ALBANY, NEW YORK

January 9, 1995

3:00 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR BETSY McCAUGHEY, President

STEPHEN F. SLOAN, Secretary

P R O C E E D I N G S

THE PRESIDENT: The Senate will come to order.

I ask everyone present to please rise and repeat with me the Pledge of Allegiance.

(The Senate joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.)

In the absence of clergy, may we bow our heads in a moment of silence.

(There was a moment of silence.)

The reading of the Journal, please.

THE SECRETARY: In Senate, Friday, January 6th. The Senate met pursuant to adjournment, Senator Hoblock in the Chair upon designation of the Temporary President. The Journal of Thursday, January 5th, was read and approved. On motion, Senate adjourned.

THE PRESIDENT: The order of business -

Hearing no objection, the Journal stands approved as read.

The order of business:

Presentation of petitions.

Messages from the Assembly.

Messages from the Governor.

Reports of standing committees.

Reports of select committees.

Communications and reports from state officers.

Motions and resolutions.

I would like to recognize Senator Bruno.

SENATOR BRUNO: Madam President. I offer up the following Finance Committee assignments and ask that they be filed in the Journal.

THE PRESIDENT: Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: By Senator Bruno: The following members of the New York State Senate are hereby appointed as members of the Senate Finance Committee for the purpose of considering the nomination of Alexander F. Treadwell as Secretary of State at a meeting to

be held on Monday, January 9th, 1995, in the Majority Conference Room 332. These are temporary assignments by the Majority Leader in consultation with the Minority Leader for the purpose of considering the nomination.

Majority members: Senators Stafford (Chairman), Marchi, Goodman, Present, Levy, Johnson, Trunzo, Bruno, Velella, Volker, Tully, Padavan, LaValle, Daly and Skelos.

Minority members: Galiber (Ranking), Gold, Leichter, Gonzalez, Mendez, Stachowski, Montgomery, Oppenheimer, Jones, Hoffmann and Nanula.

THE PRESIDENT: I would like to recognize Senator Stafford.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Thank you, Madam President. We will please have a meeting of the Committee on Finance in Room 332.

THE PRESIDENT: There will be an immediate meeting of the Senate Finance Committee in Room 332.

I'd like to recognize Senator Bruno.

SENATOR BRUNO: Madam President. May I suggest that the Senate stand at ease awaiting the report of the Finance Committee, and I have an estimation it will be about ten minutes.

THE PRESIDENT: The Senate shall stand at ease.

(Whereupon, at 3:04 p.m., the Senate was at ease.)

(Whereupon, at 3:14 p.m., Senate reconvened.)

SENATOR BRUNO: Madam President. Can we return to reports of standing committees?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

SENATOR BRUNO: I believe there is a report there at the desk.

THE PRESIDENT: Secretary will read the report of the Finance Committee, please.

THE SECRETARY: Senator Stafford, from the Committee on Finance, reports the nomination of Alexander F. Treadwell of Westport to serve as Secretary of State.

THE PRESIDENT: I would like to recognize Senator Stafford to move the nomination.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Thank you, Madam President.

Madam President. Our first nomination to appear before the Finance Committee and to be acted upon here in the Senate in this new administration is one that certainly pleases me, and I'm so proud to rise and move the confirmation.

Now, I have to make it very clear from the outset Westport is in the 45th Senatorial District, and our nominee, Sandy Treadwell, is from Westport, New York.

Sandy Treadwell will make the kind of Secretary of State that he has been in anything that he has done. This is a very important position. We can think of various industries concerned, real estate, regulating cemeteries, we can go on and on, corporations. But I share with you, when Sandy Treadwell decides he is going to do a job, again, there is

no one who does it in a more dedicated manner and who does it as well. He really believes in this system of government, the American system, and he has been involved in it for years, voluntarily. He didn't have to do it; and when he has been county chairman of a political organization or has represented the entire state as a vice chairman, he is one, if he is asked to do it, will be anywhere in this state, and this is the way he will be, I know, when he is Secretary of State.

I would share with you that I think in this day and age too many of us think that anyone who is kind and considerate and has a true concern, we think that maybe that is somebody that isn't real, but with Sandy Treadwell it is real. He has been an author - or he is an author. He has written one of the foremost books on marathon running and, as I say, he has been successful in anything that he's done.

