

DERBY BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

DERBY CITY HALL – JUNE 28, 2007 - 7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Honorable Mayor Anthony Staffieri called the regular meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. All rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call

Present: Kenneth J. Hughes, Beverly Moran, James J. Benanto, Jr., Ronald M. Sill, Joseph M. Bomba, Anthony Szewczyk, Matthew DeBarbieri

Absent: Dennis J. Devonshuk, Scott M. Boulton

Also Present: The Honorable Mayor Anthony Staffieri
Philip Robertson, Chief Administrative Officer
Laura Wabno, Town & City Clerk
Keith A. McLiverty, City Treasurer
Philip A. Hawks, Fire Marshal
Ronald Culmo, Director, Public Works
Henry J. Domurad, Jr., Chair, Board of Apportionment & Taxation
Janet Robinson, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools
Martin Hubbard, Chair, Board of Education
Leo Moscato, Director, Derby Parking Authority
Kelly Curtis, Fire Commissioner
Thomas Lenart, Chief, Storms Engine Ambulance Corps.
Joseph T. Coppola, Corporation Counsel

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA

Mr. Hughes said he would like to add the following items to the agenda:

New Item #23a – Discussion and Possible Action on New Insurance Plan for the City
New Item #8a – New Middle School Building Committee Report (Keith A. McLiverty)
New Item #27 – Appoint Alan Schlesinger to the position of Temporary Joint Finance Director
New Item #28 – Discussion and Possible Action on Dog Problem on Derby Green
Item #29 – Executive Session – If Needed
Item #30 - Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Mr. DeBarbieri with a second by Mr. Szewczyk to add the items to the agenda and accept the agenda as amended. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC PORTION

Thomas Lenart, 173 Hawthorne Avenue, Derby, CT (Chief, Storms Ambulance Corps.) – Mr. Mayor I don't know if I need to speak now or under the item that's on the agenda for Storms Ambulance.

Mayor Staffieri – If it's on the agenda you can speak then.

Mr. Lenart – (Inaudible) the report done by Mr. DeBarbieri and I would also like to address the board about moving forward with replacing our ambulance. I don't know if that's...

Mayor Staffieri – You could speak about it then.

Dan Waleski, 21 Elm Street, Derby, CT – Item 20 on your agenda – you're reappointing a member to the Derby Redevelopment Agency. This member has been on there probably since the beginning of the plans for downtown redevelopment and as you know some of us are not too keen about the present plan that's being suggested. Now I'm not talking about redevelopment per se, I'm talking about the ingredients in redevelopment as suggested by the prime developer. As a matter of fact some of us have some reservations about the prime developer, but that we'll save for another occasion. But anyway I have some reservations about reappointing this particular individual. We have been suggesting for a long, long time that we would like to see some heavyweights on this Redevelopment Agency. We would like to see some people with solid expertise and now that some of these terms are expiring this would be a good opportunity to get some of these so called heavyweights with a big backgrounds in city planning, engineering, architecture and other things to sit on this Redevelopment Agency. So I have some reservations and I sort of object to reappointing a fellow who has been on this thing from the beginning. As you know the whole Redevelopment Project at this point is not only getting stale its quite controversial in the City. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Mayor Staffieri asked three times if anyone else would like to address the board.

Hearing no one else from the public wishing to address the board...

PUBLIC PORTION CLOSED

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MAY 24, 2007 REGULAR MEETING

A MOTION was made by Mr. Sill with a second by Mr. Bomba to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2007 regular meeting as presented. **Mr. DeBarbieri abstained as he was absent from the May 24, 2007 meeting. Motion carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Relations – Mr. Hughes said the Community Relations Committee met at the beginning of the month. They received one vendor application from Sundaes by the River. He said this application was approved last year and the committee voted again this year to bring the application to the full Board of Aldermen with the recommendation for approval.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hughes with a second by Mr. Benanto to approve the Vendor Permit for Sundaes by the River. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Hughes said the following letter was received and he read it into the record:

We are requesting permission to give out free bottled water to celebrate the Fourth of July at the BJ's entrance to the Derby walkway. The hours would be from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sincerely, Pastor Jim Wegner, High Acres Christian Church.

Mr. Hughes said he doesn't see an issue with this and feels that it's a good thing. Mayor Staffieri asked if there was any mention of passing out literature. Mr. Hughes said he believes Laura Wabno spoke to Pastor Wegner. Ms. Wabno informed the board that the Pastor phoned her on Monday and asked if they could distribute the water without permission. She informed him that it would probably be better to ask the Board of Aldermen for permission. She also explained to the Pastor that he should refrain from passing out any literature. Ms. Wabno said the water would have a sticker on it stating that it is compliments of High Acres Christian Church. It is just a community project that they would like to do. Mayor Staffieri said he has no problems with this.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Szewczyk with a second by Ms. Moran to approve the request of High Acres Christian Church to hand out bottled water at the entrance to the Greenway Trail by BJ's on July 4, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with the understanding that no literature be distributed. **Motion carried.**

The following letter was received and incorporated into the minutes of the meeting:

Mr. Hughes,

I have some concerns about our school system that I think should be brought to your attention and the attention of the Board of Alderman. As you know I am active in the school system, because I am concerned for my children. And I do realize that all of our children are at risk. I have a child that starts 1st grade at Bradley School and a child that will be in 8th grade in the fall.

There are incidents that are happening in our Middle/High School that are very scary. I can only tell you of the ones that I know of. It does seem that we, as parents, are not being informed of how bad it really is. My question is WHY?

So I start with two male students in the hall arguing, one punches the other in the back of the head. A teacher sees it and the student is given a ten (10) day suspension.

A male senior and a female sophomore in a math class, with a teacher in the room. The male pins the arms of the female behind her for approx. 10 minutes. As he held her there bruising her arms, another male student (a friend of the female) tries to help her but is then threatened by the senior male. The teacher has stated that he was talking to another student and claims he "zoned out." I have also found out since then that the teacher is leaving the school system and has stated that he cannot handle the students. The male senior was given a three (3) day suspension. I believe the family of the female student now has an attorney.

The day of the Prom, there was a fight in the hallway that got so far out of control that it became bloody.

On Thursday, June 14th there was a fight in the cafeteria in the morning. A male and a female, I don't know all the details but, one was slapped and one was shoved and somebody fell into a vending machine and it smashed. Besides the fight, other students began to seal the contents

of the machine. I think the worst part is that at that time all of the info was not given to the Police. As of Friday evening P.D. did not know about the broken machine. Why were they not given all of the info?

My wife who grew up in New York was in the school recently to sell snacks for the P.T.O. She came home and told me that as she sold the snacks students were trying to steal them right in front of her. She also stated that even in New York she has not heard language like that in the halls and cafeteria. She herself said she felt unsafe in the school. How do you think our children must feel?

As I have said these are things that I know about, but what else is going on?

I also have a problem with I.S.S. (In School Suspension). As I said I have a child in the Middle School. What is I.S.S. supposed to be? My child tells me that students are asking to go there, because you don't need anything when you go there. Not even books. It is free time. Also I have checked with a few teachers that say the Dean of Students is a joke. The teachers send students there and nothing is done. This is why discipline in the school does not work. Instead of hiring a Dean of Students two (2) security guards should have been hired. Even if the student does something really wrong, chances are they will just get I.S.S. or should I say FREE TIME!!!!

