

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SEPTEMBER 14, 1999  
LINCOLN CENTER HEARING ROOM  
7:30 P.M.**

**SECOND MEETING OF THE MONTH**

PRESENT: Chairman Cassano, Vice-Chairman Howroyd, Secretary Negri, Directors Morancey, Hachadourian, McMahon, Crockett, Thompson and Becker.

ALSO: General Manager Sartor, Deputy Manager Werbner and Town Attorney Darby.

**11. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. All in attendance participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, led by Chairman Cassano.

**11A. PRESENTATION OF CITIZEN COMMENDATION BY FIRE-RESCUE-EMS DEPARTMENT.**

Fire Chief Weber was present to award a citizen commendation by the Fire Rescue - EMS Department to citizens and emergency personnel whose combined efforts were able to prevent the premature loss of three young people's lives in a car accident on Bush Hill Road July 22, 1999.

Mr. Scott Porter, Manchester Fire Department paramedic, off-duty at the time, was awarded exemplary heroism award for an incident on July 12, 1999 where a dog attacked an individual, suffered life-threatening injuries and was assisted by Mr. Porter as he was driving by.

**12. OPENING OF MEETING TO ELECTORS OR TAXPAYERS WHO WISH TO BE HEARD ON ANY SUBJECT WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

Terry Werkhoven, 88 Santina Drive, spoke regarding the dancing bear statue. He spoke on behalf of Bennet School.

Peter LaBelle, 192 Wells Street, had concerns to trade Manchester's municipal waste for the C.R.R.A.'s bulky waste. He spoke on behalf of the M.D.C.

Dave Dumaine, 86 Tracy Drive, spoke on behalf of the M.D.C. and against the C.R.R.A. for breaking its current 27 year contract with them. 140 job losses are at stake.

Al Lutz, 9 Stephens Street, spoke regarding the school bond issue and the Lutz plan.

Milt Perlman, 3 Sanford Road, spoke regarding the school bond issue and the TOMMIF fund.

Dan Moran, 272 Charter Oak Street, supported his fellow AFSCME employees. He spoke regarding the landfill. He did not support bulky waste being brought into our landfill. He spoke of the indebtedness that will be incurred for the school bond project and how it will affect other projects.

Bill Ogden, 137 Branford Street, asked for what it will cost the taxpayers with the \$110 million, including the re-valuation, and the rest of the schools. He thought that elderly and young couples could not afford a tax increase.

Al Coelho, 48 Carpenter Road, spoke regarding the school bond issue. He felt the school should be fixed. He asked if there was an alternative plan if this question does not pass.

Chairman Cassano closed the public comment session with some brief comments to the public regarding their comments and concerns. He reminded the public that the impact on taxpayers for the school bond issue would be around \$70 million and not \$110 after reimbursement from the state.

### **13. COMMUNICATIONS.**

Chairman Cassano stated that he met with the Library Board and as suspected, there was a breakdown in communications regarding the use of the conference rooms to outside groups. He stated that the issue has been resolved and the biggest concern that they had was the impact on parking for patrons.

Director Becker had a follow-up on a communication from Mr. Ross on North Main Street regarding noise from the Balf Company. General Manager Sartor stated that it had been referred to the Building Department and the Police Department.

### **14. OTHER REPORTS.**

**a. Summer Recreation Program Report.**

Scott Sprague, Director of Recreation, referred to a memo dated September 14<sup>th</sup> regarding the summer recreation program. He introduced recreation supervisors Scott Garman, Chris Silver and Rob Topliff. He stated that the summer program was a huge success serving thousands of individuals from the Town of Manchester. He then reviewed the programs available through the Town of Manchester Park and Recreation Department. Questions were entertained at this time of directors.

Chairman Cassano asked what recommendations are being planned for next summer regarding the waiting list. Mr. Sprague stated that a proposal had not been addressed for next year as yet. He stated that there was still a waiting list of children for the summer camps, but due to staffing shortages, even after aggressive recruiting, they were unable to expand any further. There has been suggestions of splitting the sessions.

Director Becker was interested in how much income the summer program brought in. A year-end report was not available.

Director Hachadourian supported the program and stated that he thought it was outstanding. Vice-Chairman Howroyd agreed. He wanted to be able to address the waiting list.

Director Thompson appreciated the support to the softball league and the well groomed fields.

Director Crockett asked if they had over use of the pools this summer and did they have to turn people away. Mr. Sprague stated that they did do some residency checks.

**Union Pond Handicap Accessible Trail**

Director Morancey attended the ribbon cutting of the handicap accessible trail on Union Pond and wanted to compliment the design and layout. He thought it was a great asset to the town.

