

COMMON COUNCIL - SPECIAL MEETING

JUNE 1, 1987

Meeting to be called to order at 8:30 O'Clock P.M. by the Honorable James E. Dyer, Mayor

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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

PRAYER

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ROLL CALL

Council Members - Johnson, Sollose, DeMille, Philip, Godfrey, Flanagan, Zotos, Hadley, Rotello, Cassano, McManus, Gallo, Esposito, Charles, Boynton, Butera, DaSilva, Eriquez, Farah, Smith, Torian.

21

Present

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Absent

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NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING - To be held on the 1st day of June, 1987 at 8:30 O'Clock P.M. in the Common Council Chambers in City Hall, for the purpose of acting upon the following:

01 - REPORT - Proposed Changes to the Charter.

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PUBLIC SPEAKING SESSION

There being no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion was made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ for the meeting to be adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_ P.M.



PROPOSED CHANGES

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CHAPTER II, ELECTIONS AND OFFICERS

SECTION 2-2 A. b. A Common Council consisting of twenty-one (21) members, ~~two-(2)~~ THREE (3) from each ward, and ~~seven-at-large~~, all of whom shall serve a term of two years.

SECTION 2-2 A. f. ~~SECTION 2-2 A. f. Five-(5)-Constables-who-shall serve-a-term-of-two-(2)-years.~~

SECTION 2-2 A. h. Subsection 2-2 A. h. is to be deleted and the following substituted in lieu thereof:

- (1) A ZONING COMMISSION CONSISTING OF NINE RESIDENT ELECTORS OF THE CITY. AT THE FIRST GENERAL CITY ELECTION TO BE HELD AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS PARAGRAPH AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 8-13, THERE SHALL BE ELECTED FIVE MEMBERS OF THE ZONING COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF FOUR (4) YEARS AND FOUR MEMBERS FOR A TERM OF TWO (2) YEARS. AT THE SECOND SUCH GENERAL CITY ELECTION, THERE SHALL BE ELECTED FOUR MEMBERS FOR TERMS OF FOUR (4) YEARS. ALTERNATELY THEREAFTER, AT EACH BIENNIAL ELECTION, THERE SHALL BE ELECTED FIVE MEMBERS AND THEN FOUR MEMBERS WHO SHALL HOLD OFFICE FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS TO SUCCEED THOSE WHOSE TERMS EXPIRE.
- (2) THERE SHALL BE THREE ALTERNATE MEMBERS OF THE ZONING COMMISSION WHO SHALL BE RESIDENT ELECTORS OF THE CITY. AT THE FIRST GENERAL CITY ELECTION TO BE HELD AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS PARAGRAPH AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 8-13, THERE SHALL BE ELECTED TWO ALTERNATE MEMBERS OF THE ZONING COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF FOUR (4) YEARS AND ONE MEMBER FOR A TERM OF TWO (2) YEARS. AT THE SECOND SUCH GENERAL ELECTION THERE SHALL BE ELECTED ONE MEMBER FOR A TERM OF FOUR (4) YEARS. ALTERNATELY THEREAFTER, AT EACH BIENNIAL ELECTION THERE SHALL BE ELECTED TWO MEMBERS AND THEN ONE MEMBER WHO SHALL HOLD OFFICE FOR A TERM OF FOUR (4) YEARS TO SUCCEED THOSE WHOSE TERMS EXPIRE.
- (3) THE ZONING COMMISSION SHALL HAVE THE POWERS AND DUTIES NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THIS CHARTER, AS PRESCRIBED IN CHAPTER 124 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES, AS AMENDED.

SECTION 2-4

Wards and Voting Districts. There shall be voting districts and wards as the same shall exist on the effective date of this Charter. THE COMMON COUNCIL SHALL MAKE A DETERMINATION AT LEAST ONCE EVERY 10 YEAR PERIOD COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 1988 WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS INEQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AMONG THE WARDS. Whenever the Common Council shall make a determination that there is an inequitable distribution of population among the wards, it shall be its duty forthwith to alter the boundaries of the several wards to make all wards substantially equal in population and as nearly equal in geographical area as possible. Voting districts may be increased and boundaries altered by ordinance of the Common Council in accordance with the provisions of the General Statutes, as amended.

