

CITY OF PROVIDENCE
RHODE ISLAND



CITY COUNCIL

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

No. 61 City Council Regular Meeting, April 3, 1997, 7:30 o'clock P.M. (E.S.T.)

PRESIDING

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

EVELYN V. FARGNOLI

IN CITY COUNCIL

MAY 1 1997

APPROVED:

Michael A. Clement CLERK

ROLL CALL

Present: Council President Fargnoli, Councilman Allen, Clarkin, DeLuca, Councilwoman DiRuzzo, Councilmen Igliazzi, Jackson, Lombardi, Mancini, Councilwoman Nolan, Councilman Rollins, Councilwomen Romano and Williams—13.

Absent: Councilman Glavin and Councilwoman Young—2.

INVOCATION

The Invocation is given by COUNCILWOMAN RITA M. WILLIAMS.

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

COUNCILMAN ROBERT M. CLARKIN leads the Members of the City Council and the Assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

APPOINTMENTS BY HIS HONOR THE MAYOR

Communication dated February 20, 1997, Informing the Honorable Members of the City Council that pursuant to Sections 302 (b) and 1107 of Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, he is this day reappointing Paul Waldman of 34 Congdon Street, Providence, Rhode Island, as a

Members of the Providence Housing Authority for a term expiring in July, 2001.

Received.

funds. This shall include specifics of the projects/programs to be completed and lead the city department responsible for directing the project/program. The categories to be funded and the amounts to be funded are as follows:

A. Neighborhood Improvement Projects — \$40.3 million

1. Housing Programs
 - Elimination of Blight (\$2.2 million)
 - Housing Assistance (\$5.1 million)
2. Improvement Projects (\$33 million)

(*Note: Funds to be divided evenly among the City's 15 wards. Each ward shall specify the dollar amount allocated to each project and identify the expected work to be completed.*)

- Street Pavement
- Sidewalk Improvement
- Commercial Districts
- Park Rehabilitation
- Community and Recreation Center Renovation/Development of New Centers

- Housing Programs

B. Special Projects — \$4.7 million

- Downtown Sidewalk Improvement Program (\$0.2 million)
- Street, Traffic and School Zone Lights (\$0.3 million)
- Street Tree Maintenance (\$0.1 million)
- Pavement Management Study and Plan (\$0.1 million)

- Woonasquatucket Greenway (\$3.0 million)
- Gorham Industrial Park (\$1.0 million)

C. Issuance Cost and Capitalized Interest — 5 million

Section 2. To meet this appropriation the City Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor and the Committee on Finance, is authorized to issue bonds in the principal amount of \$50,000,000. Pursuant to Rhode Island Public Law 1996-426.

Section 3. The estimated maximum cost of the capital project is \$50,000,000.

Section 4. The expected period of usefulness of the project is hereby determined to be at least 25 years.

Section 5. The net debt of the City after the issuance of the bonds hereby authorized will not be more than \$181,000,000, and the bonds hereby authorized will be within all debt and other limitations prescribed by the constitution and the laws of the State of Rhode Island.

Section 6. The City Council of the City of Providence, Rhode Island recognizes that the following question was submitted to the Electors of the City of Providence at that General Election held on Tuesday, November 5, 1996: "Authorizing the City of Providence to issue bonds and notes in an amount not exceeding \$50,000,000 for the purpose of redevelopment and for capital improvements."

Section 7. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI moves that the Ordinance be amended in Section 2 after the figures "\$50,000,000," to insert the underscored words: "pursuant to Rhode Island Public Law 1996-426."

This motion is seconded by COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS.

COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI thereupon moves Passage of the Ordinance for the Second Time, as amended.

This motion being seconded by COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS is put to vote and Passed by the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council President Fagnoli and Councilwoman DiRuzzo, Councilmen Igli-

ozzi, Mancini, Councilwomen Romano and Williams— 6.

Noes: Councilmen Allen, Clarkin, DeLuca, and Lombardi—4.

