

**DANBURY AVIATION COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

Danbury Aviation Commission -- 7:00 p.m.  
Danbury City Hall: 155 Deer Hill Ave., Danbury, CT 06810  
Third Floor / Room 3C / Tuesday, February 17, 2015

**01 Meeting Called to Order By Chairman Ashkar**

**02 Roll Call:**

Present: Commissioners Ashkar, Oppermann, Zilinek, Omasta

Absent: Commissioner Baker, Tamburri

Correction was made to minutes of January 20, 2015 stating Chairman Ashkar was present and Commissioner Oppermann was not the Acting Chairman.

**Motion made to accept the regular meeting minutes of January 20, 2015 with above correction, by Commissioner Omasta, seconded by Commissioner Oppermann, and unanimously approved.**

**03 Liaison Report:**

**Commissioner Oppermann reported as per Chairman Ashkar's request, I attempted to contact Mr. Drew Brown of Conanicut Aviation at the hangar number I have twice, and contacted Alice for his cell phone number and left a message to say I would be glad to meet with him at his hangar at a mutual convenience to discuss the items Mr. Brown stated at our previous meeting. I have not heard from Mr. Brown since.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Zilinek to accept Liaison Report, seconded by Commissioner Omasta, and unanimously approved.**

**04 Administrator's Monthly Report:**

**Mr. Paul Estefan stated the Mayor signed the documents for our consultant, Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, for a couple of new plow trucks which will be going out to bid in the next 90 days following the approved FAA specifications and hopefully we will have two new plow trucks. I am trying for two depending on the cost. I have about \$300,000 but the FAA is pushing for an asphalt analysis. Snow removal is underway, we have frozen septic pipes like everyone else at our maintenance building. Airport Master Plan is currently underway; we are trying to get a survey done on sustainability on the field to try and do a better job in disposing of what we use.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Zilinek to accept Administrator's Report, seconded by Commissioner Oppermann, and unanimously approved.**

**Motion made by Commissioner Zilinek to open Public Speaking, seconded by Commissioner Oppermann, and unanimously approved.**

***Public Speaking:***

Mr. Wayne Toher of Reliant Air requested the plow widen Alpha because of snow banks. Mr. Estefan advised he'll send the snow blower over. Mr. Toher advised that he will be flying on 2/26 and will miss the Master Plan meeting and we should really be looking into a longer runway 26 as part of the Master Plan. Mr. Estefan advised that in house we are looking at a reconfiguration of the west side including changing the configuration of Miry Brook Road by Fedex. Mr. Toher stated it's the landing distance we need to make longer.

**Motion was made to close public speaking by Commissioner Zilinek, seconded by Commissioner Oppermann, and unanimously approved.**

***Old Business***

***Exit Aviation – Boundary dispute between Exit Aviation and Westconn Aviation.***

Chairman Ashkar advised that Westconn Aviation is absent tonight as well as Exit Aviation. He advised that Mr. Orifici had called him and he is out west and won't be back until next week. Mr. Orifici advised he would be willing to come in on a different day and time or wait until the next meeting. Commissioner Oppermann asked if the airplanes and equipment

have been moved; Mr. Estefan advised he didn't know for sure but will take the map out and figure out where boundary points are. Chairman Ashkar stated that Mr. Orifici had moved the aircraft but he can't do the electrical because of snow. Chairman Ashkar also reported that Mr. Orifici talked to him about the delinquent fees and his reason for not paying is because Sayers has allowed all the run-off to come down into his parking area preventing him of utilizing that piece of property. He also reported that Mr. Orifici wants to go in with his own equipment and remove the debris and recapture those 7/8 parking spots and then deduct from the monies he owes us and then pay the remainder. Attorney Pinter presented a map of the property in question. Mr. Estefan advised Mr. Orifici lost 11% in the use of this area. Mr. Estefan advised that Attorney Pinter and I worked with Mr. Orifici to try and resolve the matter. Attorney Pinter stated that while almost 20% of Mr. Orifici's property is unusable he should have paid the remainder 80% of the delinquent fees and stated Mr. Orifici was not paying any rent for any of the property until the Sayers issue is resolved. Attorney Pinter stated the City has retained outside council to foreclose on Sayers property. Chairman Ashkar stated if he doesn't pay the Commission has the authority to pull the lease. Attorney Pinter advised the City's position is we want the rent before anything else goes forward but we are ready to send this to lease termination. Commissioner Oppermann suggested if he doesn't pay within 60 days action will begin to revoke the lease.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Oppermann that Westconn Aviation pay all delinquent fees owed to the City of Danbury by March 16, 2015, or the Aviation Commission will seek to terminate the Westconn Aviation lease, seconded by Commissioner Zilinek, and unanimously approved.**

### *New Business*

#### *Airport Registration Fees*

Mr. Estefan apologized for the tirade last month that the commission had to listen to; he stated the issue started with the 1954 military Albatross was parked on the city ramp because of its large size. I requested Mike Safranek to speak to the owner to get it registered. The plane is not based here but is based in Massachusetts where it is registered. Mr. Brown is under the impression that the Albatross must pay the full \$2,500; however the law is a little "quirky" in that the plane does not stay here the whole year – it is here less than 6 months out of the year. Commissioner Oppermann stated we were told by Mr. Brown that he is not going to pay the fees and he also stated anybody in his hangar are not going to pay their fees. Mr. Estefan stated that Mike and Alice are beating down and getting almost 99% compliance on collecting the registration fees. Mr. Estefan reported that if an aircraft is not registered within a timely fashion their gate cards are turned off and the owner comes down and pays. Chairman Ashkar asked if he has a claim to sue can he name the Aviation Commission; Attorney Pinter said he can name the Commission but it would be the City of Danbury and the Administration. Mr. Estefan stated Mr. Brown does not have a curb cut so he cuts across city property to get into his property and Mr. Brown's company bought it that way.

**Motion made to adjourn by Commissioner Oppermann, seconded by Commissioner Zilinek, and unanimously approved.**