

A regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. in the aldermanic chamber.

President Lori Wilshire presided; City Clerk Dan Healey recorded.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Dan Healey; Alderman-at-Large Gloria Timmons led in the Pledge to the Flag.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance.

The roll call was taken with 14 members of the Board of Aldermen present: Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire.

Alderman O'Brien was recorded absent.

Mayor James W. Donchess, Corporation Counsel Steve Bolton were also in attendance.

President Wilshire

Mayor did you wish to address the Board this evening?

Mayor Donchess

Yes I did Madam President.

REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

A few things. One thing on the agenda is the appointment of Liz Hannum as Economic Development Director. Once Tim Cummings was promoted to the position of Administrative Services Director, we began seeking a new Administrative Services Director and in doing so we advertised widely. We formed an interview committee consisting of - of course, Mr. Cummings, Matt Sullivan, Lisa Fauteux, Celia Leonard, and Megan Caron who interviewed a group of candidates and ultimately we came down to the decision of Liz Hannum. She was interviewed by the Personnel Committee a week ago Monday and I think she did well there.

She has a broad range of economic development experience in various states, including South Dakota, New Mexico (Gallup specifically) and now in Oregon. She was raised, grew up around Worcester and that's the principal reason for her interest in coming back to the East Coast. She attended Bucknell in Pennsylvania for college and then received a Master's Degree from Clark University which of course is in Worcester. Not only does she bring a wealth of economic development experience from a whole group of different cities giving her broad perspectives on economic development issues but she I think fits the position well in terms of her personality. She will be able to engage successfully with the business community throughout the City. She's visited and of course looked at the Master Plan and seen various areas of the City and is committed to trying to see and promote economic development in all the areas that we have. Not only the downtown but Amherst Street, Daniel Webster Highway, Northeastern Boulevard, and an effort to create economic opportunity for all citizens of Nashua.

So I hope you will follow the unanimous recommendation of the Personnel Committee and confirm her as Economic Development Director. Of course, she's now in Oregon and intends to start late in May - maybe the second week in May. So she's not here tonight to be confirmed but certainly she'll be watching and be interested in your action.

I did want to mention Madam President that the Nashua Center for the Arts had its official opening on the 1st of April - back a week ago Saturday. We had the ribbon cutting and some local performers. A series of them performed at the Center. There were hundreds and hundreds of people there and I think everybody was very impressed with it. The first performances are this weekend Thursday and Saturday. Spectacle which is managing the Center says that the ticket sales have exceeded their expectations so I think we're off to a good start and I want to thank all of you for supporting that project throughout its life before the Board of Aldermen.

I wanted to mention Madam President that we do have some other appointments tonight and I just wanted to reflect on the fact that we really owe a lot to the citizen volunteers who are interested in serving on our various boards and commissions. The City could not operate without them. We have a lot of dedicated citizens and at least in the audience tonight I see Philip Scontsas who's on for a couple of things, as well Roger Wiseman, and Scott MacKnight. I don't know if there is anyone else here but they will be sworn in assuming you confirm them, which I believe you will. They will all do

excellent work for the City and we appreciate their efforts and the efforts of all the volunteers who make City government possible, really.

Finally Madam President I wanted to mention that on the 22nd of April, we have the Earth Day Fair over at the Library. The Energy and Environment Committee has worked very hard on this and they've come up with some really good ideas. Of course, there will be a number of tables from green vendors around the area, and the Energy and Environment Committee will have a table, as well as Nashua Community Power. One thing that I think people will be interested in and which will be a lot of fun is that there will be an electric car show. So people with electric cars will come and show them to the public. If you've shopped at all in that area, you will I think learn that they're not that easy to actually test drive or actually even see because the orders are so far back that if you go to Chevy and ask can I see a Bolt, they don't really have one their necessarily. So I think that will be fun for people to see that and will be an interest to many people in the community. I encourage you to go to the Earth Day fair on Saturday the 22nd and I think you'll have a good time if you do.

Madam President that concludes my remarks.

RESPONSE TO REMARKS OF THE MAYOR

President Wilshire

Thank you Mayor. Response to remarks by Mayor? Alderwoman Kelly?

