Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance:

Ken Olin, Chairman, called the Board of Apportionment & Taxation Budget Workshop meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. All those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT & TAXATION:**

Ken Olin, Chairman- Present  
Wayne Bragg- Present  
Charlotte Madar-Present  
Judson Crawford-Present  
John Belden- Present  
Jimmy Tickey- Present

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN:**

John Anglase, President-Present  
Lynne Farrell- excused  
Jack Finn- Present  
Stan Kudej- Present  
Noreen McGorty- excused  
John Papa- excused  
Anthony Simonetti- Present
0100 Administrative Office
Department requested $496,723; Mayor recommended $1,636,963
Non attendance.

0200 Employee Resources
Department requested $6,048,129; Mayor recommended $6,034,728
Non-attendance.

0300 Legislative
Department requested $130,170; Mayor recommended $128,170
Non-attendance.

0400 Board of Ethics
Department requested $600; Mayor recommended $600
Non-attendance.

0500 Elections
Department requested $148,876; Mayor recommended $148,876

Alderman Finn: This year we are asking for less money than we were last year, due to the fact that in the local election, we do not need as many employees on Election Day. Next year, you will see a difference—we will be asking for an increase in our budget because
they will be going back to a state election. The only area that is slightly higher from two years ago would be part time employees. That is due to the fact that State Representatives passed an unfunded mandate on us where we now have the same-day registration for voting, and any of the voters that show up at the polling places would have to come to our office. So we would have to hire an additional employee and put an additional computer in, to assist those voters on Election Day.

Next year, we are going to have what they call early voting. There will be two weeks prior to the election that is if the State Legislators will pass it. We can only hold our office in City Hall, however, we moved to Lafayette School, which that means we will have to place a computer in City Hall for those two weeks, a voting machine for two weeks and we have to hire an additional person for those two weeks, plus the commissary for that person.

Chairman Ken Olin: That does not make sense.

Alderman Finn: No, it all depends on if the State Legislators are going to pass it this year. I just want to make you aware of that for next year.

Wayne Bragg: Jack, what line item is affected by the State mandate?

Alderman Finn: Part time employees. On Election Day, our phones are so busy. In our office, Arlene and Bob can not be sitting there and waiting for people to come in and register them and answer the phones at the same time. The only way we can address this problem is to hire an additional person just to register the people through the door, and that person would have to have a computer and to have knowledge of our system to add that person on as a voter; and send them back to the polling station.

Wayne Bragg: How many part time employees are you going to have?

Charlotte Madar: This is not for this year. This is for next year.
Alderman Finn: Next year is when we go switch to early voting two weeks prior to the election, and we need an additional person for that. If the mandate passes, we have to move to City Hall, but we have
been moved to Lafayette School. We are going to need a spot over here (City Hall) and plus staff and for someone to take the ballots.

Charlotte Madar: What about for this year? Is it just same day voting? Can they go to Lafayette for same-day voting?

Alderman Finn: No matter which polling station they have to go to, they will be directed to come to Lafayette School for that individual. We will then send them a letter to inform them that they became a voter.

Wayne Bragg: How many part timers do you have right now?

Alderman Finn: Right now, we do not have any part time employees.

Wayne Bragg: So, you don’t have any?

Alderman Finn: Yes, sorry we do. We have two: Bob Lally and Arlene Connelly.

Wayne Bragg: How many will you have next year?

Alderman Finn: Next year, in the office or citywide?

Wayne Bragg: On your payroll, on your budget.

Alderman Finn: Probably 110 to 115 part time employees, including the three in the office because we are going to have same-day registration every year from now on.

When you are looking at the polling stations, there are all six polling stations next year, and we will be up to 110 employees.

Wayne Bragg: I am talking about the regular payroll, the part time employees that are in the first two line items of your budget.

Alderman Finn: That includes the employees at the polling station. I am just pointing out this additional money this year that we require for the unfunded mandate to have same-day registration this year and from now, on. There is no way around it because both the part time
staff and office will not be able to handle the phone calls and people walking in the door to be registered.

