

IV. MAYOR

A. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

RESIGNATIONS:

There were no resignations to announce at this time.

APPOINTMENTS:

1. Appointment of Corporation Counsel

Mayor Moccia announced that he was appointing Atty. Robert Maslan as Corporation Counsel. The mayor then administered the oath of office to Atty. Maslan.

2. Appointment of City Clerk

Mayor Moccia announced that he was appointing Ms. Erin Halsey as City Clerk. The mayor then administered the oath of office to Ms. Halsey.

REAPPOINTMENTS:

The Mayor then announced that the following three members of the Board of Estimate and Taxation (BET) were up for re-appointment: James Clark, James Feigenbaum and Leo Mellow. He stated that Mr. Clark's reappointment would require a super majority of 10 votes and therefore would be voted on separately. He added that he wished to move these reappointments forward as the next Council meeting was scheduled for December 16th.

James Feigenbaum -

**** MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JAMES FEIGENBAUM TO THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION.**

Mr. Miklave said that he would be moving to table the nominations following some discussion because he believed that the Board of Estimate and Taxation had not done enough to support education. He then listed a number of reasons why. Mr. Miklave also pointed out that the Council packets had been received on Friday and that the Council Members needed more time to evaluate these appointments. He said that he would only vote for the people that he believed were appropriate. He said that the fact that the Council had to act tonight was a red herring and pointed out that there were seven new members of the Council.

The Mayor reminded everyone that the next Council meeting was on December 16th and that the BET members needed to start work on the upcoming budget. He said that he did not wish to wait for the next meeting to reappoint the three candidates.

Mr. Hilliard said that he would be voting for Jim Clark and Leo Mellow. He stated that he did not see any

reason why they shouldn't be on the BET

Ms. Duleep said that there was a majority of new members and the committees were still being sorted out. She said that she supported Mr. Miklave's suggestion to table the vote until the new committee members had time to review the resumes.

Mr. Kydes said that as the ex-chairman of the Finance, he could say that the Committee had never cut the BOE budget, but had cut the request for an increase to the budget. He added that money does not buy higher grades. The tax dollars supports the whole city, not just the BOE. It is important to make sure that the whole city has enough money.

Mr. Kimmel then said that he understood the difference between cutting a request and cutting a budget, but pointed out that repeated cut in requests end up cutting the budget. He said that was a serious issue. He said that he viewed the appointments to the BET as being done automatically. He had concerns about this and said that it was important to have the best on the committees. He said that he supported the motion to tabling it so that there could be some other nominees rather than same candidates year after year.

The mayor then reminded everyone that the appointments to Boards and Commissions were done by the Mayor and that the Council only approves the appointment.

**** MR. PEÑA MOVED TO TABLE THE VOTE ON THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION REAPPOINTMENTS IN ORDER FOR HIM TO DO HIS DUE DILIGENCE.**

**** THE MOTION TO TABLE THE VOTE ON THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION REAPPOINTMENTS FAILED TO PASS WITH SEVEN IN FAVOR OF TABLING (DULEEP, PEÑA, MIKLAVE, WATTS, GEAKE, KIMMEL AND IGNERI) AND EIGHT AGAINST (BONDI, HEMPSTEAD, ROMANO, HILLIARD, KYDES, MAGGIO, PETRINI, MCCARTHY).**

**** THE MOTION TO REAPPOINT JAMES FEIGENBAUM TO THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION PASSED WITH EIGHT IN FAVOR (BONDI, HEMPSTEAD, ROMANO, HILLIARD, KYDES, MAGGIO, PETRINI, AND MCCARTHY) AND SEVEN AGAINST (DULEEP, PEÑA, MIKLAVE, WATTS, GEAKE, KIMMEL AND IGNERI).**

Leo Mellow -

**** MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO REAPPOINT LEO MELLOW TO THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION.**

Mayor said that he was confident that the candidates could perform the job.

Ms. Duleep replied that she recognized that the motion to table had been defeated and that her votes were in reference to the process, not the candidates.