CHAPTER III, THE COMMON COUNCIL

Section 3-4

General Powers and Duties. The Common Council shall have the powers and duties which, on the effective date hereof, were conferred by law upon officers, boards and commissions and said City existing immediately prior to each date except as otherwise specifically provided in this Charter. The legislative power of the City shall be vested exclusively in the Council. Said council shall have the power to enact, amend or repeal ordinances not inconsistent with this Charter or the General Statutes of the state; to create or abolish, by ordinance, boards, commissions, departments and offices not provided by the Charter, and the Council may, upon recommendation of the Mayor, contract for services and the use of facilities of the United States or any federal agency, other states or political subdivision thereof, or may, by agreement, join with any such political subdivision to provide services and facilities. The Council is authorized, in adopting ordinances, to incorporate any nationally recognized code, rules or regulations that have been printed in book form, or any code officially adopted by any administrative agency of the state, or any portion thereof, as they may be amended, by reference thereto in such ordinance; provided upon adoption of any such ordinance wherein such code, rules or regulations or portions thereof have been incorporated by reference, there shall be maintained two (2) copies of such code, rules or regulations, as amended, in the office of the Town Clerk for examination by the public. Said Council may by resolution regulate the internal operation of boards, commissions and offices which it fills

by appointment, and fix the compensation of the registrars of voters and the officers and employees. SAID COUNCIL MAY BY RESOLUTION APPOINT SUCH STAFF TO SERVE THE COUNCIL AS IT DEEMS NECESSARY AND TO FIX THE COMPENSATION TO BE PAID SAID STAFF. SUCH STAFF SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO THE MERIT SYSTEM AND SHALL PERFORM SUCH DUTIES AS THE COUNCIL MAY DETERMINE. Said Council may fix the charges, if any, to be made for services rendered by the City or for the execution of powers vested in the City as provided in Chapter I of this Charter. Said Council shall also have all powers granted to municipalities by Section 7-194 of the General Statutes, as amended and any other powers conferred by the general law or special laws not inconsistent herewith. The Council, at each meeting, shall reserve at least one-half hour period prior to adjournment for the expression of views and opinions by residents and taxpayers of the City on the matters before the Council at such meeting.

SECTION 3-13

Section 3-13 is to be deleted and the following substituted in lieu thereof: COMMITTEES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL MAY BE AD HOC OR STANDING. STANDING COMMITTEE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNCIL.

CHAPTER V

The title of Chapter V is to be deleted and is to read as follows: CHAPTER V. APPOINTED BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND OTHER OFFICIALS.

SECTION 5-4 (new)

THERE SHALL BE FIVE CONSTABLES WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR AND CONFIRMED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL, ALL OF WHOM SHALL SERVE A TERM OF TWO (2) YEARS.

CHAPTER VI. OFFICES, DEPARTMENTS AND EMPLOYEES

Section 6-3

Appointments of Officers and Employees of the City. When not otherwise provided, all heads and all police and fire officers shall be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Common Council. All other employees of the City shall be appointed by the Mayor, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 3-4. All City officers and employees when not otherwise specified in the Charter may be subject to the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to the merit system as the same may be in effect in the City.

SECTION 6-6 A.

Section 6-6 A. shall be deleted.

SECTION 6-6 B.

Section 6-6 B.. shall be amended as follows:

~~COMPTROLLER. THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE: Powers, Duties and Qualifications. Subject to the direction of the Director of Finance, the Comptroller~~ THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE SHALL HAVE DIRECT SUPERVISION OVER THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE CITY. SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR, THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE MAY PERFORM THE DUTIES OR ANY OFFICE IN THE DEPARTMENT. THE DIRECTOR shall supervise the accounting functions of the City and shall maintain and supervise the general accounting system for all departments, offices, boards, commissions or agencies and perform such other duties as assigned by the Director of Finance. THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE SHALL BE CHOSEN ON THE BASIS OF TRAINING AND BROAD EXPERIENCE IN ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE, INCLUDING AT LEAST FIVE YEARS EXPERIENCE AND SHALL HAVE A DEGREE IN ACCOUNTING, FINANCE OR OTHER SIMILAR SPECIALTY.