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. Thank you for bringing up Earth Day. This thing has been working hard on and I will personally be there running a recycled craft for kids but there's a lot of really great stuff that will be happening so I appreciate that.

I also just want to remark on Miss Hannum's interview and the great work of that Committee. I have been on the Personnel Committee since I walked in this chamber and it was one of the best interviews. I think she is going to be an incredible, incredible asset to the City so looking forward to welcoming her.

Alderman Lopez

Is the Mayor aware of any area that might be dedicated to electric scooters? Any interest in Segway's or things of that nature?

Mayor Donchess

Yeah, why don't you come to the fair and show people the Segway. You can demonstrate.

RECOGNITION PERIOD - None

READING MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the minutes of the Board of Aldermen meeting of March 28, 2023 be accepted, placed on file, and the reading suspended.

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING ONLY PROCEDURAL ACTIONS AND WRITTEN REPORTS FROM LIAISONS

From: Board of Education
Re: Approval of Resolution R-23-098

From: Tim Cummings, Director of Economic Development
Jennifer Zins, Nashua Assessing Department
Re: Data Relative to O-22-028 Increasing the Veterans Tax Credit

There being no objection, President Wilshire accepted the communications and placed them on file

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT RELATIVE TO ITEMS EXPECTED TO BE ACTED UPON THIS EVENING

Adam Marcoux

Good evening. My name is Adam Marcoux. I live at 4 Jolori Lane and I'm also the President of the Nashua Teacher's Union. I'm here to speak upon the contract for the Secretaries Unit C that I also represent. This group is about 73 people. Our smallest unit of the four NTU contracts but their work is impeccable and so important to our school district. They keep our schools running. If you've ever been into a school, you have to get in through them. If you've ever called the school, you talk to them. If you've broken our copy machines, you deal with them. If the laminator is stuck, guess who? If you don't know what to do, that's who you start with and they are such a valuable asset to our community and bring so much to our schools whether it's at the elementary schools, the middle schools, or our two high schools. They do a variety of things and some of them are at central office working. So you know this group is unique because there is so many things going on with them.

This contract to some may seem rather luxurious and large compared to other contracts but I would note that their contracts between 2011 and this one being ratified their overall increase between then was 16% total in those years. This one is a little more than 15% over three years. Sorry, we're negotiating when we did the para contract at the same time so I'm getting them running together. This group this goes a long way to getting them where they should be where it goes in their contract. We did some nice language changes that were great collaboration with the School District on some of the changes that we needed in this contract. It impacted their wages in a positive way and ultimately...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

One minute.

Adam Marcoux

...they did accept the changes to the health insurance which I now believe is the last group that had to do that at least from the School District side of things.

So I want to thank the Budget Committee for their recommendation and to the almost all of you for putting your name in support of this contract. I knew it was going to pass when I saw there was eleven people on it already but I wanted to come and express my gratitude to all of you for your support of not only the secretaries but also the other three contracts that I represent. Thank you.

Brad Westgate

Good evening Madam President and members of the Board. My name is Brad Westgate. I'm a lawyer with Winer and Bennett, 402 Amherst Street here in Nashua. I wanted to thank the Board for giving me a couple moments to speak. I believe the Board tonight will take up the so-called tannery legislation. As the Board is aware from prior presentations and discussions, there are three proposed Ordinances that deal with the Land Use Code to amend the Land Use Code, to set forth the underpinning for the perspective Tannery development. Also before the Board is a Resolution known as Resolution 23-88 which would approve the so-called master concept plan which sort of forms the basis of design for the Tannery project. The three Ordinances are O-23-043 that deals with rezoning part of the land adjacent to the Tannery site, part of the Veteran's Memorial Parkway right-of-way, and the so-called Fimbel piece, and a couple of smaller little parcels.

Ordinance O-23-044 is the text for the overlay district that would form the ability to create this type of development and O-23-045 is a creation of the overlay map, the overlay district that would be governed by the text of the overlay ordinance.

The last action this Board take was a referral, second hearing before the Planning Board and the Planning and Economic Development Committee because of amendments that were made to two of those three Ordinances. One was a technical amendment involving legal descriptions - metes and bounds we call it and there were three amendments to the text of the overlay district - two of which were emanated from Alderman Jette's comments dealing with defining accessory use and the scope of the so called potential non-residential uses.

