

SPECIAL MEETING – CITY COUNCIL

-NOVEMBER 24, 2003-

A Special meeting of the Cranston City Council was held on MONDAY, November 24, 2003 in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by the Council President.

Roll Call showed the following members present: Councilmen Fung, Jackvony, Councilwoman O’Hara, Council Member Fogarty, Councilwoman McFarland (appeared at 6:30 P.M.), Councilmen Ferolito, Lanni (appeared at 6:47 P.M.), McDonough and Council President Pastore –9.

Also Present: Paul Grimes, Director of Administration; Audit Committee Members Robert Gessman and Robert Baute.

-NOVEMBER 24, 2003-

The City Clerk read the following:

**CITY OF CRANSTON
RHODE ISLAND**

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

In Accordance with the Home Rule Charter and Section 3.07, Section 2-10.2 of the City Code, I hereby call a special meeting of the City Council to be held on

Monday, November 24, 2003 at 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall
869 Park Ave.,
Cranston, R.I.

The following items of business shall be transacted:

Executive Session, pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(1): Evaluation of Candidate

Joint meeting with Audit Committee to discuss their Recommendation for Council's Internal Auditor position.

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 14th day of November 2003.

/s/ Peter T. Pastore, Jr., Council President

-NOVEMBER 24, 2003-

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that a true copy of the attached Notice of a special meeting of the City Council to be held on Monday, November 24, 2003 at 6 P.M., Council Chambers, City Hall, 869 Park Avenue, Cranston, R.I. was delivered via electronic mail on this 14th day of November, 2003 and regular mail, postage prepaid to the addresses listed below.

Council President Peter T. Pastore, Jr.
14 Firglade Dr.
Cranston, RI 02921
[Ppastore@randolphsavings.com](mailto:ppastore@randolphsavings.com)

Councilman Marc D. Ferolito
mferolito@msn.com

Council Member Cynthia M. Fogarty
Fogarty1@msn.com

Councilman Allan W. Fung
alfung@cox.net

Councilwoman Ellen O'Hara
ellencohara@cox.net

Councilman Kirk McDonough
67 Dellwood Rd.
Cranston, RI 02920
kirkmcdonough@cox.net

Councilwoman Paula McFarland
pmcfarland@prodigy.net

Councilman Randall A. Jackvony
rjackvony@cox.net

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

/s/ Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk

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On motion by Councilman Jackvony, seconded by Councilman Ferolito, it was voted to go into Executive Session.

Under Discussion:

Councilman McDonough stated he doesn't feel it's appropriate to meet in Executive Session. It's more appropriate to meet in public form because candidate's qualifications have already been called into question.

Council Member Fogarty asked the Audit Committee why go into Executive Session. Councilwoman O'Hara, Chair of the Audit Committee, stated that 99% felt that it was appropriate because of discussions of personal matters. Council Member Fogarty agreed with Councilman McDonough and this meeting should be open. Council President Pastore stated that the Call was for Executive Session and he hopes to take a vote this evening.

Councilman Jackvony stated that it's important that Council members meet and discuss qualifications with the Audit Committee, these are personnel issues and feels that Executive Session would be appropriate. Comments could be made in public after Executive Session.

Council Member Fogarty stated that she doesn't recall going into Executive Session for Department Heads appointments. Council President Pastore stated that Mr. Woerner was asked to be at the regular Council meeting at 7:00 P.M. tonight, but that he is also present at this meeting if the Council members have any questions.

Roll Call was taken on motion to go into Executive Session and motion passed on a vote of 5-2. The following being recorded as voting "aye": Councilmen Fung, Jackvony, Councilwoman O'Hara, Councilman Ferolito and Council President Pastore – 5. The following being recorded as voting "nay": Council Member Fogarty and Councilman McDonough – 2. Councilwoman McFarland and Councilman Lanni were not present for vote.

The meeting went into Executive Session at 6:10 P.M. with the following members: Councilmen Fung, Jackvony, Councilwoman O'Hara, Council Member Fogarty, Councilwoman McFarland, Councilmen Ferolito, Lanni, Council President Pastore, Audit Committee members Robert Baute and Aram Garabedian.

The meeting came out of Executive Session at 6:47 P.M.

On motion by Councilwoman O'Hara, seconded by Council Member Fogarty, it was voted to seal the minutes of Executive Session. Motion passed on a voice vote of 7-2. The following being recorded as voting "aye": Councilmen Fung, Jackvony, Councilwoman O'Hara, Councilwoman McFarland, Councilmen Ferolito, Lanni, McDonough and Council President Pastore – 7. Councilman McDonough and Council Member Fogarty voted "nay".

Councilman Jackvony inquired of Steve Woerner regarding fiscal year ending 2000 and previous 2 ½ years or so when he was Acting Finance Director and he asked for some background information of when Mr. Woerner was employed by the Traficante Administration and by the O'Leary Administration. Mr. Woerner stated that when he was Acting Finance Director, the City experienced some software problems one year and the City was heavily relying on an outside firm. When he left in May, Tom Rose was Finance Director and the audit was essentially done and all work in the bond accounts, he finished up. He also stated that two staff people who had been working on the City Audit, had left the auditing firm of Peat Marwick. The problems the City ran into the year that the audit was late was also due to the fact that the previous auditing firm had been billing the City for standard audit fees and for preparation work.

Councilman McDonough stated that he met Mr. Woerner for the first time tonight and in the conversation he had with him, he highlighted the need we have for checks and balances.

Mr. Woerner stated that he sees the problems in Cranston as a real challenge and if we all work together, it will work out great for everybody. Council President Pastore stated that in the regular Council meeting to follow this meeting, Election of City Officials should be taken out of order on the Agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 P.M.

Maria Medeiros Wall
City Clerk

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees