

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
September 19, 2006 – 7:00 P.M.
LINCOLN CENTER HEARING ROOM

SECOND MEETING OF THE MONTH

PRESENT: Chairman Howroyd, Vice-Chairman O'Neill, Secretary Zingler, Directors Hachey, Topping (7:10 p.m.), Spadaccini, Peak, and Pelletier

ALSO: General Manager Shanley and Town Attorney Darby

ABSENT: Director Sheridan

7. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. All in attendance participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, led by Chairman Howroyd.

8. AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS.

ADOPTED - MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO IMMEDIATELY CONSIDER ITEM 15.E.

Director Hachey moved and Secretary Zingler seconded the motion.

Seven Voted in Favor
Topping Absent

15E. **ADOPTED** - Approval of a resolution to name/dedicate Fire Headquarters, Station 2 at 75 Center Street in honor of former Fire Chief John C. Rivoso.

WHEREAS, John C. Rivoso began his Fire Department career in 1955 as a volunteer firefighter for the South Manchester Fire District and was hired by the Town of Manchester as a career firefighter in 1958; and

WHEREAS, John C. Rivoso was promoted to the rank of Deputy Fire Chief in 1968 and was appointed Fire Chief and Fire Marshal in 1972 and served as Fire Chief and Fire Marshal until his retirement on December 29, 1996; and

WHEREAS, Fire Chief John C. Rivoso, in 1983, instituted the Fire Department based Advanced Life Support service that has resulted in saving hundreds of lives in the past 23 years; created the department's Training Officer, Emergency Medical Services Officer and Deputy Fire Marshal positions; assured that town firefighters had state of the art self-contained breathing apparatus, personal protective equipment, communications equipment and tools and appliances; and

WHEREAS, Fire Chief John C. Rivosa brought monumental change and advancement to the Town Fire Department making it one of the most respected and influential fire departments in the State of Connecticut.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Manchester recognizes former Fire Chief John C. Rivosa's many contributions in making the Manchester community a safer place to live, work and play and designates Headquarters Company, Fire Station-2, the **Fire Chief John C. Rivosa Fire Headquarters Company, Fire Station-2.**

Chairman Howroyd stated that men and women who have worked with Chief Rivosa in the past still have a tremendous amount of respect for him. This is a testimony to the Chief and his accomplishments. Much of the progress of the Manchester Fire/EMS Service is attributed to Chief Rivosa.

Director Pelletier spoke about Chief Rivosa being known as a packrat. The Manchester Fire Museum has benefited greatly from the many items he had packed away and eventually donated to the museum.

Director Hachey spoke about Chief Rivosa's fiscal prudence, as well as his physical fitness and ability to complete obstacle courses people much younger than him had trouble with.

Director Hachey moved and Vice-Chairman O'Neill seconded the motion.

Eight Voted in Favor

9. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.

- A. **ADOPTED** - Actions, August 1, 2006 – Regular Meeting
- B. **ADOPTED** - Minutes, August 1, 2006 – Regular Meeting
- C. **ADOPTED** - Actions, August 8, 2006 – Regular Meeting
- D. **ADOPTED** - Minutes, August 8, 2006 – Regular Meeting
- E. **ADOPTED** - Minutes, August 29, 2006 – Policy Briefing Meeting

Director Pelletier requested the names of all Board members who participated in discussions be included in the future when the discussion is summed up in the minutes.

Secretary Zingler moved and Vice-Chairman O'Neill seconded the motion.

Eight Voted in Favor

10. COMMUNICATIONS.

Secretary Zingler, Directors Spadaccini, Pelletier, and Topping, and Mr. Carlino have been in communication with Full Gospel Church on Main Street working together on a resolution to their flooding problem. Mr. Zingler received a letter from a resident asking why the Town does not enforce the Blight Ordinance at the Parkade. He also received a letter from a resident who approves of web cams in Downtown Manchester and is happy to hear the plan is going forward.

Mr. Zingler did receive some feedback from Bonnie Schuetz who fell at Martin School. Some improvements have been made to prevent any further incidents at Martin School.

Director Hachey received a communication from a resident on Helaine Road who previously had a sidewalk concern. The day Ms. Guarnaccia received the letter from the resident, the problem was taken care of. Mr. Hachey thanked members of the Planning Department for taking care of an environmental problem on Bush Hill Road. He also thanked Mr. Shanley for the work done at 22 Gerard Street and said the resident is satisfied with the resolution. Mr. Hachey thanked people who sent him cards wishing him well. He noted that in the Hartford Business Journal, Manchester Country Club was listed as one of the top public golf courses in the Hartford region.

Director Spadaccini encouraged the Town to pursue State funding and take the matter up with the state Legislators. He would like to see this issue remain a priority. Mr. Spadaccini also made a suggestion that any reports done by the Town on a third party be carbon copied to that party as a courtesy.

Director Pelletier asked that Mr. Pellegrini write a letter to the resident concerned with the blight at the Parkade. Chairman Howroyd will forward a copy of the e-mail to Mr. Shanley and Mr. Pellegrini.

Secretary Zingler thinks the Board should come up with a comprehensive study of known issues in Town and prioritize those issues. This will allow for a systematic approach, rather than just "putting out fires."

Director Peak received two letters from the Manchester Scholarship Foundation. One, from Peggy Jacobsen, included information on funding scholarships for non-traditional students. The other, from Jim Tatro, explained that the sole relationship the Town of Manchester Board of Directors would have with their organization would be donor/donee, with no political implications. Mr. Peak also received an e-mail from a resident encouraging the Town to look at the 20/10 Clean Energy Program.

11. REPORTS.

A. Presentation and discussion of Water and Sewer Rate Study

Ed Donahue and Dave Heider, Municipal and Financial Services Group, gave a presentation on the results of the Water and Sewer Rate Study to the Board of Directors. They reviewed the assumptions and the information received from the Town about its Capital Improvement Plan, then gave several scenarios as solutions for the Board to consider.

After the presentation there was an opportunity for the Board of Directors to ask questions. Chairman Howroyd, Vice-Chairman O'Neill, Directors Hachey, Pelletier, Topping, Zingler, Peak, and Spadaccini, and General Manager Shanley all participated in discussion with Mr. Donahue and Mr. Heider. Topics discussed included whether the Eighth Utilities District was consulted, the sale of some of the Town's Water Department property, offering of lab services, privatizing, the large increase in hook-up fees, and money held in reserve.

RECESS.

The Board took a brief recess at 9:25 p.m. and returned at 9:40 p.m.

Director Hachey moved and Director Peak seconded the motion.

Eight Voted in Favor

12. PRESENTATION OF BID WAIVER REQUESTS.

General Manager Shanley explained that there is a request to use funds from the Homeland Security Grant to purchase services of a vendor who is already providing similar services to the Town.

The Bid Waiver was approved by the Board of Directors.

13. ACTION ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC HEARINGS.

3A. **ADOPTED** - Adoption of the Town of Manchester Supplemental Pension Ordinances effective October 1, 2006.

Secretary Zingler moved and Vice-Chairman O'Neill seconded the motion.

Eight Voted in Favor

3E. **ADOPTED** - Approval of assessments and payment plan for Greenwood Drive sewer plan.

Director Hachey moved and Director Topping seconded the motion.

Eight Voted in Favor

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

A. **TABLED** - Appointments to Boards and Commissions which have members with terms expiring in November/December 2005.

<u>Board/Commission</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expiring</u>
Cheney Hall Board of Commissioners	Vacancy	November 2008
Commission on Aging	Charlene Southergill (R) 8 Hendee Road	November 2008

Director Spadaccini moved and Secretary Zingler seconded the motion.

Eight Voted in Favor

- B. **APPOINTED** - Reappointment of members (3) to the Cable TV Advisory Committee with terms expiring July 2008. (Andrew Vincens, 96 Thayer Drive, Eric Prause, 303 Keeney Street and Donald Modean, 78 Milford Road)

Secretary Zingler moved and Director Spadaccini seconded the motion.

Eight Voted in Favor

- C. **TABLED** - Approval of the Manchester L.I.F.E. Scholarship.

Director Peak asked the Board of Directors to support a resolution he drafted endorsing the Manchester L.I.F.E. Scholarship. He would like to see \$15,000 allocated to this scholarship to fund the Manchester Adult Learner Scholarship administered through the Manchester Scholarship Foundation.

