

CITY OF PROVIDENCE  
RHODE ISLAND



CITY COUNCIL

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

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No. 44 City Council Regular Meeting, Thursday, July 2, 1992, 7:30 o'clock P.M. (E.D.T.)

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PRESIDING

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

JAMES A. PETROSINELLI

IN CITY COUNCIL

AUG 6 1992

APPROVED:

*Michael L. Christ* CLERK

ROLL CALL

Present: Council President Petrosinelli,  
Councilmen Clarkin, DeLuca, Dillon,  
Councilwomen DiRuzzo, Fargnoli,  
Councilmen Fenton, Glavin, Igliozi,  
Lombardi, Mancini, Councilwoman Nolan,  
Councilman Rollins, Councilwomen  
Williams and Young—15.

Absent: None—0.

of Interstate Route 195 where said highway passes over Point Street; thence southeasterly along a line created by a vertically descending extension of the center line of Interstate Route 195 to that point as which said highway passes over Benefit Street; thence southeasterly along Benefit Street to its intersection with Tockwotton Street; thence southwesterly along Tockwotton Street to the Harbor Line; thence following the Harbor Line northwesterly to its intersection with Point Street; thence northeasterly along Point Street to the original point and place of beginning.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

Read and Passed, the Second Time, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, second-

ed by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI, by the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council President Petrosinelli, Councilmen Clarkin, DeLuca, Dillon, Councilwoman Fagnoli, Councilmen Fenton, Glavin, Igliozi, Lombardi and Mancini—10.

Not Voting: Councilwoman Nolan—1.

Absent: Councilwoman DiRuzzo, Councilman Rollins, Councilwomen Williams and Young—4.

The motion for Passage the Second Time is Sustained.

## PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES

COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS, COUNCILWOMAN YOUNG, COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, COUNCILMAN DILLION, COUNCILMAN CLARKIN AND COUNCILMAN FENTON:

An Ordinance in Amendment of Chapter 1616 of the Ordinances of the City of Providence as approved May 22, 1964 entitled: "An Ordinance Providing Call Back Pay for Certain Members of the Police Department."

An Ordinance in Amendment of Chapter 1623 of the Ordinances of the City of Providence as approved June 5, 1964 entitled: "An Ordinance Amending Section 1 of Chapter 1594 Providing for Overtime and Call Back Pay for Certain Members of the Fire Department."

Severally Read and Collectively Passed, the First Time and Referred to Committee on Finance, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI, by the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council President Petrosinelli, Councilmen Clarkin, DeLuca, Dillon, Councilwomen DiRuzzo, Fagnoli, Councilmen Fenton, Glavin, Igliozi, Lombardi, Mancini, Councilwomen Nolan and Young—13.

Noes: None.

Absent: Councilman Rollins and Councilwoman Williams—2.

The motion for Passage the First Time and to Refer is Sustained.

## PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

### **COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSINELLI (By Request):**

Resolution Requesting the Public Building Authority to expend the necessary funds from the appropriate accounts for a planning study for the new Public Safety Building or Complex.

**Referred to Committee on Finance, on motion of COUNCILMAN GALVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.**

**The motion to Refer is Sustained.**

Resolution Requesting the Traffic Engineer to prohibit motor vehicle traffic along Custom House Street, from Weybosset Street to Wirt Street, on Tuesday, July 14, 1992, from 7:00 o'clock A.M. to Midnight, for a Fund Raiser to Benefit Children's Charities.

*Resolved, That the Traffic Engineer is requested to prohibit motor vehicle traffic along Custom House Street, from Weybosset Street to Wirt Street, on Tuesday, July 14, 1992, from 7:00 o'clock A.M. to Midnight, for a Fund Raiser to Benefit Children's Charities.*

### **COUNCILMAN CLARKIN (By Request):**

Resolution Requesting the Traffic Engineer to Prohibit Motor Vehicle Traffic along Dorrance Street, between Washington Street and Weybosset Street; Weybosset Street, from Dorrance Street to Exchange Street; Westminster Street, between Dorrance Street and Exchange Street; Exchange Street and all of Kennedy Plaza on Sunday, July 26, 1992 from 7:00 o'clock A.M. to 6:00 o'clock P.M. to accommodate the Pro-Am Cycling Race, in conjunction with The Tomorrow Fund at Rhode Island Hospital, to help children with Cancer.