The Planning Board favorably recommend the three Ordinances. Last night the Planning and Economic Development Committee favorably recommended them as well, as well as the Resolution on proving the Master Concept Plan.

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

One minute.

Brad Westgate

So we would just respectfully request that the Board do take these up tonight. Hopefully approve all three Ordinances and the Resolution for the Master Concept Plan. All of us want to thank you for the time you've taken in this matter and senior staff at City Hall who have been invaluable in us processing this arrangement. Thank you very much.

President Wilshire

Thank you.

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING FINAL APPROVAL

From: Larry D. Goodhue, Chief Executive Officer of Pennichuck
Re: Notice of Annual Meeting of Sole Shareholders and Proxy Statement; Proxy Card; and Annual Report to the Sole Shareholder

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE TO RECOMMEND TO ELECT THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO THE PENNICHUCK CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNTIL THEIR SUCCESSORS ARE ELECTED AND QUALIFIED: ELIZABETH A. DUNN, H. SCOTT FLEGAL, RALPH JENKINS, AND DEBORAH NOVOTNY TO THE PENNICHUCK CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AS CLASS B DIRECTORS, EACH FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM, AND UNTIL THEIR SUCCEORS ARE ELECTED AND QUALIFIED; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO TRANSMIT, BY PROXY CARD, THE VOTE OF THE SOLE SHAREHOLDERS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF PENNICHUCK CORPORATION
MOTION CARRIED**

From: Mayor Jim Donchess
Re: Contract in Excess of \$1 Million – Charter Contracting Company

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN GOUVEIA TO AWARD CHARTER CONTRACTING COMPANY, LLC (CHARTER) A CONTRACT FOR A REDUCED SCOPE OF SERVICES FOR THE PHASE III, STAGE II "ZIG ZAG" LANDFILL EXPANSION TO INCLUDE INSTALLATION OF A TEMPORARY HDPE CAP ALONG THE PHASE III SIDE SLOPES IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,359,200. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 168 SOLID WASTE; FUND: 54210 CONSTRUCTION SERVICES/BOND
MOTION CARRIED**

PETITIONS - None

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS - None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Jnt. Meeting – Committee on Infrastructure and Planning & Economic Development Committee..... 02/22/2023

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the February 22, 2023 joint meeting of the Committee on Infrastructure and Planning and Economic Development Committee be accepted and placed on file.

Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee..... 03/06/2023

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the March 6, 2023 Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee be accepted and placed on file.

Human Affairs Committee..... 03/09/2023

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the March 9, 2023 Human Affairs Committee be accepted and placed on file.

Planning and Economic Development Committee..... 03/21/2023

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the March 21, 2023 Planning and Economic Development Committee be accepted and placed on file.

There being no objection, President Wilshire suspended the rules to allow for the oral report of the Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting held last night regarding proposed Resolution R-23-088 and Ordinances O-23-043, O-23-044, and O-23-045.

Alderman Moran

Thank you Madam President. As most of you know, last night the PEDC meeting concerned four pieces of legislation related to the Mohawk Tannery and I'll go through each of them:

The first R-23-088 was adopted and amends the City's Zoning Map to rezone a portion of the Veteran's Memorial Parkway, Intervale Street, and Hughey Street, and land situated west of the parkway, the RC Urban Residence District. The second O-23-043 establishes an overlay zoning district to be called the "Veteran's Memorial Parking Redevelopment Overlay District". The third O-23-044 establishes the detailed zoning language of that overlay district that we discussed in the prior Ordinance. Then O-23-045 approves a Master Concept Plan for the proposed redevelopment of the Tannery site. We ultimately considered the amended versions of the detailed zoning language and the RC rezoning, both of which were recommended by the three of us at the meeting last night. All legislation was favorably recommended to the full Board.

President Wilshire

Thank you Alderman Moran.

CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS

Downtown Improvement Committee

There being no objection, President Wilshire confirmed the change from alternate to member of Philip Scotsas, 14 Ashland Street, Nashua, to the Downtown Improvement Committee for a term to expire February 14, 2026.

Oath of Office administered by Corporation Counsel.

