

**CITY OF PROVIDENCE  
RHODE ISLAND**



**CITY COUNCIL  
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

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No. 45 City Council Special Meeting, Wednesday, August 8, 1984, 11:00 A.M. (E.D.T.)

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**IN CITY COUNCIL**  
**SEP 6 1984**

**APPROVED:**

**PRESIDING**

*Rose M. Mendon* **CLERK**

**ACTING COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

**LOUIS R. STRAVATO**

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Acting Council President Stravato, Councilman Annaldo, Councilwoman Brassil, Councilmen Cola, Dillon, Councilwoman DiRuzzo, Councilman Easton, Councilwoman Fagnoli, Councilmen Farmer, Glavin, Griffin, O'Connor, Petrosinelli and Pitts—15.

**Absent:** None.

## INVOCATION

The Invocation is given by COUNCILMAN DAVID G. DILLON.

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

COUNCILMAN ANDREW J. ANNALDO  
leads the Members of the City Council and  
the Assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance  
to the Flag of the United States of America.

## COMMUNICATION FROM ACTING COUNCIL PRESIDENT

The Clerk reads the following Communication:

August 6, 1984

Mrs. Rose M. Mendonca  
City Clerk  
City Hall  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mrs. Mendonca:

In accordance with the Provisions of Section 406 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, I the undersigned, hereby respectfully request

you call a special meeting of the City Council on the 8th Day of August 1984, at 11:00 o'clock A.M.

The purpose of said meeting is for the City Council to consider the following matters, viz:

Communication from Acting Mayor Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., submitting his resignation as a Member of the City Council from the Thirteenth Ward.

Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., and Declaring a Vacancy as to His Council Seat.

Resolution of the City Council Ordering a  
Special Election for the Vacancy on the City  
Council from the Thirteenth Ward.

Sincerely,

LOUIS R. STRAVATO  
*Acting Council President*

Received.

## FROM THE CITY CLERK

The City Clerk reads the following Warrant with the City Sergeant's Return Endorsed thereon, Certifying that He did notify the Members of the City Council of the Special Meeting to be held Wednesday, August 8, 1984 at 11:00 A.M. (E.D.T.) by Personally Delivering a Copy of the Warrant on August 6, 1984.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY CLERK  
City Hall

*To Giacomo Martone, City Sergeant:*

*Whereas*, Louis R. Stravato, Acting Council President of the City of Providence has pursuant to Section 406 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, requested the City Clerk in writing, to Call a Special Meeting of the City Council to be held on the 8th day of August, 1984, at 11:00 A.M. for the Purpose of Enacting the following:

Communication from Acting Mayor Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., submitting his resignation as a Member of the City Council from the Thirteenth Ward.

Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., and Declaring a Vacancy as to His Council Seat.

Resolution of the City Council Ordering a Special Election for the Vacancy on the City Council from the Thirteenth Ward.

You are therefore, hereby commanded and required to summon each Member of the City Council to that Special Meeting as Called.

*Hereof*, Fail Not, and make true return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon.

Given under my hand and Official Seal of the City of Providence, State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 6th day of August, A.D., 1984.

ROSE M. MENDONCA  
*City Clerk*

State of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations  
the City of Providence, Sc.

August 6, 1984

I, Giacomo Martone, City Sergeant, do hereby certify that I have notified each Member of the City Council of the Special Meeting scheduled to be held on Wednesday, August 8, 1984, at 11:00

A.M. (E.D.T.) in the Chamber of the City Council, City Hall, Providence, in accordance with the subject Warrant by delivering to each Member, a copy thereof.

GIACOMO MARTONE  
*City Sergeant*

Severally Received.

## COMMUNICATION FROM HIS HONOR THE ACTING MAYOR

Communication from Acting Mayor Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., submitting His Resignation as a Member of the City Council from the Thirteenth Ward.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER  
City of Providence

August 6, 1984

The Honorable Members  
The City Council of the  
City of Providence  
City Hall  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Honorable Members:

The events of the past few months, culminating in the special Mayoral election of July 31, 1984, necessitate the action I take today.

I hereby submit my resignation from my seat on the Providence City Council, effective Wednes-

day, August 8, 1984 at 10:00 a.m., and respectfully request that you accept same.

I cannot take this step without expressing to you my pride in belonging to a group of public servants as dedicated as yourselves, and my heartfelt thanks for the help you have extended to me, especially in this most recent traumatic episode in our City's history.

It was my great honor to represent the people of Ward 13 for five and one half years. With your help and, I pray, with God's protection, I embark now upon the task of serving all the people of the City of Providence.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH R. PAOLINO, JR.  
*Mayor of Providence*

Received.

## PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

### **ACTING COUNCIL PRESIDENT STRAVATO, COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, COUNCILMAN DILLON and COUNCILWOMAN FARGNOLI:**

Resolution Accepting the Resignation of Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., and Declaring a Vacancy as to His Council Seat.