Chairman Ken Olin: Do they still require a picture id to register?

Alderman Finn: Yes you do. A picture id is needed when you go to vote as well. When you go to vote, you can present your library card, veteran’s card, and driver’s license; anything that has a photo on it.

Paul Hiller: Allow me to explain some things. One thing that is certainly not in the book is under Tab 9: Calculation of the mill rate. My apologies for that and the haste to get these out, working with the printer—we will take care of that. I think that when you are discussing the revenue, and the calculation of the mill rate, that can be a little bit of a moving target. As we go through this process within the next several weeks, we tried to get into my office this evening and the keys don’t work. As you are aware, the locks have been changed in my office a few months back. The one thing that I would like to give you a heads up is some changes from last year. The one thing that didn’t change was the collection rate, which is around the same level as before. Some of the other items in there we wanted to take a history of around 3 years—this is what the City has experienced and things like the Senior Tax Credit, which has given the collection of delinquent taxes, the interest on taxes and to take a look at our history and to give it a realistic projection. In some cases they are positive and some are negative and adjustments are a result to that but we can go over that, as we get closer.

Attorney Welch just mentioned something that is a concern. Some of the tax appeals are pending—there has been one major settlement but there is around 30 commercial properties that are in various stages in the Supreme Court on appeal, and they are some of the major taxpayers or the major taxpayer on, and other commercial properties on which they probably have adjusted and as I always say, they are not going up anywhere. They are going to be going to go down if anything. I can also touch on some of the State revenue issues. The Governor has promised, and in his statement roughly two months ago, to basically keep everyone harmless. In fact, there is a Hold Harmless Grant in the Governor’s budget, which we adjusted for. As you can see, there are various lines that are zeroed
out. For example, the pilot program for the State Aid Property has been eliminated. In the case of Shelton, it is not a big number; it’s only around $15,000, primarily for Indian Wells. They did double, which it is not in the General Fund Budget, but it did double the grant for Town Aid Roads, which also gives us some flexibility with Highways & Bridges because there is going to be more money over there. Also, there is an increase in the LOCIP funds, which again in our case is off budget. Then there was an elimination of the grant for public school transportation that has been blended into the ECS grant, which is our biggest grant: it comes in an excess of $5,250,000. My own thinking and in talking with some of my colleagues around the region, I think it is going to be okay from what we are going to get from Hartford. I think it is a pretty solid number. The problem is and for other 169 towns and cities throughout the State: our mill rate’s budgets are going to be set likely prior to the adoption of the budget by the General Assembly. It may be a fairly likelihood that there may be an extension on that, through the legislative process. We are scheduled to get well in excess of $6,000,000- that’s a big number but in the total perspective of all things particularly to some of the major cities, it is not a big number and I think the Governor having been in municipal government for a dozen or fourteen years is well aware of the pressures that you folks are under. And what the administration is under. I think he will be good to his word delivering that budget for the assistance of the General Assembly.

Do you have any questions? I am open to any, and Judson will be in my office tomorrow morning. There also may be some areas are either void or missing or not adequate information. We will get over that and get a supplement to you this week.

Alderman Finn: Underneath self-insurance, it’s Worker’s Compensation actually. The department only asks for around $400,000 but, yet, the Mayor increased it to over $1,000,000. Was there an actual need to increase that item from $400,000 to $1,000,0000 in that line item account?

Paul Hiller: I would like to defer that to Tom as far as that is concerned and get him in here to be specific because I am not that conversant on the specifics.
Wayne Bragg: Are you talking about the lease payments under 0100?

Alderman Finn: Yes.

Wayne Bragg: The lease payments went from $14,000 to $1,000,000.

Alderman Finn: I think that is an error.

Paul Hiller: In the Administrative budget? That is the anticipated cost that has been approved by the Board of Aldermen, in which is the lease purchase of the school buses. The estimated cost on that payment will be over a 60-month period, approximately $95,000 per month. Based on the contract purchase price, which is 60 vehicles plus radios and video cameras, the total purchase price is just under $5, 500,000. We have been negotiating with a couple of major banks that we already have relationships with, and their estimate is based on their most recent quotes. This is finalized upon delivery around late July or August 1st. The City would be respond for the monthly lease payment plus a small interest rate on that. The rate that it was quoted for was around 1.27%.