Performing Arts Center Board of Trustees

There being no objection, President Wilshire confirmed the new appointments to the Performing Arts Center Board of Trustees: Philip Scotsas, 14 Ashland Street, Nashua, with a term to expire February 14, 2026; and Lindsay Rinaldi, 2 Lock Street, Nashua, with a term to expire February 14, 2027.

Oath of Office administered by Corporation Counsel to Philip Scotsas.

Economic Development Director

There being no objection, President Wilshire confirmed the new appointment of Liz Hannum, 12506 NE Hassalo Street, Unit B, Portland, Oregon, as the Economic Development Director serving at the pleasure of the Mayor.

Oath of Office administered at a later time.

Business and Industrial Development Authority

There being no objection, President Wilshire confirmed the new appointment to the Business and Industrial Development Authority: Scott MacKnight, 33 Franklin Street, Nashua, with a term to expire March 28, 2026.

Oath of Office administered by Corporation Counsel.

Ethics Review Committee

There being no objection, President Wilshire confirmed the new appointments to the Ethics Review Committee: Roger Wiseman, 88 Peele Road, Nashua, with a term to expire March 14, 2026; and David Tencza, 10 Monica Drive, Nashua, with a term to expire March 28, 2026.

Oath of Office administered by Corporation Counsel to Roger Wiseman.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS**R-23-090**

Endorsers: Alderman Ernest A. Jette
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF UP TO \$13,000 FROM THE CONSERVATION FUND FOR BEAVER MANAGEMENT WORK IN THE HASSELL BROOK AREA

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN JETTE FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-23-090ON THE QUESTIONAlderman Jette

So this is something requested by the Conservation Commission to deal with flooding of the Hassell Brook as it comes from underneath the Everett Turnpike and meanders it's way under Lund Road, and Elmont Street, and eventually dumps into Salmon Brook. Beavers have caused flooding and so the Conservation Commission would like to spend up to \$13,000 to deal with that problem. For everyone to know, the Conservation Commission has about \$1.5 million in its conservation fund so they can well afford this. I ask that you support it. Thank you.

President Wilshire

You've heard the Motion is their discussion on the Motion? Alderman Comeau?

Alderman Comeau

Thank you Madam President. I regret that I wasn't here when this got the first reading so I could sign onto it, but I'm glad to see it coming forward. I had several conversations with the Department of Public Works after some of my constituents along Lund Road brought this issue to me. The beaver dams in the brook are causing the flooding and then when they break apart, they're actually clogging up the culverts that go underneath Lund Road. So this work will do extensive cleaning of that area all the way down, I believe, past Bishop Guertin. It will go a long way toward relieving some of that flooding that is impacting those neighborhoods so I'm glad to see this come through tonight and I will be supporting it. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Thank you. Further discussion? Seeing none.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-23-090 declared duly adopted.

R-23-092

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Richard A. Dowd

RELATIVE TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$1,771,199 OF FY2023 UNANTICIPATED REVENUE INTO FUND #1001 "CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS", DEPARTMENT 160 "PUBLIC WORKS – ADMINISTRATION & ENGINEERING"

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-23-092 BY ROLL CALL PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 49

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Lopez,
Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau,
Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault,
Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire 14

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-23-092 declared duly adopted.

R-23-096

Endorser: Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Tyler Gouveia
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

APPROVING THE COST ITEMS OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NASHUA BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE NASHUA TEACHERS' UNION, LOCAL 1044, AFT, AFL-CIO, UNIT C, SECRETARIES FROM JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026 AND RELATED TRANSFERS

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-23-096

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Dowd

This passed the Budget Committee unanimously and it is a well-structured contract. The secretaries in the bargaining unit are extremely valuable to not only the education in Nashua but also the City of Nashua.

President Wilshire

Further discussion? Seeing none.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-23-096 declared duly adopted.

R-23-097

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Richard A. Dowd

RELATIVE TO THE RESCINDING OF AUTHORIZED UNISSUED DEBT

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-23-097

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-23-097 declared duly adopted.

R-23-098

Endorsers: Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY TREASURER TO ISSUE BONDS NOT TO EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF TEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$10,000,000) TO FUND ADDITIONAL COSTS FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL AND RENOVATIONS AND EXPANSION OF PENNICHUCK MIDDLE SCHOOL INCLUDING THE PAYMENT OF COSTS INCIDENTAL OR RELATED THERETO

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-23-098 BY ROLL CALL PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 49

ON THE QUESTION

President Wilshire

Alderman Dowd?