Absent: Councilmen Glavin, Jackson, Councilwoman Nolan, Councilman Rollins and Councilwoman Young—5.

The motion for Passage the Second Time, as Amended, is Sustained.

PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FARGNOLI (By Request):

An Ordinance in Amendment of Chapter 1996-29 of the Ordinances of the City of Providence approved July 23, 1996, entitled: "An Ordinance Establishing the Classes of Positions, the Maximum Number of Employees and the Number of Employees in Certain Classes in the City Departments and Repealing Ordinance Chapter 1995-30, approved December 28, 1995" relative to the Department of Planning and Development.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FARGNOLI Refers the Ordinance to the Committee on Finance.

The motion to Refer is Unanimously Sustained.

An Ordinance in Amendment of Chapter 1996-28 of the Ordinances of the City of Providence, approved July 23, 1996, entitled: "An Ordinance Establishing a Compensation Plan for the City of Providence and Repealing Ordinance Chapter 1995-29, approved December 28, 1995, as amended" relative to the Department of Planning and Development.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FARGNOLI Refers the Ordinance to the Committee on Finance.

The motion to Refer is Unanimously Sustained.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FARGNOLI:

Resolution Congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Michael Catauro upon celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on April 13, 1997.

Resolved, That congratulations are hereby extended to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Catauro upon the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary on April 13, 1997.

Read and Passed, on motion of COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI, seconded by COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS.

The motion for Passage is Unanimously Sustained.

Resolution Requesting the Chief Electrical Inspector to cause the replacement of the missing street light on Pole No. 10, located along River Road.

Resolved, That the Chief Electrical Inspector is requested to cause the replacement of the missing street light on Pole No. 10, located along River Road.

Read and Passed, on motion of COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI, seconded by COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS.

The motion for Passage is Unanimously Sustained.

COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI (By Request):

Resolution Authorizing the City Collector to cause the taxes to be abated on that property located along 7 Pallas Street (Plat 28, Lot 31) in the amount of Ten Thousand, Seven Hundred Forty Dollars, Eleven Cents (\$10,740.11).

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FARGNOLI Refers the Resolution to the Committee on Finance.

This motion to Refer is Unanimously Sustained.

COUNCILWOMAN YOUNG (By Request):

Resolution Requesting the Chief Electrical Inspector to cause the replacement of the missing street light on Pole No. 12, located along Weybosset Street, in front of Avery Piano.

Resolved, That the Chief Electrical Inspector is requested to cause the replacement of the missing street light on Pole No. 12, located along Weybosset Street, in front of Avery Piano.

Read and Passed, on motion of COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI, seconded by COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS.

The motion for Passage is Unanimously Sustained.

COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS (By Request):

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

COUNCILWOMAN PATRICIA K. NOLAN, Chairwoman COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Transmits the following with Recommendation the same be Approved:

Communication from His Honor the Mayor dated January 22, 1997, Informing the Honorable Members of the City Council that pursuant to Sections 302 (b) and 814 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, he is this day reappointing Mr. Joseph Pannone of 86 Lucille Street, Providence, Rhode Island, as a Member of the Board of Tax Assessment and Review for a term to expire in January, 2000 and respectfully submits the same for your approval.

Communication Received and Reappointment Approved, on motion of COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI, seconded by COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS.

The motion to Receive and Approve is Unanimously Sustained.

Transmits the following with Recommendation the same be Adopted:

Resolution Authorizing the City Collector to cause the taxes to be abated on that property located along 336 Blackstone Street in the amount of Five Thousand, Two Hundred Sixty-Nine Dollars, Twenty-One Cents (\$5,269.21) as requested by the Providence Redevelopment Agency.

Whereas, The Providence Redevelopment Agency hereby certifies that the following property consisted of uninhabited boarded up or otherwise uninhabitable buildings and that subject parcel was subject to Eminent Domain proceedings by the Providence Redevelopment Agency, and:

Whereas, On March 11, 1997, by Resolution #9286 of the Providence Redevelopment Agency did authorize Eminent Domain proceedings on Assessor's Plat 45 Lot 622, 336 Blackstone Street.

