

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 7, 2008**

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Milford held their Regular Meeting on Monday, April 7, 2008 in the aldermanic chambers of City Hall. Chairman B. Blake called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. welcoming everyone and asked those present to join in saluting our flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked if everyone would remain standing for a moment of silence in remembrance of two young adults who passed away, M. Vicino and J. Cowperthwaite.

1. Roll Call

Board Members Present

B. Bier
J. Blacketter
B. Blake
V. Ditchkus, Jr.
A. Giannattasio
B. Lambert
S. Manning
R. Nunno
J. Patterson
J. Toohey
N. Veccharelli
P. Vetro
S. Willey

Also Present

Mayor J. Richetelli, Jr.
J. O'Connell, Mayor's Admin. Asst.
A. Jepson, City Clerk
J. Doneiko, Finance Director
M. Lipton, City Attorney

Excused

M. Hardiman

Chairman Blake stated for the record that Ald. Hardiman was sick and unable to attend tonight's meeting.

2. Public Statements

Public statements are limited to the legislative function of the Board of Aldermen. He stated only residents; taxpayers or electors may address the Board. The time limit granted to each speaker shall be three (3) minutes. He asked each speaker to adhere to the three-minute limit.

R. Platt – 132 Platt Lane – stated he comes before the Board as City Historian with a report on the Ordinance Delay Order. He stated he may exceed his three-minute limit for speaking and expressed his hope this Board would allow him to do so. He spoke of the procedure which is laid out by this Board and that he did not want to see a repeat of Old Field Lane and provided a brief history. He stated it is written that the building official shall maintain on file such demolition. He continued reading from the Ordinance. Mr. Platt stated he wrote to the building official on January 17, 2008 to that effect and proceeded to read the letter. He stated to date he has not had a response from the building inspector or city attorney. Mr. Platt stated he also spoke with the Mayor's Assistant and explained the situation and stated this would be the last time he would write a waiver for these circumstances. He stated he also wrote a letter to the Mayor on March 25, 2008. He why there is such a problem when the language of the Ordinance is clear. Mr. Platt stated he is giving notice that in the future he

intends to abide by the Ordinance. He reiterated he has not had a response from the building inspector or city attorney. He noted he has another request for Willow Street and that he has put in a call to the Mayor's Office this morning and that as of tonight's meeting he had not had a response. He stated the reason for coming before this Board tonight is because the Ordinance is not properly being carried out. He stated he was demanding thing be done in writing before something as important as Cadley comes up again.

E. Tamas – 14 Wayland Court – commented regarding the news where people are losing jobs, stores and businesses are closing, cuts in pay, reduced benefits, etc., everybody is losing, except the Board of Education. He stated since 2003-2004 they are down 14 students, but personnel has increased. He asked how this can be when everybody else but the Board of Education takes cuts. He stated there is no mandate that states how many teachers you have to hire. He continued this year there will be less students and wondered if there is no end. He stated not too long ago their budget was reduced \$2,000,000 and they screamed there would be cuts and nothing happened. He questioned who everyone was kidding, stating there would be no closing of schools and not cutting of teachers. He stated this is about doing what is right and if it is about politics it should go to a referendum and let the voters vote. He asked the Board to do the right thing by the taxpayers.

J. Prisco – 11 Riverdale Road – expressed appreciation for the great job Mr. Amato did for seniors. He stated he was amazed the Committee was able to come up with a plan so quickly and that he was here tonight asking this Board to adopt the plan. He spoke of the political baby talk and that it would be over. He read from a prepared statement. He asked the Board to please adopt this plan and move on to more important matters.

G. Parrot – 105 Carlson Drive – stated she is a parent of two and soon to be an alumnus of the Milford Schools. She thanked the Board of Education and parent groups that have worked so hard for her children. She stated she was speaking tonight regarding the bonding for the schools that is long overdue. She read from a prepared statement regarding the age of the schools, which she states are older than the school she attended. She questioned how we could encourage our children to pursue careers in the sciences without the tools to prepare them. She urged the Board to approve the bonding for the school projects.

G. Amato – 10 Orchard Road – stated he was deeply humbled after hearing Mr. Prisco speak. He stated he was speaking tonight regarding item 12a-7 and asked the Board to look favorably on this Ordinance. He stated he came before this Board on February 4, 2008 regarding this same issue. He spoke of the task of this ad hoc tax committee and work they did recognizing each member of the Committee. He also spoke of the level of cooperation the Committee received from the Board of Aldermen, Mayor, City Attorney and City Assessor and his staff. Mr. Amato stated his Committee could not have fulfilled their task without that cooperation. He spoke as to the report they delivered on February 17, 2008 and the plan the Committee came up with. He stated there job was to analyze these plans, which included age, income, years in the community and some other things, and to streamline current budget expenses. He stated what they came up with would have the least impact on the budget and help 50% more families. He expressed his hope this Board would take full consideration of the program and move forward with it.

M. Lofthouse – 54 Maple Street – urged the Board to vote yes for the senior tax relief. He stated he is in favor of helping our seniors stay in Milford, however, there is no mechanism in place to recoup the money being put out to the seniors. He also questioned whether if the Committee considered their numbers in today's population. He commented today's young people are also faced with a challenging economy. He asked how this would impact a homeowner who has an in-law set up and how that was looked at and also whether or not senior list their automobiles in Milford and finally whether or not it was the only home they owned. He also

spoke as to recouping the monies put out noting someone has to pay the taxes. He concluded by citing Thomas Paine.

L. Malone – 14 Eighth Avenue – spoke as to the acquisition of the Regional Water Authority property on Burnt Plains Road. She stated she was speaking on behalf of the Open Space Advisory Committee and stated this is something valuable and that it connects to two other parcels nearby. She also spoke as to the worldwide celebration of Earth Day on April 22, 2008 and that B. Milton has organized a volunteer group. She explained how she broke our city down into five groups and we now have people going around and looking at property and also helping pick up trash and noting any problems. She read the names of the many people who have volunteered their time on this group entitled “Open Space Stewardship Initiative”.

J. Jansen – 22 Russell Road – stated he was speaking tonight to the issue of senior tax relief. He stated this is another special interest group and the other night there was another well-organized group asking for money, the Board of Education. He stated there are many other groups such as homeless people, veterans groups, sports groups and the list goes on of these worthy groups, but there is a limit as to what you can do. He read an e-mail he received and continued by speaking personally as to his children. He stated he has no problem with deferred taxes and that it is something they should do, but he didn’t want his kids subsidizing those seniors.