Jim Tatro, Manchester Scholarship Foundation, gave an overview of its program to the Board of Directors. After Mr. Tatro's overview, Directors Zingler, Pelletier, Peak, Spadaccini, Hachey, Topping, Chairman Howroyd and Vice-Chairman O'Neill all asked questions of Mr. Tatro and the Manchester Scholarship Foundation. The Board as a whole seemed to support the scholarship, but would like the opportunity to further study all details involved. It was decided that the information provided by Director Peak prior to the meeting would be taken back to the subcommittee and discussed further in that realm.

Director Topping moved and Vice-Chairman O'Neill seconded the motion.

Five Voted in Favor

Topping, Hachey, Zingler, O'Neill, Howroyd

Three Voted Against

Pelletier, Spadaccini, Peak

- D. **TABLED** - Appointment of a member to the Housing Commission (R) with a term expiring November 2006.

Director Spadaccini moved and Secretary Zingler seconded the motion.

Eight Voted in Favor

- E. **TABLED** - Appointment of a member (D) to the Commission for People with Disabilities with a term expiring November 2007.

Secretary Zingler moved and Director Topping seconded the motion.

Eight Voted in Favor

15. NEW BUSINESS.

- F. Approval of cemetery rates as proposed by the Public Works Department.

Mark Carlino, Director of Public Works, explained that the last rate change was in the year 2000.

Vice-Chairman O'Neill requested the effective date be changed to March 1, 2007 and Secretary Zingler agreed.

**ADOPTED - MOTION TO APPROVE CEMETERY RATES WITH THE
EFFECTIVE DATE OF MARCH 1, 2007.**

Director Hachey moved and Secretary Zingler seconded the motion.

**Five Voted in Favor
Topping, Hachey, Zingler, O'Neill, Howroyd
Three Voted Against
Pelletier, Spadaccini, Peak**

G. Discussion of attendance at National League of Cities conference.

Chairman Howroyd opened the discussion, which was requested by Director Sheridan at a previous meeting. The annual conference is in December in Nevada. In the past, two members of the majority party and one member of the minority party have attended. He would like to see Manchester continue to attend and send three members again this year.

Director Spadaccini sees the value in attending, but is concerned about spending the money in light of revaluation. He suggested any director who would like to go should pay out of pocket.

Secretary Zingler attended last year and agrees with Chairman Howroyd about the importance of attending and staying connected with the legislative delegates. He also recommended that the entire Board go to Washington in the spring.

Director Pelletier reminded the Board that the Town is in a tough spot financially right now and suggested getting materials from the conference in other ways.

Director Topping thinks the return on investment makes it worth attending and that the personal contact is an important part of the conference. He would like to see three people from the Board attend.

Vice-Chairman O'Neill is looking forward to all of the valuable information available and the hands-on experiences she read are about in the information packet.

Director Hachey stated that the convention is extremely beneficial and it would be useful for Board members to attend, particularly newer members.

Chairman Howroyd agrees that all are concerned with revaluation. He thinks that during these tough times Board members who attend may be able to hear experiences of others who have had similar issues. He reminded the Board that whoever is sent is expected to report the highlights of their conference experience.

Director Peak thought the education he received last year was valuable, however he explained that the NLC picks issues and lobbies state and federal government. This year they are advocating use of eminent domain and he does not feel the Board of Directors should support their efforts. Mr. Peak would like to refrain from attending this year to save money as well as send the message that the Board disagrees with NLC's current policies.

Chairman Howroyd reminded Mr. Peak that December is NLC's business meeting. The best way to change something is to participate.

ADOPTED – MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO GO BEYOND ELEVEN O'CLOCK.

Secretary Zingler moved and Director Topping seconded the motion.

**Seven Voted in Favor
One Voted Against - Hachey**

H. Adoption of a technology resources policy for elected officials.

Secretary Zingler explained that he, along with Directors Peak and Sheridan, were on the subcommittee dealing with the use of technology resources. He read the revised policy to the Board of Directors.

DEFEATED – MOTION TO TABLE ITEM 15.H.

Director Peak moved and Director Spadaccini seconded the motion.

**Four Voted in Favor
Pelletier, Spadaccini, Peak, Zingler
Four Voted Against
Topping, Hachey, O'Neill, Howroyd**

Director Peak was surprised to see that the version that came from the subcommittee went to the Democratic party for review and was revised without the knowledge of the subcommittee.