Why should I as a parent have to be watching these things? When we send our children to school we are hoping they are safe. I think that is true, but not here in Derby! Are things being covered up or the whole truth is not being told so it looks good?????

James Stadt
38 Laurel Avenue
Derby, CT 06418

Mr. Hughes noted that the Community Relations Committee will not meet during the month of July.

Operations & Procedures – Mr. Bomba reported that no meeting was held during the month.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Martin Hubbard, 57 Hawthorne Avenue, Derby, CT (Chair – Board of Education) – I put together some scratch notes. I know we had some email communications (inaudible) I thought it was next month's meeting that we were going to come in so I only had a couple of hours to do this draft I've been pretty busy for the past couple of days. I'll start with a couple of items then Janet will finish up. First of all I would like to thank you for this opportunity to let you know the things that are happening in the educational department. You know it's an opportunity to show return on one of, if not, the largest employer's in the City of Derby – there's no question about that – we do – it is our own dime that we spend our money on and we need to showcase as well as just (inaudible) the education department (inaudible.) Just a brief overview of what had happened during the course of the '06-'07 school year we had started off the year with two new building administrators – a new High School Principal and a new Middle School Principal – both have performed well during the course of this year – we kind of throw them both into the fire. There was a major turnover of administrators and teachers in the Derby Public Education Department this year and they had done admirable work under those

circumstances. Along with that we had done some hard in ratifying the teachers' contract. We've done some hard work in ratifying the paraprofessional contract and we ratified the secretarial contract in the Derby Public Education Department. We welcomed seventeen new teachers and a number of support staff. We had a number of curriculum changes in our lower grade reading. We had a major math audit, which really identified some things that needed to be looked at and done over. We are currently investigating our science curriculum for the year '07-'08. The SAT and CAP will now carry science components in their testing and something that we need to do is realign our core curriculum with State guidelines. Many red flags went up this year where in certain circumstances we weren't up to standards we were a number of years behind. We have since identified and hopefully we'll take care of that in the upcoming year. We instituted a Wellness Program under State nutritional guidelines. That was a massive effort by our nurses and some of our Board of Education members. Some of the other good things that have happened during the course just at the end of this year we have instituted full-time kindergarten for our elementary schools for the year '07-'08 and hopefully this will improve the performances of our children as we go in to the first and second grades. It has been identified that kindergarten is so needed to give these kids a pretty good head start as to their ability to read and their ability to recognize so we're looking forward to that. We restructured our central office; we improved guidelines per City Hall financial recommendations and hopefully those things have been transitioned in. During the course of the year we began to build our web site with the expertise of Jan Barriga one of our persons that we put in place down at central office and she has notified that the web site will be fully functional at the end of July. In between all of these duties the Board of Education administration found time to configure the Middle School building project, which would not have passed referendum if not for the courage and the hard work of Mr. Ken Hughes your Board of Aldermen president. I personally would like to thank you Ken for all your hard work that you did over the course of that time and for the hard work and the foresight of our honorable Mayor Mr. Tony Staffieri – thank you very much for your help on that. We graduated 104 this past week. 85%, 89% of them are going on to higher education. Today I just dropped my daughter off at the University of Connecticut where ten of our students are part of a class of 3,000, which has an average SAT score of 1,190. They accepted 149 Valedictorians in their school system at UCONN; our Valedictorian is at that school system. Our ten will represent us well; there's no question about that. Last week we graduated 140 8th graders – 140 8th graders – so the need for that Middle School is 140 this year it's coming again to us next year and the next couple of years so hopefully that will serve us well. Again I thank you for the opportunity to let you guys know what's going on and if you have any questions I will be happy to answer them and I will pass it on to Janet right now.

Mr. Hughes – Mr. Mayor I just want to say I do appreciate the Board of Education coming down. I don't know why we never had a Board of Education report at Board of Aldermen meetings before.

Mr. Hubbard – I don't mean to interrupt you Ken – I think at the beginning of this year we had the liaison committee – the subcommittee at one level – was that sort of a educational...

Mr. Hughes – I don't think that serve as the purpose (inaudible...)

Mr. Hubbard – Okay. I just wondered (inaudible)

Mr. Hughes – That was to address the issues with the schools and the space issues.

Mr. Hubbard – So like I said I look forward to coming and some nights there will be different board members here.

Dr. Janet Robinson, Superintendent of Schools – Is there a format that the Board of Aldermen would like. Are there certain items that you want to have covered?

Mr. Hughes – Items that you want to touch on that you think are important are things that we should know about – things sort of happening that we read about in the paper when things are not being addressed. Because we hear a lot of rumors so this is kind of our opportunity to see what's right and what's not right.

Dr. Robinson – Well I think that this has been a very big year change and the board knew this as we embarked upon this year. Because with the retirement over – we offered a three year retirement incentive to teachers and this was year two – I know it goes three years and we had twenty-four teachers going out so this has been the first time that we have had this influx of new teachers since the building was new. The teachers that have been retiring have been retiring with 33+ years going out. So as we've been replacing them we had to institute a teacher induction program where we have teachers come in for a week prior to the start of the school year and spend time with us and we reviewed classroom management, we talked about curriculum, we get into the kinds of things (inaudible) in the classroom. And then we have to monitor those teachers – those first year teachers – as we go through the year. So we have been using a retired principal to liaison with them and we've also been using an off-site coach to work with those teachers. We did in fact, in any business or industry you make mistakes, a couple of people we hired did not work out to the excellent standard that we had and we did not renew some teachers. And we've completed almost all of our hiring for next year. We had nine teachers retire this year and so we've replaced them. One of the biggest problems we have is finding math teachers – math is really an issue and we were kind of behind the power curve last year in hiring and we had a very difficult time filling our math positions. Right now I can tell you that we have filled all of our math positions for next year and we're feeling much more optimistic in that area. That has been an area of weakness for us. In addition we have in addition to the new administrators we are adding to this next year full day kindergarten and we're doing this by making (inaudible) – we have to give up something to get something else. So that may be a rumor or question that comes up at times that you should be aware – Irving School, which is our high need elementary school, we really have tried all kinds of ideas in terms of coming up with an all day kindergarten because we felt those children really needed it. We reduced a fourth grade classroom – we went from three fourth grades to two fourth grades to give up the space and to give up the slot. So we're able to put in the full day kindergarten there at no operational costs, which is to trade a spot in the classroom. However the problem at Bradley, which Bradley also very desperately needs an all day kindergarten because we didn't have that space and we didn't have that slot - we had already taken a slot from Bradley two years ago so this was a problem. What we have decided to do is take away a Special Ed space, divide up some other areas like the nurse and the psychologist will share a space – we've got people bunching up so that we can free up space. It's not ideal but we know that in a couple of years the sixth graders will be moving over to the Middle School and that will free up our space so it is temporary and there is a cost for that in operating costs (inaudible.) But do you have any questions or rumors or things that you want to get to the bottom of?

Mayor Staffieri asked if anyone had any questions and recognized Mr. Szewczyk. Mr. Szewczyk brought up the situation of plans/blueprints for the existing schools. He informed the board that Leo Moscato, Chair of the Derby Municipal Parking Authority, has a lot of blueprints in one of the storerooms at the garage and he suggested having those plans moved to a central location. Fire Marshal Hawks stated that the prints belong to the Building Official and he informed the board members that there are also prints up in storage at VARCA. Mr. Szewczyk said he is confused about this because when he inquired about any blueprints for the schools he was told that the Board of Education had them. Mr. Hawks said he just recalls Mr. Kopjanski saying that he prints there. Mr. Szewczyk said he would get in touch with Mr. Kopjanski and have the prints moved out of the parking garage.