S. Glennon – 99 Carlson Drive – stated she was unable to speak last week concerning the budget. She also stated she was disappointed the issue of continuing the work of the Milford Education Funding Committee had not been resolved. She stressed the importance of continuing that work and not wasting any more time. She stated she was speaking as president of One Voice, HSPTSA in support of the bonding work. She stated the high schools are in need of a lot of work and also spoke as to the increased work demand in the science field. She stated our children needed to be better prepared for the 21st century. She continued reading from a prepared statement speaking as to the proposed high school reform legislature and age of our schools. She stated this project should not be put off any longer and that it was time to invest in our school’s infrastructure.

N. Seltzer – 74 Camden Street – spoke regarding the Ordinance tonight concerning senior tax relief. She stated it would behoove the Board as aldermen to look toward the future. She stated it is a good program but they needed to find the extra funding. She expressed her concern with when a senior passes away and how that is addressed. She spoke personally when she lived in HUD housing and how that program works with regard to reimbursement. She stated she would like to seek a similar program in place for seniors.

D. Vasseur – 17 Devol Street – stated she was speaking as to waste reduction and recycling efforts. She read from a prepared statement as to the benefits of saving money and reducing the environmental footprint. She also spoke as to hiring a sustainable recycling director who would be responsible for marketing, etc. She spoke as to increased

3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen held on March 3, 2008.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson moved to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2008 meeting as presented. Motion carried as unanimously.

4. Consideration of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Aldermen.

None.

5. Chairman's Report and Communications.

Chairman Blake reported Chairman Blake thanked the Senior Tax Relief Committee for the work in researching, assessing and studies. He stated this Board would be presented tonight with an Ordinance based on their research. Chairman Blake also reported he was pleased to announce the formation of the Milford Legislative Action Committee. He stated they would pick up where the Education Funding Committee left off, however the new Committee would have a broader scope. He explained in addition to educational funding they would also address all relative legislature funding issues on the state and local level. He added having the Committee would only improve communications between state and federal governments. He announced the members of the Committee as follows: Ald. Vitali, Ald. Lambert, Ald. Patterson, from the Board of Education, Pamela Staneski, Tracy Casey and citizens would be Laura Fucci, Susan Feher and John Reilly. He wished the Committee success.

6. Mayor's Report and Recommendations:

Mayor Richetelli noted there were several items under the Mayor's Report that he wished to make the Board aware of. He stated item 6a the "Faces of Connecticut's Fallen – A Traveling Tribute" would be on display at the Parson's Complex with a dedication ceremony on April 16, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. He stated that is the date of State Department of Veterans' Affairs and Pierson Family had agreed to. He stated there also would be a short ceremony prior to the start of the Memorial Day parade. He also pointed out item 6b is the appointment of the Sikorsky Memorial Airport Layout Plan Advisory Committee (U) David L. Ivanovich, Jr. and (R) John F. O'Connell. Mayor Richetelli stated Mr. Ivanovich was present if the Board would allow his swearing-in.

Mr. Jepson reported Mr. O'Connell had already been sworn-in. Mr. Jepson continued with the oath to Mr. Ivanovich.

Mayor Richetelli stated he also wished to make the Board aware of item 6c reporting the City of Milford planned to exercise its priority rights to acquire a parcel of land on burnt Plaints Road; and item 6d regarding the Housatonic River Estuary Commission's request for a \$1,000 annual stipend from each participating community. Mayor Richetelli stated he also would respectfully ask the Board's approval for items 8a-g and also those items listed under Executive Session, item 14a.

Ald. Ditchkus asked about item 6c and if the City could apply for state matching grant and RWA so that the price could drop.

Mayor Richetelli replied they were researching that.

Mayor Richetelli stated he respectfully asked the Board's approval for items 8a-g and also those items listed under Executive Session, item 14a.

Ald. Ditchkus asked about item 6c and if the City could apply for state matching grant and RWA so that the price could drop.

Mayor Richetelli replied they were researching that.

7. Unfinished Business:

None.

8. New Business (from Mayor's Report Items 8a-8n)

8a. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Agreement for the raising of a coastal structure located at 47 Hillside Avenue in the City of Milford. Motion carried unanimously.

8b. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request to authorize the Mayor to sign the attached Nondiscrimination Certificate (for 47 Hillside Avenue, Milford) in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 4a-60(a)(1) and 4a-60a(a)(1), as amended in State of Connecticut Public Act 07-245 and Sections 9(a)(1) and 10(a)(1) of Public Act 07-142. Motion carried unanimously.

8c. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the request to accept a grant in the amount of \$7,000 from new haven County's Emergency Food and Shelter Board in FY 2007-2008 Emergency Food and Shelter Funding for the Milford Department of Human Services, and authorize the Mayor and/or the Director of the Department of Human Services to sign the grant agreement and take any and all steps necessary to effectuate said grant. Motion carried unanimously.

8d. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: DECD Home Program Grant and to authorize the Mayor to sign the grant agreement and take all steps necessary to effectuate said grant.

Ald. Lambert referenced item 8d reading the paragraph "Board of Aldermen may also need to approve" She asked if she could get an explanation.

Mayor Richetelli deferred to Tom Ivers.

Mr. Ivers explained it is a program grant through a HUD funded grant program and explained the \$750,000 grant is to homeowners to make property improvements. He stated they fund the loan and they request reimbursement.

Ald. Lambert asked if this is like start up money.

Mr. Ivers stated it is more like bridge like startup revolving funding until the \$750,000 drawn down and then they put working capital back into the budget.

Ald. Lambert asked he would administer this.

Mr. Ivers replied it would be Community Development and explained it is similar to the Community Block Grant they administer.

Motion carried unanimously.

8e. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Allocation Transfer No. 4. Motion carried unanimously.

8f. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Waiver of Bid to On Course Construction (OCC), 310 West Shephard Street, Hamden, CT in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 for the repair and reconstruction of sand traps at the Orchard Golf Course (per request of the Golf Commission dated 3/19/08).

Ald. Blacketter asked the reason for having a waiver of bid in this situation.

Mayor Richetelli replied there are several reasons stated in the letter from the Golf Commission as to why they have requested this waiver. He deferred to Mr. Worroll, Vice Chairman of the Commission.

Ald. Blacketter asked about the bidding process and commented it dates back to January.

Mr. Worroll stated there are several reasons. He stated this company has done work at the course before and that they did the renovation of the tees two years ago. He stated the company is also specific to golf course and that they are very familiar with the course. He also added their work has been spectacular. He explained the pricing. He also pointed out this is an enterprise fund and the money can only be spent on the golf course. He read a letter from the Chairman of the company that oversees the golf course.