*Resolved, That the Traffic Engineer is requested to prohibit motor vehicle traffic along Dorrance Street, between Washington Street and Weybosset Street; Weybosset Street, from Dorrance Street to Exchange Street; Westminster Street, between Dorrance Street and Exchange Street; Exchange Street and all of Kennedy Plaza on Sunday, July 26, 1992 from 7:00 o'clock A.M. to 6:00 o'clock P.M. to accommodate the Pro-Am Cycling Race, in conjunction with The Tomorrow Fund at Rhode Island Hospital, to help children with Cancer.*

### **COUNCILWOMAN DiRUZZO (By Request):**

Resolution Requesting the Director of Public Property replace the exterior lights of the Webster Avenue Elementary School with vandalism proof electrical fixtures.

*Resolved, That the Director of Public Property is requested to replace the exterior lights of the Webster Avenue Elementary School with vandalism proof electrical fixtures.*

Resolution Requesting the Director of Public Property replace the exterior lights at the William D'Abate Elementary School with vandalism proof electrical fixtures.

*Resolved, That the Director of Public Property is requested to replace the exterior lights at the William D'Abate Elementary School with vandalism proof electrical fixtures.*

Resolution Requesting the Director of Public Works to cause the installation of a Guard Rail in front of 9 Barstow Street.

*Resolved*, That the Director of Public Works is requesting to cause the installation of a Guard Rail in front of 9 Barstow Street.

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Resolution Requesting the Superintendent of Parks to cause Trees in Concrete Planters be installed in the Playground of the William D'Abate Elementary School.

*Resolved*, That the Superintendent of Parks is requested to cause Trees in Concrete Planters be installed in the Playground of the William D'Abate Elementary School.

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**COUNCILMAN DILLON (By Request):**

Resolution Requesting the Superintendent of Environmental Control to cause that vacant lot located at 49-51 Greenwich Street to be cleaned of all Garbage and Debris.

*Resolved*, That the Superintendent of Environmental Control is requested to cause that vacant lot located at 49-51 Greenwich Street to be cleaned of all Garbage and Debris.

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**COUNCILWOMAN FARGNOLI and  
COUNCILMAN MANCINI (By Request):**

Resolution Authorizing the City Council to establish a task Force with Representation from the City Council, the Mayor's Staff and Members of the Public Utilities Commission to study the operation of the Water Supply Board, including but not limited to, the borrowing and funding mechanisms employed by said Board.

*Resolved*, That the City Council authorize the establishment of a task force with representation from the City Council, the Mayor's Staff and members of the Public Utilities Commission to study the operation of the Water Supply Board, including but not limited to, the borrowing and funding mechanisms employed by said Board.

**Severally Read and Collectively Passed,  
on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.**

**The motion for Passage is Sustained.**

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**COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI:**

Resolution Requesting the Traffic Engineer to cause the installation of a Four Way "Stop" Sign at the intersection of Whittier Avenue and Webster Avenue.

**Referred to Committee on Public Works,  
on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.**

**The motion to Refer is Sustained.**

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Resolution Authorizing the City Council for the Indemnification of Louis R. Stravato, former member of the City Council for any and all sums that he has be held liable by the plaintiff in the action entitled "Louis R. Stravato vs. Hillside Associates" C.A. No. 90-438A, and that the City Council hereby rescinds Resolution No. 534 approved September 27, 1991.

**Referred to Committee on Finance, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.**

**COUNCILWOMAN YOUNG desires to be recorded as voting "No".**

**COUNCILWOMAN DiRUZZO, COUNCILWOMAN NOLAN and COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI** desire to be recorded as "Not Voting".

The motion to Refer is Sustained.

the installation of a Traffic Signal Light at the intersection of Westminster Street and Bridgham Street.

Referred to Committee on Public Works, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI.

The motion to Refer is Sustained.

**COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS** (By Request):

Resolution Requesting the Director of Public Works to study the status of Curb Cuts in the City of Providence and initiate a Plan to cause certain Curb Cuts to be made on every sidewalk in the City.

Referred to Committee on Public Works, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.

The motion to Refer is Sustained.

Resolution Requesting the Director of Public Works to cause all sidewalks at various locations within the Eleventh Ward to be Repaired or Replaced.

*Resolved*, That the Director of Public Works is requested to cause all sidewalks at various locations within the Eleventh Ward to be Repaired or Replaced.

Read and Passed, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.

The motion for Passage is Sustained.

**COUNCILWOMAN YOUNG:**

Resolution Requesting Traffic Engineer to cause

## REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

### COUNCILWOMAN EVELYN V. FARGNOLI, Chairwoman COMMITTEE ON CLAIMS AND PENDING SUITS

Transmits the following with recommendation the same be Severally Cancelled:

Certificates from the City Assessor (Nos. 26V and 27V) Recommending the same be Severally Cancelled pursuant to the provisions of Sections 14 and 15 of Title 44, Chapter 7 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956 as Amended.

Severally Approved for Cancellation, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI, by the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council President Petrosinelli, Councilmen Clarkin, DeLuca, Dillon, Coun-

cilwomen DiRuzzo, Fargnoli, Councilmen Fenton, Glavin, Igliozi, Lombardi, Mancini, Councilwomen Nolan, Williams and Young—14.

Noes: None.

Absent: Councilman Rollins—1.

The motion to Approve for Cancellation Sustained.

### COUNCILMAN DAVID G. DILLON, Chairman COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Transmits the following with recommendation the same be Approved:

Resolution exempting from taxation the real and personal property of the Providence Performing Arts Center, located at 220-228 Weybosset Street.

*Resolved*, That the City Council of the City of Providence hereby exempts from taxation the real and personal property of the Providence Performing Arts Center, located at 220-228 Weybosset Street, same being Lot 32 on the City Assessor's Plat 20, this Act having been passed by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor on July 12, 1990.

Read and Passed, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI, by the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council President Petrosinelli, Councilmen Clarkin, Dillon, Councilwomen DiRuzzo, Fargnoli, Councilmen Fenton, Glavin, Lombardi, Mancini, Councilwoman Nolan, Councilman Rollins, Councilwoman Williams—12.

Noes: Councilman DeLuca—1.

**Not Voting: Councilwoman Young—1.**

**Absent: Councilman Iglioizzi—1.**

**The motion for Passage is Sustained.**

**Ayes: Council President Petrosinelli, Councilmen Clarkin, DeLuca, Dillon, Councilwomen DiRuzzo, Fargnoli, Councilmen Fenton, Glavin, Lombardi, Mancini, Councilwoman Nolan, Councilman Rollins, Councilwomen Williams and Young—14.**

**Noes: None.**

An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of Refunding Bonds not to exceed Twenty-Nine Million Dollars (\$29,000,000.00).

**Absent: Councilman Iglioizzi—1.**

**The motion for Passage the First Time is Sustained.**

**Read and Passed the First Time, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI, by the following Roll Call Vote:**

## COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

### FROM THE CITY ASSESSOR:

**The motion to Refer is Sustained.**

Certificates (Nos. 28V, 29V, 30V and 31V) Recommending the same be Severally Cancelled pursuant to the provisions of Sections 14 and 15 of Title 44 Chapter 7 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956 as Amended.

**Severally Referred to Committee on Claims and Pending Suits, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.**

### FROM THE PORT OF PROVIDENCE:

Monthly Statistical Report for April and May, 1992.

**Received.**

## FROM THE CLERK'S DESK

### Petitions for Compensation for Injuries and Damages, viz:

Aetna Insurance Co. a/s/o John Argitis

David Bibeault

Jerry Brown

Carmino Castellone

Jane M. Cichon

Victor DelGado

Albert DiFilippo

Maria D'Onofrio

Jose M. Escobar

Johnson & Wales University

Thomas C. Lewis

Metropolitan Property & Liability Insurance  
Company a/s/o Julie Marantz

Lois Scacco

Travelers Insurance Company a/s/o Jason  
Cohen

Egidio L. Tudino

Severally Referred to the Committee on  
Claims and Pending Suits, on motion of  
COUNCILMAN GLAVIN seconded by  
COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.