Alderman Dowd

It passed Budget unanimously and what this does is when we pass the guaranteed maximum price for the McCarthy School, we knew we were going to need at least this much money and possibly less. As we went through the process with all that's going on the world to be entirely safe and not have to come back at all again, we request the \$10 million. Anything that's not used will be returned to the City just like the motion we passed a minute ago or it can be reallocated by this Board.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you, Madam Chair. I just wanted to say that I thought that the discussion that we had in the Budget meeting around this approval of the bond I think was good and it's important in those committee meetings to have those discussions. I think Alderman Dowd and I might have had different definitions of one thing or another. I was able to figure out as far as what the total budget was versus the guaranteed maximum price of what the building was but I appreciated the conversation. I'm going to support this tonight. Cheers to our committee process. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Further discussion? Alderman Thibeault?

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Madam President. I have a question through you to Alderman Dowd and he might not know this but I saw that the Board of Education voted 5 to 3 on it. Is that accurate? Do we know why there was three votes against it?

Alderman Dowd

Yes, that was the correct vote. I would hesitate to try and read the minds of the people that voted against it. I think there were other issues involved rather than the actual motion itself. So it's fully supported by the rest of the Board of Education.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you.

President Wilshire

Further discussion? Seeing none will the Clerk please call the roll?

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea:	Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire	14
Nay:		0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-23-098 declared duly adopted.

R-23-100

Endorsers: Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien Sr.
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

AUTHORIZING PENNICHUCK CORPORATION AND PENNICHUCK EAST UTILITY, INC. TO ENTER INTO A LOAN WITH COBANK, ACB

Given its second reading;

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-23-100
MOTION CARRIED**

Resolution R-23-100 declared duly adopted.

R-23-106

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman John Sullivan
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Tyler Gouveia
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons

APPROVING THE COST ITEMS OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NASHUA POLICE COMMISSION AND THE NASHUA POLICE SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION FROM JULY 1, 2023 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN SULLIVAN FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-23-106

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Sullivan

I don't think I'd be met with much debate when I say we have an excellent Police Department here in the City of Nashua. It's a compliment to the women and men that are on that force but it's also the leadership within that department that make it run so well. This contract for the next four years takes care of those leaders, those sergeant, those lieutenants that lead Nashua Police Department and I will absolutely get behind this. Thanks.

President Wilshire

Thank you. Alderman Clemons?

Alderman Clemons

Thank you, Madam President. I believe when this came before the Board originally I was absent and that's why my name is not on it otherwise I would be a strong and proud supporter. I am a strong and proud supporter of this and I look forward to supporting it this evening.

President Wilshire

Further discussion? Seeing none.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-23-106 declared duly adopted.

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND ALLOW FOR A SECOND READING OF RESOLUTION R-23-088

MOTION CARRIED

R-23-088

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Tyler Gouveia
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

APPROVING MASTER CONCEPT PLAN FOR MOHAWK TANNERY REDEVELOPMENT

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-23-088

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Moran

Thank you, Madam President. As I discussed earlier through my verbal report of Committee, this Resolution would establish basically changing the zoning to RC urban residence district to allow the Tannery project to start. It's a very big project, the City needs this project, and I hope everyone here on the Board can support this.

Alderman Lopez

Just as a comment. I also attended the meeting last night of Planning and Economic Development Committee. I had asked Community Development and Director Sullivan just to confirm that this had already been approved through the Planning Board process having been brought before them. I just wanted to make sure and we also discussed ensuring that residents were up-to-date on the different legislative steps. He is looking into creating a website page on the City's website to be a project page and provide these kind of incremental updates as we go and what steps are left to be taken.