Ald. Blacketter stated she is concerned about having a prescient without the bids. She stated she would like to see structured bids in the future. She also asked for an explanation regarding the type of green.

Ald. Toohey commented she has been the liaison to the Commission for the last three years. She spoke as to the importance of the company doing the work being familiar with the course especially if play has already started. She stated this is an enterprise fund and as such this Commission goes above and beyond to get the best for their work and the monies that the course earns goes into the City. She also commented she too is hard on single source bidding and that competitive bids are the way to go but time is of the essence, play has opened and this company is very familiar with the course. She reiterated this is an enterprise fund and it is not taxpayer money.

Ald. Lambert asked if this waiver was being considered because it is more beneficial because OCC is more competitive and due to the urgency.

Mr. Worroll responded OCC has the equipment to do the job as well as the knowledge of the course and that they did an unbelievable job on the tees previously. He stated they asked around and also relied on the management company for their recommendation. He stated they also want to make sure the golfers will also be able to use the course.

Ald. Vetro commented he has never been in favor of waiver of bids and that it is in the best interest of everyone to get other bids. He also stated he is sure they are not the only company that does sand traps.

Ald. Veccarelli commented he does not care if it is an enterprise fund and that he looks at it from the taxpayers' standpoint. He also commented it appeared the Committee had done their homework and that he appreciates

that. He stated if he were doing a project at home he certainly would look at several and that his waiver of bid was hard to swallow but the Committee has saved money and quality people to do the job. He stated he could fully support this.

Ald. Ditchkus commented this Committee could have circumvented the process and this Board would not even be talking about this tonight. He asked how much taxpayer money was being spent.

Mr. Worroll replied very little and that it is money spent by the management company.

Ald. Nunno requested a 5-minute recess.

The Board recessed at 9:03 p.m. Chairman Blake reconvened the Board at 9:14 p.m.

By roll call vote, motion carried 9 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Manning, Toohey, Veccahrelli, Vitali, Willey) and 5 no (Blake, Lambert, Nunno, Patterson, Vetro).

8g. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the request to authorize the Purchasing Agency and/or the Police Chief to sell/dispose of the following obsolete and unusable items (per request of the Police Chief dated March 31, 2008): 1. five (5) ton truck and 2. Mako 17' boat, trailer, motor.

Chairman Blake inquired as to the 17' boat and trailer and asked if it was seized in a lobster poaching sting.

Chief Mello responded it was his understanding it was a drug seizure.

Chairman Blake stated he would recuse himself from this vote as he could see himself bidding on this. Motion carried 13 yes and 1 recuse (Blake).

8h. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve the request to authorize the Mayor and the Director of Health to sign the attached Contract Agreement between the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the City of Milford in the amount of \$15,000 for Accreditation Preparation and Quality Improvement Demonstration Sites Project grant and to authorize the Mayor and Director of Health to take all steps necessary to effectuate the acceptance of these funds and the implementation of this project. The Board of Aldermen further authorizes and directs the Director of Finance to create an account to deposit the proceeds of this grant and account for the disbursement of funds out of this account to pay for the ongoing implementation and operation of this program. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to re-order the agenda and bring forward items 12a1-6. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Patterson reported the Ordinance Committee met this evening prior to this Board's meeting and voted unanimously for forward to the full Board items 12a1-6.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to waiver the reading of the Ordinance in its entirety. Motion carried unanimously.

12a-1. Ald. Patterson and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve an Ordinance Amending an Ordinance appropriating \$12,937,000 for various school improvements and authorizing the issuance of \$12,937,000 bonds of the City to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose.

Ald. Willey asked if there was anyone that could address this.

Chairman Blake noted Mr. Silver and Mr. Russell were present as well as other members of the Committee.

Mr. Russell introduced himself along with Mr. Silver from Silver Petrucelli Architects.

Ald. Willey stated he had a question regarding the science labs. He noted it was far in excess of the estimate and asked why it is so much noting it seems like a lot of money for the project.

Mr. Russell stated the Building Committee in charge of this project did a great service to the taxpayers last year by waiting until this year. He stated they received a more favorable bid saving nearly \$2,000,000.

Mr. Silver spoke as to the program team made up of educators and administrators. He explained the history of these improvements and structural elements. He stated they were going from 8 science labs to 10 classrooms and went on to explain the costs.

Ald. Willey asked if we could expect these to last.

Mr. Silver explained the construction stating they were being built with heavy construction. He also spoke as to value engineering ideas and having systems that will last for 25-30 years.

Ald. Blacketter asked if these efficiency improvements to the building such as airflow.

Mr. Silver explained their need to meet the current codes as they make the improvements. He explained the code regarding air handling/volumes. He also commented the Building Committee also concerned with alternative energy sources. He spoke as to the pool at Foran, which is ideal for heat recovery. He stated the Building Committee also approved future energy piping throughout the school and explained how that would work.

Motion carried unanimously.

12a-2 Ald. Vetro and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to waive the reading of the motion in its entirety. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Patterson and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve an Ordinance amending an Ordinance appropriating \$3,300,000 for the east/west interceptor replacement and authorizing the issuance of \$3,300,000 bonds of the City to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose.

Ald. Ditchkus commented the east/west interceptor is along West Avenue and controls 2/3 of the City. He stated if this should fail, then 2/3 of the City would have a problem.

Mayor Richetelli explained 2/3 of the City's sewage flows through east and 2/3 to west pump station.

Ald. Ditchkus in follow up asked about odor control in that area.

Mayor Richetelli stated that is in a future bond.

Chairman Blake noted there were several individuals present tonight and asked if they would come forward to give some background.

Mr. Cooper provided some background information concerning the Housatonic plant.

Chairman Blake asked specifically about the east/west.

Mr. Cooper explained a testing and teething was done of that entire area as well as the manholes, which he stated, is badly eroded. He explained the process.

Mr. Macaluso stated he wished to clarify this was put out to bid to the contract a year ago. He also responded to previous comments that yes, it does take 60% of the sewage through that gravity line. He explained the locations and the bid process and how they arrived here tonight. He stated they were here for that additional money. He also explained there would be a PVC pipe installed which they hoped would last 100 years.

Ald. Giannattasio commented he is liaison to the Sewer Commission and urged the Board to pass this bonding package. He stated it is environmental sensitive and could have a huge environmental impact on the City.

Ald. Ditchkus asked about recent problems they had when they went to tie-in.

Mr. Macaluso responded yes, it was then they found out about the condominium project on West Avenue when they went to tie-in and found deteriorations. He also commented the bonding of this project would also help control the odor problem.

Motion carried unanimously.