*Whereas*, Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., the Councilman of the Thirteenth Ward in the term that began January 3, 1983, has been elected Mayor of Providence in the Special Election held on July 30, 1984 pursuant to Section 206 of the Home Rule Charter of the City of Providence, and

*Whereas*, Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., has submitted his resignation as Councilman of the Thirteenth Ward, to this City Council;

*Now, Therefore, be it Resolved*, By the City Council of the City of Providence that the said resignation of Joseph R. Paolino, Jr. is accepted, and a vacancy is declared to exist in the office of member of the City Council representing the Thirteenth Ward, both by virtue of the said special election and by virtue of the said resignation of Joseph R. Paolino, Jr.

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

**Ayes:** Acting Council President Stravato, Councilman Annaldo, Councilwoman Bras-sil, Councilmen Cola, Dillon, Councilwoman DiRuzzo, Councilman Easton, Councilwoman Fargnoli, Councilmen Farmer, Glavin, Griffin, O'Connor, Petrosinelli and Pitts—14.

**The motion for Passage is Sustained.**

Resolution of the City Council Ordering a Special Election for the Vacancy on the City Council from the Thirteenth Ward.

*Whereas*, A Vacancy is hereby confirmed to exist in the Office of Councilman representing the Thirteenth Ward, caused by the election of Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., as Mayor, and by his resignation as said Councilman which has been accepted by this City Council, and

*Whereas*, The said vacancy has occurred more than 180 days before the time of holding the next succeeding regular City Election, and

*Whereas*, A regular State Election is scheduled to be held on November 6, 1984, and a Primary Election for same is scheduled for September 11, 1984,

*Now, Therefore, be it Resolved*, By the City Council of the City of Providence, Rhode Island, that pursuant to and in compliance with Section 206 (b) of the Home Rule Charter of the said City of Providence, and appropriate State Statutes, this City Council does hereby order and Call a Special Election for the purpose of filling such vacancy in the Office of the Thirteenth Ward Member of the City Council for the remainder of the term of Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., and

*Be it further Resolved*, That pursuant to and in compliance with the said Section 206 (b) of the Home Rule Charter, the said Special Election is hereby ordered to be held at the same dates and time as the said regular State Election, both as to the Primary Election, that is, September 11, 1984 and as to the General Election, that is, November 6, 1984, and

*Be it further Resolved*, That the Board of Canvassers of the City of Providence, Rhode Island, and all other officers whose duty it is to prepare for elections, are hereby requested and

notified to make such preparations for said election as are required by law, and

*Be it further Resolved*, That the City Clerk is directed to cause a certified copy of this Resolution to be transmitted to the Board of Canvassers of the City of Providence, Rhode Island; and that a duly certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the State of Rhode Island Board of Elections and to the Secretary of State of Rhode Island.

**Read and Passed, on motion of COUNCIL-**

**MAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN DILLON, by the following Roll Call Vote:**

**Ayes:** Acting Council President Stravato, Councilman Annaldo, Councilwoman Bras-sil, Councilmen Cola, Dillon, Council-woman DiRuzzo, Councilman Easton, Coun-cilwoman Fargnoli, Councilmen Farmer, Glavin, Griffin, O'Connor, Petrosinelli and Pitts—14.

**The motion for Passage is Sustained.**

## RECESS

**On motion of COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, seconded by COUNCILMAN DILLON, it is Voted that the Council be in Recess at 11:25 o'clock A.M. (E.D.T.) to Reconvene at the Call of the Chair.**

## CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION OF MAYOR

City Clerk, Rose M. Mendonca, Reads the Certificate from the Board of Canvassers and Registration attested to on August 3, 1984, Certifying that Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., has been

by the Electors of the City of Providence, Rhode Island, duly Elected Mayor to hold his said Office for the term Ending on the First Monday in January, A.D., 1987.

## OATH OF OFFICE OF MAYOR

The Solemn Oath to Mayor Joseph R. Paolino, Jr. as Mayor of the City of Providence, Rhode Island, for the Ensuing Term Ending on the First Monday in January, 1987, was Administered at 11:30 A.M. in the Executive Chambers of the Mayor's Office, by the Honorable Anthony B. Sciarretta, Judge of the Probate Court of the City of Providence, Rhode Island.

The Honorable Thomas J. Paolino, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Emeritus, of the State of Rhode Island, Administers an Oath to His Honor Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., Mayor of the City of Providence, Rhode Island.

## INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY HIS HONOR THE MAYOR

### FIRST INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF THE HONORABLE JOSEPH R. PAOLINO, JR. MAYOR OF PROVIDENCE

This is a great day for every resident of Providence, regardless of the candidate which they supported or the neighborhood in which they live.

It's a great day throughout this City because we've finally reached the end of a troubled period in our history, a period of instability and divisiveness. Today we can look beyond the problems of the past, beyond the problems that demoralized our City and prevented us from coming together.

Now that the Mayoral Election is over, we can come together, and we must come together! The word should go out today from every neighborhood in the City that the citizens of Providence ARE coming together, that we're putting the past behind us, and that we're moving ahead to solve our City's problems.