The motion to Refer is Sustained.

## PRESENTATION OF CITATIONS

### "In Congratulations"

#### COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSINELLI and the MEMBERS of the CITY COUNCIL:

#### Citations Extending Congratulations.

*Resolved*, That the Congratulations of the  
Members of the City Council is hereby extended  
to the following:

Jonathon Hodgson, Upon the celebration of his  
bar mitzvah on May 30, 1992.

Paul Vorro, Upon being named Assistant  
Superintendent of Secondary Education for the  
City of Providence.

Di Stefano Gennaro E Ricci Rita, Upon La  
Celebrazione Del Loro Matrimonio.

David Campopiano, Upon being the  
outstanding student and receiving high honors  
— Second Grade — Windmill School.



Domenic Migliaccio, Upon being the outstanding student and receiving high honors — Third Grade — Windmill School.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Matarese, Upon the Christening of their daughter, Kayla Marie.

Bianell Bermudez, Upon the Opening of her New Hair Salon.

Mr. and Mrs. Timothy J. McDonough, Upon the celebration of their recent marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. John Miele, Upon the celebration of their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Costantino, Upon the celebration of their recent Marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Saroka, Upon the celebration of their recent Marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown, Upon the celebration of their recent Marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarkin, Upon the celebration of their recent Marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Ricciardi, Upon the celebration of their recent Marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pandozzi, Upon the celebration of their 70th Wedding Anniversary.

Mr. Peter L. Nero, Upon the celebration of his 41st Birthday.

**Severally Read and Collectively Passed, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.**

**The motion for Passage is Sustained.**

## PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

### *"In Memoriam"*

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSINELLI  
and the MEMBERS of the CITY COUNCIL:**

Resolutions extending Sympathy.

*Resolved*, That the Sympathy of the Members of the City Council is hereby expressed to the families of the following:

Henry J. Annotti, Sr.

Elena A. Spinella

Letizia Ferrazza

Michael Scorpio

Lena DeStefano

James F. Costa

Avedis J. Yekhtikian

Irene Bitetto

Margaret Barsamian

Rachela Andreoli

Carol B. Nacci

Cosimo Pesare

Frederico Sanzi

Yolanda A. Smith

Rose Widart

Bertha L. Emma

Willie Neely

Pedro Garedo

Anna Picozzi

Loretta C. Zarella

Severally Read and Collectively Passed,  
by a Unanimous Rising Vote, on motion of  
COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by  
COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.

Vincent Cristi

Joseph DiLorenzo

The motion for Passage is Sustained.

Cesare Uberti

## MATTERS NOT APPEARING ON THE PRINTED DOCKET

On motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN,  
seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI, it  
is Voted to Suspend Rule 16 of the Rules of  
the City Council in order to allow the  
introduction of the following matters not  
appearing on the Printed Docket.

## REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE

### COUNCILMAN DAVID G. DILLON, Chairman COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Transmits the following with Recommendation, the Same be Severally Approved:

An Ordinance in accordance with Chapter 21, Section 19 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence entitled: "Capital Equipment Budget".

Read and Passed the First Time, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI, by the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council President Petrosinelli, Councilmen Clarkin, Dillon, Councilwomen DiRuzzo, Fargnoli, Councilmen Fenton, Glavin, Lombardi, Mancini, Councilwoman Nolan, Councilman Rollins, Councilwomen Williams and Young—13.

Noes: Councilman DeLuca—1.

Absent: Councilman Igliozi—1.

The motion for Passage the First Time is Sustained.

Resolution Authorizing an Agreement between the Rhode Island Department of Human Services and the Providence School Department for participation in the Medicaid Reimbursement Program.

*Resolved*, That the City Council hereby authorizes an Agreement between the Rhode Island Department of Human Services and the Providence School Department for participation in the Medicaid Reimbursement Program.