**Vice-Chairman Howroyd moved and Director Hachadourian seconded a motion to take a brief recess. Nine voted in favor.**

**The Board recessed at 9:17 p.m. and returned at 9:30 p.m.**

**15. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

- 15a. Appointment of one member and one alternate to the Property Maintenance Code Board of Appeals as follows:

**APPOINTED** - member - Eileen Sweeney, 86 Hawthorne Street

**TABLED** - one alternate

**Secretary Negri moved and Vice-Chairman Howroyd seconded a motion to appoint one member Eileen Sweeney, 86 Hawthorne Street and table one alternate to the Property Maintenance Code Board of Appeals. Nine Voted in Favor**

- 15b. Appointment of a member (D) to the Cheney Hall Foundation, Inc. for term ending November 2001 as follows:

**APPOINTED** - Mary Tierney, 125 Cliffside Drive

**Secretary Negri moved and Director Morancey seconded a motion to appoint Mary Tierney (D), 125 Cliffside Drive to the Cheney Hall Foundation, Inc. Nine voted in favor.**

- 5b. **ADOPTED** - Appropriation to General Fund - Board of Education for funding a supplemental TOMMIF contribution ..... \$ 450,000.00 to be financed by designated General Fund fund balance generated by Board of Education FY99 operations.

**Director Morancey moved and Vice-Chairman Howroyd seconded a motion to adopt Item 5.b. Nine voted in favor.**

General Manager Sartor stated that this is part of the additional contribution to the TOMMIF fund from the Board of Education. An additional amount of money for approximately \$300,000 is anticipated to be forthcoming subsequent to the completion of the fiscal year audit.

Director Becker supported this motion and felt that the Board had no choice but fund the necessary dollars for the insurance fund. He still had questions as to why claims and costs went up dramatically. He anticipated answers from the town's advisory committee meeting scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Chairman Cassano stated that there was a substantial surplus in the TOMMIF fund and based on the recommendation of the TOMMIF committee and economic needs in the

community the money was used for capital improvements.

Director Becker wanted to clarify that money was not taken out of the fund set aside for medical insurance claim payment, only that the funding levels were reduced, and those funds that would have gone into it were used for capital improvements. He thought that better oversight was needed.

**16. NEW BUSINESS.**

- a.
  1. **ADOPTED** - Allocation in Capital Improvement Reserve Fund, Town Monuments and Mapping, \$29,504 to be financed by unallocated.
  2. **ADOPTED** - Allocation in Water Reserve Fund. Transfer to Capital Improvement Reserve Fund, Town Monuments and Mapping, \$107,490 to be financed by unallocated.
  3. **ADOPTED** - Allocation in Sewer Reserve Fund. Transfer to Capital Improvement Reserve Fund, Town Monuments and Mapping, \$124,883 to be financed by unallocated.

**Secretary Negri moved and Vice-Chairman Howroyd seconded a motion to adopt Item 16.a. Nine voted in favor.**

Public Works Administrator Guarnaccia and Water & Sewer Administrator Young were present to discuss the Town Monuments and Mapping Project. (Please refer to memo dated August 26, 1999). She stated that this money would fully fund and complete the mapping project. General Manager Sartor stated that there would be money allocated in ongoing budgets for maintenance of this system. GIS application fees are also anticipated in the future which would include enhancements of the current system.

Director Becker had questions regarding timing, cost overruns and department responsibility of costs.

Vice-Chairman Howroyd asked when the project would be complete. Ms. Guarnaccia stated that it would be complete by late spring/early summer of next year.

Director Morancey had questions regarding funding and costs.

Chairman Cassano asked Ms. Guarnaccia what is this system going to do for the town of Manchester and how would it help someone that wants to build a grocery store. It will

have an impact on almost every person who lives in this community in a positive way. This will mean to this town millions of dollars and man hours over time.

Ms. Guarnaccia stated that it is going to save us money on designing projects, construction projects, sewer projects and storm drainage and ultimately this information would be available to town foremen through laptop computers in the vehicle. This is the cutting edge of where we need to be in the future to address people's concerns and problems. If you wanted to build a grocery store, it would tell you where the nearest utilities are, nearest roads, topography and the level of detail that you need to accomplish this that otherwise you would have to spend money to acquire.

- b. ADOPTED** - Authorization for the General Manager to enter into an Agreement with Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority (CRRA) and associated bid waiver.