President Wilshire

Further discussion? Seeing none.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-23-088 declared duly adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

O-23-048

Endorsers: Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Tyler Gouveia
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

**EXEMPTING GAMES OF CHANCE USED FOR STATE LICENSED CHARITABLE GAMING FROM THE
"AMUSEMENT DEVICES" ARTICLE IN THE NASHUA REVISED ORDINANCES**

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF O-23-048

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Dowd

Yes, these are machines that are already licensed by the State. They're used for charitable gaming. There was some confusion about what's going on in Manchester. There were some machines up there that they do charge for but it's actually the same thing we would do here if we actually allowed illegal machines to be used. I'm sure Alderwoman Klee would back me up because we've done extensive talking to Manchester. They tax for machines that are not part of the charitable gaming. They're technically illegal. They call them gray machines and what they do in Manchester is something else but they're not the charitable gaming machines. So they do not charge for the charitable gaming machines and no city and town in the State of New Hampshire does.

President Wilshire

Alderman Klee?

Alderman Klee

Thank you Madam President. I'm about to make a statement that I have not verified with the State but it was conveyed to me that these are state licensed machines and state approved machines. As such, municipalities are not allowed to do that. I'm making the statement based on comments that speaking to a State Rep. and an Alderman in Manchester. I have not verified that with the State itself, the Lottery Commission, but I do believe that does sound properly from based on what I was able to read and so on. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Further discussion? Seeing none.

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance O-23-048 declared duly adopted.

O-23-050

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

AMENDING THE GENERAL ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES TO PERMIT UPDATES TO THE FINANCIAL STANDARDS BY THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN THIBEAULT FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF O-23-050ON THE QUESTION

President Wilshire

Motion is for final passage. Is there discussion on that Motion? Alderman Moran?

Alderman Moran

Thank you Madam President. Through you, could I ask our Welfare Officer Mr. Mack a question? Is he here?

President Wilshire

Oh he is here. Mr. Mack?

Robert Mack, Welfare Officer

Good evening.

Alderman Moran

Good evening. Thank you Madam President. I have a question regarding updating the financial standards. I had a constituent come to me a couple weeks ago and I'm not sure how it would play into this or if it changes it but essentially she was a female fleeing domestic violence with her child. Came to the City Welfare Office. She did get referred to Bridges and such. In order to pay for her hotel voucher while she fled the DV, she had to pay down her savings account which she had maybe \$1,000 or something in it in order to qualify to get out of that situation. Does this help that situation at all this Ordinance? Does that change how someone would have to spend all their money to flee domestic violence and gaining City support?

Robert Mack, Welfare Officer

Alderman Moran that is not specific to the financial standards. The financial standards are the dollar amounts of which we base eligibility. Another piece of eligibility is available resources that applicants have that they may need to utilize to cover their own expenses. Depending on the circumstances whatever their resources are, we evaluate those resources versus the expenses that they need to cover and are they able to do to that for a period of time. Then after those resources are exhausted, we may provide the general assistance. So it's not directly related to this piece of legislation but its part of our general assistance guidelines and operation.

Alderman Moran

So I would love to meet with you if we can maybe do an updated Ordinance or Resolution whatever it might be to maybe if there are certain situations where we could waive certain financial pieces or raise the requirement so someone who is fleeing domestic violence can get our support so we don't have to keep them in that position longer than they need to be.

Robert Mack, Welfare Officer

We could definitely have further conversation about that.

Alderman Moran

Thank you.

President Wilshire

Alderwoman Kelly?

Alderwoman Kelly

Just wanted to clarify what this is. As far as my understanding is and I've been meeting with Mr. Mack a number of years, is that this allows his department to be a little more nimble in updating the Welfare Guidelines instead of coming to us once a year. It may actually allow them to update them and to reflect what's going on more frequently. So it's really a housekeeping item allowing the Welfare Department to take a little bit more ownership and make sure that people can get the things they need.

President Wilshire

Thank you Mr. Mack. Alderman Lopez?

Alderman Lopez

Just an observation. While Alderman Kelly is correct about an element of it introducing the concept of a self-updating or less bureaucratic process for keeping up with the financial standards in the area where Director Mack references eligibility, he's also talking about the eligibility of the reimbursement requested. So if I for example were staying in a shelter and said oh I have a lease that I could have with Lofts 34, that rental amount might exceed the amount in the guidelines of the welfare guidelines. We're looking for something more modest solutions to some situations and because those guidelines exist and Lofts 34 is an outside example but because they exist relative to the market value of different apartments and rental properties, those rental properties keep going up in price so we have to keep up with them. We have to make sure that we are allowing eligible housing to be defined by what people are able to access and need today rather than what they were able to access maybe pre-COVID when the average rental amount was \$200 or \$300 less. So we have had to update because of the shortage of housing capacity, because of rents being raised due to the marketability of those different units, and we can't necessarily keep waiting every year to do it without having people run into a situation where the units that they're trying to get into so that they're able to resolve or stabilize their housing are still too expensive for any kind of assistance program.