**** THE MOTION TO REAPPOINT LEO MELLOW TO THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION PASSED WITH EIGHT IN FAVOR (BONDI, HEMPSTEAD, ROMANO, HILLIARD, KYDES, MAGGIO, PETRINI, AND MCCARTHY) AND SEVEN AGAINST (DULEEP, PEÑA, MIKLAVE, WATTS, GEAKE, KIMMEL AND IGNERI).**

Mr. Hilliard said that he personally known Jim Clark for many years. He has also known Leo Mellow and is comfortable with both men's reappointment.

Mr. Kimmel said that he was uncomfortable having the discussions and disagreed with the Mayor's statements about the backgrounds. He said that one candidate had a background in the arts, not finance. The Mayor disagreed and said that if a finance background was required, it would limit the pool of candidates.

Mr. Miklave said that this should not be about resumes, districts, people, but about values and votes. He said that he would not be doing his job if he voted blindly.

Mr. Kydes commented that it was important to have people with different backgrounds on the Board.

James Clark –

**** MR. BONDI MOVED TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JAMES CLARK TO THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION.**

Mr. Watts said that it was obvious that Mr. Clark needed 10 votes and that would not be possible tonight. He said that he did not have the opportunity to look into the candidates. He said that because of the Mayor's arrogance, that Mr. Clark would not get the 10 votes needed.

The Mayor replied that it was not with arrogance but with confidence in the City Charter.

Ms. Duleep said that she wished there was not two people breaking ranks and urged her fellow council members to think about the importance of the process. Mr. Clark is required to have a super majority.

**** THE MOTION TO REAPPOINT JAMES CLARK TO THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION FAILED TO ATTAIN THE SUPER MAJORITY REQUIRED TO PASS WITH NINE IN FAVOR OF THE REAPPOINTMENT (BONDI, HEMPSTEAD, ROMANO, GEAKE, HILLIARD, KYDES, MAGGIO, PETRINI, MCCARTHY) AND SIX AGAINST (DULEEP, PEÑA, MIKLAVE, WATTS, KIMMEL AND IGNERI).**

Mayor Moccia said that Mr. Clark would continue to serve at his pleasure until an appointment was made.

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

The Mayor noted that both former Town Clerk Andy Garfunkel and the newly elected Town Clerk, Richard McQuaid were present in the Chambers. He thanked both men for their service to the City of Norwalk.

V. COUNCIL PRESIDENT

A. GENERAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. ELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT

**** MS. DULEEP MOVED TO NOMINATE CARVIN HILLIARD AS COUNCIL PRESIDENT.**

Ms. Duleep said that there were rumors and phone calls about the votes. She said that the Democrats are known for being a big tent with differing viewpoints.

**** MR. BONDI SECONDED THE MOTION.**

Mr. Bondi said that he was proud to be the second for Mr. Hilliard. He added that he had worked on the Council with Mr. Hilliard both as a Democrat and as a Republican.

Mr. Watts said that Mr. Hilliard was like an older brother and that he had learned a lot from Mr. Hilliard.

Mr. Kydes said that he had served on the finance committee with Mr. Hilliard in the past.

Mr. Hempstead said that he had worked with Mr. Hilliard over the last eight years and that Mr. Hilliard listens. Mr. Hempstead has also worked with Mr. Hilliard at N.E.O.N. He felt that Mr. Hilliard was a very good choice for Council President.

Mr. Kimmel said for record that he would not be supporting Mr. Hilliard's nomination.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE CARVIN HILLIARD AS COUNCIL PRESIDENT PASSED WITH FOURTEEN IN FAVOR (BONDI, DULEEP, HEMPSTEAD, PEÑA, ROMANO, MIKLAVE, WATTS, GEAKE, HILLIARD, KYDES, MAGGIO, PETRINI, IGNERI AND MCCARTHY) AND ONE OPPOSED (KIMMEL).**

Mr. Hilliard said that he was humbled and that he said that his goal was to move Norwalk forward. Mayor Moccia said that when the City moves forward, the Council President is a key person. When businesses come to see if they should move to Norwalk and Mr. Hilliard will be called upon to meet with these representatives along with the Mayor.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF MAJORITY LEADER

Mr. Hilliard then announced that the Majority Leader would be Ms. Anna Duleep.

