



BOARD OF ALDERMEN
SHELTON, CONNECTICUT
FINANCE COMMITTEE – JUNE 22, 2010

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Alderman Stanley Kudej, Chairman, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:20 p.m., immediately following the Public Hearing on Ordinances.

Roll Call - Finance Committee

Alderman Stanley Kudej, Chairman, present
Aldermanic President John F. Anglace, Jr. - present
Alderman Anthony Simonetti - excused

Others present:
Alderman John "Jack" Finn

Public Session

Alderman Kudej asked if any member of the public wished to address the committee specific to any item that is listed on the agenda.

Judson Crawford, 8 Jordan Avenue

Have you determined when you will be addressing the year-end transfers?

Alderman Anglace replied, June 29th.

1. Approval of Minutes

Alderman Anglace MOVED to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of March 23, 2010; SECONDED by Alderman Kudej. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 2-0.

2. June Statutory Refunds

Alderman Anglace MOVED to recommend to the Full Board that the report of the Tax Collector relative to the refund of taxes for a total amount of \$512.25 be approved and that the Finance Director be directed to make payments in accordance with the certified list received from the Tax Collector with funds to come from the Statutory Refunds Account 001-0000-311.13.00. SECONDED by Alderman Kudej. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 2-0.

3. Transfer Station Fees

Alderman Anglace explained that his constituent Mr. Daryl Hogue brought this item to his attention. Mr. Hogue had taken some construction debris to the transfer station. He was sent to the City Yard to purchase tickets, which totaled \$25. Alderman Anglace thought this process should be reviewed. Public Works Director Paul DiMauro is present to discuss this.

Mr. Hogue explained the process and his experience.

Alderman Anglace stated, and when you came to me and told me your story, I agreed with you and said that I didn't understand, I didn't recall that the Board of Aldermen had set any fees down there. I didn't know how they were set or when they were set. I contacted Mr. DiMauro. The question this provokes is, do we want to charge residents for use of the transfer station, or do we want to continue to run it from general taxation? Secondly, equally as important, they have to have a system down there that weeds out the abusers – the people that come in and abuse the system who aren't really residents of the City. We should be able to work things out.

Paul DiMauro stated, I want to know who the employee was. If the individual is not handling it correctly, we need to know that so we can correct it. I don't think it's correct for anybody to say "Go see the Mayor." That should not be said to anyone. Secondly, my understanding is that if someone provides a valid building permit they do not charge them. So if a permit had been pulled for replacing the deck and you showed him the permit, they would not charge for that.

The intent of a charge was for contractors or vendors of that sort. It was never, in my opinion, ever meant to be for residents. It was instituted for a long period of time. I had changed that temporarily until we resolved how the City wants to handle all of our charges. We'll suspend the charges to residents provided it's by residents, delivered by residents from their own property and not for profit or anything else.

Going forward until we resolve the entire issue there will be no charge. To also make it clear, residents are also allowed to bring brush to the Highway Department at no charge, but contractors are not allowed to bring it in under any circumstances.

Most communities do charge for bulky waste. When I do put my presentation together to you and my recommendations, I'll give you an idea of how other communities handle it. Everybody I've looked at so far does have a charge. For us it's a little more difficult; we don't have a scale. It makes it very arbitrary. I don't like arbitrary charges such as the punching of it based on how much somebody thinks is in there.

I will give you options for each item, and what my recommendation is. From there the Aldermen will be able to pick and choose. I think that's the best way to handle it.

Mr. DiMauro apologized to the Hogues for their experience at the landfill.

4. Redesign of City's Website

Finance Director Lou Marusic gave an overview of proposed improvements to the City's website as suggested by the Webmaster, Rudy Skowronski, who was unable to attend.

New software called JOOMLA can be purchased that will assist the City in the content management of a redesigned system for a one-time cost of \$1,425, plus an annual cost of \$250.

Mr. Marusic stated, I think we have a nice design overall, but we're going to get added features and it will really be something good. We are on the right track and will take advantage of increased technology at a very reasonable price. People are sharing their ideas with us for improving our site and we are considering all suggestions. We will

have the tools with which to do all these things. We'd like to get this up and running for July 1st of next year so it won't impact this year's budget. Please send me an e-mail if you have any suggestions.

Alderman Anglace stated, we've come a long way. I can get in and navigate, get the information I need. There are a lot of things people would like to see and access through our City website – ordinances, the Charter, Planning and Zoning regulations, Building Department information, Transfer Station. All of the information that is important for people to have and know. It's a step in the right direction.

Adjournment

At approximately 8:35 p.m. Alderman Anglace MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Alderman Kudej. A voice vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Bruder
Clerk, Board of Aldermen