Alderman Finn: What I am referring to is on page 25 of your run off, second from the bottom titled: WC-Self Insurance. The department only asked for $850,000 but the Mayor recommended $1,050,000.

Wayne Bragg: It the Worker’s Comp- Self Insurance was $850,000 and now it is $1,050,000.

Paul Hiller: Primarily those estimates are coming from what our exposures are: existing claims and anticipated claims.

Jack Finn: is this the payout on the claims?

Paul Hiller: Yes.

Alderman Finn, I remember the other books said that we were in a deficit of $4,000,000 in Worker’s Compensation.
Wayne Bragg: The year-to-date actuals are only $49,000 out of $1,050,000. That's from the first eight months.

Paul Hiller: I will check on that number and get back to you on that.

Charlotte Madar: It is showing a negative.

Wayne Bragg: We are self-insured after a certain point and then is it considered catastrophic?

Paul Hiller: It considered catastrophic after $1,000,000, per occurrence.

Alderman Finn: That is a negative showing in the budget. It is like it should be higher that $1,050,000.

Wayne Bragg: That line item needs some investigation.

Judson Crawford: A new line item this year called the Hold Harmless Grant, what was that in reference for?

Paul Hiller: The Hold Harmless Grant is basically, two years ago we used to get a pilot for manufacturer’s equipment when industrial or commercial enterprise bought new equipment or vehicles. Two years ago, the Governor’s initially eliminated that altogether. Our neighbor from the south, Stratford; which has a helicopter plant and places like East Hartford has jet engines and of that nature. In some cities like that, the grant would be around $2,000,000 and it was eliminated. What has happened over the last 24 months was the dollars are remaining the same. The nomenclature on it is changing. Essentially what it is, is what other towns used to get was revenue from boat fees. People who owned boats down on the river and such; Governor Rell eliminated that. There were several other taxes: sales tax was increased from 6% to 6.35% and there is a pot in which in that .35% goes into, that makes up this fund. There was also an increase in the hotel occupancy tax, a room tax. That tax is going into the same pot administered by the Department of Revenue Services. One of the problems from way back when I had rift with Commissioner Sullivan, the IRS telling us you cant tell us what it is
going to be. Now at least they have some kind of track record on this and these are things that are going into the Hold Harmless Grant. That is primarily due to the elimination of the manufacturer's equipment. We are going to run a little bit of a surplus in this account this year. It is because of the uncertainties in the past and also most of the cities and towns got a windfall on that last July or August. We all got a supplemental payment, because they haven’t paid out from the previous year; and you had the option to either take it from last year or this year. In most cases, except cities those are in greater distress, unlike Shelton held off and will obviously have to recognize it in the current fiscal year; so we will run a pretty nice surplus in those accounts this year. I hate the number that will be in there for next year. The only thing that’s changed is the name. The General Assembly may change the name of the grant, who knows.

Charlotte Madar: Have you heard anything as far the car tax information goes?

Paul Hiller: I was invited last Thursday to go a meeting in Middletown with Secretary Barns. There were 20 finance directors from cities and towns. The only thing they talked about was the “Alliance Districts”. They were talking about the 30 worst performing educational districts in the State. Shelton was not one of them. You can guess which cities and towns are on the list. I hoped that the car tax would go up because we were told that Barns was going to be there- this is what I think as a fellow taxpayer: I don’t think what the Governor put forward has a chance of a snowball in hell. I do think that there may be some modification towards it. Speaker Sharkey, from Hamden is the Speaker of the House, is a major proponent of the change in motor vehicle tax, and what I have understood from others is some effort to appease the speaker. It has very little support on either caucus, in either House. Sharkey’s argument is if you have a car and you have it registered in Greenwich, you would pay $100 hypothetically. If you registered the same car in Hartford, you would pay $400. What is the equity to that? I think some place in there is a middle ground, and the numbers that I heard of, we are in the area of that middle ground. I have heard from other numbers that there could be a common mill rate for motor vehicles, which eliminates this issue of inequities. That is going to create a surplus in Greenwich and a shortfall in Hartford, because there are many
expensive cars in Greenwich. The meeting that I went to the other
day, a friend of mine, the finance director in Bloomfield said that he
only had three cars in the City of Bloomfield that were worth more
than the $20,000. We have a lot more here, I don’t have the number;
but we are certainly not Greenwich in that aspect. One thing that I
think will be certain will only impact the Grand List of October of 2013,
and it will not have anything to do with the budget that you are looking
at now. We are at least a year out because if they change anything,
they are too late in the cycle. Towns are going to setting their mill
rates in the next 45 days to say and 169 towns. Mayor Finch is
announcing his budget tonight. It is based on an assumption on what
comes out of Hartford. If you start to change all these moving parts,
you are going to cause many shifts throughout the State.

Charlotte Madar: If they eliminated something, wouldn’t we have to
make it up somewhere?

People who own houses are going to be hit again.

Paul Hiller: Well it will go up, but it will also go to commercial
properties as well. Clearly it is not a perfect system that we have and
I think there is going to be all of discussion back and forth. The first
impact of this will probably be on the budget of fiscal year 2015.

Judson Crawford: Do you agree in this one incidence that most
municipalities collect less than 90% of their car tax?

Paul Hiller: I do not agree with that. I used to say, for example in
Fairfield; it was 5% of the revenue and 95% of the problems. If you
were to take the Governor’s proposal as a whole, then you would into
the question: Do we need more staffing in the Tax office? In the
Assessor’s office? Do we start looking at head count in some of
those areas? In our case, it is not as good as the real estate. In real
estate, we have the ultimate weapon: we have the property. Your
big problem with car taxes is what I call transference – when
someone moves from Connecticut to Colorado and then moved to
Florida or something in that nature and they don’t come back. You
would send letters out to them and work with collection agencies and
try to get them but it is hard. You are spending a lot of effort just to
collect $150.00, and it is not terribly productive. If you take the four
biggest cities, they are probably under 90%: New Haven, Hartford, Waterbury and Bridgeport for sure. You can probably through New Britain into that mix too. We are clearly not in that under 90% range; it’s not 98.7% either.

Judson Crawford: As you brought it up before, and this is for the Board of Aldermen, in case the Governor ever goes this way the City of Shelton would lose to be exact: $6,217,606.00.

Paul Hiller: Yes and how are you going to make that up? The primary place that you are going to make this up is close to where 90% of your revenue is coming in already: real estate.

1100 Probate Court

Department requested $11,300; Mayor recommended $11,300

Non-attendance.

1200 Elected/Appointed Officials

Department requested $18,450; Mayor recommended $18,450

Non-attendance.

1500 Public Employees Appeals Board

Department requested $200; Mayor recommended $200

Non-attendance.

1900 Legal/ Corporation Counsel
Atty. Tom Welch:  Good evening, Chairman and members of the Boards.  My name is Tom Welch, Corporation Counsel from the firm: Welch, Teodosio, Stanek & Blake.  I will make some brief introductory remarks about what we are requesting.  The amount is the same this year.  You will see over the course of time, dates well before my time, the salary is set by ordinance and we don’t ask for an increase in salary every year.  Every few years we do, and we do get paid out of the litigation- an hourly wage. Every few years we ask for an increase.  This is a year we are not asking for an increase in either so basically it is a stable budget from last year.  The numbers that fluctuate is based upon what type of litigation we have.  This year there is a little more foreclosure action- action that is not going to be reimbursed.  That is why you see the foreclosure costs higher a bit more than normal.  Usually the taxpayer will be reimbursing i.e. Chromium Processes is an example- the taxpayer will not be reimbursing us, so the City is paying the cost of expenses.  Then, the litigation this year: it has been less than the prior years in terms of expended.  I expect it for a few months for the tax appeals and what is pending between now and the end of June.  It is pretty consistent, we have a tendency to fluctuate based upon what is happening in the City; but this year seems to be stable.