Now therefore, be it Resolved, That the City

Council does hereby cancel or abate, in whole, the taxes assessed in the amount of Five Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Nine and 21/100 — (\$5,269.21) above mentioned property, in accordance with Rhode Island General Law Section 44-7-23.

Read and Passed, on motion of COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI, seconded by COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS by the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council President Fagnoli, Councilmen Allen, Clarkin, DeLuca, Councilwoman DiRuzzo, Councilmen Igliazzi, Jackson, Lombardi, Mancini, Rollins, Councilwomen Romano and Williams—12.

Noes: None.

Absent: Councilman Glavin, Councilwomen Nolan and Young—3.

The motion for Passage is Sustained.

**COUNCILMAN JOHN J. LOMBARDI, Chairman
COMMITTEE ON CLAIMS AND PENDING SUITS**

**Transmits the following with recommenda-
tion the same be Severally approved for
Cancellation:**

Certificates from the City Assessor (Nos. 19A and 20A) recommending the same be severally canceled 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 IGLIOZZI, seconded by COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS by the following Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council President Fargnoli, Councilmen Allen, Clarkin, DeLuca, Councilwo-

man DiRuzzo, Councilmen Igliazzi, Jackson, Lombardi, Mancini, Rollins, Councilwomen Romano, and Williams—12.

Noes: None.

Absent: Councilman Glavin, Councilwomen Nolan and Young—3.

The motion to Approve for Cancellation is Sustained.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RECREATION:

Annual Report for 1996.

Received.

FROM ROOSEVELT BENTON/SCHOOL BOARD:

Communication dated April 1, 1997, Informing the Honorable Members of the City Council that he is hereby submitting various collective bargaining agreements for ratification.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT FARGNOLI
Receives the Communication and Refers the
Agreements to the Committee on Finance.**

**The motion to Receive and Refer is
Unanimously Sustained.**

FROM THE CLERK'S DESK

Petition of Azarig Kooloian, 143 Smithfield Road, North Providence, Rhode Island, requesting permission for a zoning change from R-2 to C-4 for the property that faces Huber Avenue and Fruit Hill Avenue, Lots Nos. 670, 718 and 744.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FARGNOLI Refers the Petition to the Committee on Ordinances.

The motion to Refer is Unanimously Sustained.

Petitions for Compensation for Injuries and Damages, viz;

Marcia Feeley and Gerald P. Feeley

Aramark Uniform Services

Allstate Insurance Co., a/s/o Adriano Cabral

Paul A. Choquette

Luis Rios

Jill Rios

Christine A. Vitolo

Lisa Joseph

Wayne Melcher

Altagracia Tejada

Luz Delacruz and Jose Garcia

Hircania Garcia

Samuel B. Stewart

Harvey Menco

Frank S. Baker

Eli Wirkler

Carol Ann D'Arcangelo

Oliver Poor

Keith Keenan

Progressive Insurance Co., a/s/o Stephen Brill

Progressive Insurance Co., a/s/o Jason Bruno

Peter Hood

Metropolitan Insurance Co., a/s/o Pierre Evans and Dianne Savage

Josefina Delaureano

Filamina Varela

Niurka R. Nazzar

Gloria L. Gonzalez

Nancy H. Sandercock

Jesse T. Viti

Peerless Insurance Co., a/s/o Beverly Walters

Clemena Montaquilla

Jeanne Current

Albert Papati

Jessica T. Barrett

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FARGNOLI Refers the Petitions to the Committee on Claims and Pending Suits.

The motion to Refer is Unanimously Sustained.

PRESENTATION OF CITATIONS

"In Congratulations"

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FARGNOLI and the MEMBERS of the CITY COUNCIL:

Citations Extending Congratulations.

Resolved, That the Members of the City Council extend their sincere congratulations to the following:

Mr. and Mrs. Albert J. Lepore, in recognition of the celebration of their 35th Wedding Anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Catauro, in recognition of the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary on April 13, 1997.