So it definitely does improve and streamline the administrative oversight process and puts it into the City Welfare's oversight but it also is a necessary adjustment that is continually made every year because the price of rent is going up every year.

President Wilshire

Further discussion? Seeing none.

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance O-23-050 declared duly adopted.

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND ALLOW FOR SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF ORDINANCES O-23-043, O-23-044, AND O-23-045

ON THE QUESTION

President Wilshire

Alderwoman Kelly?

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. I'm just looking for clarification as to why we're suspending the rules? It was at your Committee last night?

Alderman Moran

Yes.

Alderwoman Kelly

Okay. I guess I'm just confused why it's coming back for a second and third reading instead of just a recommendation for final passage.

Alderman Moran

Maybe Director Sullivan. It has to do with a timeframe in order to get the work one in an on-time and efficient manner but Director Sullivan is much more if you, of course, through you Madam President.

President Wilshire

Sure.

Matt Sullivan, Director Community Development

I may be able to address this but I might actually have to ask Corporation Counsel for a response too. So I believe the request was for a second and third reading. I believe final passage could also be considered though, am I incorrect on that? This is ultimately for final adoption of these Ordinances. I don't believe we need a second and third reading per se but I could be mistaken.

Steve Bolton, Corporation Counsel

It's typical to read at least by title matters of legislation immediately before their voted on. I think these have already had a second reading previously when it was removed from committee and sent back for additional public hearing because of amendments. So that's why it would be at least in some cases a third reading. So we typically don't have third readings but if we've already had two, then its ipso facto the next one would be the third. Typically, we do have second readings. The first when it is introduced and the second when it comes back from committee.

Matt Sullivan, Director Community Development

So this will be a third reading. My apologies.

Alderman Moran

Yes. There are people that are much more qualified to answer these technical questions.

President Wilshire

Motion is to suspend the rules.

MOTION CARRIED

O-23-043, Amended

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

**AMENDING THE ZONING MAP BY REZONING PORTIONS OF THE VETERANS MEMORIAL PARKWAY,
INTERVALE STREET AND HUGHEY STREET AND LAND SITUATED WEST OF THE VETERANS MEMORIAL
PARKWAY TO C URBAN RESIDENCE (R-C) DISTRICT**

Given its third reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF O-23-043 AS AMENDED

ON THE QUESTION

President Wilshire

Motion is for final passage as amended. Discussion on that Motion? Alderman Jette?

Alderman Jette

Thank you, Madam President. I just wanted to comment that for the public who's trying to keep track of what's going on here. What we're doing if this passes and if the next two pass as well, what we're doing is we're changing the zoning of that area. We're not approving the project yet. The project still has to go before the Planning Board and the developers have to come to the Board of Aldermen with the agreement. The agreement talks about the financing, the clean-up - the EPA involvement, how this whole project is - who's going to do what, who's going to pay for it, how it's going to be paid for. All of these details are not before us yet. This is a very complicated project. There are a lot of different steps that have to be taken but all we're doing tonight is approving the changes in the zoning which if the agreement gets approved and adopted will allow the developer to proceed with this project. So for people who are watching or are interested in all of those details, we haven't got their yet. That's still to come before us. I don't know if anyone else had that question but I wanted to offer that explanation.

President Wilshire

Thank you. Alderman Lopez?

Alderman Lopez

I just want to comment in addition to what my colleague is saying. It is pretty important to have a project of this size and complexity done in a diligent manner. The Committee did rightfully identify different opportunities for amendment. Some of those amendments were more significant than others. There's one for example that adjusted the boundary by like I think six inches. So while those need to be done and in the event that we didn't thoroughly or carefully plan this out, we might find a completely different use contemplated by a developer that we didn't necessarily allow for and plan for. An example being the asphalt plant. We didn't think that that would be what somebody saw in a residential area as being the case but that's why it's important to amend and update these different zoning elements.