Charlotte Madar:  Are you happy with what the Mayor gave you?

Atty. Tom Welch:  Yes, but a lot of it is not discretionary spending, but you will see for example in the current year’s budget, the legal fees for litigation expenses are outside counsel.  To date, we are about $15,000 to $16,000.  It is a little under but I couldn’t say let’s cut it because on the historical basis, depending on what is happening in the City that comes and goes.

Wayne Bragg:  Are there any outside actions that are in process, which might raise that number significantly?

Atty. Tom Welch:  The tax appeals.  There is a substantial amount of tax appeals that were been filed last year and have not been litigated on pretrials.  A lot of them go the Tax Appeals Court in New Britain- a
few of them have gotten resolved. It was mostly business, not real estate.

Wayne Bragg: How much was that number last year, at the end of 2012?

Atty. Tom Welch: What we spent, I do not know.

Wayne Bragg: Are there other concerns of litigation and other expenses that encumbered?

Atty. Tom Welch: The foreclosure fees- that number we may be approaching, or going over that. We asked for an intra-department transfer and again that is because we are proceeding with certain files that we will not see reimbursement from the taxpayer on. A standard foreclosure starts on a residential piece of property; the taxpayer will eventually pay what they are responsible for your costs and expenses. Those properties on which the City acquires, we absorb those costs and expenses.

Ken Olin: $20,000 is the same as last year.

Atty. Tom Welch: Yes that is correct. Nothing has changed and as I said again, we fluctuate depending on what is happening in the City.

**1700 Drug and Alcohol Commission**

Department requested $1; Mayor recommended $1

Non-attendance.

**2900 Public Health**

Department requested $236,939; Mayor recommended $236,939

Karen Spargo, Director of Health
Janet Gernat, Manager for the Health District
Jimmy Tickey: The Mayor has recommended the budget that you have requested for.

Charlotte Madar: Do you have any questions about your budget? Are you satisfied with what the Mayor has given to you?

Karen Spargo: We are very grateful, yes.

Wayne Bragg: The main line item is for Valley Health, in the amount of $26,000. Can you walk us through that line item and tell us what is going to be used with $26,000?

Karen Spargo: We do all of your restaurant inspections, sub-service sewage disposal, inspections of private wells, permits, the housing code, and things like Healthy Homes, a program to provide education on health, childhood lead poisoning- we follow all of the cases of the children that have become poisoned, working with the homeowners with abatement issues, we provide HUD funds to homeowners to fix up their homes, inspection of all your public pools, schools, cafeterias, and also take on complaints, inspection of daycare centers, group homes, emergency shelters and the child guidance center, inspections of recreation facilities, nail, cosmetology, tattoo and body piercing facilities. Now, we are required to inspect massage and tanning salons because the State has mandated us to do that.

Wayne Bragg: Is this a contractual relationship? Do you have your own staff doing these things?

Karen Spargo: Yes, this is a contractual relationship; the funds help pay for the staff that doing these things.

It is all rolled up into one line item. We also do all of the communicable diseases, so that is why it is so important to follow-up with all of the infectious diseases. If someone has tuberculosis, we go to their house everyday and make sure that they take their medicine and things like that, so it doesn’t spread into the community.

**1600 Senior Center**
Department requested $329,388; Mayor recommended $308,784

Charlotte Madar: Will you be able to live with the cut that the Mayor did to your budget: $329,000 down to $308,000?

Kathy Ramia: The biggest cut is really in the Part Time Employee Account. Within the last two months of meeting with our commissioners at the Mayor’s request, to re-write the job descriptions. Right now I do not have any other full time employees. The two full timers retired two years ago and they have not been replaced yet. So the Mayor requested that those job descriptions be re-written, and to see if those can be put back to full time positions. Since nothing has been taken out of the regular payroll, we would transfer that into part time if we had to. It’s at the Mayor’s discretion right now to see if he is going to approve those full time positions.

Wayne Bragg: How many full time employees do you have employed right now?

