

City of Derby

Board of Aldermen

First Ward

Barbara L. DeGennaro, President
Stephen Iacuone
Felicia Monaco

Second Ward

Arthur T. Gerckens
Ronald M. Sill
David M. Lenart

Third Ward

David J. Anroman
Carmen T. DiCenso
Peter M. Olenoski, Jr.

***Board of Alderman and Board of Apportionment and Taxation Special Joint Meeting
Aldermanic Chambers, City Hall
1 Elizabeth Street, Derby, CT
August 25, 2014***

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called the meeting to order at 6:48 PM (Incorrect clock. Actual time 6:38 PM)

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call.

Board of Aldermen members present were Ms. DeGennaro, Mr. Gerckens, Mr. Sill, Mr. Anroman, Ms. Monaco, Mr. Iacuone, and Mr. DiCenso. Mr. Lenart and Mr. Olenoski were absent.

Tax Board members present were Mr. Butler, Mr. Carloni, Mr. Cronk, Mr. Dziekan, Mr. Fiallos, Mr. Malerba, Jr., Mr. Pollastro, Jr., Mr. Sexton, Ms. Szewczyk, and Mr. Watson.

4. Public Portion.

No one from the public spoke.

5. Discussion of Referendum process, project funding and question(s) regarding WPCA infrastructure. Discussion / Possible Action.

Mr. McLiverty discussed the WPCA \$30 million referendum. He then forwarded the construction schedule timeline with a reduced scope of work resulting in \$21.7 million. Mr. Saccu discussed what was reduced and the impact. The South Division Street pumping station, Burtville pumping station, Roosevelt Drive forced main, and RT 34 sewer project would all be eliminated. Phase one includes new pumps, a new screen, a new grit removal system, and refurbishment of other equipment. The two pumping stations will still need to be repaired at some point. If they are done at a later date due to an emergency failure, it will cost more than what is quoted with the original project. The Boards discussed the Capital Recover Fee options.

Attorney Gillette redrafted the resolutions to split the seven projects into 2 questions. The first would be for the \$21 million and the second would be increasing the scope of the work to include the four other projects for an additional \$9 million; therefore, the total project would be \$30 million.

The Board asked the Mayor for her feelings. Mayor Dugatto said she knows it's needed and that people need it explained to them, but it's up to the voters. She doesn't see the point in removing the two pump stations since they will be needed later anyway.

Ms. Szewczyk stated she'd rather have one question with the full project. Ms. DeGennaro feels the same.

Ms. DeGennaro discussed the sharing of the costs with everyone in the city whether they have a sewer system or not since they use facilities within the city. For example, she has no children in the school system yet she paid for new roofs at the schools.

Ms. DeGennaro motioned to reopen public portion. Mr. Sill seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Thomas DeGennaro (Police Commissioner) - stated that he voted for the schools since that service is offered and available for his family. The water and sewer system is not offered to him. He has no option to use the city water or sewer system so he thinks it's wrong to force him to pay for a service that he can't even use.

Ms. DeGennaro motioned to close public portion. Mr. Sill seconded and public portion closed.

Mr. Saccu addressed Mr. Thomas DeGennaro's concerns. He said Mr. DeGennaro has a valid point but, he simply brings the Board the facts of how the State runs. 99% of towns spread the cost over the tax base because everyone has a benefit. He's bringing this to the Board as a fact not as his opinion.

Mr. Butler asked about the residents of Fairview Terrace who pay their fee to Ansonia with a surcharge from Derby. If they use the tax base, those residents would have to pay Derby also; therefore, they would pay double. Mr. Iacuone said they would not be included.

Mayor Dugatto asked about the financial impact of the 98 people not using the sewer/water system. It's not a big savings to include them. Mr. DiCenso said he doesn't think it's right to have them pay for a service that they can't use.

Mr. Iacuone discussed adding sewer lines those the residents, but it's not known if that would be cost effective.

Mayor Dugatto asked if you have septic system, but the sewer line is available and you aren't using it - are you fined. Mr. Iacuone said they should be fined if they are within 300 feet, but they aren't enforcing it.

Mr. Iacuone asked if they billed based on property value if that would be fair? Mr. McLiverty said hypothetically, it could be slightly lower. After a brief discussion, they decided that wouldn't be fair.

Ms. Monaco asked about what happens if the referendum fails. Mr. DiCenso said it still needs to be repaired and would be assessed at a higher cost. This is what the public needs to understand.

The Boards agree that it should be one question.

Alderman Ms. DeGennaro motioned to direct Attorney Gillette to draft one question as discussed at \$31 million with some of the corrections in the text as indicated by Alderman Iacuone and herself. Mr. Sill seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Chairman Butler moved that the Tax Board agree to Alderman DeGennaro's motion. Mr. Sexton motioned to approve Chairman Butler's request, Mr. Dziekan seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

6. Discussion of Referendum process, project funding and question(s) regarding Road Bond Projects. Discussion / Possible Action

Mr. DeFala discussed the road conditions and projects which total \$3.75 million. Mr. Gillette discussed the possibility to adjust the scope of the work during the project. He stated that it could

go back to committee as needed.

Mr. Saccu stated that Commissioner DeFala's proactive approach ultimately saves the city money.

Ms. DeGennaro motioned to instruct Attorney Gillette to revise the draft of the resolution for the road bond to take into account the language regarding the BOA approval upon recommendation from road bond subcommittee in light of the road bond not having the authority to act on itself. Mr. Sill seconded and the motion carried.

7. Adjournment

Mr. Sill motioned to adjourn at 8:11 PM. Mr. Anroman seconded and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Kuskowski

These minutes are subject to the Board's approval at their next scheduled meeting.