

SPECIAL MEETING – CITY COUNCIL

-APRIL 7, 2010-

A Special meeting of the Cranston City Council was held on WEDNESDAY, April 7, 2010 in the Cranston High School East Auditorium, 899 Park Ave., Cranston, Rhode Island.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Council President Lanni.

Roll Call showed the following members present: Councilmen Lupino, Aceto, Navarro, Archetto, Pelletier, Santamaria, Councilwoman Bergin-Andrews, Council Vice-President Livingston (appeared at 7:15 pm.) and Council President Lanni –9.

Also Present: Robin Muksian-Schutt, Director of Administration; Gerald Cordy, Deputy Director of Administration; Evan Kirshenbaum, Assistant City Solicitor; Robert Strom, Director of Finance; Pat Quinlan, City Council Legal Counsel.

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The City Clerk read the following:

AMENDED CALL

**CITY OF CRANSTON
BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING**

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

In Accordance with the Home Rule Charter and Section 6.08, I hereby call a special meeting of the City Council to be held on Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 7:00 p.m., in the Cranston High School East Auditorium, 899 Park Ave., Cranston, RI at which meeting the following items of business shall be transacted:

- Public Hearing relative to the Operating and Capital Budget for the City of Cranston for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011, Appropriation Ordinance, Capital Budget and Capital Improvement Program for the four (4) fiscal years thereafter, and Ordinance establishing salaries of officers and employees of the City of Cranston pursuant to Chapters 5 and 6 of the Home Rule Charter; Resolution levying and ordering the assessment and collection of a tax on ratable real estate and tangible personal property pursuant to Section 6.11 of the Home Rule Charter

I hereby request the City Clerk to notify all Council members of the Call of the special meeting.

Executed at Cranston, Rhode Island, this 1st day of April, 2010.

/s/ John E. Lanni, Jr., Council President

Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing-impaired must notify the Office of the City Clerk at 461-1000 Ext. 3197 seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the hearing date.”

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CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that a true copy of the attached Call of a special meeting of the City Council to be held on Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in the Cranston High School East Auditorium, 899 Park Ave., Cranston, R.I. was delivered via electronic mail on the 1st day of April, 2010 to the addresses listed below.

Council President John E. Lanni, Jr.
111 Woodview Dr.
Cranston, RI 02920
john.lanni@yahoo.com

Councilman Terence Livingston
28 Tucker Ave
Cranston, RI 02905
Terry@livingstonlaw.us

Councilman Anthony J. Lupino
15 Black Oak Court
Cranston, RI 02921
tlupino@cox.net

Councilman Emilio L. Navarro
61 Autumn St.
Cranston, RI 02910
Navarro_emilio@hotmail.com

Councilman Richard Santamaria
20 Burr St.
Cranston, RI 02920
Ritatj10@yahoo.com

Councilman Robert Pelletier
81 Laconia Rd.
Cranston, RI 02920
Rpelletier1@verizon.net

Councilman Mario Aceto
152 Locust Glen Dr.
Cranston, RI 02920
maceto@hess.com
maceto79@aol.com

Councilman Paul Archetto
359 Princess Ave.
Cranston, RI 02920
Parchetto@ccri.edu

Councilwoman Michelle Bergin-Andrews
280 Summit Dr.
Cranston, RI 02920
Michelle@andrewslawoffices.com

/s/ Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees

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Public Speakers:

Annette Bourne, 51 Community Dr., appeared to speak and asked that the Council support the School Committee adopted Budget.

Peter Patalano, 4 Evans Court, appeared to speak and stated that the City needs to cut spending and keep taxes down. Cut real money. We have approximately 100-200 out of City students, at approximately \$10,000 per student, that amounts to \$1 to \$2 million. He questioned why something can't be done about this. The Mayor and the City Council must see that the contracts are fair to the employees and to the taxpayers.

James Lucas, 33 Norman Ave., Cranston High School West Girls Tennis Coach, appeared to speak and stated that his concern is the kids, the students. He would like to know what the status is on the money that was to be donated to the Cranston Schools from the Charter School to support sports.

Barbara Malloy, 52 Briarcliffe Dr., appeared to speak and stated that the Council cannot raise taxes. She asked that they find other places to raise money and do not use kids as pawns. You can't bleed from a stone.

Anne Marie Cardi, 18 Fielding Rd., appeared to speak and stated that she does not want taxes raised.

Domenic Fusco, 167 Fiat Ave., appeared to speak and stated enough of the blame between the Council and School Committee. The people who are suffering are our children. Do what is fair.

Resident of 3 Hybrid Terrace appeared to speak and stated that a good education is important, but the residents of Cranston have just been through the worst flood disaster in the last 100 years and you can't ask people to pay more taxes. The School Committee has to realize that there are other taxpayers who do not get any benefit as the ones who have children in the schools.

Doloris Issler, 108 Eldridge St., appeared to speak and stated that the City has had a big loss in our tax base due to foreclosures and we went into our Rainy Day Fund last year. We need a change.

Kerry Kelleher, resident of Rutland St., appeared to speak and stated that the Council, the Mayor and the School Committee have to start working together consolidating departments. Stop pointing fingers at each other and find a plan.

Richard Tomlins, 400 Farmington Ave., appeared to speak and stated that in order for this City to go forward, financially for every taxpayer in the City, you have to keep it fair.

Jerry Trombetti, 636 Laurel Hill Ave., appeared to speak and stated that the way the economy is, this is the wrong time to raise taxes. People are living on a fixed income.

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Matt Sheridan, 32 Marion Ave., school teacher at Arlington School, appeared to speak and stated that he is also a landlord in the City and he has a hard time renting because of what is going on in the City.

Timothy Martin, 45 Cavalry St., appeared to speak and stated that his home is worth \$80,000 less than what his mortgage is. He cannot afford a tax increase. The Council cannot do this to the taxpayers in the City of Cranston. maybe it is time to cut positions throughout the City.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

Maria Medeiros Wall
City Clerk

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees

(See Stenographic Notes of Ron Ronzio, Stenotypist)