Kathy Ramia: Just a full time custodian and myself; all the other positions right now are filled by part time.

Wayne Bragg: Just for a reference, Budget Form 2 shows that you have 3 full time employees and 2 part time employees.

Kathy Ramia: Correct, at the request of the Commissioners, we left it at that. I was the Assistant Director and they never had filled that position.

Wayne Bragg: Actual means the people you are actually paying.

Kathy Ramia: I am the only person that is full time right now. I was just told that he is not going to replace my old position.

Wayne Bragg: I do see that there is no Senior Center Clerk?

Kathy Ramia: I have a part time person that is also filling that position and I have a part time Bookkeeper that does the work that the Assistant Director /Bookkeeper did.
Wayne Bragg: Is there a Senior Center Receptionist?

Kathy Ramia: Yes, we have a part time Receptionist.

Wayne Bragg: So there are two full time positions that are not currently filled?

Kathy Ramia: That is correct.

Wayne Bragg: And you are not sure that both of those positions will be filled in some other way?

Kathy Ramia: I was told that that Assistant Director position would not be filled. We also had a full time Outreach Driver- that position would not be filled either. That was taken out because at the time we knew definitely that the Driver position would not be filled. Those duties are taken over by the part time Bookkeeper and myself. We pick up the mail, we do the banking, picking up supplies, taking care of the maintenance on the van; things like that.

Charlotte Madar? Then will you survive with the cut?

Kathy Ramia: I think so; if we are able to transfer then we should be fine.

Judson Crawford: Did you have the Finance Department correct that $50.00 mistake?

Kathy Ramia: No, I brought that because maybe you would ask about that. Mr. Crawford had come to the Senior Center when I was not there, and he was looking for information on dues and membership. Usually my budget is $245 and I had sent in a payment for membership for CASP. For some reason, they sent the check back. I did correspond a number of times on why they sent it back and never received an answer; so I told the Accounting Clerk to re-deposit it back into the General Fund so it reflected that there was a $50.00 return. My balance is $295.00, where actually it is $245.00; but this is the correspondence from that.
Wayne Bragg: You have in here a new line item for a new Kitchen Helper. Has that person been hired?

Kathy Ramia: That is one of the positions that the Mayor has asked me to write up a job description. Right now, I have a part time Bookkeeper and with working with the Commission, they said we could have a part time Bookkeeper and a part time Kitchen Manager. So, that would create a full time job, which would have to be presented to the Union because it would be a new position. Our former Driver used to work in the kitchen, so when he left the staff kind of took over the responsibility of feeding the seniors. My part time Bookkeeper is now certified by Naugatuck Valley Health to be the Kitchen Manager. We are hoping that the Mayor can fill this position, so we can continue the lunch program at the Senior Center, for our seniors.

**1000 Recreation**

Department requested $1,542,955; Mayor recommended $1,522,955

Ron Herrick: We are pleased of what we received from the Mayor’s proposed budget. If you look, you will find some minor changes due to some increases in part time union raises for clerical. The Park Maintainer Union has not signed a contract as of yet, and you will see an item 60-32- Recreation Equipment and Community Center. We have received up to $15,000 years ago on that, and then we received $12,000 and then it was totally cut out so the City bonded for equipment; but a lot of the equipment that I buy out of that account: a couple of floatation devices, folding chairs, tables. It would be $400.00 or $800.00 and it didn’t seem worth it to bond, so the Mayor agreed to include that back into the budget to appropriate some funds for that to make it easier to buy small items.

Charlotte Madar: There is a $20,000 difference from $42,000, so you are ok with that?

Ron Herrick: Yes, that is really not a position; it is just a dollar amount so we will figure that out.
Wayne Bragg: On Budget Form 2 where your full time positions are located, there is $0 for the Assistant Director, Aquatic Specialist, Recreation Supervisor and Park Maintainer/Utility Worker. When will those positions be filled?

Ron Herrick: I cannot give you an exact date. Per policy, all of those positions need to be tested for.

Wayne Bragg: Are you in that testing process now?