Mr. Hughes asked Dr. Robinson if Lou Rogowski was back working at the Board of Education. Dr. Robinson said he is aiding in the transition and coming in one or two times per week but as of July 1, 2007 he will be finished. Mr. Hughes asked if we are still using AFB. Dr. Robinson said yes, but it will go out to bid since AFB is only here on a temporary basis.

There were no further questions. Mayor Staffieri thanked Dr. Robinson and Mr. Hubbard.

DERBY MIDDLE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT (Keith A. McLiverty, Chair)

Mr. McLiverty informed the board members that the Building Committee received twenty-six proposals from the forty-one firms that requested the project scope. The twenty-six firms are vying to become the architect for the new middle school. He said the Building Committee hopes to complete their rating/ranking process on Monday. Mr. McLiverty said the committee is using the Q.B.S. (Quality Based Standards) Process for the rating/ranking. The Q.B.S. is a quantitative and qualitative review vehicle, which takes a lot of the "gray" out of the selection process.

Mr. McLiverty said the second item that the Building Committee completed was the review of the Education Specifications. He said in a normal process the Education Specifications are written primary to the referendum. The referendum is then held, the vote is approved and then it is submitted to the State. The City went to referendum before the Education Specifications were written. Mr. McLiverty told the board members that the Board of Education agreed to work with the Building Committee in the review of the Education Specifications because since we had a fixed amount of money we wanted to make sure it was a building that could actually be built. This process was finished on June 18, 2007 and the final Education Specifications were submitted by CREC to the State under Dr. Robinson's signature. Mr. McLiverty informed the board that the Building Committee's plan is to select anywhere from seven to eleven firms to interview. He said it is anticipated to hold interviews over the course of two to three days and to have a final selection by the end of July. Mr. McLiverty said the committee is one of the best committees that he has ever seen for a school building committee. He said it is a dedicated committee that has been working tirelessly.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION – PARKS & RECREATION PAY RAISES

Mr. Hughes said he spoke to Dennis O'Connell, Parks & Recreation Director, and he informed Mr. Hughes that Parks & Recreation had received their contractual pay raises, which had been approved by the Board of Apportionment & Taxation. Mr. Hughes said the Board of Aldermen now just needs to approve them. He then read the following letter into the record:

Board of Aldermen:

For the 2007-2008 fiscal year the Parks and Recreation Finance Committee recommended 3% wage increase for the positions of DVCC Supervision, DVCC Attendants, DVCC Lifeguards, Parks and Recreation Maintenance Worker and Summer Camp Counselor. The wage increase for the City of Derby Parks and Recreation Director is \$595 for the upcoming year. The City of Derby Board of Apportionment and Taxation approved these increases and the appropriate amounts were placed in the budget. With this written request it is asked of the Board of Aldermen to approve these increases. Respectfully, Dennis O'Connell – City of Derby Parks & Recreation Director

A MOTION was made by Mr. DeBarbieri with a second by Mr. Sill to approve the increases as requested in the letter from Parks & Recreation Director Dennis O'Connell. **Motion carried.**

CULTURAL COMMISSION REPORT

Mayor Staffieri stated that there is no one from the Cultural Commission present this evening. Mr. Hughes said he would like to commend the Cultural Commission on the excellent job they did for Derby Day. Mayor Staffieri said there were approximately 15,000 to 20,000 people in attendance this year. He said it reminded him of a Norman Rockwell painting with the Green, the Opera House and the Churches as a backdrop. Mr. Bomba said he would like to extend his thanks to the Public Works Department for the fine job they did cleaning up after Derby Day. Mayor Staffieri also expressed this thanks and commended Mr. Culmo and his men on doing such a good job.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT – MAY 2007 (Ron Culmo, Director)

Mayor Staffieri asked Mr. Culmo when the Road Bond work would commence. Mr. Culmo said he anticipates starting within the next two weeks. He said they are waiting on final dates from the asphalt and milling contractors. He noted that he anticipates this part of the Road Bond going smoother than the previous ones since they have hired a Clerk of the Works to oversee the project. He informed the board that they anticipate being finished by the end of the summer. Mayor Staffieri commented that there are pot holes on John Street. Mr. Culmo said he has been made aware of this problem and will take care of it. Mrs. Moran asked about the broken railing on High Street. Her concern is the length of time it is taking to have it repaired. Mr. Culmo said this is an insurance matter and they are waiting for the settlement. He said he will check the status of the settlement. Mr. Hughes questioned the split railings on the Greenway Trail and the process of getting them fixed. Mr. Culmo said there is no process in place for his department – he explained that the Greenway Committee has been handling this matter although Public Works does have some spare rails that they try to replace as they get broken on the trail. Mr. Hughes asked if Public Works waits for a report from the Greenway Committee regarding damages. Mr. Culmo said he is usually notified by the Police Department; however his workers are on the trail approximately three times per week. Mr. Culmo informed the board members three youths were caught doing graffiti on the Greenway and one of the three has been convicted and his punishment is a fifty hour community service. Mr. Culmo said this individual has been down on the Trail working with Public Works for the past week and half and has been doing a tremendous job – so much so that he wishes that he could hire him. He did note that the areas that have been cleaned within two days there was graffiti back on those areas.

Mr. Sill noted that there are a couple of trees lit up on Main Street. Mr. Culmo said they are supposed to be unplugged today.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT – MAY 2007 (David L. Kopjanski, Building Official/Zoning Enforcement Officer)

Mayor Staffieri informed the board that Mr. Kopjanski is on vacation in Poland.

BLIGHT REPORT – MAY 2007

Mr. Kopjanski on vacation.

FIRE MARSHAL REPORT – MAY 2007 (Philip A. Hawks, Fire Marshal)

Mr. Hawks asked if anyone had any questions regarding his report. There were no questions raised. Mayor Staffieri commended Mr. Hawks for doing such a great job. Report placed on file.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT – MAY 2007 (Kelly Curtis, Fire Commissioner)

Mr. Curtis informed the board that he had no written report to submit. He said the Fire Department responded to a major structure fire on Seymour Avenue earlier in the month and that they were assisted by the City of Shelton. He noted that the fire was under control within half an hour. All bids have been awarded for work at the fire houses. He said he is waiting until David Kopjanski returns from vacation before commencing the roof contract. Mr. Curtis said that there was a problem with a leaky engine on Engine 13 at Hotchkiss Hose. The tank is under warranty and will be fixed or replaced at no cost to the City. He also stated that there were a couple of issues that happened on Derby Day; however he does not want to discuss it until he receives all the facts. He noted that the department is all set for the fireworks display on July 3, 2007.

Mayor Staffieri commended Mr. Curtis and the Fire Department for the fine job that they do for the citizens of Derby.

STORMS AMBULANCE FACT FINDING COMMITTEE FINAL REPORT – MATT DEBARBIERI

Mr. DeBarbieri said the report is self-explanatory. He then read it into the record:

Storms Ambulance Fact Finding Committee – Final Report

Objective

The Administration's objective in forming this Storm Ambulance Fact-Finding Committee was to enable the City to define the relationship between the City of Derby and Storms. Understanding that they are Incorporated but receive city funds, we wanted to separate the facts from the various conflicting opinions and innuendo concerning their autonomy within that relationship. It was our objective to attempt to see if any corrections or new procedures needed to be implemented to ensure cost and operational efficiency.