12a-3. Ald. Toohey and Ald. Vetro made and seconded a motion to waive the reading of the motion in its entirety. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Patterson and Ald. Dithkus made and seconded a motion to approve an Ordinance appropriating \$1,440,000 bonds for various school improvements and authorizing the issuance of \$1,440,000 bonds of the City of Milford to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose. Motion carried unanimously.

12a-4. Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to waive the reading of the motion in its entirety. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Patterson and Ald. Lambert made and seconded a motion to approve an Ordinance appropriating \$3,025,000 for replacement of the Buckingham Avenue force main and authorizing the issuance of \$3,025,000

bonds of the City to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose.

Chairman Blake asked Mr. Macaulso if he could provide a thumbnail sketch of this project.

Mr. Macaulso explained Buckingham Avenue over the last three years there has been three breaks. He continued with an explanation as to the pipes and any environmental impact.

Ald. Bier asked if the same contractor was doing the same type of work.

Mr. Macaulso explained all jobs go out to bid. He stated when authorized they would do the survey, flagging design and put it out to bid.

Ald. Bier asked if they could have bid these projects together.

Mr. Macaulso responded the east/west interceptor project was already put out to bid and this is a whole new project.

Motion carried unanimously.

12a-5. Ald. Toohey and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to waive the reading of the Ordinance in its entirety. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Patterson and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve an Ordinance amending an Ordinance appropriating \$64,500,000 for the planning, acquisition and construction of improvements to the Wastewater Facilities of the City of Milford and authorizing the issuance of \$64,500,000 bonds or notes of the City to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose.

Ald. Ditchkus commented this project went out to bid a number of years ago and again they are requesting an increase in the project due to escalating costs. He asked if there were other delays that caused this.

Mayor Richetelli replied there have been delays and explained the lengthy history.

Ald. Ditchkus asked if the City did not complete these projects and upgrades if they would be penalized by DEP. He also asked about odor control at the east/west interceptor.

Mayor Richetelli stated he would defer to the experts present tonight. He also commented the sewer system is the most important piece of the City's infrastructure next to our roads. He stated if our sewer system fails we would have a huge problem. He continued the sewer system is old and needs to be repaired and that they need to be responsible and continue to upgrade and repair. He also responded, yes they could be subject to fines. He also stated this project does include odor control at our sewage plants. He stated here tonight are Ken Bradstreet from Earth Tech and that Westcott and Mapes is the consultant to the City on this project.

Mr. Bradstreet stated he is the project manager and responded to an earlier question concerning odor control, stating it would be put in at both plants. He explained in detail the process for this procedure. He also commented these projects were identified in 2001.

Chairman Blake commented he was happy to hear Welch's Point Road mentioned.

Ald. Willey stated this Board approved this project several years ago and now it has increased to \$28,000,000. He asked if that is strictly the time or if more work was being done.

Mr. Bradstreet replied there was some increase in scope, but the major portion of the increase in monies was due to escalating fuel costs as well as equipment, etc.

Ald. Willey commented the rate of inflation is about 7-½% noting the components are rising more rapidly than the economy.

Ald. Blacketter asked how demand is decided and also where the information is that set context of size, criteria, etc.

Mr. Bradstreet stated they are looking 20 years into the future. He explained they use existing population counts and project for future projects.

Ald. Blacketter asked about safety factors and margin on capacity.

Mr. Bradstreet replied the DEP set the rules.

Ald. Veccharelli asked if the capacity at either of the facilities would increase.

Mr. Bradstreet replied yes. He explained the study projecting 20 years into the future.

Ald. Veccharelli spoke as to the downtown area that was expanded and spoke as to some of the businesses that were unable to open because of sewer capacity. He stated he wanted to make sure with the money this Board is spending and the potential for more growth that they would be able to handle this for 15 years to come.

Mr. Bradstreet stated they have projected for 20-25 years into the future.

Mr. Macaulso added there are 18 manholes repairs alone on Old Gate Lane. He stated with regard to the downtown projects they are looking at those plans.

Chairman Blake asked if the pipes would last 100 years and asked if there would come a time when they would be pipe less.

Ald. Vetro stated he is liaison to the Public Works Commission and he would like to invite any aldermen to a tour of the sewage treatment facility on April 29, 2008.

Motion carried unanimously.

12a1-6 Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to waive the reading of the motion in its entirety. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Patterson and Ald. Ditchkus made and seconded a motion to approve an Ordinance appropriating \$4,275,000 for various public improvements and authorizing the issuance of \$4,275,000 bonds of the City to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose.

Ald. Manning stated she would like to discuss several items in this. She stated the first would be the police department. She noted the police chief was present and asked if he could answer some of the questions. Ald. Manning asked for a summary of the software updates and how they would benefit the public and safety of our officers.

Chief Mello explained the cost of replacing the entire software – CAP/IRS and continued with a background of the department and explained the program. He also spoke as to the number of records they have and how they are maintained as well as calls received. He also spoke as to some of the options and stated they are looking at several platforms, which they will study. He also commented regarding the conversion of millions of records.

Ald. Blacketter inquired if there would be a reduction of redundant handling and if there would be any labor savings.

Chief Mello explained the database if available to officers in the field. He explained the benefits as well as improvements and that they would be able to have access to those records/data. He also noted a savings on the clerical side.

Chairman Blake asked if they would be able to reduce their clerical staff with this system in place.

Chief Mello replied they would still have to process reports, etc.

Ald. Vetro stated he is a recent graduate of the First Citizen's Academy. He stated he and Ald. Toohey attended the class and learned quite a bit. He stated he saw first hand the needs of this department and that he is in favor of this and will vote for this.

Ald. Willey asked if \$784,000 is the cost.

Chief Mello responded it represents the high end from the vendors as well as hardware. He also spoke as to the costs of converting the data, some of which goes back to the 1980's.

Ald. Willey asked if there were annual licensing fees.

Chief Mello responded yes. He spoke as to having one vendor to accomplish as much as possible.

Ald. Willey asked about cost savings anywhere else.

Chief Mello explained support costs would actually be higher. He stated they could save on support costs based on the components.

Mayor Richetelli commented they would expect savings if this were a brand new system. He stated they are replacing a system close to 20 years old. He reiterated they are not getting new equipment.

Chief Mello also noted they are not going from paper to a computer. He stated they would continue to do what they are doing, but would be doing it better. He also added because of the age of the equipment, some of it is failing and needs to be replaced.

Ald. Patterson asked if the \$800,000 would cover the servers.

Chief Mello replied yes.

Ald. Patterson asked how they would support that system and also about maintenance.

Chief Mello stated they still have to replace these systems even though they may be supported.

