

Monday, February 23, 2009.

Met at seven minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Petrolati of Ludlow in the Chair (having been appointed by the Speaker, under authority conferred by Rule 5, to perform the duties of the Chair).

Prayer was offered by the Reverend Robert F. Quinn, C.S.P., Chaplain of the House, as follows:

Prayer.

God, Our Creator and the Ultimate Source of our existence, each day we try to serve You, constituents, the people of the Commonwealth and our families in a thoughtful and faithful manner. We look to You for direction as we focus our attention on the items on this day's agenda. We pray for Your guidance which is available at all times, in our effort to select our best legislative options each day. As elected leaders, may we welcome the input of the people and associates in forming our legislative decisions. May we, as a people, always seek truth and accurate knowledge in our common desire to build a stable, ethical and just society. May we continue our common task of building trust and confidence in each other, in our constitutions and in Your ways and precepts. Let the personal dignity and basic rights of all remain a top agenda item in this era of violence in many places around the world.

Grant Your blessings to the Speaker, the members and employees of this House and their families. Amen.

Pledge of allegiance.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Petrolati), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

*Resolutions.*

The following resolutions (filed with the Clerk) were referred, under Rule 85, to the temporary committee on Rules:

Gregory Drahan Hanson.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Calter of Kingston) congratulating Gregory Drahan Hanson on receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America;

Stephen J. Furtado.

Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Canessa of New Bedford, Quinn of Dartmouth and Sullivan of Fall River) on the occasion of the retirement of Superintendent Stephen J. Furtado; and

Chief Kevin Rooney.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Peisch of Wellesley) honoring Fire Chief Kevin Rooney on his retirement from the Wellesley Fire Department;

Mr. Binienda of Worcester, for the committee on Rules, reported, in each instance, that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion of Ms. Forry of Boston, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

*Order.*

On motion of Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop,—  
*Ordered*, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M. Next sitting.

At twelve minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Spellane of Worcester (Mr. Petrolai of Ludlow being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet on Thursday next at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.