In the course of our research, Chief Lenart was invaluable in providing the requested tax returns and financial information in a timely manner. We also asked Mr. Lenart a battery of questions about his methods of operation. All questions were answered to our satisfaction and are attached to this report below.

Analysis

In this committee's opinion, Storms Ambulance Corps runs an organized, highly effective unit. We all agree that their level of service is second to none. We feel that the fees the city pays them are justified and the quality of equipment and services we receive is far above what the city would be able to provide were they to take over management of the corps. Surrounding towns have also long benefited from the high service standards of Storms Ambulance.

We commend Mr. Lenart and his entire unit for their years of dedication and thank him for his patience in answering questions that have surfaced over the last few years. Storms Ambulance is an asset to Derby and the State of Connecticut and we look forward to being their home base for years to come.

Recommendations

We feel that the Ambulance Corps, in its current state, runs a highly effective unit and we see no need to recommend any changes to their current operations. We applaud and are confident that Storms will continue to find creative, efficient alternatives to funding. As we are aware, the City of Derby is trying to improve itself upon several fronts that have long been neglected. The city's vision is limitless; however, its funds are not. We encourage Storms to bring creative alternatives to their funding issues forward. For example, repairing or updating certain equipment instead of buying new, as long as it will not negatively impact the level of service that the Storms provide. We feel confident in the understanding of fiscal constraints and know that the city and the ambulance corps will continue to act for the benefit of the other.

Mayor Staffieri commended the committee on preparing a very good report. He said he thinks all of us here feel the same way about Storms and the dedication that they provide the City.

Thomas Lenart, Chief, Storms Ambulance Corps. – I would like to first thank Mr. Robertson. We covered (inaudible) – it was hot in the fire house sitting there. We are very confident that it was a very objective job done by the board and by Mr. Robertson and that was what we were looking for – objectivity. There's a lot innuendo out there; there has been for a long time and we wanted it put to bed. I hope that this report will do that.

Mayor Staffieri – Talking to different people that I have talked to I think you have put it to bed. Hopefully we can move forward.

Mr. Lenart – I appreciate that. It is now in the City record and it can be referred to in the future, which has been a source of problems for us in the past. Our own recommendation to the City is that our operations not change as well. When this committee was put together to study us we took a look at ourselves to see how we're doing things, what we can do better, how we can do better. Right now we felt that the status quo is perfect; it's working for us, it's working for the City. We don't have a management structure so we can afford to operate at less than what other people will operate at, which again saves the City and the Taxpayers money. We have an issue that I hope in this report will move along – that's replacing the current ambulance that we have. As everyone may or may not be aware of we're operating with a 1997 ambulance, which we bought brand new in 1997 it's now coming up on ten years old. It's become problematic to say the least. In the last month we have spent close to \$9,000 to keep that thing on the road. We've lost up to two weeks of service with that vehicle while it's been in the various stages of repair. While we're losing that service we're relying on a vehicle that was

given to us from Norwalk Hospital – a 1994 ambulance that they basically said had had it. We put it back together and got it running and while our main ambulance has been out getting repaired we've been running with this vehicle. This vehicle is becoming problematic as well. Two weeks ago we had a breakdown on Route 8 with a patient in the back on its way to Bridgeport Hospital. A lady had broken her hip – not life threatening but certainly painful and uncomfortable. The lady had to sit there for 15 minutes for another ambulance to come and pick the patient up. I don't think that serves the public well. The equipment we have is becoming old and unreliable. We've been trying for the last two years to get through the process of replacing the primary ambulance and taking the primary that we have and turning it into a secondary ambulance. At times it has been frustrating. We've done a lot to save the City money; we've done a lot to help people in the town. The people sitting behind me here, Mr. Culmo as well from many years ago, know that when the City of Derby needs something these guys are here for them. Well I'm telling you we need something – we need a reliable ambulance to take people to the hospital. The bids – we went before Capital Planning – it was decided to split it into two sections – the chassis this year and the rest of the ambulance next year. The funds were then taken from Capital Planning and put in the Tax Board apparently because of this report not being accepted by the Board of Aldermen – at least that's what I was told. Whatever the delay it's impacting us financially. The secondary ambulance is now out of service again. In the last three hours there has been four ambulance calls; two were taken by our primary ambulance and two we had to pass off to mutual-aid calls (inaudible.) Once EMS leaves the City of Derby we are no longer in control of it. If Shelton has an ambulance we'll get one. If Ansonia has an ambulance available or people available maybe we'll get one. I don't like trusting myself, my family, and the City of Derby's safety to maybe we'll get one from Shelton; maybe we'll get one from Ansonia. I know it's an expensive item; however there are only two ambulances in the City of Derby. I have seen, and this is no deference to the Fire Department – I'm a member of the Fire Department, the Commissioner is sitting right there – I have seen fire apparatus (inaudible) sent through the bidding process and the purchasing process with no questions asked. There are many of the same types of equipment that have been purchased. We're asking for an ambulance – there are only two in the Town. We're asking for one so that we can take one and put it in reserve. I don't know what else that we have to do but I'm looking for this board to help move this logjam and get this ambulance on its way. We're looking at nine months to a year to replace the ambulance as far as purchase goes. You just can't go out on a lot and say I want that one. Once you decide to buy you have to wait to have the specs put together, you have to wait for it to come up on the assembly line. It's going to be a long process anyway. Bottom line it's costing us money and a lot of time and effort and it feels like we're getting nowhere. Whatever this board can do to move that logjam I would very much appreciate.

Mayor Staffieri – I thank all the firemen, ambulance – all the volunteers; you guys are just invaluable to the City of Derby. I know these questions from the past finally – hopefully they've been put to bed, they've been answered. And I know speaking to the Board of Taxation that they have promised as the number one priority in July, now that setting the budget is over and done with, they have promised to sit down with you and get this logjam free and moving. I think from up here I don't think there's anyone against this not moving forward. I think we're all – I'll speak for myself – I know I'm for getting moving. We approved the process of the chassis and the ambulance and let's go forward, especially now, and I will make a strong recommendation on my behalf. I won't speak for the aldermen yet until they have a minute to

speak – but to sit down with you – let's finish to get it resolved – I guess we're more than half way there now and let's finish it once and for all.

Mr. Lenart – Just to give the aldermen an idea of the two vehicles – the two ambulances – last year we did over 1,400 medical emergency calls in the City of Derby. Looking at our primary ambulance up until three years ago we only had one ambulance and we were doing over 1,000 calls a year. It's tired and it should be. It served the City well and it served us well for a long time. To guarantee that people can be sure when they dial 911 that an ambulance is going to come we need to replace this thing. So anything that can be done would be very much appreciated by the members of the ambulance corps and the fire department.

Mr. Hughes – I just want to correct one thing for the record. That the report from that committee that didn't hinge on the ambulance or not getting the ambulance. It wasn't in the Board of Aldermen's hands where we're sitting on the report and holding back the process. That's just not true – so I just want to clarify that. You might have been told that...

Mr. Lenart – We were told that.

Mr. Hughes – Okay – we will concentrate on structure of Storms not whether or not the ambulance is (inaudible.) That's just not true.

Mr. Bomba – And the money was there allocated to that and then it was moved.

Mayor Staffieri – It's really in the hands of the Board of Taxation.