Ald. Lambert asked about integration with the City.

Chief Mello explained the system they are looking at is one that can do dual dispatch with police and fire. He stated this software would allow that.

Ald. Blacketter asked about functionality and if there would be some reduction in work.

Chief Mello responded it would be minimal but it would help with efficiency.

Ald. Bier asked about the Building Department.

Mayor Richetelli deferred to J. Lasczak, MIS Coordinator.

Ald. Bier asked about the land use permitting package and how that would help that department.

Ms. Lasczak responded it is not specifically for the Building Department. She explained it is an enterprise permitting system and would affect several departments including Engineering, Planning and Zoning as well as any department that issues permits. She stated it is an enterprise solution for all the departments affected by a permitting process.

Mayor Richetelli added the intent was to structure the land use process in the City. He stated it could tie in with all land use agencies. He explained the route one would take in obtaining any type of permit and the benefits would be the permitting process could also be on-line, which is the ultimate goal of all of these departments.

Chairman Blake asked about the City Historian and if he had been involved in this and is his office would be integrated.

Ms. Lasczak explained any aspect of the permitting process would be taken into consideration. She added the consulting firm would do an analysis.

Ald. Blacketter asked if when developing this plan they looked at cost effectiveness and possibly eliminating positions or cost savings, possibly due to attrition. She also commented the Mayor had asked all departments to hold the line and that this really is a matter if we can afford this and since we are in a recession and people are struggling, can we really do this.

Ms. Lasczak stated this project was the result of the demand of the public to automate the process for better service for these departments. She stated the hope is that it will increase productivity and reiterated this really is a public service so the public is not bounced from department to department. She also commented regarding more mobile inspection processes within the field.

Ald. Blacketter asked how these departments currently do their reports, i.e. excel spreadsheet.

Ms. Lasczak explained the network currently in place throughout the City. She also spoke as to how many people they process permits for which is all paper based.

Chairman Blake asked about an efficiency study to see if there could possibly to staff reductions.

Ms. Lasczak stated it would be her recommendation to do this as soon as possible.

Chairman Blake asked if this could be ready before the May budget vote.

Ms. Lasczak responded this is very labor intensive and would take time. She stated she did not know if the timeframe would work for this budget.

Ald. Veccharelli asked about consulting services for \$48,000 and if that would include training any of the personnel and if they would be responsible for training the people.

Ms. Lasczak explained they are doing a needs analysis and discussing with the businesses the process and to improve the business process. She stated they are not designing a system, but making a recommendation. She also explained some of the research she conducted from other towns.

Ald. Veccharelli spoke as to fiscal constraints and stated he wanted to make sure the taxpayers would benefit from this. He also spoke as to the number of departments that could possibly access information and if this would make things easier for the people.

Ms. Lasczak responded that is what their hope is. She stated this is also the hope of every department. She reiterated this is what the public is looking for with regard to the permitting process. Ms. Lasczak also commented this would take and that they needed to do it right.

Ald. Veccharelli thanked Ms. Lasczak and stated he appreciated her efforts.

Ald. Toohey asked she wished to clarify that what Ms. Lasczak says is that there will be a gain to the taxpayers because this system will be able to talk to each department. She also wanted to be clear this would also be a help to the City as it could help to generate funds to those various departments.

Ms. Lasczak explained they are trying to streamline the process and properly manage the system and make it easier for the taxpayer. She stated the current system is very convoluted and the taxpayer is required to go through many departments. She stated it could be more effective if they are able to pull all these departments together.

Ald. Veccharelli spoke personally as to a permit he needed to obtain and the time involved with so many departments. He expressed his hope this system could help to alleviate the taxpayer from running department to department and that it would certainly be money well spent.

Mayor Richetelli added the goal is to make the system easier for our citizens.

Ald. Lambert asked if this was a suggestion of the State Building Official.

Mayor Richetelli responded the State Building Official emphasized customer service and that he did not get into software or streamlining service.

Ald. Veccharelli asked if MIS manages the website. He stated he would like to see all the departments along with the Boards and Commissions on that website.

Chairman Blake stated they have addressed software in this Ordinance, but there is also a request from the Finance Department and MIS upgrade technology. He asked if that could be explained and if that would offset the 2008-2009 budget.

Ms. Lasczak stated some capital items were not included in her budget but are included in this technology upgrade in MIS. She spoke as to the voice mail system upgrade and stated this is new and not an upgrade. She explained they currently have a lease from AT&T to maintain on a month-to-month basis. She stated this would replace that functionality in-house. She stated the system is being obsolete and support becoming less and less.

Chairman Blake asked if the money being spent is offset in next year's budget.

Ms. Lasczak stated they looked at it over a 5-year plan. She stated a rented plan would cost \$51,810 and a new system \$72,816. She explained they would put out \$20,000 but it would bring in-house new technology and support. She stated they would have control, but at a cost of \$20,000.

Chairman Blake asked if this is offset in next year' budget.

Ms. Lasczak stated it would depend if it were approved. She stated it is currently budgeted out of the Mayor's account and would then come out of that.

Mayor Richetelli explained there would be a time period if approve for purchase and then implementation, training, etc.

Ms. Lasczak spoke as to the IBM/AS 400 "I-Series" for the city and police side. He stated this was last upgraded in 2002. She explained the system would not support the existing model they currently have.

Ald. Blacketter asked if the phone system costs include in the lease agreement maintenance, changing passwords, etc.

Ms. Lasczak responded all software they have has a lease. She explained the password re-set.

Ald. Blacketter asked the cost of labor.

Ms. Lasczak responded it would be absorbed in her department.

Ald. Patterson asked about the upgrades in 2002 and why the fire department was not done then.

Ms. Lasczak responded the fire department's system would support version 6.1.

Ald. Veccharelli addressed the voice mail system regarding the 175 users and asked if that could be increased in the future if needed.

Ms. Lasczak stated she believed the cost would be \$85.00 per box to do that.

Ald. Veccharelli asked about the exchange server for email and if they currently have one.

Ms. Lasczak responded they currently have three separate exchange servers, one for police, fire and the core server in MIS and that all are routed through MIS. She stated they would be looking at mirrored systems and explained how that would work. She also noted the police department would have security restrictions.

Ald. Veccharelli asked about one exchange server with separate functionalities.

Ms. Lasczak reiterated they have a mirrored system and redundant systems that bottleneck with 3 systems to communicate with one another.

Chairman Blake thanked Ms. Lasczak and moved onto the Finance Department Financial System. He asked how that would save the City money and possibly reduce the labor force in the City.

