

CITY OF PROVIDENCE
RHODE ISLAND



CITY COUNCIL

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

No. 62 City Council Regular Meeting, Thursday, February 18, 1993, 7:30 o'clock P.M. (E.S.T.)

PRESIDING

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

JAMES A. PETROSINELLI

IN CITY COUNCIL

APR 1 1993

APPROVED:

Michael R. Mount CLERK

ROLL CALL

Present: Council President Petrosinelli,
Councilmen Clarkin, DeLuca, Dillon,
Councilwomen DiRuzzo, Fagnoli, Council-
men Fenton, Glavin, Iglizzo, Lombardi,
Mancini, Councilwoman Nolan, Councilman
Rollins, Councilwoman Young-14.

Absent: Councilwoman Williams-1.

INVOCATION

The Invocation is given by COUNCILMAN
DAVID G. DILLON

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

COUNCIL PRESIDENT JAMES A.
PETROSINELLI leads the members of the
City Council and the Assemblage in the
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the
United States of America.

SCHEDULE OF BILLS

FROM CITY CONTROLLER:

Street Lighting Bill from Narragansett Electric
Company for January, 1993, in the amount of One
Hundred Twenty-Eight Thousand, Nine Hundred
Dollars, Forty-Four Cents (\$128,900.44).

Approved, 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, Fagnoli, Councilmen
Fenton, Glavin, Iglizzo, Lombardi, Mancini,
Councilwoman Nolan, Councilman Rollins,
Councilwoman Young—14.

Noes: None.

Absent: Councilwoman Williams—1.

The motion of Approval is Sustained.

APPOINTMENTS BY HIS HONOR THE MAYOR

Communication dated February 5, 1993, Informing the Honorable City Council that pursuant to Sections 302 (b) and 1102 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, he is this day appointing Ms. Margaret DeFelice of 9 Chaucer Street, Providence, Rhode Island, as a Member of the Board of Licenses for a term to expire in January, 1996 and respectfully submits the same for approval. Ms. DeFelice will replace Mr. Thomas C. Boyle who has resigned.

February 5, 1993

The Honorable Members
The City Council of the
City of Providence
City Hall
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Honorable Members:

Pursuant to Sections 302 (b) and 1102 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, I am this day appointing Ms. Margaret DeFelice of 9 Chaucer Street, Providence, Rhode Island, a Member of the Board of Licenses for a term to expire in January, 1996 and respectfully submit the same for your approval.

Ms. DeFelice will replace Mr. Thomas C. Boyle who has resigned.

Sincerely,

VINCENT A. CIANCI, JR.
Mayor of Providence

Received.

Communication dated February 1, 1993 Informing the Honorable City Council that

pursuant to Sections 302 (b) and 814 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, he is this day appointing Ms. Diane D. Echmalian of 8 Blackstone Boulevard, Providence, Rhode Island, as a Member of the Board of Tax Assessment Review for a term to expire in January, 1996 and respectfully submits the same for approval. Ms. Echmalian will replace Arthur Pullano whose term has expired.

February 1, 1993

The Honorable Members
The City Council of the
City of Providence
City Hall
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Honorable Members:

Pursuant to Sections 302 (b) and 814 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, I am this day appointing Ms. Diane D. Echmalian of 8 Blackstone Boulevard, Providence, Rhode Island, as a Member of the Board of Tax Assessment Review for a term to expire in January, 1996 and submit the same for your approval.

Ms. Echmalian will replace Arthur Pullano whose term has expired.

Sincerely,

VINCENT A. CIANCI, JR.
Mayor of Providence

Communication dated February 8, 1993, Informing the Honorable City Council that pursuant to Sections 302 (b) and 1103 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, he is this day appointing Mr. Paul McConnell of 82 Hazard

Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island, as a Member of the Human Relations Commission for a term expiring in January, 1996, and respectfully submits the same for approval.

Historic District Commission for a term to expire in September, 1995.

February 10, 1993

February 8, 1993

The Honorable Members
The City Council of the
City of Providence
City Hall
Providence, RI 02903

The Honorable Members
The City Council of the
City of Providence
City Hall
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Honorable Members:

Dear Honorable Members:

Pursuant to Sections 302 (b) and 1103 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, I am this day reappointing Mr. Paul McConnell of 82 Hazard Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island, as a Member of the Human Relations Commission for a term expiring in January, 1996, and respectfully submit the same for your approval.

Pursuant to Section 302 (b) of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980 and R.I.G.L. 45-24.1-3, as well as the zoning ordinance 501.1(B), I am this day appointing Mildred Parrillo of 340 Woodward Road, Providence, Rhode Island, an auxiliary member of the Historic District Commission for a term to expire in September, 1995.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

VINCENT A. CIANCI, JR.
Mayor of Providence

VINCENT A. CIANCI, JR.
Mayor of Providence

Communications Severally Received and Appointments Collectively Referred to Committee on Finance, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.

Received.

The motion of Receive and Refer is Sustained.

Communication dated February 4, 1993, Informing the Honorable City Council that pursuant to Sections 302 (b) and 701 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, he is this day appointing Ms. JoAnn McDowell of 32 Sumter Street, Providence, Rhode Island, as a Member of the School Board for a term to expire in January, 1996 and respectfully submits the same for your approval. Ms. McDowell will be replacing Ms. Mary Smith whose term has expired.

Communication dated February 10, 1993 Informing the Honorable City Council that pursuant to Section 302 (b) of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980 and Rhode Island General Laws 45-24.1-3 as well as the Zoning Ordinance 501.1 he is this day appointing Mildred Parrillo of 340 Woodward Road, Providence, Rhode Island, as an Auxiliary Member of the

February 4, 1993

The Honorable Members
The City Council of the
City of Providence

City Hall
Providence, RI 02903

Sincerely,

VINCENT A. CIANCI, JR.
Mayor of Providence

Dear Honorable Members:

Pursuant to Sections 302 (b) and 701 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, I do hereby appoint Ms. JoAnn McDowell of 32 Sumter Street, Providence, Rhode Island, as a Member of the School Board for a term to expire in January, 1996 and respectfully submit the same for your approval.

Communication Received and Referred to Committee on Finance, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.

The motion to Receive and Refer is Sustained.

Ms. McDowell will be replacing Ms. Mary Smith whose term has expired.

PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES

COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI (By Request):

An Ordinance in Amendment of Chapter 564 of the Ordinances of the City of Providence, entitled: "The City of Providence Zoning Ordinance" approved October 24, 1991, by amending Providence Zoning District Map Number 3 of the Official Zoning Map by Changing the Zoning District Designation of Lot 504 from R-4 to C-4.

Be it ordained by the City of Providence:

Section 1. Chapter 564 of the ordinances of the city of Providence, entitled: "The City of Providence Zoning Ordinance" approved October

24, 1991, is hereby amended by changing the zoning district designation of Lot 504 on Providence Zoning District Map 3 of the Official Zoning Maps from R-4 to C-4.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

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

The motion to Refer is Sustained.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI and COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI (By Request):

Resolution Reporting Receipts of Certain Gifts of Monies by the Board of Park Commissioners for the Preservation and Care of Specified Burial Lots in North Burial Ground.

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

The motion to Refer is Sustained.

COUNCILMAN GLAVIN (By Request):

Resolution Requesting the Traffic Engineer to Prohibit Motor Vehicle Traffic along Benefit Street, between College Street and Waterman Street, on Friday, January 29, 1993, from 7:00 o'clock P.M. to 2:00 o'clock A.M. to accommodate the Rhode Island School of Design's Annual Artists' Ball.

Resolved, That the Traffic Engineer is requested to prohibit motor vehicle traffic along Benefit Street, between College Street and Waterman Street, on Friday, January 29, 1993, from 7:00 o'clock P.M. to 2:00 o'clock A.M. to accommodate the Rhode Island School of Design's Annual Artists' Ball.

Resolution Requesting the Traffic Engineer to erect "No Parking Anytime" Signs along the Western Side of Frederick Street.

Resolved. That the Traffic Engineer is

requested to erect "No Parking Anytime" signs along the western side of Frederick Street.

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

The motion for Passage is Sustained.

COUNCILMAN MANCINI (By Request):

Resolution Requesting the Traffic Engineer to cause the installation of Four-Way "Stop" Signs at the intersection of Vicksburg Street and Hyacinth Street.

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

The motion to Refer is Sustained.

COUNCILWOMAN ROLLINS and COUNCILWOMAN YOUNG (By Request):

Resolution Requesting the Governor and the General Assembly to create a Commission to conduct a properly funded empowered investigation of the safety, necessity and regulation of the State's LNG Facilities and the feasibility of safer alternatives and to take all measures necessary to ensure the public health, safety and welfare of all Citizens in the Metropolitan Region.

Whereas, The Algonquin Liquefied Natural Gas ("LNG") facility ("Facility") at Fields Point, Providence, was constructed in the early 1970's, and

Whereas, The Facility's siting puts tens of thousands of people at risk in the Providence, East Providence, Cranston, Warwick and other Cities in the Metropolitan Area because of the extreme hazards of LNG, which are recognized in R.I.G.L. 39-1-2.1, and

Whereas, The Providence Fire Department in 1972 and in 1975 recommended major safety improvements to the existing Facility which have never been implemented, and

Whereas, A report to the Congress by the U.S. General Accounting Office in 1978 found that the Facility's dike is inadequate to contain a major spill and recommended that LNG facilities be built in ground in remote areas, rather than above-ground in densely populated areas, and

Whereas, The technology and regulations for siting and constructing LNG facilities have advanced considerably since the early 1970's, and

Whereas, Serious concerns, founded on Government and Scientific Documents, have been raised about the safety necessity of the Facility, and

Whereas, The recent investigative report on the Facility of the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers has not resolved such concerns,

Whereas, The Providence City Council has an obligation to protect the health, safety and welfare of the Citizens of Providence,

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, That the Providence City Council does hereby request that the Governor and the General Assembly create a commission to conduct a properly funded and empowered public investigation of the safety, necessity and regulation of the State's LNG facilities and the feasibility of safer alternatives, and to take all measures necessary to ensure the public health, safety and welfare of all Citizens in the Metropolitan Region.

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

The motion For Passage is Sustained.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

COUNCILMAN DAVID G. DILLON, Chairman COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Transmits the following with Recommendation the same be Severally Approved:

Communication dated January 25, 1993 Informing the Honorable City Council that pursuant to Section 302 (b) and 1011 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, he is this day appointing Mr. F. Steele Blackall, III of 113

Williams Street, Providence, Rhode Island, as a Member of the Building Board of Review for a term to expire in January, 1998 and respectfully submits the same for approval.

January 25, 1993

The Honorable Members
The City Council of the
City of Providence
City Hall
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Honorable Members:

Pursuant to Sections 302 (b) and 1011 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, I am this day appointing Mr. F. Steele Blackall, III of 113 Williams Street, Providence, Rhode Island, as a Member of the Building Board of Review for a term to expire in January, 1998 and respectfully submit the same for approval.

Sincerely,

VINCENT A. CIANCI, JR.
Mayor of Providence

Communication Received and Appointment Approved, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.

The motion for Approval is Sustained.

Communication dated January 15, 1993, Informing the Honorable City Council of the following names for consideration for appointment to the Juvenile Hearing Board in accordance with Ordinance No. 1992-41:

Shelly Bleecker, 515 Wayland Avenue
(3 Year Term)

Harry Potter, 474 Prairie Avenue
(3 Year Term)

Robert J. DeMaio, 109 Moorefield Street
(3 Year Term)

Fred A. Trapassi, 9 Canonchet Street
(3 Year Term)

Appointed to One (1) Year Terms:

Ruth Abreu Rosales, 31 Joslin Street

Ann Marie Ritchie, 27 Ansel Avenue

COUNCILMAN GLAVIN moves the Communication be Received and places in Nomination the following Four (4) Names to be appointed to the Juvenile Hearing Board for Three (3) Year Terms, to expire on December 31, 1995:

Shelly Bleecker, 515 Wayland Avenue
(3 Year Term)

Harry Potter, 474 Prairie Avenue
(3 Year Term)

Robert J. DeMaio, 109 Moorefield Street
(3 Year Term)

Fred A. Trapassi, 9 Canonchet Street
(3 Year Term)

This motion is seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSINELLI calls for further nominations and there being none, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN CLARKIN, it is voted that Nominations be Closed and the Clerk is directed to Cast One Ballot for SHELLY BLEECKER, HARRY POTTER, ROBERT J. DeMAIO, and FRED A. TRAPASSI duly appointed to the Juvenile Hearing Board, for a Term of Three (3) Years, expiring on December 31, 1995.

COUNCILMAN GLAVIN places in Nomination the name of Kenneth Brown, 130 Evergreen Street, to be appointed to the Juvenile Hearing Board for a One (1) Year Term, expiring December 31, 1993.

This motion is seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSINELLI calls for further nominations and there being none, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI, it is voted that Nominations be Closed and the Clerk is directed to Cast One Ballot for KENNETH BROWN duly appointed to the Juvenile Hearing Board, for a Term of One (1) Year, expiring on December 31, 1993.

COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI requests the Floor to Speak on a Point of Personal Privilege and states:

"I don't mean to interrupt the election, but I do want to say that I'm glad that we finally are at the end of this long road in the creation of the Juvenile Hearing Board. As you all know, I sheperded the bill through the State Legislature last year and through the City Council this year. However, the appointment process stalled and took an additional month to work out. So I'm glad to see that the last piece of this process is completed and that the Juvenile Hearing Board can begin its formidable work. As you all know, there have been plenty of statistics and information presented in other communities, such as East Greenwich, who already have such a Board, which is doing very well. Having been one of the sponsors of the Providence Legislation Ordinance, I feel equally hopeful of the

productivity of this Providence Juvenile Board. Also it is important to know that the members of this Board are all volunteers and even though they are all volunteers, there were an overwhelming number of candidates that came forward, but we could unfortunately not satify them all. But, perhaps in the future, we will. I thank you again for your time and I would like to thank all of you for your support on the Council with this very worthwhile Ordinance."

COUNCILMAN GLAVIN places in Nomination the name of Ruth Abreu Rosales, 31 Joslin Street, and Ann Marie Ritchie, 27 Ansel Avenue, to be appointed as Alternates to the Juvenile Hearing Board for a One (1) Year Term, expiring December 31, 1993.

This motion is seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSINELLI calls for further nominations and there being none, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI, it is voted that Nominations be Closed and the Clerk is directed to Cast One Ballot each for RITH ABREU ROSALES and ANN MARIE RITCHIE duly appointed as Alternates to the Juvenile Hearing Board, for a Term of One (1) Year, expiring on December 31, 1993.

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

Transmits the following with Recommendation the Same be Severally Approved for Cancellation:

Certificates from the City Assessor (Nos. 14W through 17W), 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 the State 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,

Councilwomen DiRuzzo, Fagnoli, Councilmen Fenton, Glavin, Igliazzi, Lombardi, Mancini, Councilwoman Nolan, Councilman Rollins, Councilwoman Young—14.

Nays: None.

Absent: Councilwoman Williams—1.

The motion to Approve for Cancellation is Sustained.

**COUNCILMAN JOHN J. LOMBARDI, Chairman
COMMITTEE ON CITY PROPERTY**

Transmits the following with Recommendation the same be Adopted, as Amended:

Resolution Modifying the Lease between the City of Providence and the Providence Terminal Associates, II.