Read and Passed, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.

The motion for Passage is Sustained.

## PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

**COUNCILMAN CLARKIN requests the floor to speak on a Point of Personal Privilege:**

"In the Iraq War we heard about the Stealth Bomber. It is a Bomber that cannot be seen by radar. To the enemy, it is invisible. It does not exist to radar. It cannot be picked up by any known means.

We in Providence have our own version of Stealth. It is the injuries that our firefighters get. They cannot be seen by x-rays, they are invisible, they are non-existent. To put it bluntly, they are phony.

Richard Connelly, the firefighter that just received a disability pension is only an example of the 90% of those firefighters that went off with a disability pension. He is a phony and most of the others with a disability pension are phonys also. 90% of the 150 firefighters that have retired went off with a disability pension. Why is this allowed to happen? I'll tell you why. We allow it, we on this Council allow it. We have the power to say "No". We have the power to stop this abuse. I have heard many times that there is nothing we can do, that it is in the Contract, baloney. We do not have to accept any Contract that is wrong and let me tell you, the firefighters' Contract is wrong. Who among you think that we should give Richard Connelly's children priority for a job on the Fire Department. We will have to if we approve the present firefighters contract.

What are some of the benefits Richard Connelly gets for his so-called disability? He gets a tax free income. He can go to State College for free. His children can go to a State College for free, and he gets paid Blue Cross for life. This for a man who cannot wrestle with a hose because he has a sore back. But, now he is a Guard at the State Prison. What happens if he has to wrestle with

a prisoner? Richard Connelly is not an aberration. Richard Connelly is the norm.

This group of firefighters are not the firefighters that I remember. Jack Seddon, Sidney Lema, Manny Lima, Cap Turbidy, Lt. Lynch, the MacDermonts, these were good guys, these were honorable men. There are still some honorable men on the Fire Department but they are outnumbered by the rip off artists. This group is only out to get what they can. Screw the taxpayers. Check the injured on duty list. Each summer or holiday, it jumps with the same guys going out. These are not good guys. They are only out for more overtime and trying to get an early pension. How much more can the taxpayers of the City put up with? How many more scams from these firefighters can this city put up with?

Their Union Leaders tell they are stressed out from all the work they do. They recently put out a newspaper, a paper that stated how many fires they fought. I won't bore you with details, I've given you all a breakdown of the few fires that they fought. The only stress they are under is the stress of coming up with new ways of ripping the taxpayers off. This rape, and that is just what they are doing, raping the taxpayers of this City must stop.

We are passing out pensions to men in their late twenties and early thirties, lifetime pensions for minor or non-existent injuries. No system can survive with the amount of abuse this pension system is asked to take, it must stop. I've asked that this body appoint a Board to look into the Pension abuses. As of today, it is still in Committee. I ask, I beg, I plead with you to set up this Committee. We must open up the secret

process that is used. The medical records must be looked at, we must see just what injuries the firefighters claim to have.

We make the laws, we set up what benefits the Pension Board pays out. Maybe it is time that we do away with the two-thirds disability pay. Maybe we can go to the Military System, only pay for the percentage of the lost ability to work at another job. There is one thing that all of the injuries have in common. It is that almost none are truly disabling. Most of those with a Disability Pension can (just like Richard Connelly) work at another job.

Finally, let me say that minimum manning is a joke. We do not need more firefighters in this City. Rather, we should be closing fire stations and lowering our manpower. Overtime in May

was \$268,000.00, not because of injuries as you will be told, but because of the scams the firefighters pull.

Barrington is looking into doing away with their Fire Department and going back to a Volunteer Department. A Fire District in Lincoln has done away with their Fire Department and returned to a Volunteer Department. Warwick is checking on privatizing their Rescue Units. We will be the only City in the Whole Country that is expanding their Fire Department.

We were elected to be leaders of this City. Let us take a stand and stand up to those that are the worst abusers of the System. Let us say no more to the firefighters.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI, the City Council voted to adjourn at 8:30 o'clock P.M. (EDT) to meet again on THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1992 at 7:30 o'clock P.M. (EDT).

*Richard R. Clement*

City Clerk