Nellie and Domenic Bianco, in recognition of the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary on April 12, 1997.

The DaVinci Center, in recognition of the celebration of their 25th Year of service to the North End of Providence.

Jeffrey Cain, MD, in recognition of being the recipient of the Charles V. Chapin Memorial Award.

Carolyn Ann Sweeney, in recognition of the celebration of her 30th Birthday, born on April 9, 1967.

Severally Read and Collectively Passed, on motion of COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI, seconded by COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS.

The motion for Passage is Unanimously Sustained.

PERSONAL EXPRESSION

COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI requests the privilege of the floor to speak on a Point of Personal Expression and states:

"I know that we were planning on a short night but I have a feeling that it will not be that short. But, I think the rules...the introductory words...from the esteemed Deputy Majority Leader from the Second Ward I stated it very eloquently and I have a little pet peeve, and I have a communication that none of you have, a copy of the Citizens Assistance Request Item No. 1143 in your packet. Basically, the last couple of weeks I endeavored to find out how we would enforce the problem dealing with a fence, and it was my understanding after several phone calls that Ramzi Loqa of Code Enforcement is the one who is in charge of that and the Department's response, it is really not that exaggerated, it's basically that he does not know what to do legally. That he does not know, has no idea, that basically it is out of his hands and he just basically does not know what to do. But, I would just like to remind Mr. Loqa and I would ask that the Finance Committee remind him, that at a Finance Committee Meeting in the not too distant past,

one of the reasons why that position was defunded in a continued effort by this Council to try to save money and to try and save the cost to the taxpayers of this City. He stated quite eloquently and quite emphatically that he could very easily do that job that he knew what to do on the job, that he knew the legal ramifications and so on and so forth, and it is my understanding that this is on tape!

Well, let me say this, I think it is time that with some of the other things, I'm sure we are going to here about in the next 1/2 hour, that we start to bring these various department heads before the Finance Committee and refresh their recollections. You make the commitment, you make the commitment to the Council, but more importantly you make it to the taxpayers to the City of Providence, and this is an easy one. This is not a difficult one. It is unfortunate when a Councilmember has to try to jump through hoops to get an answer. Just imagine what "John Q. Public" or "Jane Q. Public" has to do! Thank you madam President".

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

"In Memoriam"

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FARGNOLI and the MEMBERS of the CITY COUNCIL:

Resolutions Extending Sympathy.

Resolved, That the Members of the City Council

extend their sincere sympathy to the families of the following:

Carmella Biello

Filomena "Fannie" DeLuca

Carmine "Tom" Napolitano

Raffaela L. "Rae" DePace

Marguerite C. Godin

Vincent A. Ceceri

Maria C. Casolla

Severally Read and Collectively Passed by a Unanimous Rising Vote, on motion of COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI, seconded by COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS.

Malik A. O'Connor

Clelia "Clara" Beneduce

The motion for Passage is Unanimously Sustained.

Alfred DiGiuseppe

Edna M. Foster

MATTERS NOT APPEARING ON THE PRINTED DOCKET

On motion of COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI, seconded by COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS, it is voted to Suspend Rule 16 of the Rules of the City Council in order to allow the introduction of the following matter not appearing on the Printed Docket.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

COUNCILMAN CLARKIN, COUNCIL PRESIDENT FARGNOLI, COUNCILMAN ALLEN, COUNCILMAN DeLUCA, COUNCILWOMAN DIRUZZO, COUNCILMAN GLAVIN, COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI, COUNCILMAN JACKSON, COUNCILMAN LOMBARDI, COUNCILMAN MANCINI, COUNCILWOMAN NOLAN, COUNCILWOMAN ROMANO, COUNCILMAN

ROLLINS, COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS and COUNCILWOMAN YOUNG:

Resolution Requesting the Committee on Public Works to investigate the problems of snow plowing during the recent snow storms that occurred on March 31st and April 1st, 1997.

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Works

is requested to investigate the problems of snow plowing during the recent snow storms that occurred on March 31st and April 1st, 1997.