Ron Herrick: Not as of now, we are on a list. We heard that the position that would be tested first is the Recreation Supervisor. A young man has been gone around 9 months now. He was with us for 9 to 10 years and he just left.

Chairman Ken Olin: Who was that?

Ron Herrick: Jim Mastrony. We have been filling in part time and would probably be the first position that would be tested for and we will go from there.

Wayne Bragg: Where you have it all estimated, it looks like they will be on the payroll by July 1st?

Ron Herrick: I have done the same budget like that for 15 years.

Wayne Bragg: Will it be likely that they will all be on there in the next three months?

Ron Herrick: Not likely.

Charlotte Madar: Maybe sometime before next year?

Ron Herrick: We would like for that to happen. The Mayor will explain this way we will have flexibility to fill in part time here and there. These were all Union positions that were all filled at one point in time. We still include them in our budget, and we hope to fill those. In the meantime, we will use part time to do the work.
Wayne Bragg: When you are budgeting payroll, you look at when that person is going to be hired then you project your salary from that point toward the end of the year. Not in the beginning of the year and the same with raises.

Ron Herrick: We will use it as an assumption for July 1\textsuperscript{st} or August 1\textsuperscript{st}. My Commission sets up the budget over the past 20 years. If something is different, I will speak to the Finance Director, now one has ever indicated that. They just ask for the positions and the amount for the year, for the budget. I will talk to Paul about it. That money is going to be needed there July 1\textsuperscript{st} in order to pay the part time people. There are a number of transfers throughout the year and I do not want to short myself either so, you have to look at both sides.

We have been fairly consistent with our numbers: we are $430,000 for revenue.

Jimmy Tickey: I see there is a $9,000 budget increase for Recreation Equipment and the Community Center.

Ron Herrick: That is what I spoke about before, that the City used to bond. It used to be $15,000 but then it was cut out down to $0- it just makes for a linger process to buy something small like three folding tables. Where should I take the money? I would like to take it out of the account. If I was going to purchase a larger item like a mower or 4 treadmills in one year, that is great to bond but $1,000 I can't see bonding. So that is going to be a help getting that line item back.

Alderman Anglace: Did you have any capital equipment that you used during the storm?

Ron Herrick: You mean reimbursement? Highways is taking care of that matter; I talked to George and Paul. Minor items, they used some of our equipment but they used some of our manpower but they are keeping track of that.

Chairman Ken Olin: How many full time employees do you have?
Ron Herrick: Well, 5 off of the budget sheet and if you count seasonal part time on and off: around 100 part time employees. Sometimes the payroll for the seasonal part time employees gets mixed up and some might work for six weeks and at the end we get all the tax forms done and then we have to take them off. The lifeguards come and go, so we are always looking. It is a never-ending battle.

Alderman Simonetti: Compliments on your crew for helping with the snow.

Ron Herrick: They did a good job. Now it is baseball, softball, lacrosse, and little league. The high school keeps on adding more sports and it adds an impetus on us. The high school now has five lacrosse teams: varsity boys, junior varsity, freshmen, varsity girls and junior varsity girls. They all use different lines, so it adds up when you do not get new people. We do what we can with the part timers that come in. They are talking field hockey, but I hope not because where they will play, we don’t know. The budget has not changed much except for that one line item, small increases, that are basically it. Actually, the budget is better from what we received last year.

Alderman Finn: Even though there was a $1,0000 increase in the budget for this year, throughout the information that you showed us, some of the leagues are playing less games, have less teams and the price of the umpires are increasing and the price of balls are going up. How do you go about justifying decreasing the number of teams and games for each of these leagues?

Ron Herrick: There are fewer games, with the less amounts of teams so the cost of the official goes down. Also, the majority of our leagues submit financial statements to us. None of them are going under, they are all doing well. So what we give them as a stipend will help, but for the past three years I think I cut everyone down to 2% to 3%- John knows. They can make do; there are ones that are certainly smaller than others that need a little boost.

Alderman Finn: What happens when someone wants to start a new team?
Ron Herrick: The league director will figure that out into his budget and the fees that he has to charge the individuals to register.