Mr. DeBarbieri – For my own part I move that Mr. Lenart has gone above and beyond to find creative alternative funding over the years. I don't believe he would say he would need an ambulance if the other one was serviceable and I think whatever we can do, if there is anything we can do, is just go to our local tax board members. We are also voters in this City and urge them that we feel safe with Storms having a working vehicle. I don't like the idea of them spending \$9,000 a month on repairs and missing calls. I like the fact that their swift action has saved lives in my family and I 100% support them getting this ambulance in as timely a manner as possible.

Mayor Staffieri – I believe we send a message to the Tax Board saying that all has been resolved with the questions and to please keep their promise of sitting down with Mr. Lenart. July is next week – Sunday it starts – and immediately set up a meeting and if when you reach out to them if they don't answer back to you in a short time let me know about it.

Mr. Sill – Can we definitely send a letter signed by the President of the Board of Aldermen.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Szewczyk with a second by Mrs. Moran to send a letter of recommendation by the Chair of the Board of Aldermen to the Board of Apportionment & Taxation for the purchase of a new ambulance. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Lenart – Since we split the purchase over a two-year period and since we're taking on the chassis already but never awarded what would the process be now that we're going into

another fiscal year as far as what was there and what is there. Would it be purchase the whole unit now that we're into that next year? Would it be...

Mayor Staffieri – I would say think you would purchase it all this year because the money was appropriated for last year and it's just being carried into this year. Mr. McLiverty what would you recommend?

Mr. McLiverty – You would have to make a motion to carry over – what is it Tommy \$52,000 or \$55,000?

Mr. Lenart - \$52,000.

Mr. McLiverty – Carry that over into fiscal year '07-'08 and then you would have to make the appropriation for the '07-'08 because they haven't done capital yet.

Mayor Staffieri – I know there has been talk about...

Mr. McLiverty – It's allocated – we have a lump sum of money and now we have to allocate it to all of the line items. So we first roll over the \$52,000 and then allocate the new money for the rest of body or whatever it is and then they can award it as one bid. (Inaudible) you bid it as two so maybe there's some con if you bid it as one, but you can do it (inaudible) but there's some mechanics that have to take place.

Mr. Lenart – If I may Keith what would be the timeline be on rolling over.

Mr. McLiverty – Rollovers take place the third Monday in July – Capital Planning has to meet shortly thereafter. So I would say the goal should be by the end of July to have all of the rollovers and a new plan allocated.

? – I thought it was taken out of Capital Plan.

Mr. McLiverty – It's not taken out of Capital – it can't be taken out of the Capital Plan because it's a capital item. They took the funding and put it in the Fund Balance or the Working Balance. So it still has to be in the Plan – the Capital Plan allocated it then the Tax Board moves it from the Capital Plan item then to Special Working Balance I believe it was actually. So it has to be in the Plan; you can't avoid the Plan. It's where they put cash – the cash in the Special Working Balance.

Mrs. Moran – Keith, does Mr. Lenart have to go to the Tax Board and ask them to roll it over or send a letter?

Mr. McLiverty – I think they should worry about sitting down (inaudible) release it and then do the roll over. So I think we're all cognizant of this. I think on July – the third Monday in July – we'll all be there to make sure they roll it over but I think they should spend their time on the discussion to get the Tax Board to release it. You can shake no Bev but that's what has to be...

Mrs. Moran – No – I'm saying put it in writing so it's there.

Mr. McLiverty – So they have to roll it over in July.

Mr. Lenart – If I may I would ask that the Mayor and the President of the Board of Aldermen be present at the next Tax Board meeting to support us if that would be possible.

Mayor Staffieri – I have no problem with that, that's easy.

Mr. McLiverty – Just for the record the Tax Board has said that they're rolling over all Capital. So I wouldn't be concerned about that.

Mayor Staffieri – Exactly these are things that they have said. And they have made me that promise that they will get this resolved and now its time to hold them to it and I plan to hold them to it.

Mr. Lenart thanked the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – MAY 2007

No one present from the Police Department was present at the meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF CITY OF SHELTON BID PROCESS FOR 2007 JULY JOINT FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Mr. Hughes noted that everyone has a copy of the legal notice that went out to bid for the City of Shelton for the fireworks display. Two companies replied to the notice and at the last meeting we accepted the bid for the fireworks and now we need to make a motion to accept the City of Shelton's Bid Process and authorize Mayor Staffieri to sign the contract for the fireworks.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Szewczyk with a second by Mr. DeBarbieri to accept the Bid Waiver and authorize Mayor Staffieri to sign the contract.

DISCUSSION ON MOTION

Mr. Sill asked if the Tax Board has to waive the bid. Mayor Staffieri said two bids were received by the City of Shelton and Shelton is acting on our behalf. He noted that the Tax Board had already approved the expenditure of the money.

MOTION CARRIED.

VOTE ON THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE 2007 NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT PROGRAM (Patty Finn)

Ms. Finn stated at last month's meeting a public hearing was held for the 2007 Neighborhood Assistance Act. Four applications were received and now the Board of Aldermen need to vote on whether they approve the applications for submission to the Department of Revenue Services. The four applications are:

- 1) The Recreation Camp - \$100,000 – New Club House
- 2) Griffin Hospital - \$150,000 – Annual Campaign
- 3) TEAM - \$5,000 – Meals on Wheels
- 4) City of Derby Emergency Management - \$24,500 – Argo 8x8

Mr. Szewczyk asked if an application could be amended. Ms. Finn stated there could be no amendments since the public hearing has already been held. All approved applications need to be submitted to the Department of Revenue Services by July 3, 2007. She again stated that the program is at no cost to the City.

Mrs. Moran said last month there was a big discussion with Mr. Curtis and the minutes from that meeting state that we should meet with Mr. Vizzo regarding questions on his application. Mayor Staffieri asked Mr. Curtis what his recommendation would be. Mr. Curtis said that would depend; can he speak clearly and freely here. He said he promises that he will not behave like he did last month.

Mr. Curtis – Number one it says something in there that it will assist the fire department. I don't know of anything that this thing is going to do to assist the fire department. I'm going to give you one example in that letter. There was talk about going out into the river in a flood condition and doing a rescue. I'm not going to send one of my guys in this vehicle out into the raging waters of the Housatonic in something that's unstable. We're going to have to cut our losses. We wouldn't do it with the one that's sitting at the Paugy's and we wouldn't do it with the one sitting at the Storms. To address what was in the paper – you're right – this was offered to the fire department and the fire department did not act on this grant. The reason we didn't act on this grant was because last year we found out that we had to do the funding. We wanted a T.V. show so that we could try to get some recruiting out of. So we did not act on this this year. But getting back to this issue I just personally don't see it being an asset to the Derby Fire Department or the City of Derby. We're not addressing the major issues of the citizens of Derby and the major issues are if something happened tonight can we take care of our people? This \$24,000 vehicle is not going to take care of our people. We have no resources if we were hit with one of these major thunderstorms that turn into a tornado right now, which they're predicting until 10:00 p.m. tonight. We don't have the resources. And I'm sorry for being so adamant about this but this is an issue that I just think has gone by the wayside. This has gone by the wayside back to the '70's when Red Crowley was in charge of the Civil Defense and there's probably not many people in this room who know who Red Crowley is. I just don't think you have the priorities Mayor.

Mayor Staffieri – So basically you're saying this is a piece of equipment that really there isn't a need for. We're not going to get any use out of it except for just riding in a parade and just sitting there.