PERSONAL EXPRESSION

COUNCILMAN CLARKIN Requests the privilege of the floor to speak on a point of personal expression and states:

“Madam President and Members of the Council. I am asking that we have an examination or an investigation of what went wrong with the snow removal on April 1st. This was not a storm that blind sighted us. We were told at least 48 hours earlier that we were going to be hit and we were going to be hit big! What went wrong? Didn't we have enough trucks on the road? Did we have the right size trucks on the road? Were the streets plowed during the storm or did they wait until

after the end of the storm? Were the drivers doing the job or sitting down at a coffee house?

My area was not done right. I have some questions and I know that many of you have questions. The plowing was not good and now we must find out why. We must find out why and try to prevent this from occurring again. I would like them to come before my Committee, the Public Works Committee, and I'll guarantee you we will find out what happened. Thank You.”

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT FARGNOLI Refers the Resolution to the Committee on Public Works.

The motion to Refer is Unanimously Sustained.

PERSONAL EXPRESSION

COUNCILWOMAN NOLAN requests to speak on a point of personal expression and states:

"...maybe God is taking pity on me because of what I am going to speak about next. I would like to Madam Chair, have a point of personal expression if I may. I agree that snow plowing is a very, very serious subject and I have been where some of the other Council people have been. I've been down at the garage wading through the water, trying to get a plow to follow me. I've been on the phone trying to get through and not being able to get through. I've gone down to the garage and grabbed the plow and said "follow me, you don't know my neighborhood, let me show you where the streets are".

I think maybe God smiled on me during this storm because I am dealing right now with a much more serious problem. It is something that no one should have to deal with. We buried another young man in my Ward last Saturday. A victim of another drive by shooting. A victim by accident, because the other young man was the target of the shooter. Young men are shooting each other on the Streets of the City of Providence and I don't know how it is going to end. I really don't. What kind of a society are we when we can sit back and allow our children to kill each other.

My heart goes out to Barry and Cleora O'Connor. Barry is a dear friend of mine, he serves on my Ward Committee. Their son Malik was a friendly, wonderful young man. I remember serving on a Board with Cleora and she would bring the baby in and she would have Malik on her arm when she came into the Board Meeting, so the children weren't left alone.

I cried with them as many of us did. All of

us...many of us are involved in non violent coalitions. Many of us are even going to be trained in non violent tactics. Councilwoman Williams, I know Councilwoman Young and I and I hope some others will join us when the police are trained in May, and the community will also be trained. We are going to be trained by Doctor Bernard Raffiette? Who marched with Martin Luther King, Jr., who served with him, who learned all about non violence from Doctor Martin Luther King and from a retired Police Captain from Detroit. But still, all this work for the last two or three years that we have been doing, still our young men, young boys, our sons are dying in the streets. Sometime I wonder why I spend all this time working on all of these non violent initiatives. It doesn't seem to be working with some of our young people. Years ago, if someone shoved you, you would turn around and punch them in the mouth. Today, you reach in your pocket and pull out your gun and you shoot them dead!

In what kind of society should we tolerate a Latin King Gang Member with the middle name "King Animal" showing his contempt of the legal system by urinating on the court railing. What kind of society is this? What kind of society should tolerate a spokesperson for a gang saying to the police "either you find the murderer in 10 days, or we'll take care of it!". What kind of society is this? Thank God, my children our grown, but I have 3 grandsons and I worry about what life will be for them when they get a little bigger. It's mind boggling! I don't know what the answer is, but I would ask all of you to stand just for a "Moment of Silence" and send our prayers to Barry and Cleora, to Tommy and Donna O'Connor, to Mrs. O'Connor, to Joyce O'Connor, to the whole O'Connor Family and to all of Malik's brothers and cousins".

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion of COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI, seconded by COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS it is voted to adjourn at 9:00 o'clock P.M. (E.S.T.) to meet again on THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1997 at 7:30 o'clock P.M. (E.D.T).

Michael R. Clement

City Clerk