Ms. Doneiko referred to the Board to the justification sheets in the package. She explained the system requested and the Microsoft based program. She spoke as to the ability to generate special reports that is currently is restricted from doing. She also commented that most communities in the State are switching to this Microsoft based system and that we are behind in not doing this. She stated having this system would help to eliminate little pockets of time in many departments, but not necessary work force.

Chairman Blake asked if it would be able to send monthly aldermanic reports digitally and if possibly the workforce could be reduced there.

Ms. Doneiko stated they would have to design a system and the savings would really be to paper.

Ald. Willey asked the name of the system.

Ms. Doneiko replied New World System, which is specific to government systems.

Ald. Williey asked if the actual cost to switch is \$245,000.

Ms. Doneiko addressed the cost and what it includes with a lengthy explanation.

Ald. Veccharelli asked if they would still be on a mainframe.

Ms. Doneiko responded no, they would be on servers.

Ald. Veccharelli asked if they would consider connecting with MIS.

Ms. Doneiko replied their current software is on MIS/AS 400, but it limited.

Ald. Veccharelli asked Ms. Doneiko if she has spoken with MIS and if this were the type of server they would take care of.

Ms. Doneiko replied they would need additional servers and they would be located in MIS area.

Ald. Veccharelli commented the Finance Department is one of the busiest in the City especially when you need facts and figures immediately. He stated it seems they don't have the tools to do what they need to do and this program seems very reasonable and will help make the City of Milford work even better.

Ms. Doneiko responded it would benefit all the departments and explained how this would affect those departments.

Ald. Blacketter asked if Ms. Doneiko could highlight performance measures and also asked if a lot of redundancy could be eliminated.

Ms. Doneiko responded people would be able to function on what they should. She stated this would not result in a reduction of personnel, but reiterated they would focus on what they needed.

Ald. Manning asked about Parsons and City Hall improvements. She asked for an explanation of the renovations of 20 years ago and also read the description regarding Parsons Complex.

Mayor Richetelli stated the Public Works Director is present. He stated the last renovations were completed in 1987. He explained last year they started with a 5-year phase in of doing improvements. He stated both buildings, especially Parsons get a tremendous amount of use. He explained the replacement last year in Parsons. Mayor Richetelli stated this year they wished to concentrate on the two things listed in the agenda, stairs, ramps and brickwork. He stated the building is not built to code and also they have had a number of slip and fall cases. He also stated the repairs were being done for safety reasons. He also explained they plan to continue to replace the HVAC units on both building. He stated there are 13 at Parsons and 4 at City Hall. He stated the skylights on both sides of the building both leak and over the clock tower. He stated he recognized it could not all be done at once, but there would be a phase 2 over 5 years which they hope to continue.

Ald. Blacketter asked about the carpeting and why not in the capital request.

Mayor Richetelli explained the carpeting needs to be replaced and that some of it is coming up and is tearing and is a trip hazard. He reiterated the stairs, roofs, and carpeting all need to be done.

Ald. Veccharelli noted it is \$500,000 worth of work to be done and began reading the requests. He stated he did not see anything that has to do with safety and asked if someone could elaborate.

Mayor Richetelli responded the stairs that lead to the auditorium are the original stairs built when the school was built and they are not built to code. He also stated because they are uneven they have caused people to slip and fall. He spoke with regard to the carpeting and stated it is pulling and tearing and is a trip hazard. He stated something that is 20 years old need to be replaced and spoke as to the importance of keeping up with our buildings.

Ald. Veccharelli stated he sees the stairs are not up to code, but they need to cut costs and they have to prioritize and cut costs. He stated they have to find some ways to save money. He stated he felt this is really something that could wait.

Mayor Richetelli stated it was put into this year's projects because of the claims reported to him by the City Attorney and City's Risk Manager. He stated there are people that use those stairs every day and they have had a number of slip and falls, one of which included a pregnant woman.

Chairman Blake asked the specific cost of the stairs.

Mayor Richetelli deferred to the Public Works Director.

Mr. Kolwicz spoke as to the ADA and that they do not currently have a way to have some of the people leave the building. He also stated they needed to put in the proper railings. Mr. Kolwicz also stated there have been a number of slip and falls and also there are exposed areas. He spoke as to the \$200,000 for the stairs and also reminded the Board that none of the mortar joints have ever been touched in that building in 50 years. He stated currently they are rebuilding the chimney that houses the boilers. He also noted, he has only one mason in his department so that it why this must go out to bid. He also pointed out if there were to be a fire in the Parsons, the physically challenged people must go to a holding area and wait to be rescued.

Chairman Blake asked if they looked at getting the stairs funded through an ADA grant.

Mr. Kolwicz responded only a portion of it.

Chairman Blake asked about reimbursement.

Mayor Richetelli asked if he was referring to the handicapped ramp on the stage.

Chairman Blake responded he was referring to the library.

Mr. Kolwicz stated they are always looking to get grants and also work with the Block Grant People.

Ald. Vetro asked if they have announced or publicized what roads will be resurfaced. He stated people want to know.

Mr. Kolwicz stated this was discussed at Public Works and that the list they have is only an outline.

Chairman Blake stated it was his understanding from the Public Works Director that the list would be available before spring and published in the newspaper.

Mr. Kolwicz stated all press releases to through the Mayor's Office.

Ald. Veccharelli spoke as to Parson's and commented it looks like there is a ramp there and it appears to be handicapped compliant.

Mr. Kolwicz stated it is the exterior of the building to the left of the auditorium. He stated as a point of information you have to access that stage from the interior.

Ald. Veccharelli replied the handicapped could safely exit the building.

Mr. Kolwicz responded if the elevator were to go down, those challenged individuals have been told to go to a holding area and that there is a call box there. He stated this would present a problem in the event of a fire. He spoke as to the ramp from the 2nd floor out.

Chairman Blake asked if the \$200,000 was for the stairs in the front and the ramp.

Ald. Ditchkus commented it was his understanding this all came about because of safety concerns and the number of slip and falls and holding area.

Mr. Kolwicz stated this building has reached that stage and reiterated this building has not been touched in 25 years.

Ald. Toohey commented there has been talk over the last few years that some areas are not ADA compliant and it is her understanding here tonight this work will go towards that.

Mr. Kolwicz replied they are as compliant as they can be right now.

Ald. Ditchkus asked about exposure now that they are aware of all of this and this Board fails to do make the repairs and then there is a slip and fall.

Attorney Lipton commented choices had to be made to put together a budget and either fix it or close the auditorium. She stated they are on notice for the defects of the stairs and the legal duty would be to make the stairs safe.

Ald. Veccharelli asked about handicapped accessibility from the second floor.