Now Therefore be it Resolved. That His Honor the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the amendment to the lease agreement between the City of Providence and Providence Terminal Associates II, dated June 5, 1984 for real estate on Terminal Road, Ernest Street and Ellis Street in the Fields Point Section of Providence, described as Lot 254 on Assessor's Plat 56, making such modifications to the said lease

agreement as delineated in said amendment, marked as Exhibit 1 and with such other terms and conditions as have been imposed by the City Council Committee on City Property, the City Council and His Honor the Mayor and approved as to form and correctness by the City Solicitor.

Read and Passed, 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, Igliazzi, Lombardi, Mancini, Councilwoman Nolan, Councilman Rollins, Councilwoman Young—14.

Nays: None.

Absent: Councilwoman Williams—1.

The motion for Passage is Sustained.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

FROM ROOSEVELT BENTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVIDENCE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

Severally Received.

Communications Informing the Honorable City Council that pursuant to Resolution No. 281, approved May 10, 1991, he is hereby submitting the names of the following School Board Members to serve on the Educational Committee:

Roberto Gonzalez
21 Obediah Brown Road
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

Ms. Julia Steiny
38 Forest Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02906

Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Providence School Board and the Providence Teachers Union.

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

The motion to Refer is Sustained.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

COUNCILMAN FENTON requests the floor to speak on a Point of Personal Privilege and states:

"Mr. President, I would just like to speak for the record that it is somewhat embarrassing that we are getting the Union Contracts 5 months after

the point that it was negotiated. We paid an outside legal firm, I believe that it was about \$130.00 per hour to negotiate and work on this and I think that it is embarrassing to the City that it takes them this long a period of time to transmit this document to the City Council for its review and I hope that this message will get

back to the City Solicitor's Office that when we do contracts and it is negotiated in a timely fashion that they be transmitted to the City Council for review or ratification if it's deemed appropriate by the Courts, thank you."

FROM RAYMOND L. BROWN, DIRECTOR OF RECREATION: Received.

Annual Report for 1992.

FROM THE CLERK'S DESK

Petition of Adam Urena to abandon a portion of Bowdine Street, Lot 206, on Assessor's Plat 62 and to rescind Resolution No. 392, approved September 11, 1984.

on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.

The motion to Refer s Sustained.

Referred to Committee on Public Works,

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

COUNCILWOMAN DiRUZZO requests the floor to speak on a Point of Personal Privilege and states:

"Mr. President, I don't want to see tonight's meeting end without welcoming back into the

Honorable Chambers, a gentleman that has just been through a very lengthy illness that's Mr. Lee Dykas and I just want to tell him that I am very happy to see him back here again and wish him the very best of luck."

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

COUNCILMAN GLAVIN states:

"I would also like to echo Councilwoman DiRuzzo's remarks welcoming "Leon" back into our fold and it would certainly be an understatement if I said that we did not miss him, I'm glad to see him doing well and I just wanted to say that he is one of the top reporters at the

Journal, one of the fairest and most even mannered persons I've had the pleasure of knowing and dealing with from the Journal in my 16 years on the Council. He also has a way of reporting the news exactly the way it happened."

PRESENTATION OF CITATIONS

"In Congratulations"

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETROSINELLI and the MEMBERS of the CITY COUNCIL:

Mr. and Mrs. Beatty Burns, Upon the Celebration of their recent Marriage.

Citations Extending Congratulations.

Mr. Alfred W. Cardente, Upon his retirement as Executive Director of the Johnston Senior Center and as State Representative from District 1.

Resolved, That the Members of the City Council hereby extend their sincere Congratulations to the families of the following:

Mr and Mrs. Cirilo Pichardo, Upon the Celebration of their recent Marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Gedalya Rapoport, Upon the birth of their son, born on December 24, 1992.

Mr. and Mrs. Jose Santos, Upon the Celebration of their recent Marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Laufer, Upon the birth of their daughter, born on December 26, 1992.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Jeannington-David, Upon the Celebration of their recent Marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gilbane, Upon the birth of their son, born on November 18, 1992.

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Sanchez, Upon the Celebration of their recent Marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Eddy, Upon the birth of their son, born on December 24, 1992.

