

To: Mayor James E. Dyer, City of Danbury, Connecticut.

Re: Minutes of the Special Common Council Meeting held June 1, 1987.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 P.M. by Mayor James E. Dyer who led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Prayer was offered by Councilman John J. Esposito.

Roll Call was taken by City Clerk Elizabeth Crudginton, with the following members being recorded as:

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

21 Members Present - 0 Members Absent

NOTICE OF THE SPECIAL MEETING - To be held the 1st day of June, 1987 at 8:30 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.

RETURN OF SERVICE - Notices were delivered by Police Officers of the Danbury Police Department.

A motion was made by Councilman DaSilva and seconded by Councilman Godfrey for the Call and the Return of Service to be accepted. Motion carried unanimously.

01 - REPORT - Proposed Charter Changes.

Council Member McManus submitted the following report:

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.

Mrs. Butera moved to accept the report. Seconded by Mr. Charles. Mr. Eriquez asked that the amendments contained in the report be voted on individually. There was unanimous consent.

First Amendment - Sec. 2-4 - Unanimous consent.

Second Amendment - Sec.2-2Ab - Motion carried with Mr. Godfrey voting Nay.

Third Amendment - Department of the Elderly - Unanimous consent.

Fourth Amendment - Unanimous consent.

Fifth Amendment - Section 3-4 - Unanimous consent.

Sixth Amendment - First sentence. It was decided that the two sentences would be voting on separately.

Mr. Eriquez stated that he would be voting against. Mrs. McManus stated that if you divide the issue you lose the issue. This wording should not be put into the Charter and each Common Council should have the right to decide what they want on their own.

Mr. Godfrey stated that the two sentences cancel each other out.

Mr. Eriquez stated that since the Charter Revision Commission had retained the Mayor as the presiding officer it would be awkward to allow the Common Council President to determine who served on what committees.

Mr. Farah stated that the Senate takes care of its own business while the Vice President presides.

Mayor Dyer called for a vote on retaining the first sentence of the proposed sixth amendment with the following members voting as follows:

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

13 Members Yes - 8 Members No. Vote is to retain the language.

Regarding the second sentence of the proposed amendment Councilman Godfrey stated again that the sentence is inconsistent.

Mr. Cassano stated that the first sentence does not state who, what or why. What would be the way for a Council to determine what makes up a standing committee.

Mayor Dyer explained the procedure, i.e. after an election the Common Council would meet to determine what committees they want, etc.

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01- continued:

Mr. Cassano asked what way is possible for the appointing of committee memberships.

Mayor Dyer stated that the Mayor would appoint. Mrs. McManus stated that no, the Common Council would appoint.

Mr. Godfrey said that an Ordinance or Resolution could be created to determine procedure.

Mayor Dyer stated that the Charter should be a broad document and not get into detail.

Mr. Boynton stated that an organization meeting could be held to establish procedure to determine how committees are appointed.

Mr. Godfrey stated that the proposed language would prohibit anyone else from appointing committees if the Common Council President were absent.

Mayor Dyer stated that it could be assumed that the Majority Leader would appoint as no order of succession exists.

Mr. Farah stated that President could be left out and Common Council substituted.

Mrs. McManus stated that the Common Council by ordinance already can determine who appoints committees. This should be left as the Charter has it.

Mr. DaSilva stated that the Charter Revision Commission did not want it by ordinance, but by Charter so it could not be so easily changed.

Mayor Dyer called for a vote on the second sentence of the proposed amendment stating that a yes vote would keep the proposed language. The following members voted as follows:

AFFIRMATIVE - Council Members Johnson, Sollose, DeMille, Philip, Hadley, Rotello, DaSilva. NEGATIVE - Council Members Godfrey, Flanagan, Zotos, Cassano, McManus, Gallo, Esposito, Charles, Boynton, Butera, Eriquez, Farah, Smith and Torian. 7 Yes 14 No. Motion fails.

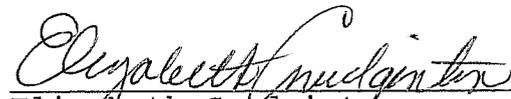
There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

There being no further business to come before the Common Council, Councilman Godfrey made a motion to adjourn at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


JIMMETTA L. SAMAHA
Assistant City Clerk

ATTEST:


Elizabeth Crudginton
City Clerk