Ms. Duleep said that she was mindful that she was the only woman in her caucus. She reiterated that the Democrats are a big tent party and make sure that all the views were represented. She added that she was the first woman of Asian descent to serve in Norwalk as Majority Leader.

3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF MINORITY LEADER

Mr. Hilliard then announced that the Minority Leader would be Mr. Douglas Hempstead.

Mr. Hempstead said that he appreciated the support. He said that the key was all working with one another.

He said that it was important to understand one another.

4. APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

Following a brief discussion, it was announced that this item would be pulled from the agenda.

5. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Ms. Duleep then announced the following committee assignments:

FINANCE/CLAIMS: Staff: Fred Gilden. Carvin Hilliard, Chair. Matthew Miklave, John Igneri, Warren Peña, Douglas Hempstead, Nicholas Kydes, David McCarthy

LAND USE & BLDG. MGMT: Staff: Alan Lo. Warren Peña, Chair. Nicholas Kydes, Michael Geake, John Igneri, Fred Bondi, Jerry Petrini.

PERSONNEL: Staff: H. James Haselkamp Jr. Anna Duleep, Chair. Matthew Miklave, Michael Geake, David Watts, Douglas Hempstead, Joanne Romano, Michelle Maggio

PUBLIC WORKS: Staff: Hal Alvord. John Igneri, Chair. Bruce Kimmel, Matthew Miklave, David Watts, Douglas Hempstead, Fred Bondi, Jerry Petrini.

HEALTH, WELFARE AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Staff: Erin Halsey. David Watts, Chair. Joanne Romano, Nicholas Kydes, Jerry Petrini, Carvin Hilliard, Bruce Kimmel, Anna Duleep.

ORDINANCE: Staff: Robert Maslan. Michael Geake, Chair. Carvin Hilliard, Anna Duleep, Joanne Romano, Warren Peña, Nicholas Kydes, David McCarthy

PLANNING: Staff: Tim Sheehan. Matthew Miklave, Chair. Carvin Hilliard, Michael Geake, Warren Peña, David McCarthy, Jerry Petrini, Michelle Maggio.

RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS: Michael Mocciae. Anna Duleep, Chair. Bruce Kimmel, David Watts, John Igneri, Douglas Hempstead, Fred Bondi, Michelle Maggio

6. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL RULES

**** MR. KYDES MOVED TO ADOPT THE COUNCIL RULES.**

Mr. Kimmel said that he had a few questions about the rules. He then said Rule #5 “Each Committee Chairman may appoint from the public one (1) clerk and such number of additional clerks as may be appropriate to assist in the effective functioning of the committee.” had not been used.

Mr. Kimmel then said that Rule #9 required that there be copies of Mason’s manuals available. He asked if

there were copies in the caucus rooms and if the Council Members would get copies. Atty. Maslan said that they were waiting to get some copies back.

Mr. Kimmel said that he had been in the audience when the agenda had been read out and that he would like to get back to the time when the public actually understood the agenda items.

Mr. Kimmel then asked about Rule # 18, which allows a city employee the right to speak. Atty. Maslan explained that when items come up on the agenda that are not on the consent calendar, the department head comes to the podium to answer questions that the Council Members may have. Atty. Maslan said that this means that the Council does not have to suspend the rules to hear a department head speak.

Mr. Geake said that he has an amendment to the rules to present to the Council but didn't want the Council to be working without rules. He suggested that the current set of rules be approved as interim rules until the Council members could review the amendment he was proposing. Discussion followed.

**** MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO ADOPT THE COUNCIL RULES AS PRESENTED.**

Mr. Miklave said that he wanted to make sure that the Council members could consider the amendment before voting on it.

**** MR. HEMPSTEAD WITHDREW HIS MOTION TO ADOPT THE COUNCIL RULES AS PRESENTED.**

**** MR. MIKLAVE MOVED TO ADOPT THE CURRENT COUNCIL RULES AS INTERIM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. REMARKS

Mayor Moccia then said that he had forgotten to announce that he would be re-appointing Daniel O'Connor and Peter Torrano to the Police Commission and Carol Andreoli and Mike Coffey to Fire Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. KYDES MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