Directors Pelletier and Spadaccini were also troubled by the way the policy was changed after it left the subcommittee. It just reinforces Mr. Spadaccini's distrust of the subcommittee process.

DEFEATED - MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION ON TABLE.

Director Topping moved and Vice-Chairman O'Neill seconded the motion.

**Three Voted in Favor
Topping, Hachey, O'Neill
Five Voted Against
Zingler, Howroyd, Peak, Spadaccini, Pelletier**

DEFEATED - MOTION TO AMEND TO REMOVE CELL PHONE USAGE FOR THE JUDGE OF PROBATE AND ASK ANY SELECTMAN RECEIVING INTERNET ACCESS TO REIMBURSE THE TOWN FOR THAT EXPENSE.

Director Peak moved and Director Spadaccini seconded the motion.

**Three Voted in Favor
Peak, Spadaccini, Pelletier
Five Voted Against
Topping, Hachey, Zingler, O'Neill, Howroyd**

MOTION TO ADOPT THE TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES POLICY FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS AS REVISED SEPTEMBER 19, 2006.

Secretary Zingler moved and Director Topping seconded the motion.

Eight Voted in Favor

I. Discussion of 20/10 energy campaign.

Director Peak gave an overview of the program. He noted that clean sources of energy will cost about 5% more than the Town currently pays, but the impact on the environment cannot be measured. For every 100 residents who sign up for the program, the Town is eligible to receive a free solar panel to put on a Town building.

Chairman Howroyd is interested in pursuing green initiatives.

Director Hachey thinks this is a terrific project, but suggested the discussion be postponed due to the late hour and the inability to give this subject the attention it deserves.

Director Spadaccini suggested it is a good topic for a policy meeting.

J. **ADOPTED** - Acceptance of resignation of Joseph S. Hachey (D) from the Board of Directors (effective October 1, 2006) with a term expiring November 2007.

Each Board member took a moment to thank Director Hachey for his years of service. Director Hachey will be missed by all. The legacy he leaves is his concern for the "little guy."

Director Hachey thanked his family for the sacrifices they have made during his time on the Board. He feels the Board made a good decision when they hired General Manager Shanley. Director Hachey has had no greater honor than to serve on the Board of Directors.

Secretary Zingler moved and Vice-Chairman O'Neill seconded the motion.

Eight Voted in Favor

K. **ADOPTED** - Appointment of a member (D) to the Board of Directors (effective October 1, 2006), to replace Joseph S. Hachey with a term expiring November 2007. (Jason Doucette, 133 Waranoke Road)

Chairman Howroyd is looking forward to Mr. Doucette's service on the Board, as he is proactive and a sharp, capable man.

Secretary Zingler moved and Director Topping seconded the motion.

Eight Voted in Favor

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

Bill Ogden, 137 Branford Road, expressed his opinion regarding the NLC conference. He thinks the petition about the Parkade purchase was not presented fairly and hopes it does not win.

Mary Angeli, 65 White Street, would like to see the Board of Education and the Police Department provide information on bicycle safety. She is against purchasing the Parkade property. Ms. Angeli thinks the key to learning is socialization, and therefore also thinks the Board should participate in NLC. She supports the Manchester L.I.F.E. Scholarship.

Milt Perlman, 3 Sanford Road, wished Director Hachey luck and stated that he thinks some of the personality of the Board will go with him. He asked how people could find out about scholarships available.

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

Director Hachey thanked the General Manager and Health Director for obtaining the Emergency Health Plan he requested. He also mentioned the two police officers hurt while on duty.

Secretary Zingler made a recommendation that the Board members receive their agenda and backup materials electronically now that the technology is available to them. This will save the cost of postage.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

The Board went into Executive Session for discussion of real estate negotiations at 12:30 a.m. and returned at 12:45 a.m. No votes were taken.

Director Hachey moved and Vice-Chairman O'Neill seconded the motion.

Eight Voted in Favor

18. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting was adjourned until the September 26, 2006 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors at 7:00 p.m. in the Lincoln Center Hearing Room.

Director Hachey moved and Vice-Chairman O'Neill seconded the motion.

Eight Voted in Favor

Adjournment: 12:45 a.m.

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APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Secretary, Manchester Board of Directors