SECTION 6-6 D.

Section 6-6 D. shall be deleted and the following substituted in lieu thereof:

THE PURCHASING AGENT: THE PURCHASING AGENT OF THE CITY SHALL PURCHASE ALL SUPPLIES, MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT AND OTHER COMMODITIES REQUIRED BY ANY DEPARTMENT, AGENCY, BOARD OR COMMISSION OF THE CITY, ON REQUISITION AND SPECIFICATION SIGNED BY THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OR AGENCY OR CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OR COMMISSION, OR THE DESIGNEE THEREOF. NOTHING HEREIN CONTAINED SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO PREVENT THE CITY PURCHASING AGENT FROM SERVING AS THE PURCHASING AGENT FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND, IN THE EVENT THAT THE GENERAL STATUTES ARE AMENDED TO PERMIT MUNICIPALITIES TO DO THE PURCHASING FOR BOARDS OF EDUCATION, THE CITY PURCHASING AGENT SHALL BE THE PURCHASING AGENT OF THE BOARDS OF EDUCATION. PURCHASES SHALL BE MADE UNDER SUCH RULES AND REGULATIONS AS MAY BE ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL AND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO SUCH BIDDING PROCEDURES AS ESTABLISHED BY ORDINANCE. THE EFFECTIVE DATE SHALL BECOME THE DATE THAT SUCH AN ORDINANCE IS ENACTED.

#### CHAPTER VII. FINANCE AND TAXATION

SECTION 7-10 b.

Bonds and notes shall be authenticated by the seal of the City and the signature of the Mayor, the City Clerk and the Treasurer. IN THE ABSENCE, INCAPACITY OR VACANCY OF THE OFFICE OF TREASURER, THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE IS AUTHORIZED TO SIGN BONDS.



# CITY OF DANBURY

155 DEER HILL AVENUE

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

JAMES E. DYER, MAYOR

COMMON COUNCIL

## REPORT

June 2, 1987

Honorable Mayor James E. Dyer  
Honorable Members of the Common Council

Re: Proposed Charter Changes

The Common Council held a public hearing on the proposed Charter changes on May 18, 1987 at 7:30 P.M. in the Common Council Chambers.

The Common Council met as a committee of the whole immediately after the public hearing and again on May 26, 1987 at 8:00 P.M. The committee recommends that the Common Council advise the Charter Revision Commission of the following recommendations:

1. Sec. 2-4 Wards and Voting Districts be revised as follows:

A. There shall be seven wards within the city, as the same shall exist on the effective date of this section. Decennially, during its term following the completion of the census of the United States, the Common Council shall ordain such plan of redistricting the seven wards as is necessary to apportion representation equally by population.

B. The Common Council may establish and alter by ordinance such voting districts as it finds necessary and proper, and in accordance with the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes as amended.

2. The recommended changes to Sec. 2-2Ab be eliminated and the old language be reinstated.

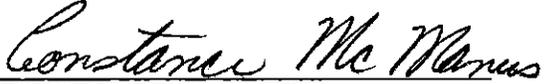
3. The Department of the Elderly be included in the Charter.

4. Sec. 3-13 the word "committee" should be changed to "committees".

5. Sec. 3-4. The language should be altered to allow the Common Council to reserve one-half hour during Common Council meetings for public speaking at a time to be determined by the Common Council.

6. Sec. 3-13 should be amended to read "standing committees and the membership thereof shall be established by the Common Council. Appointments to all standing and ad hoc committees shall be made by the Common Council President.

Respectfully submitted,

  
CONSTANCE McMANUS  
Chairman

**Section 2-4. Wards and Voting Districts**

A. There shall be seven wards within the city, as the same shall exist on the effective date of this section. Decennially, during its term following the completion of the census of the United States, the common council shall ordain such plan of redistricting the seven wards as is necessary to apportion representation equally by population.

B. The common council may establish and alter by ordinance such voting districts as it finds necessary and proper, and in accordance with the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes as amended.