Mr. and Mrs. Julio Caludio, Upon the Celebration of their recent Marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. William Willis, Upon the birth of their daughter, born on December 30, 1992.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery Baron, Upon the birth of their daughter, born on January 4, 1993.

Mark McGerhearty, Upon setting the National High School Record in the 25 Pound Weight Throw with a Distance of 74 Feet, 10 1/2 Inches at the Gibbons Division Championship.

Sean McGerhearty, Upon placing Second at the Gibbons Division Championship in the 25 Pound

Weight Throw with a Distance of 72 Feet, 7 1/2 Inches.

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 Members of the City Council hereby extend their sincere Sympathy to the families of the following:

Concetta Giuliano

Assunta P. Rao

Fred P. Vallante

Pasqualina DiFruscio

Joseph R. Marciano, Sr.

Mary R. Johnson

Albert Sanita

Cynthia A. Imondi

Michael D. Taylor

Stephen Verdone

Frank O. Zito

Lena Penta

Mary D. Pitassi

Antonio M. DeSisto

Raymond Nardelli

Alfred DiOrio

William W. Thibodeau

Maria Ruscito

Joseph V. Morro

Anna N. Dolce

Mary F. Burke

Eugene Plummer, Jr.

Eugene "Gene" Girardi

Angeline DeTora

Irma Poirier

Arthur F. DeRouin, Sr.

Severally Read and Collectively Passed,

by a **Unanimous Rising Vote, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI.**

The motion for Passage is Sustained.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

COUNCILMAN DeLUCA requests the Floor to Speak on a Point of Personal Privilege and states:

"Thank You Mr. President. I feel compelled to address the recent decision that was reached yesterday afternoon by the Providence Plan Housing Board which approved Phase I of a project called the Mandela Woods Project. All of you know I oppose the plan.

"I spoke before the Board yesterday but unfortunately, my concerns fell on deaf ears. I certainly support the revitalization of that particular area, but the costs of the styling of the housing and the non-ownership issue, bothers me a great deal.

"I object the Plan for three (3) basic reasons.

"1. A project type of situation like this does not work, reports show it and I understand some of the reasons why it hasn't worked but there are projects that do work probably because of good management.

"The 2nd reason is that the cost of the project is far too much; more than twice or three times that what it should be and I understand there

are some reasons why the expense would be higher than normal but this is way out of whack.

"The 3rd reason is that these are rental units — 136 rental units which are going to occupy mostly Section 8 and this was not the original intent.

"These are the reasons that I object.

"What is happening here is a crime, because City, State and Federal Tax Dollars are not being used wisely.

"Phase I of this project will cost a total of 20 Million Dollars and we will have 136 Condo Style Units. For 20 Million Dollars, we can fix up about 500 boarded up houses in South Providence and more and create 1,000 to 1,500 units and clean up 75% of the City's abandoned property problem.

"The real cost of these units . . . that's another question. They are saying it is going to cost \$114,000 per unit, however when you include the price of the land and include what they are leaving out, the site costs, cleaning of the site, etc., include the building of the Community Center, the whole bill — \$20 Million Dollars. Then, the price has

gone up to 150,000 per unit and that's quite expensive when the going market price for a Condo Style Building is anywhere between \$35 to maybe, \$60,000 if you want more. There is quite a discrepancy in the price from \$35 to \$150,000.

"For \$100,000 you can build a three (3) bedroom raised ranch in Western Cranston. For \$94,000 you can build a three (3) bedroom ranch in South Kingston, minus the waterfront view. For

\$7,000,000.00 you can build 136 raised ranches in empty lots in Providence and your mortgage including taxes and insurance would be around \$360.00.

"How can we justify \$145,000 per unit in South Providence? It does not make sense. Thank you."

COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI requests to Speak on a Point of Personal Privilege and states:

"Mr. President, I would like to speak on the issue of Mandela Woods. What I've done is reflect, like every single person on this Council reflects whenever they consider any issue before it, and made a short list of my analysis. I think when you hear this mental process, all of you will basically follow the same decision making process whenever you consider any issue of a like nature.