Mr. Kolwicz explained they are not limited to people just in wheelchairs, but people who are physically challenged in other ways.

Ald. Veccharelli asked if he was saying that currently there is no way to get someone down from the 2nd floor without the elevator.

Mr. Kolwicz replied a ramp would make it easier to get in and out of the building.

Ald. Manning asked about the downtown streetscape and where the shortfall is.

Mayor Richetelli explained the lamplight project started several years ago and that there was not enough for brickwork, sidewalk and electrical conduit.

Ald. Manning asked if the re-surfacing is a municipal lot.

Mr. Kolwicz responded the entire lot is a City of Milford lot with the exception of a small strip by Harborwalk. He stated it would also encompass the small road off Helwig Street.

Ald. Manning commented her concern would be throwing money into this with the prospect of some demo work being done.

Mr. Kolwicz explained the process of the work to be done which he stated is similar to the Shipyard Lane work.

Ald. Manning asked if this work is the recommendation of the Public Works Director that it has to be done and if there would be any harm to the lot or businesses in not doing it.

Mr. Kolwicz responded this has been put off for 10 years. He also stated the catch basin needs to be re-built and that some are very deep. He also noted in the middle of the lot there is a depression and that really the work is a matter of safety. He also noted on the weekends and nights that lot is full and is really an accident waiting to happen.

Mayor Richetelli commented he has had discussions with the private property owners and they would do the work while we are doing it. He added the downtown area is a great renaissance and that in the past decade the stores in the downtown area have brought 100,000 people to visit our downtown on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. He stated that lot and Fowler Field are the two lots that people park in and that they have waited as long as possible to wait. He also stated if the City wants to continue to attract people to the downtown area it has to be attractive. He also commented this is a quality of life and that they should do it right and be proud of our downtown.

Ald. Vetro asked for a 5-minute recess.

The Board recessed at 11:55 p.m. Chairman Blake reconvened the Board at 12:13 a.m.

Ald. Manning and Ald. Nunno made and seconded a motion to amend 121-6 to \$200,000 specifically for the stairs/ramp and further save \$247,500 regarding the downtown streetscape/lighting.

Ald. Ditchkus asked about the contingency and interest.

Chairman Blake asked if the actual amount \$200,000 or \$220,000.

Ald. Vitali questioned the motion. He stated at the Ordinance Committee meeting earlier this evening and created this Ordinance. He questioned whether this Board could create a new Ordinance without going back to public session.

Mayor Richetelli stated he would respectfully request a legal opinion.

Ms. Doneiko stated she was not clear what the motion was and asked for clarification if the motion was to reduce by \$330,000 so \$220,000 is reflected and only the stairs and steps were reflected and then do away with \$247,500. She also asked if the new amount includes financing and the contingency.

Chairman Blake asked Ald. Manning to confirm the intent of her motion.

Ald. Manning stated she wished to make a motion in the amount of \$200,000 for the project to do the ramp and stairs, plus contingency.

Ms. Doneiko stated they also needed to include financing, therefore would be looking at \$240,000.

Chairman Blake stated they were waiting for a legal opinion and also a total.

Ald. Vitali commented in order to create an Ordinance it must go through public hearing and reiterated his earlier question as to whether it should go back for public hearing if this Board amends the total dollars.

Attorney Lipton stated the title advertised is “an Ordinance Appropriating \$4,275,000 for various public improvements and authorizing the issuance of \$4,275,000 bonds of the City to meet said appropriation and pending the issuance thereof the making of the temporary borrowings for such purpose.” She stated she believed with the amount being modified it would have to go back because the actual amount is being modified. She also commented this Ordinance is specific to an amount; therefore she believed it may have to be re-noticed.

Chairman Blake stated he respectfully disagrees.

Ald. Veccharelli commented they could have changed this on the Committee level, but decided to bring it to the entire Board. He stated it was his believe this has been done this way in the past and he felt they have done nothing wrong. He also noted he stated in Committee that this would be looked at by the full Board and now they have to send this back to Committee because the City Attorney has ruled.

Ald. Veccharelli and Ald. Nunno made and seconded a motion to table this.

Mayor Richetelli stated if the Board chooses to do this they would be waiting another month for the bidding process.

Chairman Blake stated he would entertain a special meeting with revised Ordinance perhaps tweaking the Ordinance and perhaps even dividing out some of the items. He stated this Board would meet sometime prior to the next meeting.

Attorney Lipton spoke as to a situation she recalled where there was a request for change. She spoke as to the bond and appropriation and credit, which could be at issue. She stated she would prefer to air on the side of caution and consult with bond counsel.

By roll call vote, the motion to table carried 8 yes (Blacketter, Blake, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Veccharelli, Vetro) and 6 no (Bier, Ditchkus, Giannattasio, Toohey, Vitali, Willey).

8i. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Case Advance for Various School Improvements – Foran High School/Schools Security – 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

8j. Chairman Blake stated with regard to this item he was using his prerogative as the Chairman to renew this item.

Ald. Ditchkus suggested it would be wise to table this item.

Ald. Ditchkus and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to table item 8j. Motion carried unanimously.

8k. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Cash Advance for Replacement of the Buckingham Avenue Force Main. Motion carried unanimously.

8l. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Cash Advance for Various School Improvements. Motion carried unanimously.

8m. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: Cash Advance for Wastewater Facilities Improvements. Motion carried unanimously.

8n. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for Resolution Re: East/West Interceptor Replacement. Motion carried unanimously.

8o. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve the request for the use of Eisenhower Park for the 37th Annual Engine 260 Antique Fire Apparatus Show and Muster on September 6, 2008 (rain date September 7, 2008) and further permission is requested for Engine 260 organizers to camp at the Park from August 30, 2008 through September 7, 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

8p. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve request for Resolution Re: Amendment to State of Connecticut Department of Social Services Human Services Contract. Motion carried unanimously.

9. New Business not on the Agenda which may be introduced by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting.

None.

10. Budget Memo Transfers:

- a. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfer #13, Fund 10, FY 2007-2008.

Ald. Manning asked about the building repairs in the amount of \$17,500 and fire station repairs for \$17,500 and the difference.

Chairman Blake asked if the Finance Director could explain exactly what 10a covers.

Ms. Doneiko explained these are the accounts that had funding going into the accounts for transfer #14. She stated these are the transfers out and transfer #14 are the accounts that are received.

Chairman Blake noted the Chief was present and if he could provide details.

Chief LaVecchia explained the capital repairs.

Ald. Blacketter stated a number of the items were general and regular funds and if he could explain. She also asked if this is an advance to next year.