Alderman Finn: So, for example women’s softball increased the number of games but decreased the number of teams, but if another team came along, where would they fit in?

Ron Herrick: We will be able to make do because; again it is hard to project the year out. They will be able to find a way.

Alderman Kudej: There is always the same amount of games. If you decrease a team or two then you can always make it up in the number of games.

Ron Herrick: All of the leagues have their registration monies for the most part.

2700 Youth Services

Department requested $215,869; Mayor recommended $215,869

Jimmy Tickey: So it looks like you were allocated on what you requested.

Julie Penry: We are certainly happy with that.

Chairman Ken Olin: There are only two of you?

Julie Penry: No, there are four people in the office. Sally is in charge of the Community Alert Program and she has her own line item here. Dollar for dollar, we spend it as you give it to us.

Alderman Anglace: Let us talk about 80-08 and 80-09. Can you provide us with some examples?
Sally Schwaller: For an example for Item 80-09, tomorrow night at Griffin Hospital, we are doing a dinner in coordination with the Ansonia Youth Service Bureau, the parishioners at Griffin and Derby High School. It is a presentation for Pre-Prom and we have a
speaker, Tim Hollister, coming down. It’s for the parents about social hosting, discussion about texting and distracted driving and underage drinking. It is nice because we have the parents and the kids together.

Julie Penry: The kids cannot come unless the parents come. They have Prom bids and monetary gifts too. Each student who fills out an evaluation at the end will receive a Subway gift certificate and there are more grand prizes as well.

Sally Schwaller: We will be doing the “Youth Speaks Out Contest”, which we are basing it off of acts of kindness this year. We have the kindergarteners and first graders coloring a picture of an act of kindness, second and third graders draw a picture of themselves doing an act of kindness, and fourth through eighth graders will write an essay on the two questions we gave them. We usually get a participation of around 1200. We have been doing this program for at least 20 years. No one is knocking off their calendars, so we continue to do it.

We have a camping trip coming up at Camp Jewel and Colbrooke. We take 25 kids usually, out of the Boys & Girls Club for a weekend of team building.

Charlotte Madar: The United Way takes their leadership program up to Camp Jewel.

Jimmy Tickey: Great work, thank you for being here!

Judson Crawford: Question inaudible.

Julie Penry: We get money from the Department of Education; we get $22,664.00, which goes into the General Fund and is built into my budget. Then, we get Enhancement Money, which is $7,558.00, so because all of the State Department of Education checks go into Finance, it has been hard trying to keep track all of this. Then, if we get a grant, then no one knows what to do with it. Over the years, I was told that I could not set up an extra account; we had to put it here and then we would have to draw it out. Kathy, in Finance, works with me for a week and with Paul and she is going to set up a trust
account, or something like that. It is going to go into the new fiscal year in a Trusted Agency. If we get grant money, it will go in and each one will have its own number, and I am going to give her copies of the grants that I submit so she will know that it is back up for the City to show what it is being used for.

Judson Crawford: My other question is regarding the other line item that you have- inaudible.

Julie Penry: We were negative July 1st, which was not on our part. We always have enough for the movies, for our part time people and for the advertising, and it always worked out fine but it is corrected for the most part now.

1400 City/Town Clerk

Department requested $428,878; Mayor recommended $428,878

Non- attendance

Judson Crawford: The Town Clerk has the most revenue accounts.

Alderman Finn: Back to Employee Resources, I have a question on Volunteer Appreciation, which is Line Item 79.17 and also you have 80.81. If you go and read the backup in the book, those two items are basically the same. With the only difference: Volunteer Appreciation, they are using that for Christmas decorations as well, and Marilynn Gannon usually buys the Christmas decorations when they are on sale. So, you have two line items that say the same thing and it has a total of $10,000. If you can flag those and look at them, we can reduce it down to one line item.
ADJOURNMENT

Charlotte Madar MOVED to recess the Budget Hearing meeting of the Board of Apportionment and Taxation; SECONDED by Jimmy Tickey. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned approximately 7:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Brittany Gannon
Acting Clerk, Board of Apportionment and Taxation