"Whenever I try to come to a decision I always begin by saying number one, is the idea a good public policy? I think that every single one of us in this room can say that all good ideas are always based on good public policy. For example, the Constitution of the United States was based on good Public Policy. The next question I look at whenever I reflect on a political decision, is whether or not it is legal. What is the legal impact? The next question I ask is what is the impact financially on the constituents and taxpayers of the City of Providence? The last question I ask is a very pragmatic question. Whose interest is being served and who is going to benefit from it and what is the quickest and most efficient way to achieve the goal?

"If I have positive answers to all of the above questions that I've just outlined, I always feel confident that I'm on solid ground and I can stand

firm. I feel that the public perception will always bear me out.

"I know there have been some allegations of racism and I'm not here to defend myself because anyone who knows me, knows that I'm not a racist. What I am here to say is that we met on this issue of Mandela Woods and I asked the first question of whether or not it was good public policy. Then I thought of the Providence Plan and I reflected on the fact that the Providence Plan was created not to be an instrument to fund old programs, because if that was the case, we all have tables full of old programs that we have been working on for years. In fact, the Providence Plan was a commitment by all of us to put aside our personal programs in order to benefit the entire city in the most efficient way and for that reason it was good public policy.

"As a result, we all went out two years ago, having public meeting after public meeting telling our constituents time and time again, that the Providence Plan was our opportunity to save our neighborhoods, to save the taxpayers and to ultimately save the owner-occupied homeowner in the City of Providence.

"So, when I say that I did not like the public policy behind Mandela Woods, it is only for this one reason. If Mandela Woods was the fourth or fifth project out of the Providence Plan, I assume I would have no problem. But, instead, it was the

first plan presented after we funded the Providence Plan for a completely different purpose.

"Now, we must go out to our constituents over the next few months and tell them that the Providence Plan is not going to be accomplishing the goals that we set out but rather, the Providence Plan will be focusing on a housing project called Mandela Woods. Therefore, the public policy fails and that concerns me.

"The question with regard to legality of Mandela Woods is of no real concern because Mandela Woods is legally sound under the Providence Plan Corporation Authority. This particular analysis has no real affect. However, the spirit of the Ordinance which gave legal authority to the Providence Corporation, clearly did not presume that Mandela Woods would be the first project to be funded out of the Providence Plan.

"Turning to my next question, the financial impact of this decision. Let me give you an example. If the Providence Plan were to give me One Million Dollars to solve the problems in my neighborhood, I guarantee that my neighborhood would have substantial improvement within six months. However, with regard to Mandela Woods, we are spending Twenty Million Dollars not in the entire city, but in one specific Ward and for that reason the financial impact affecting only one Ward, rather than the entire City, concerns me a great deal.

"The next question is the pragmatic affect of this decision. I can appreciate a Councilman fighting for his project in his Ward and I wish him the best of luck with that project and I hope that he proves us wrong and that Mandela Woods is a complete success. But, I believe that all the Federal Statistics have shown that this kind of project will fail. That scattered housing is the better way to provide affordable housing to those needy people in the City of Providence. For that reason, I don't think that pragmatically, it is the best way to solve the affordable housing problem nor the owner-occupied difficulty that we are facing.

"So, ultimately, I do not believe that we are on very firm ground perceptually to the public. I believe the perception of this project will ultimately be bad and that the Council will have a difficult time justifying this project.

"I would never vote against another Council Person's project whether it was for One Million Dollars or Twenty Million Dollars because I believe that we must all stand together. However, when every single one of the questions in my analysis fails to produce a positive public policy result, I believe that the perception will be bad to the public and ultimately we will have to explain ourselves to the taxpayers which will be impossible and for that I believe that we owe the taxpayers of the City of Providence an apology.

"Mr. President, thank you for this opportunity to speak."

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI, it is voted to adjourn at 8:45 o'clock P.M. to meet again on THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1993 at 7:30 o'clock P.M.

Michael R. Clement

City Clerk

