated that first there is a legitimate concern that the extensive development proposed in the South End may have an impact on downtown merchants and commerce as new and exciting retail is put in place in the South End. A light rail system will link the two major hubs in a way that is efficient. We absolutely have to study the feasibility of investing in efficient ways of mass transportation for our City. This is a good first start and an essential first step.

Rep. Mirkin stated that the total cost for this project is estimated somewhere in the \$200 million range. This is just an estimate, and if one looks at projects such as the Big Dig, that project went billions over budget. So, it is safe to assume that whatever the estimate is, it is going to cost more. It is not so much the \$141,000 for the study, because he always asks the question, “what being presented is scalable?” He doesn’t know if \$200 or \$300 million, possible eminent domain and the other ancillary issues makes this scalable or something that he wants to bring to Stamford. A bus is just as good as a train, so if we need better routes, we could look at buses. The first time the

light rail stops because there is no electric, people will be up and arms. For all these reasons, he will not vote for approval of the light rail study.

Rep. Adams stated that the Committee was not necessarily against light rail but felt that the study should be broader – including light rail, hybrid buses, etc. What is the best for the City of Stamford. The study was focused on bringing back historical means of travel, and the Committee asked why it wasn't looking at the feasibility of more modern modes of transportation that could also involve less infrastructure.

Majority Leader moved for a five minute recess at 10:10 p.m. Said motion was seconded and approved by a vote of 19-11-0 (Reps. Adams, Blackwell, Boccuzzi, Cannady, DeLuca, DePina, Diamond, Esposito, Fedeli, Giordano, Heaphy, Lyons II, Mallozzi, D. Martin, Miller, Rauh, Summerville, White and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Aposporos, Coppola, Day, Franzetti, Larobina, Layton, Lombardo, McGarry, Mirkin, Molgano and Munger opposed) (See [Vote Record No. 930](#)).

The vote on the motion to approve the study was approved by a vote of 19-11-0 (Reps. Boccuzzi, Cannady, Day, DeLuca, DePina, Diamond, Esposito, Fedeli, Giordano, Heaphy, Layton, Lyons II, Mallozzi, D. Martin, McGarry, Miller, Rauh, Summerville and White in favor; Reps. Adams, Aposporos, Blackwell, Coppola, Franzetti, Larobina, Lombardo, Mirkin, Molgano, Munger and Zelinsky opposed) (See [Vote Record No. 931](#)).

Suspension of Rules

A motion to suspend the rules to take up an item not appearing on the Agenda was made and seconded. Chair DeLuca noted this was not brought down to the Board Office until July 3, 2008. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| 2. T27.042 | RESOLUTION; authorizing the Mayor to file an application with the State Department of Transportation for the Elderly and Disabled Demand Responsive Transportation Program.
07/03/08 – Submitted by Mayor Dannel P. Malloy | APPROVED BY
UNANIMOUS
VOICE VOTE |
|----------------------------|---|---|

Chair DeLuca stated that he wanted the administration to know that we will not tolerate this type of action (i.e., submitting items late), they should have known this contract is coming up and that this should have been submitted in a timely fashion.

Chair DeLuca moved to approve Item No. T27.042; said motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

STATE & COMMERCE COMMITTEE: **Paul A. Esposito, Chair**
[\(Attendance\)](#) **Eileen Heaphy, Vice Chair**
[\(Report\)](#) Meeting: Tuesday, June 24, 2008

7:00 p.m. – Democratic Caucus Room

Chair Esposito reported that the State & Commerce Committee met on June 24, 2008. Present were Chair Esposito, Vice Chair Heaphy and Committee Member Reps. Rauh, Day, DeLuca, Fedeli and Mallozzi. Also present were Reps. Gabriele and Layton. Members from the State delegation present were Senator McDonald and Representatives Fox and Leone.

- | | | |
|-------------|---|------------------------|
| 1. SC27.026 | MEETING: with State legislative delegation.
06/02/08 – Submitted by Chair Esposito
06/24/08 – Report Made | REPORT
MADE |
|-------------|---|------------------------|

Chair Esposito stated that the Report is in the Board Office.

MINUTES

- | | | |
|----|--|----------------------|
| 1. | June 2, 2008 Regular Board Meeting | NO OBJECTIONS |
|----|--|----------------------|

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

*A transcript of these proceedings is available
in the offices of the Board of Representatives*