Mr. Curtis – I'm really sorry but yes...

Mayor Staffieri – I'm trying to be frank with you so this way we can make a proper decision on do we eliminate it – I think we're all going through a learning curve on something like this too.

Mr. Hughes – Based on where we are in the process right now could this vehicle be used if we were to get it? I mean it's too late now to turn back on the application – the application is due tomorrow. Either we toss it and we don't get it or we take a shot and get and maybe put it to use and then address your other issues in the future.

Mr. Szewczyk – Can we sell it?

Mr. Hughes – That's where we're at right now. We can't change the application. So being that the application is in, it's due tomorrow, do we take a chance and get that and maybe use it in the future or do we just scrap it.

Mr. Curtis – I just don't see it being used for anything. We've got two of them; we've got one of them to cover the Greenway we've got one of them that can get to Osborndale in the matter of no time. We have one that can get up to Witek Park in the matter of no time. Whether it be for fire or for emergency we've got a brush truck. I've seen that brush truck knock trees over. I mean I just think its repetition. It's three times into a repetition. I've seen our guys go into Osborndale and carry somebody out by hand maybe a ¼ mile or ½ mile. I just don't see it's an issue. And I kind of resent the fact that something is in there to be an assist to the fire department and it wasn't even brought before me.

Mr. Sill – And in the future that person should be here to answer all these questions.

Mrs. Moran – That's right – it's says right here.

Mr. Bomba – What's the need for it.

Mrs. Moran – He must have known that this was discussed last month – I mean it wasn't just two seconds ago.

Mayor Staffieri – One thing that I've noticed sitting here now is that we have a Commissioner for the fire department but we don't have a commissioner or someone that whether it's you the Commissioner of the fire department that handles the responsibilities of the ambulance corps or the emergency management. I mean those two agencies are sort of in limbo.

Mr. Curtis – I've said that before. You don't need a board – you need one person that's a liaison between the boards and the Mayor to the organization.

Mayor Staffieri – And I see that's where this confusion has come about is that okay we just think that everybody's in agreement for something like this when it comes to us – okay if we're able to get it without City tax money and if it ends up being a helping cause okay let's go for it. But like what you're saying if it's something that's repetitious, we don't need that type of equipment why bother getting it.

Mr. Curtis – Plus the \$25,000 could be used – I mean – one of our biggest issues in town are generators. You've got a 35 year old generator sitting at the Hotchkiss and it's the only building in the City of Derby. I know there's been rumors about the UI stepping in...

Mr. Benanto – You're not going to get to use that \$25,000 for generators now, right – correct?

Mr. Sill – Is this a use it or lose it Patty? Right now we have to use it or lose it?

Ms. Finn - Absolutely. It's a once a year gift. With the cots and the water – if I can speak Mayor.

Mayor Staffieri – Go ahead.

Ms. Finn – With the cots and the waters and the generators – I was talking to Chief Sampson yesterday – I just don't understand why the fire department with up to \$150,000 free money you could have gotten all of your generators there. Why didn't you guys fill one out?

Mr. Curtis – First of all why am I addressing you on this?

Ms. Finn – I just went through the Chair.

Mayor Staffieri – She just asked permission to speak.

Mr. Curtis – Last year we did it – Charlie Sampson did it. The fire department has a got a grant on the table now for \$274,000 for seventy-two new air packs, okay. The fire department has also got on the board a building to put the Haz-Mat truck up here at the Storm's in – that's \$30,000 through the Matthies Foundation. The Derby Fire Department I think does everyone else's job when it comes to writing out grants, okay because they take the time to do that. We were told last year we were looking for \$7,500 to do something with Valley Cable to try to put something together for recruitment. Then after all the paperwork was done we were told that we had to go out and find the person to put up the \$7,500.

Ms. Finn – Correct – as all these other applicants have to.

Mr. Curtis – So as I'm telling you we have done above and beyond – not the Neighborhood one. I'm knocking the Neighborhood one for that vehicle because that \$25,000 could be used for a lot more things. You know what the Derby Fire Department should not be looking for generators – the City of Derby should be looking for generators – but we need them. Because if something does happen we have one building that we can put people in and that's it. There's a lot more of issues to it. You're right – we could have wrote that out for \$150,000 – up to \$150,000 but I think we've done above and beyond.

Mayor Staffieri – That's where I think that like how I said this overlapping of department head, commissioner – from EMS to emergency management – from Storms Emergency Management with someone giving us guidance on what needs to be done – if we knew we needed a generator – we have the possibility of getting the money for the generator and then a strong recommendation from the department head would have made this a lot easier to deal with.

Mr. Curtis – I don't know a stronger recommendation that I can make.

Mayor Staffieri – But it's too late now.

Mr. Curtis – I understand that for this issue.

Mayor Staffieri – And I'm in agreement with you because I have spoken to different people in UI and UI has an emergency generator program and have been talking to them about getting generators for the schools, City Hall, Public Works and hopefully we got one for Public Works coming from the Kmart Shopping Center – they have a gas fired generator there that they have told us they are going to give to the City. But I have been talking to them – their program has not been implemented yet. I know there's a need for it – I never realized that it could have been used in this grant here.

Mr. Curtis – But I'm just saying that's (inaudible) at this point because we've got two on the books right now that the guys are working really hard on. And Patty you know writing grants it's nothing you do sitting while you're having dinner. There's a lot of work to do and these guys are doing it.

Ms. Finn – Absolutely. And no I'm not knocking you for that – absolutely there's a lot of work to it. And there last year with Chief Sampson they just didn't fully understand the program. Just like each one of these people it's nice to say yes and get the grant – then you have to go out and find the company. I mean Griffin Hospital has to go out and find a company with \$150,000 – we pretty much had a company all lined up for the \$25,000.

Mayor Staffieri – Well more or less right now basically all we could do is send these forward.

Mr. Bomba – But with that application though we're saying that this vehicle is free when we're going to have to insure it, repair it, gas it – that's not free. We're not going to use it we're going to have it in parades.

Mr. DeBarbieri – So do want to just drop this application and next year when we start doing this we really look with an eye on generators. We have a grant writer for the City we can start working on that one.

Mayor Staffieri – Are we able to pull one of them?

Ms. Finn – Absolutely.

Mayor Staffieri – What's the recommendation of the board?

There was a discussion amongst the board members about where this vehicle would be housed and the use of the vehicle. Mr. DeBarbieri said he feels it would be a paperweight to have if we're not going to use it. Mr. Curtis said he recommends that the City not recommend the application. Mr. Benanto said the money probably could have been put to use for something else; however he doesn't like the idea of turning down a \$25,000 free rescue vehicle. Mr. Sill said it could be used for ice rescue and noted that he had reviewed the information that was available for the vehicle. Mrs. Moran said Mr. Vizzo should have been present to answer the board's questions.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hughes with a second by Mr. Benanto to approve the application from the City of Derby Emergency Management to the 2007 Neighborhood Assistance Act.

VOTE

Mr. Hughes – YES

Mr. Sill – YES

Mr. Benanto – YES

Mr. Szewczyk – NO

Mrs. Moran – NO

Mr. Bomba – NO

Mr. DeBarbieri – NO

MOTION FAILED

A MOTION was made by Mr. Szewczyk with a second by Mr. Benanto to approve the following applications to the 2007 Neighborhood Assistance Act:

- TEAM, Inc. - \$5,000.00
- The Recreation Camp, Inc. - \$100,000
- Griffin Hospital Development Fund, Inc. - \$150,000

MOTION CARRIED.