In my opinion -- and it's coincidental that he is a constituent, but in my

opinion, the Governor could not appoint a finer individual. He has served his country in the military with one of our fellow Senators who will speak in a moment. He is one who, as I say, is always there if one needs him.

Mr. President, I move the confirmation and, at the end of the proceeding would be pleased to introduce Sandy, his family, and his colleagues with him.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Stafford. If you would like to speak on the nomination, please raise your hand.

Senator Goodman.

SENATOR GOODMAN: Mr. President. This is -- Madam President, excuse me. Force of habit. I'm told there's a fine that's been instituted, Madam President, and in honor of you I shall pay it happily.

Madam President. It is my special privilege and pleasure to speak today on behalf of this very distinguished nominee for the Secretary of State's position.

I have known Sandy Treadwell for

a great number of years and have observed him over time in a variety of situations and would like to say to you that, in my judgment, we could not have made a finer or more appropriate choice for the position of Secretary of State. This is, in the language of the vernacular, a class act.

My colleagues, this is an individual who comes to us with superb educational credentials and a number of very practical involvements in his career, including even an unpublished book which he says in his resume is entitled Wasp, "a comic novel which is uncomically yet unpublished." There is nothing comical about this man, however.

I had the pleasure of seeing him under a variety of circumstances even outside the City of New York. I refer to the fact that from time to time in the summer, when on vacation, he can be found in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, where he's indistinguishable from your average American 6'4" cowboy walking in cowboy boots and Levis.

I would particularly like to bring to your attention the fact that under the transition procedures which the Governor adopted, I had the privilege of serving on his transition team. The position of Secretary of State is one which may find under its aegis a consolidated series of new responsibilities of the greatest significance that at the moment remain speculative; but since that possibility exists, this already august post takes on even greater importance than it has in the past.

For those of you who have good memories, you will recall that such disting uished Republicans as Carolyn Simon and John Lomenzo have occupied the post of Secretary of State; and I can only say that stemming from that tradition, we have a fine public servant to approve this afternoon. I urge your affirmative vote with the greatest of enthusiasm and wish the nominee the very best and success unlimited in the future.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Goodman.

I would like to recognize Senator Lack.

SENATOR LACK: Thank you, Madam President.

It's a pleasure to rise to second the nomination of Sandy Treadwell. I probably can take two honors. I'm probably the last person who ever heard him called Alexander. And I think probably -- certainly the only person here who knew him the last time he was paid by the United States government or any government. We were both buck privates in the United States Army at basic training in Fort Dix. I noticed you're sitting next to a Marine. You could explain to him what we went through.

We called him Sandy. The drill sergeant called him Alexander, particularly when he wasn't doing anything right, but that was very, very rarely, of course. It was to our awe that we watched him go through the five-mile runs. I know where the book came from. He always seemed to finish first and the rest of us were last, and I'm certainly glad that he came

in first, as it were, for Secretary of State.

It's been 25 years since we were both wearing green fatigues. You've survived the experience of the last 25 years much better than I, as I relatively look at each of us.

But I certainly welcome you aboard as our Secretary of State. It's even more fitting, I must tell you, from this side of the aisle, my colleagues, since this is our first confirmation that we look up to the east gallery for our confirmations; and so on behalf of the entire Majority, Sandy, welcome.

And we look forward to serving with you as Secretary as State; and surely I, and all my colleagues, anything we can do to assist you, we're only too happy to do so.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Lack.

Senator Leichter.

SENATOR LEICHTER: Madam President. May I say, first time I rise and address you, and it's a pleasure.

I have the exceedingly good

fortune to have a vacation home in Wadhams which is located in the Town of Westport which is located in the 45th Senatorial District; and, of course, the nominee comes from the Town of Westport, as Senator Stafford pointedly reminded us.

I don't believe I have had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Treadwell, although we may have bumped into each other at Ernie's or Everybody's, the local grocery store. But coming from Westport, I knew he had to be good people, because everybody from Westport really is. But, nevertheless, I thought I would check with some of my neighbors, what they could tell me about Sandy Treadwell; and I will just pass on to you the comments of one Bob Lopez, who used to be the Democratic chair of Essex County, and he said you couldn't have a better person, a nicer person, an abler person.

And as you look at the resume of Sandy Treadwell, you will see how he has served the Westport and the North Country community in a number of important voluntary organizations.