I feel privileged to be able to lead a new cooperative effort to improve our City. I want to reassure everyone in Providence that I am going to continue to serve ALL the people, people of every political belief and party, people of every neighborhood, race, religion, and ethnic background.

I pledge today that I will always be fair, constructive, and open in my actions as Mayor. Cronyism and divisiveness will NEVER have a place in my administration. Instead, professionalism and cooperation will be the major tools in my effort to reform the City of Providence.

We all know that the just concluded campaign for Mayor was a tough and spirited contest. The candidates had their differences with one another, but each of us was and is vitally concerned about improving the City of Providence. In fact, Fred Lippitt, Keven McKenna and Emanuel Torti are dedicated public servants who share my commitment to governmental reform, increased management efficiency and neighborhood re-

vitalization. So, today, I am asking Fred, Keven and Manny to join with me and every Providence resident in a cooperative effort to make this City reach its full potential for excellence.

A solid foundation for this cooperative effort has been established during my three months as Acting Mayor. In many areas of City government I've made a fresh start, and now I'm determined to expand on my early reforms.

I'm determined, for instance to continue improving the City's management practices. In fact, the focal point of my administration will be to implement the extensive management study we will be completing later this month.

As I reorganize City government, I'm determined to continue attracting top-notch professionals to every City department;

I am determined to continue reforming and streamlining our City's purchasing and personnel policies;

I am determined to continue rooting out corruption by enforcing our new code of ethics, by cooperating fully with all law enforcement investigations, and by maintaining an atmosphere of uncompromising professionalism and integrity;

I am determined to continue providing better services to our neighborhoods through regular neighborhood clean-ups, a better street sweeping system, a better equipped police department, and more opportunity for neighborhood input in City policymaking;

I am determined to continue developing stronger affirmative action policies for minorities and women;

And I am determined to continue the new spirit of cooperation between the Mayor's office and the City Council, as well as between the Mayor's office and the residents of the every City neighborhood.

Obviously, we have a number of important tasks facing us in the City. Although the Election for Mayor is over, the challenge of rebuilding Providence has really just begun.

Today I accept this challenge with a deep sense of excitement, commitment and obligation. The hallmark of my administration has been and will continue to be reform.

I want everyone in this City to know that today we are beginning an era of genuine, no-nonsense, comprehensive reform!

I want everyone in this City to know that the days of political intimidation are over! . . .

The days of no-show employees are over! . . .

The days of sloppy management practices are over! . . .

And the days of callous disregard for the spending of taxpayers' dollars are over!

If the people have any doubts about all of this, and about the depth of my commitment to governmental and management reform, they should examine carefully what I have already done in the last three months, and examine just as carefully what I'm going to be doing in the 2½ years.

My administration is going to be vigilant and unrelenting in pursuing reform. Only through effective reform of City government can we restore the confidence of people in City Hall, save the taxpayers' money, and provide fair and equal treatment for all the people of Providence.

We also need to continue reforming our government to send a signal throughout our City, State and Nation that Providence is a progressive City, a City that wants to attract new industry and new people, while preserving our rich traditions and culture.

Unfortunately, our City's image has been



tarnished in recent years. It is essential that we rebuild our image. We need an image that emphasizes all the strengths of our City — our history, our culture, our diverse population, our livability, our distinguished educational institutions, and our vibrant neighborhoods.

And we need a new spirit to accompany our new image — a spirit of cooperation and confidence, and enthusiastic spirit based on our future possibilities rather than our past confrontations.

Now that the City's period of uncertainty and instability is over, it's time for all of us to come together in the best interest of Providence. It's time to harness all of the talent, creativity, and energy of our people to improve our City.

With a new commitment to reform, a new emphasis on professionalism, and a new spirit of cooperation, Providence can become, and should become a model city for the entire Nation.

We've got a lot of hard work ahead of us, but together, we can get the job done. Together we can overcome our problems, capitalize on our strengths, and improve the quality and efficiency of City government.

I welcome this challenge, and I'm ready right now to begin tackling it.

Thank you all very much.

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The Members of the City Council return to the Chamber and Acting Council President Stravato calls the Meeting to Order.

## RECONVENTION

**ACTING COUNCIL PRESIDENT STRAVATO** Reconvenes the Council at 1:20 o'clock P.M. (E.D.T.) and directs the Clerk to Call the Roll to Ascertain if there is a Quorum Present.

Present: Acting Council President Stravato, Councilman Annaldo, Councilwoman Brassil, Councilmen Dillon, Easton, Councilwoman Fagnoli, Councilmen Farmer, Petrosinelli and Pitts—9.

Absent: Councilman Cola, Councilwoman DiRuzzo, Councilmen Glavin, Griffin and O'Connor—5.

**ACTING COUNCIL PRESIDENT STRAVATO** thereupon declares that a Quorum of the City Council is Present.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no futher business, on motion of COUNCILMAN DILLON, seconded by COUNCILWOMAN FARGNOLI, the City Council adjourns at 1:25 o'clock P.M. (E.D.T.).

*Rose M. Mendonca*

*City Clerk*



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