**Secretary Negri moved and Vice-Chairman Howroyd seconded a motion to adopt Item 16.b. Eight voted in favor. One voted against - Thompson.**

General Manager Sartor stated that the basic description of this project is the fact that the town of Manchester has one of the last remaining municipal landfills in Connecticut which is allowed to take municipal solid waste (household garbage). The regulation on this will not continue to allow us to have that permit much longer. A decision was made to exchange the remaining years in the landfill for dollars which then can be used to offset the cost of tipping the municipal solid waste in some other location. The goal was to extend to the people of the town of Manchester into the future the ability to have municipal solid waste tipped without becoming an expense to individual taxpayers. Through a lengthy period of negotiation, a contract has been negotiated which is believed to be in the best interest of the town of Manchester and residents. Ms. Guarnaccia stated that the contract is basically treating the town of Manchester the same as the original member towns of C.R.R.A.

Vice-Chairman Howroyd supported the program stating that this would be taking the most practical solution to allow us to still maintain our self-sufficiency and in the most economic terms to our taxpayers.

Director Thompson asked if this would remain self-sustaining over a 12 year period. Ms. Guarnaccia stated that it would predicate upon the balance between solid waste and tipping fees from bulky waste.

Director Crockett had concerns regarding any fines imposed on the C.R.R.A. and how it would affect the town of Manchester. Ms. Guarnaccia stated it would increase the cost

of the services. If they went up on our costs, then in turn we would charge more for bulky waste disposal.

Director Becker supported the project. He asked about the vertical expansion of the landfill. Ms. Guarnaccia stated that the vertical expansion issue can not move forward until this issue and the landfill gas collection system issue are resolved. She expects this to move forward in the next 6 to 12 months.

**Director Morancey moved and Director McMahon seconded a motion to suspend the rules to consider a resolution concerning CRRA. Six voted in favor. Three voted against - Crockett, Thompson, Becker.**

**RESOLUTION** - Be it resolved that we the Manchester Town Directors recommend that CRRA honor its present labor contracts.

**Director Morancey moved and Director McMahon seconded a motion to adopt a resolution as stated above. Six voted in favor. Three voted against - Crockett, Thompson, Becker.**

Director Morancey stated that he thought it was important to stabilize the labor contracts that CRRA has with us as well as other organizations so that costs to the citizens remain constant.

Director Thompson stated that he was sympathetic to this issue but did not feel that this Board had any business becoming involved while Director Becker felt the Board had no jurisdiction in this matter.

Director Hachadourian stated that he has read about this issue in the newspaper extensively. He has also personally looked into this because of this pending agreement. He supported this resolution.

Director Crockett could not support it due to lack of information he had regarding this contract.

**DENIED - Motion to table resolution.**

**Director Thompson moved and Director Becker seconded a motion to table the resolution. Three voted in favor. Six voted against - Cassano, Howroyd, Negri, Morancey, Hachadourian, McMahon.**

- f. **TABLED** - Appointment of a member (D) to the Commission on Aging for term expiring November 2001.

**Secretary Negri moved and Vice-Chairman Howroyd seconded a motion to table Item 16.f. Nine voted in favor.**

- g. **ADOPTED** - Allocation in Landfill Reserve of \$100,000 for Compliance Issues at the Manchester Landfill to be financed by unallocated.

**Secretary Negri moved and Vice-Chairman Howroyd seconded a motion to adopt Item 16.g. Nine voted in favor.**

General Manager Sartor stated that this is the estimate of the monies to eliminate violations to come into compliance regarding a notice of violations to the Manchester landfill.

Questions were asked by directors regarding this issue at this time.

Director Becker asked what this amount of money would cover. Public Works Administrator Guarnaccia stated that it would remediate a seep and re-establish erosion control measures. The funding is a result of surpluses in the operating budget of the landfill.

**17. FURTHER COMMENT AND DISCUSSION BY BOARD MEMBERS ON ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA OR OF GENERAL CONCERN.**

Director Becker asked for a status report on Center Springs Park improvements. He asked for an explanation of where monies were obtained for the purchase of the General Manager's vehicle in this year's budget without action from the Board. He proposed instead of an advisory board, a board that is more akin to our pension board to provide oversight on a monthly or quarterly basis to the medical insurance fund.

**18. EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**ADOPTED - To go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and labor relations.**

**Secretary Negri moved and Director Morancey seconded a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and labor relations. Eight voted in favor. (Thompson left at 10:40 p.m.)**



Vice-Chairman Howroyd moved and Director McMahon seconded a motion to suspend the rules to continue the meeting past 11:00 p.m. Eight voted in favor.

The Board went into Executive Session at 10:43 p.m. and returned at 11:33 p.m. Discussions took place regarding personnel and labor relations. No votes were taken.

18. ADJOURNMENT.

Secretary Negri moved and Director Crockett seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting to October 5, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. Eight voted in favor.

Adjournment : 11:33 p.m.

/jld

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

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SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MANCHESTER, CONNECTICUT