He is held in the highest respect. I had the pleasure of hearing him at the meeting of the Finance Committee and certainly had the feeling that I think he is going to be an outstanding Secretary of State.

So it's my pleasure, Madam President, to second the nomination.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.

Senator Oppenheimer.

SENATOR OPPENHEIMER: Thank you, Madam President.

We did meet, earlier, with Sandy Treadwell -- the Finance Committee -- and at that time, I asked a question which I think is of concern to a lot of us who have coastal communities; and that was, how does Sandy Treadwell feel about the Coastal Zone Management Program and the local waterfront revitalization programs that result from that? And in most of my communities it's a very vital and important interest, because the technical assistance that we have received from CZM has been very beneficial to all my communities and absolutely

essential in going through the consistency review process.

And I was very pleased and happy to report -- and I know that all of those with coastal communities will feel likewise -- that Sandy Treadwell feels that this is an important program and that he will continue to support it, and I am very delighted to hear that, and very delighted to welcome Sandy Treadwell as our Secretary of State, if approved, which I think will happen.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.

Does any other member wish to be heard on the nomination?

Senator Bruno.

Oh, I'm sorry, Senator Mendez. I'm so sorry.

SENATOR BRUNO: I defer to Senator Olga Mendez.

SENATOR MENDEZ: Thank you, Senator Bruno.

Apologies accepted, Madam President.

I, too, rise in support of the nomination of Sandy Treadmill for Secretary of State. I didn't meet the gentleman before today's meeting. I was taken aback by his magnificent sense of humor, which I think is a very important element in living as well as most necessary in politics.

But I also was impressed because he stated a very clear vision of the vision that Governor Pataki has publicly stated as to what government should do for the residents of the state, and I think that when any first executive appoints a person to be a member of his or her administration, they try to get people who understand very clearly the vision that that first executive do have in governing; and I think that just on that alone, Mr. Treadmill is, in fact, a very wise choice of the Governor.

I think also that on the personal level, he is the nicest guy that I have met in a long time and that is refreshing. So that we are all welcoming him and looking forward to work with him in the very, very near future.

THE PRESIDENT: That's just wonderful, Senator Mendez.

Senator Bruno.

SENATOR BRUNO: Thank you, Madam President.

And I'm as pleased as I can be to second and add my second to the nomination just so aptly delivered by our Finance Chair, very distinguished Finance Chair, and I don't believe it's just a coincidence that our very first confirmation comes from his district.

But let me just say to Sandy and to the rest of you and to his family, Governor George Pataki indicated that government would be of service to the people, and there isn't a better message that we can deliver to the public than to be confirming Sandy Treadwell for Secretary of State in New York State because that office as much and maybe more than any other delivers a public service, and Sandy will personify public service. He will make us all proud that he is there, and I'm proud to stand before you and say these things.

And, Sandy, I didn't realize you were a marathon runner. I did know that you were a little bit of a health nut, and that's reflected in your appearance; and, as I conclude, I want to share with my colleagues that he will be a shining example of all of the things that we should do to maintain our bearing in good health in being of service to the public, no smoking, no drinking, no carousing, no nothing.

Sandy, we're happy to have you here.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Bruno.

All those in favor of the nomination, please signify by saying aye.

(Response of "Aye.")

All those opposed, signify by saying nay.

(There was no response.)

The ayes have it.

Alexander F. Treadwell is hereby confirmed as the Secretary of State.

(There was a standing ovation.)

It is our pleasure to welcome Secretary Treadwell's family, and to make the introductions, I defer to Senator Stafford.

SENATOR STAFFORD: Thank you, Madam President. I'm sure you could have done it much better.

Sandy's wife Libby is with us. We're very pleased. His son Zack, the Marine who he has been so loyal to and so loyal to him and worked closely with.

And, behind, I should call them all by name because they are constituents. So I'd ask them to stand please, and we are very pleased to have you also.

Congratulations, Sandy.

(Applause.)

Madam President. I shouldn't point this out, but it's the beginning of the year and I'm going to try to help Senator Leichter. Wadhams is a suburb of Westport.

(Laughter.)

THE PRESIDENT: I would like to

recognize Senator Bruno.

SENATOR BRUNO: Madam President. There being no further business to come before the Senate, we stand adjourned until tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. sharp.

THE PRESIDENT: The Senate stands adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 3:31 p.m., the Senate adjourned.)