

SPECIAL MEETING – CITY COUNCIL

-JULY 3, 2007-

Special meeting of the City Council was held on Tuesday, July 3, 2007 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

The meeting was called to order at 4:40 P.M. by the Council President.

Roll Call showed the following members present: Councilmen Lanni, Lupino (appeared at 5:15 P.M.), Livingston, Navarro, Council Member Bucci (appeared at 5:00 P.M.), Councilmen Santamaria, Barone (appeared at 5:00 P.M.), Council Vice-President McFarland (appeared at 5:00 P.M.) and Council President Garabedian –9.

Also Present: Mayor Michael T. Napolitano; Ernest Carlucci, Director of Administration; Frank Migliorelli, Deputy Director of Administration; Vito Sciolto, City Solicitor; Pat Quinlan, City Council Legal Counsel; Steve Woerner, City Council Internal Auditor.

-JULY 3, 2007-

**CITY OF CRANSTON
RHODE ISLAND**

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

In Accordance with Section 3.07 of the Home Rule Charter and, Section 2.04.060 of the City Code, I hereby call a special meeting of the City Council to be held on

Tuesday, July 3, 2007 *4:30 P.M.
Council Chambers, City Hall
869 Park Ave.,
Cranston, RI. 02910

*Called by the Council President:

*4:30 P.M. – Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2):
IAFF, AFL-CIO Local 1363 Collective Bargaining Agreement

*Called by Council Majority:

*5:00 P.M. – Public Hearing and consideration for passage:
Ordinance 6S-07-1 Ratifying the IAFF (International Association of Fire Fighters) Contract, AFL-CIO Local Union 1363 (FY 2007-2010).

*Introduction of New Business

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

Executed at Cranston, Rhode Island, this 29th day of June, 2007.

/s/ Aram G. Garabedian, 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.”

-JULY 3, 2007-

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that a true copy of the attached Amended Call of a special meeting of the City Council to be held on Tuesday, July 3, 2007 at 4:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers, third floor, City Hall, 869 Park Ave., Cranston, R.I. was delivered via electronic mail on the 29th day of June, 2007 and regular mail, postage prepaid to the addresses listed below.

Council President Aram G. Garabedian
173 Belvedere Dr.
Cranston, RI 02920
Aram@blissproperties.net

Council Member Maria A. Bucci
117 Beechwood Dr.
Cranston, RI 02921
MarBC4@aol.com

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

Councilman Jeffrey P. Barone
16 Samuel Court
Cranston, RI
Jeffreyb22@cox.net

Councilwoman Paula B. McFarland
100 Pomham St.
Cranston, RI 02910
p_mcfarland@verizon.net

Councilman John E. Lanni, Jr.
111 Woodview Dr.
Cranston, RI 02920
jlanni@peterpanbus.com

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

/s/ Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk

-JULY 3, 2007-

On motion by Councilman Livingston, seconded by Councilman Navarro, it was voted to go into Executive Session. Motion passed on a vote of 5-0. The following being recorded as voting "aye": Councilmen Lanni, Livingston, Navarro, Santamaria and Council President Garabedian -5.

The meeting went into Executive Session at 4:42 P.M.

Present: Councilmen Lanni, Lupino (appeared at 5:15 P.M.), Livingston, Navarro, Council Member Bucci (appeared at 5:00 P.M.), Councilmen Santamaria, Barone (appeared at 5:00 P.M.), Council Vice-President McFarland (appeared at 5:00 P.M.) and Council President Garabedian; Mayor Michael T. Napolitano; Ernest Carlucci, Director of Administration; Frank Migliorelli, Deputy Director of Administration; Vito Sciolto, City Solicitor; Pat Quinlan, City Council Legal Counsel; Steve Woerner, City Council Internal Auditor; Chief Richard Delgado, Fire Department; Corsino Delgado, Director of Finance; Mike Igoe, City Controller; Attorney Fred Marzilli; Maria Medeiros Wall, City Clerk; Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees.

On motion by Council Member Bucci, seconded by Councilman Santamaria, it was voted to come out of Executive Session. Motion passed on a vote of 9-0. The following being recorded as voting "aye": Councilmen Lanni, Lupino, Livingston, Navarro, Council Member Bucci, Councilmen Santamaria, Barone and Council Vice-President McFarland and Council President Garabedian -9.

The meeting came out of Executive Session at 5:15 P.M.

On motion by Councilman Lanni, seconded by Councilman Santamaria, it was voted to seal the minutes of Executive Session. Motion passed on a vote of 7-1 with 1 abstention. The following being recorded as voting "aye": Councilmen Lanni, Livingston, Navarro, Council Member Bucci, Councilmen Santamaria, Barone and Council President Garabedian -7. The following being recorded as voting "nay": Council Vice-President McFarland -1. Councilman Lupino abstained.

