

To: Joseph H. Sauer, Mayor of the City of Danbury, Connecticut.

Re: Minutes of the Special Common Council Meeting held August 22, 1988.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Mayor Joseph H. Sauer who led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. Council Member John Esposito offered the prayer. Roll Call was taken with the members being recorded as:

PRESENT - Bourne, Connell, Gallo, Moran, Renz, Esposito, Godfrey, Flanagan, Zotos, Cresci, Nimmons, Fazio, Shaw, Charles, Bundy, DaSilva, Eriquez, Regan.

ABSENT - Cassano, Butera, Danise.

18 present - 3 absent.

Mr. Eriquez stated that Mr. Cassano is out of town of business, Mrs. Butera is out of town on vacation and Mrs. Danise is out of the Country.

NOTICE OF THE SPECIAL MEETING - To be held on the 22nd day of August, 1988 at 7:30 P.M. in the Common Council Chambers for the purpose of acting upon the following:

1. Neighborhood Assistance Act.
2. Final Report of the Charter Revision Commission.

Mr. Connell made a motion to accept the call. Seconded by Mr. Cresci. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Neighborhood Assistance Act - Report from Mr. Nimmons stating that the Common Council met as a committee of the whole on August 22, 1988 following a public hearing and recommends approval of the Neighborhood Assistance Act applications. Mr. Bundy made a motion that the report be accepted and the applications approved. Seconded by Mr. Eriquez. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Final Report of the Charter Revision Commission. Communication from Paul Jaber, Chairman of the Charter Revision Commission setting out the Commission's final recommendations. Mrs. Bourne made a motion to accept the final report of the Charter Revision Commission. Seconded by Mr. Moran.

Mr. Flanagan stated that the Common Council can only delete from this final report, they cannot add to it. Therefore, he offered an amendment to delete the new wording in Section 2-2A(b) regarding minority representation and in Section 2-3 to delete new language to correspondence with Section 2-2A(b). Seconded by Mr. Gallo.

Mr. Flanagan stated that he is not in favor of a one party rule, but due to the absence of the party lever, minority representation should be almost a given. Mr. Regan agreed with Mr. Flanagan and the Council should wait to see what effect the elimination of the lever will have on future elections.

Mrs. Bourne stated that all other Boards and Commissions have minority representation. Experts appearing before the Charter Revision Commission stated that the elimination of the party lever does not have an impact on minority representation.

Mr. Renz stated that this issue had already been discussed and could see no point in bringing it up again.

Mr. Godfrey stated that he could see both sides of the issue and felt that it was now proper to send this issue to the voters.

The amendment failed with the members voting as follows:

Yes - Gallo, Esposito, Flanagan, DaSilva, Regan.  
No - Bourne, Connell, Moran, Renz, Godfrey, Zotos, Cresci, Nimmons, Fazio, Shaw, Charles, Bundy, Eriquez. Vote 5 yes - 13 no.

Mr. Eriquez then asked Mrs. Bourne to amend her original motion as follows:

That the proposals shall be presented to the voters on the ballot on election day, November 8, 1988; that the questions be presented in three parts:

1. Minority Representation;
2. Council Organization; and
3. All other issues;

and that Eric Gottschalk draft these three questions and present them to the Common Council for their approval at the September 7, 1988 Common Council Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Godfrey. Motion carried unanimously.

There were no members of the public wishing to address the Common Council.

There being no further business to come before the Common Council a motion was made by Mrs. Bourne for the meeting to be adjourned at 7:57

Respectfully submitted,

*Dimmetta L. Samaha*  
 DIMMETTA L. SAMAHA  
 Assistant City Clerk

ATTEST:

*Elizabeth Crudginton*  
 Elizabeth Crudginton  
 City Clerk