Chief LaVecchia explained these two stations are over 60 years old and have had no repairs. He stated he asked for these during the budget process and they were cut. He stated these repairs are sorely needed at these stations.

Ald. Blacketter asked if he was speaking to such items as bedding, etc.

Chief LaVecchia explained most of those items were not purchased at all or they were used elsewhere.

Ald. Vetro asked about the sign.

Chief LaVecchia responded it is letters for the apparatus and letters for the new inflatable.

Ald. Vetro asked about the \$13,000 on the transfer for the cell phone.

Chief LaVecchia replied they were adding to that account.

Ald. Vetro asked about station chairs.

Chief LaVecchia stated that request came from Station 6 that they were in need of chairs.

Ald. Vetro asked if it was budgeted.

Chief LaVecchia replied no.

Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Budget Memo Transfer #14, Fund 10, FY 2007-2008. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Refunds:

- a. Ald. Vetro and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to approve Consideration of Refunds in the amount of \$70,913.67. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Report of Standing Committees:

- a. Ordinance Committee – Ald. Patterson reported the Committee met on March 31, 2008 regarding Senior Tax Relief and voted unanimously to forward to the full Board their recommendation.

Ald. Toohey and Ald. Vetro made and seconded a motion to waive the reading of the motion in its entirety. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Patterson and Ald. Toohey made and seconded a motion to approve an Ordinance amending §20.5-6 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Milford (Real Estate Property Tax Relief for Qualified Elderly and Totally Disabled Persons) forwarded to the Board of aldermen upon recommendations of the Ordinance Committee after Public Hearing on March 31, 2008.

Ald. Ditchkus commented he believed there should be a sunset provision on this. He stated he would like to see this as a pilot program and review it after a year. He also stated he wanted to make sure the neediest of the needy people. He stated it is important they look carefully at this program. He also spoke as to the baby boomers coming up and that this program could just continue to escalate. Ald. Ditchkus asked the Chairman to set up a committee to continue to review this program adding this proposal is like an unfunded mandate. He reiterated this be a 1-year pilot program and set up a committee. He stated this was in the form of a motion. Ald. Toohey seconded the motion.

Ald. Willey stated they are discussing a motion that came out of Committee and asked if there is someone this Board could ask questions of. He asked who drafted this motion.

Chairman Blake replied the Ordinance Committee Chairman and City Attorney drafted it.

Ald. Willey stated there were people who came today and spoke about possible deferment of taxes.

Ald. Patterson responded he could not speak for the Committee and that he could not address that.

Chairman Blake stated he attended most of the meetings and stated they did address that and Mr. Amato did say there are some things the City could possibly address in the future such as residence, revenue, etc.

Ald. Willey stated he supported this but felt it could have a graduated scale. He expressed his hope another committee would be appointed to moderate how this is going and if it needs to be tweaked.

Ald. Veccharelli stated there were some suggestions made during public session. He also pointed out this Board was advised if a lien was put on the property after 15 years if nothing is done we don't collect the money and there is no lien.

Ald. Blacketter stated she is the liaison to this Committee and what she observed from this Committee was that they were looking at many options, but were forced against time restraints. She also stated it was discussed that the program be discussed but that it was consistent as to what the folks were saying.

Ald. Ditchkus stated he is not against the Senior Tax Relief Program, but without a provision within the Ordinance he stated he just could not support it the way it is especially knowing long term that it could cost the City in the long run. He reiterated he believed this would need to be revisited and stated that in all likelihood that would not happen and referred to another Ordinance this Board was to have revisited but never did.

By roll call vote, motion carried 13 yes (Bier, Blacketter, Blake, Giannattasio, Hardiman, Lambert, Manning, Nunno, Patterson, Toohey, Veccharelli, Vetro, Vitali, Willey) and 1 no (Ditchkus).

b. Public Safety and Welfare Committee – no report.

c. Public Works Committee – Ald. Vetro reported the Committee would meet on April 29, 2008.

d. Claims Committee – no report.

e. Rules Committee – no report.

f. Personnel Committee – no report.

13. Report of Special Committees:

a. Liaison Sub-Committee – Board of Education – no report.

b. Liaison Sub-Committee – Flood & Erosion Board – no report.

c. Liaison Sub-Committee – Park, Beach & Recreation Comm. – no report.

d. Liaison Sub-Committee – Planning & Zoning Board – no report.

e. Liaison Sub-Committee – Sewer Commission – no report.

f. Liaison Sub-Committee – Harbor Management Commission – no report.

g. Liaison – Council on Aging – no report.

h. Permanent School Facility Building Committee – no report.

i. Liaison Sub-Committee – Library Board – no report

j. Liaison Sub-Committee – Fowler Memorial building – no report.

k. Liaison Sub-Committee – Milford Redevelopment & Housing Partnership – no report.

l. Golf Course Commission – no report.

m. Inland Wetlands Agency – no report.

n. Milford Academy Community Campus Bldg. Committee – no report

o. Courthouse Expansion Committee – no report

Chairman Blake noted the presence of the City Attorney and asked her if she had had the opportunity to continue to research her earlier opinion and report back to this Board.

Attorney Lipton responded due to the very late hour she would provide a response tomorrow.

p. Liaison Health Department – Ald. Vitali report the next meeting would be held on April 17, 2008.

q. Education Funding Committee – no report.

14. Executive Session. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting is required for any item to be considered in executive session. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting is required to go into executive session.

The Chairman shall announce, in public session, those items to be covered in executive session and call for a vote to enter executive session. If a two-thirds (2/3) vote, to enter executive session, is obtained, the hall shall be cleared and executive session declared.

14a. Status report and consideration of settlement of Edward Jaser, et al v. City of Milford.
RE: 18 Rosemary Court

Chairman Blake stated he would entertain a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss item 14a. He stated going into Executive Session would be the full Board, the Mayor, City Attorney and City Assessor.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Lambert made and seconded a motion for the full Board to adjourn to Executive Session, along with those parties mentioned above.

Chairman Blake asked if this is a residential appeal.

Attorney Lipton responded yes.

Ald. Nunno stated he would be recusing himself from Executive Session and the vote due to a pending appeal on his assessment.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 12:51 a.m.

Ald. Toohey and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to come out of Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Blake reconvened the Board in Public Session at 12:55 a.m.

Ald. Vetro and Ald. Patterson made and seconded a motion to enter into settlement RE: Edward Jaser, et al. v. City of Milford in accordance with the recommendations of the City Attorney and City Assessor as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Ald. Paterson and Ald. Ditchkus moved to adjourn at 12:56 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber
Board Secretary