REAPPOINTMENT OF GREG RUSSO – DERBY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Mayor Staffieri noted that Mr. Russo has been a member for a long time. Mr. Russo is an accountant and a life long resident and he is very involved with the agency.

A MOTION was made by Mr. DeBarbieri with a second by Mr. Bomba to **TABLE** the reappointment of Greg Russo to the Derby Redevelopment Agency.

DISCUSSION ON MOTION

Mrs. Moran asked if there are any other names up for consideration to the position. Mr. Benanto asked if anyone else has expressed interest. Mayor Staffieri said no one has come forward. He noted that serving on the agency is a thankless job and a lot of time. Most of the board members stated that all of volunteering usually is.

MOTION CARRIED.

REAPPOINTMENT OF ANTHONY SZEWCZYK – DERBY PARKING AUTHORITY

A MOTION was made by Mrs. Moran with a second by Mr. Bomba to reappoint Anthony Szewczyk to the Derby Parking Authority. **Mr. Szewczyk abstained from voting. Motion carried.**

ANTI-GRAFFITI ORDINANCE – DISCUSSION

Mr. Hughes said he has been talking to Sheila O'Malley, the City's new director of economic development/grant writer, about the recent developments of graffiti on the Greenway Trail. Ms. O'Malley is seeking grants in order to rectify the problem of graffiti. He stated that Ms. O'Malley brought it to his attention that there is really nothing outlined in the City's Charter about graffiti and how it is handled - fines, etc... Mr. Hughes said he obtained a copy of Waterbury's ordinance on graffiti and everyone should have a copy of this. He said he would like to see something simple prepared to place in the Charter. He said he would like to see something outlined so that it shows that we're aware of the problem and that there is a method in place to deal with the problem. Mr. Bomba said aside from the fines that you would want to put into a law why can't we do what we've done recently and that is apprehending the person and having their community service hours go towards fixing what they have damaged. He said he feels that big government is a bad thing and he has a problem with looking into free money just because its there. He said he believes there would be places in the City that would and donate paint and paintbrushes and the tools needed to cover up what has been done over there besides taking free money from our pockets. Mr. Hughes said this works now but he wonders what would happen five years from now. Mr. Bomba asked who enforces this now. Mr. Hughes stated that's the whole problem – there is nothing written down to enforce this. Mr. Szewczyk said he has a problem with the whole thing. He said there is an ordinance regarding

vandalism right now – vandalism is against the law and graffiti is vandalism. Mr. Hughes said he just wants to see a process in place in how we're going to deal with it. Mr. DeBarbieri noted that the graffiti the gentleman performing the community service cleaned up has already been defaced; this is going to be an on-going problem. Mr. Culmo said the items to take care of this are very expensive. He said if we don't catch someone doing this then we also have to pay the labor. Mr. DeBarbieri said he is concerned about our ability to obtain funding for this problem if we don't have an exact ordinance on the books.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hughes with a second by Mr. DeBarbieri to direct Corporation Counsel to draft up a Graffiti Ordinance for presentation at the next meeting. **Motion carried.**

ENERGY ASSISTANCE TECHNOLOGY – DISCUSSION (Philip Robertson)

Mr. Robertson informed the board that three months ago Mayor Staffieri was approached by the UI Company where a number of suggestions were made for energy assistance. He said the City has already embraced one where the City will put their electric use out to bid, which will save approximately \$44,000 over the next twelve month period. He said they also looked at UI's Energy Conservation Program. UI sent out a team who investigated all the City-owned buildings and evaluated changing all the bulbs and balusters. That information was analyzed by UI and they then calculate how much money that would save and based on that calculation the UI would determine how much of grant they would give the City. Mr. Robertson said the total cost would be \$87,733.00 of which UI has authorized a grant of \$40,758.00. The remaining balance is then an interest free loan through the UI Company paid over a three year period. The City will achieve a savings of approximately \$57.00 per month while we are paying off the note. With a 4% inflation factor on electricity over a 15 year period the savings would be approximately \$300,000 to the City of Derby. Mr. Bomba noted that there are no schools listed. Mayor Staffieri said the schools have already been done. Mr. Sill noted that there is only one firehouse listed. Mr. Robertson explained that when UI examines a building and finds that there is not a substantial change in value then it is not included. He said the buildings listed represent the adequate change needed.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Szewczyk with a second by Mr. DeBarbieri to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract between the UI Company and the City for the Energy Conservation Program. **Motion carried.**

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON NEW INSURANCE PLAN FOR THE CITY (Philip Robertson)

Mr. Robertson asked the board members to review the property & casualty insurance handout. He said the year prior to this administration taking office the City of Derby paid \$525,000 for property & casualty insurance. Last year the rate was \$435,000 – a reduction of \$90,000.00. He said the projected rate for next year is \$445,833. Mr. Robertson said a vehicle inventory needs to be done at Public Works to determine the vehicles that are mainly in storage but are used on rare occasions. He said they would be looking to taking those vehicles out of use and just pay for them on a per diem basis it would save additional monies. Mr. Robertson noted that this insurance also covers the education buildings, education insurance. It also includes a \$10 million Umbrella that we did not have until last year.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hughes with a second by Mr. DeBarbieri to accept the Property & Casualty Policy by Webster Insurance. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Robertson said the next item deals with American Alternative Insurance Corp. He said these are two very unique policies that are specific insurance for the Fire Department (\$32,000.00) and specialized insurance for Storms (\$29,637.00). Mr. Robertson said he was not a believer in this insurance when it was first brought to him last year but he is now. Mr. Curtis noted that it is very good coverage. Mr. Culmo agreed with Mr. Curtis.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hughes with a second by Mr. Bomba to accept the property casualty policy by American Alternative Insurance Company for the Derby Fire Department and Storms Ambulance Corps. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Robertson said the next item is for Worker's Compensation. He said he has not accepted the rates. He said \$55,678.00 is charged by Webster to be the administrator. There is an additional charge for Excess Coverage – he said this coverage is for any claim that goes above \$350,000. He said to his knowledge the City of Derby has one experience with a claim going over that amount. The City has been paying approximately \$60,000.00 a year for about seven years for that premium. Mr. Robertson explained that the insurance company had to pay net about \$20,000 and they have increased their rate by \$14,000.00. He said he would like to find someone else to write this coverage; however in the meantime he would like to have the board approve this rate.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hughes with a second Mr. DeBarbieri to accept the Workmen's Compensation Excess Liability Coverage by Webster Insurance. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Robertson reminded the Mayor and the Board that prior to this administration the City paid someone \$33,000.00 a year as our “agent.” We have eliminated this expense thereby saving the City that money.