6S-07-1 ORDINANCE RATIFYING THE IAFF (International Association of Fire Fighters) CONTRACT, AFL-CIO LOCAL UNION 1363 (FY 2007-2010).

Mayor Napolitano appeared to speak and stated that the Administration and the Union has reached a fair and equitable contract for the citizens of the City and the firefighters.

Some of the items agreed upon are:

- first time co-share
- 18 month pay increase freeze
- reduction of 3 paid holidays
- no increase in minimum staffing – first time ever.

Allan Fung, former Council Member, appeared to speak and stated that he is opposed to this contract. He disagrees that it is a fair and equitable to the taxpayers. On the financial side, the structuring of the 2% increase is actually an increase on a monthly basis and that has a compounding affect and has a great implication. As to the holidays, they are losing three days, but the City is giving up in return increases in costs. As to the healthcare, it is not on par with the Police. The contract does not have HSA and it does not address retirees having some kind of co-share for them. He questioned as to the cancer clause, how this contract is going to impact two cases that were pending when he was on the Council. He stated that what bothers him is that this contract gives up the Council's ability to organize City government, as stated in the Charter. He also questioned why this contract gives more to this union than to other unions in the City.

-JULY 3, 2007-

Paul Valetta, President of Local 1363 Firefighters Union, appeared to speak and stated that the firefighters have been working without a contract for one year now. The union sat down with this Administration with an open mind and they feel they have brought back a fair contract. They took an 18-month pay freeze. With the negotiations there will be approximately \$2 million left and there will be \$1,113,000 in next year's salary account. There will be no management rights taken away from the Council. There is no change in table of organization; changing minimum manning to minimum staffing was changed to make the whole contract gender neutral and that is the only reason. As to the cancer issue, State Law says, any cancer is an occupational issue to firefighters and that is what is being done in the contract. It is in the contract so it can be arbitrated. The structure of the raises is to save the City money. Yes, it will go into the final year's budget, but it is more of a savings than to get the raises upfront.

On motion by Council Vice-President McFarland, seconded by Council Member Bucci, it was voted to adopt the above Ordinance.

Under Discussion:

Councilman Lupino asked if the Council negotiated contracts with Police and Laborer's. Council President Garabedian stated that the Mayor has the power, per the Charter, to negotiate contracts. The Council met with the Mayor and gave their opinions and recommendations on those contracts.

Councilman Lanni thanked the Council President and the Administration for allowing the Council members to meet in Executive Session to discuss the contract and allowing the Council to make suggestions and give their input. He thinks it is a fair contract and urged ratification of this contract.

Council President Garabedian handed the gavel to Council Vice-President McFarland.

Council President Garabedian stated that he is concerned that this contract does not go far enough. He knows that concessions were made. This is a three year contract, but he questioned if \$424,000 in year 2011 would be taking us to a four year contract. He questioned if we would be obligating future Councils for this amount. According to his calculation, there will be a 9.4% increase in the period of time we are speaking of. As to the healthcare co-share, the \$10 a week for individual and \$20 a week for family plan is not enough. To him, this was one of the items that we should have made more progress on because the taxpayers of the City are very concerned about this issue. This is not fair to the average citizen of the City. For these reasons, he will be voting against this contract.

Roll call was taken on motion to adopt the above Ordinance and motion passed on a vote of 8-1. The following being recorded as voting "aye": Councilmen Lanni, Lupino, Livingston, Navarro, Council Member Bucci, Councilmen Santamaria, Barone and Council Vice-President McFarland -8. The following being recorded as voting "nay": Council President Garabedian -1.

-JULY 3, 2007-

INTRODUCTION OF NEW BUSINESS:

City Clerk read the following introduced items and the Committees and the date referred to for public hearing:

Finance Committee – July 12, 2007

- 7S-07-1 Ordinance transferring appropriations and amending the Budget for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007 (4th Quarter Transfers)**
7S-07-2 Ordinance amending the Budget for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008 (School System Appropriation).

Safety Services and Licensees Committee – August 6, 2007

- 7S-07-3 Ordinance in amendment of Title 5 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, entitled “Business Licenses and Regulations-Alcoholic Beverage Licenses” (Pub Crawl Prohibition).**

Mr. Valetta stated that there were two contracts. He questioned if both were ratified. City Clerk stated that the Ordinance adopted this evening states for Fiscal Year 2007-2010. There is only one contract covering the period of July 1, 2007, which is for fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, through June 30, 2010. Mr. Valetta stated that a separate contract for 2006-2007 should also have been ratified.

Council President Garabedian stated that an Ordinance ratifying the contract for 2006-2007 will have to be introduced and passed as soon as possible.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 P.M.

Maria Medeiros Wall, JD
City Clerk

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees

(See stenographic notes of Ron Ronzio, Stenotypist).