Mr. Robertson then reviewed the Health Insurance for the City. He said in the 2005-2006 Fiscal Year the health insurance for the City of Derby employees was \$1,280,645.00. This existing year we are paying a rate of \$1,442,338.00. The projected rate commencing next week, July 1, 2007, is \$1,577,891.00. Mr. Robertson stated that the growth in this number alarmed the Mayor and we have begun to look at options. He said the first thing was having a cost share per employee in all three Collective Bargaining Units as of July 1, 2007. That cost share is 6%, which represents \$94,674.00. He said as of April 30, 2007 the co-pays paid by the City employees over the past 12 months equaled \$46,951.00. The breakdown being:

- Police Department - \$19,000
- Public Works Department - \$16,000
- City Hall - \$9,000
- Library - \$2,000

He said they have been investigating the options of slowing the cost of health insurance without jeopardizing the employees. They have investigated an Anthem Policy, which is an HAS (Health Savings Account.) The quote received for that policy is \$1,304,000 (projected number.) He said there has been some reluctance by some of the City Unions because they feel this should be

collectively bargained. He said what the Mayor would like to do is offer this program as an alternate. Mr. Robertson explained that with an HSA everyone is given a Health Savings Account. In many HSA's the employee and the employer contributes. He said they would offer a program where the City would contribute the full \$1,500.00 per single coverage and the full \$3,000.00 for couples/family coverage. He explained that the minute that the \$1,500 or \$3,000 hits the employee's account it is theirs and the City has no control over it. He said some of the more sophisticated groups that are taking on this policy they don't spend the money because it grows – it's basically another I.R.A. He said people are taking the money out of their pocket rather than touching the money in the HSA. He said if you take the 6% cost sharing on that amount it is now only \$78,000 making it a \$16,000 difference than our present plan. Once the employee has spent that \$1,500 or \$3,000 then there is not a co-pay. He said the City assumes the first \$250,000 worth of risk, which is about what the \$1,500 and the \$3,000 would equal. So when someone goes for a prescription they're going to have a credit card and that credit card is not going to take out their \$10.00 co-pay it's going to take out the cost of the prescription. Once the person has expended the full amount on their card then everything is free. He said physicals, mammograms, etc... would be free. Mr. Hughes about savings – would it depend on how many people take this plan and how many keep the other plan. Mr. Robertson said he received an email from Anthem today and it stated that as long as 75% of the employees enroll in an Anthem program than everything is fine.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hughes with a second by Mr. Bomba that after review of various plans and premiums by the insurance agent and upon recommendation the City of Derby shall continue its current Century Plan Health Insurance Policy Coverage with Anthem for the full time employees of the City of Derby. In addition the City shall also offer an alternative to the Century Plan administered by Anthem and known as the "Lumenos Health Savings Account."

DISCUSSION ON MOTION

It was noted that the City is just offering this; it is not being "shoved down their throats." Mayor Staffieri said the employees would have the choice of staying with the original plan or going to the HSA. Mr. Robertson said there is about a two month hold up. He said Anthem will continue the Century Plan at the \$144,200 rate for two months while the City goes through this transition.

Mr. Sill abstained from voting as his wife is an employee of the City of Derby. Motion carried.

D.O.T. EASEMENT – WORK IN OSBORNEDALE STATE PARK

Atty. Coppola addressed this item and explained that Milone & MacBroom, Inc. is in charge of the drainage project on Silver Hill Road. He said that a part of that works needs to cross over Osbornedale. So the State of Connecticut DEP, which is in charge of Osbornedale, is going to grant the City an easement to do the work there on two conditions: we must name the State as an additional insured by any of our contractors doing the work and that the cost of approximately \$1,000.00 be paid to the State of Connecticut for their survey. Atty. Coppola said this project does have a line item and there is sufficient money in that line item to pay the \$1,000.00. He said as part of their requirements they are requiring a City resolution, which he then read into the record:

Be it Resolved:

That the City of Derby acting through its Mayor and Public Works Department shall enter into a "Drainage Easement and Agreement", with the State of Connecticut, Commissioner of Environmental Protection, regarding the need for a permanent drainage easement and temporary construction easement over Silver Hill Road, Derby, Conn., and onto a portion of property known as "Osbornedale State Park," Derby, Connecticut, s more fully described in a map entitled "Easement Map, Map Depicting Easement Acquired From: State of Connecticut (DEP) Osbornedale State Park, Silver Hill Road, Derby, Connecticut," Dated : January 30, 2007, Scale: 1"=20' and Prepared by Milone & MacBroom, Inc. The City shall provide a Certificate of Insurance naming the State as an additional insured prior to commencement of work and shall be obligated to pay the survey and administrative fee of up to \$1,000.00.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hughes with a second by Mr. Bomba to approve the Resolution read into the record regarding the "Drainage Easement and Agreement" with the State of Connecticut, Commissioner of Environmental Protection. **Motion carried.**

REQUEST FROM DERBY MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR USE OF WITEK PARK FOR DERBY MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER (5) HOME GAMES

A MOTION was made by Mr. Sill with a second by Mr. DeBarbieri to approve the request from the Derby Middle School to use Witek Park for the Derby Middle School Boys Soccer Home Games, of which there would be five.

DISCUSSION ON MOTION

Mrs. Moran said she is on the Recreation Commission and Mr. Oraziotti came to the commission the other night to make this request. She said due to the bad conditions at Ryan Field and the games already scheduled for Witek Park she feels that the Middle School should have asked the Recreation Commission if it would be okay to put in a new program before saying they're going to have use of the field be it Witek or Ryan or Amendola. She noted that they are recreation fields not school fields. Mrs. Moran said they can't come and say we're going to put in a new sport and find room for it. Mr. DeBarbieri said this really doesn't affect this motion, just future requests. Mrs. Moran said that is correct. Mayor Staffieri said there should be better communication between the boards.

MOTION CARRIED.

DIRECTION TO CORPORATION COUNSEL JOSEPH COPPOLA TO CONVENE MEETING OF DISINTERESTED INDIVIDUALS REGARDING MAP 1-3, LOT 2

Mayor Staffieri said we are going to take this off the agenda because it seems that Mr. Sadlik and Mr. Guedes have come to an agreement.

APPOINTMENT OF ALAN SCHLESINGER TO POSITION OF JOINT FINANCE DIRECTOR

Mrs. Moran asked whether Mr. Schlesinger would be the regular Joint Finance Director or temporary. Mayor Staffieri said it would be temporary. He said that Mr. McLiverty, Mr. Robertson and Mr. Domurad are reviewing the job description prior to it being advertised.

A MOTION was made by Mr. DeBarbieri with a second by Mr. Bomba to approve the appointment of Alan Schlesinger to the position of Temporary Joint Finance Director. **Motion carried.**

DOG PROBLEM ON DERBY GREEN – DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION

Mr. DeBarbieri said he has first hand experience of this problem since he has lived right across the street from the Green for the past two and one half years. He has not to his knowledge seen one dog owner pick up after their dog in those 2 ½ years. He said maybe placing the dog holders before putting a ban on dogs on the Green might be the way to go. He also noted that there is broken glass all over the Green. Mr. Moscato said he feels that dogs should be banned entirely from the Green. He said the Green is for public use only with the concerts, etc... being held on the Green. Mr. Culmo said he would suggest raising the fines and have the Police Department strictly enforce it. Mr. DeBarbieri said he would suggest placing the dog bags out first and giving that a try. Mr. Moscato said he doesn't have that much faith with the bags staying there with the crowd that hangs out on the Green. Mayor Staffieri asked Mr. Moscato if he would be interested in having the Parking Attendant issue a ticket to dog owners not picking up after their dogs. The Mayor asked Corporation Counsel into looking into whether or not the parking attendant would have the authorization to issue tickets. In the meantime he said he would suggest placing the dog bags on the Green and raising the fines.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Hughes with a second by Mr. DeBarbieri to instruct Corporation Counsel to raise the fine for dog feces throughout the City to \$100.00. **Motion carried.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NECESSARY)

There was no need for an Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Mr. Sill with a second by Mr. DeBarbieri to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Finn
Recording Secretary