But the other side of it is, we need a developer who is able to proceed through a complex and difficult plan in a manner that is timely enough to execute it. So the weather's getting warmer. We are starting to look at this upcoming season kind of being spent with the development and creation of the process and so they probably are thinking farther ahead like they need to secure their funding, they need to secure their planning, and the different rules. So while we do want to be very diligent with our looking at the legal aspects of this, we also don't want to hold them up with our administrative process which is send it back to Committee and then when that committee meets, review it.

So it was fully endorsed and vetted by the Economic Development Committee and I would say I would be supporting in moving it forward. Additionally, I had requested that the Community Development office look at creating a project page so that it's much more easy for residents and even legislators to track the progress of this. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Further discussion? Alderman Sullivan?

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you, Madam President. I was looking at the Land Use Code around this as this legislation was percolating and maybe through to Director Sullivan. In 190-17 under residential districts, it lists off a bunch of different codes that we have. Of those are RC which this is being rezoned to. In paragraph D, it says, "specific residential district criteria. The following standards apply to all residential districts. All two-family dwellings, duplexes shall be shelters consisting either of two separate dwelling units on separate floors or of two separate dwelling units..." and on, and on, and on. My question is this development is not two-family. It's multi-family. There's multiple floors - 4 to 5 stories of apartments and what not. How does this affect that? How do those two tie together?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Director

First of all, I always appreciate an opportunity to talk about the technicalities of the Land Use Code here at these meetings. Seriously. But it's a great question. So overlay districts and the Veteran's Memorial Parkway overlay district that's being contemplated to be installed this evening, overlay districts can operate in really two manners. One is being more restrictive and one is actually loosening restrictions on the zone that sort of lies below it. In this case, the Veteran's Memorial Parkway overlay district will interact with an RC zoning district below it. The Veteran's Memorial Parkway district actually loosens the permitted uses within that underlying RC zone therefore taking away the need of this proposal to comply with section 190-17D that you referred to Alderman Sullivan. So the overlay will actually supersede the underlying RC zoning except in cases where the underlying RC zoning has more specificity to it than what's contemplated by the overlaying zone. So it's really the overlaying zone will supersede where appropriate. In other cases, the RC zone may govern. Such as the complexity of overlay districts and some of the experience we've had here in the City of Nashua but we believe this overlay is quite clear in the way it operates. But that 190-17 will not apply to this area should the overlay district be approved.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay. Can I have a follow-up please?

President Wilshire

Yes.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you. If you look at what we're doing here and then you take out your crystal ball, and you were then take what we're doing here and project it into the future, are we shooting ourselves in the foot somewhere down the road in another part of the City that says well you have it here in this section of the City and I'd like to do it here, which could then lead to lawsuits, etc. etc.? So I'm just wondering if by making the exception here could it hurt us down the road?

President Wilshire

Director Sullivan?

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Director

Thank you very much. It's a great question and I think it's always the rule of unintended consequences that we need to be contemplating with any zoning action. I don't think we run the risk of creating a situation here that could be held against the City in some form or another down the road. What I think we're doing is creating an environment where an overlay zone is being used to achieve a set of very specific and measurable public and community benefits in exchange for a set of zoning relief criteria that benefit the redevelopment of a property. I tend to think, and it's difficult to take out the crystal ball, but I tend to think that should another site of this type of which there are very few present itself to the City in the future, I do think there could be a contemplation that this type of zoning would be used to incentivize redevelopment. However, what I've said consistently with this specific redevelopment proposal is that the situation is so unique because of the financial component but also because of what the site is that I think it's very unlikely that what the City is doing here could be used against it as part of some other redevelopment or development proposal in the future. The fact that this is unique, I believe protects us against that.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay and now you're on the record.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Director

Correct, correct. Again the law of unintended consequences, you know, we've looked very closely at this and had that in mind but I feel relatively confident to the extent that I can and what I do that this will not be used against us. I also feel confident because I know we are going to be recodifying the Land Use Code in the next two years and so if we realize that things have been put in place that we're not comfortable with, this Board will have a role in actually unwinding some of those and correcting them. I don't think this overlay will be one of those pieces.

Alderman Sullivan

Okay. Thank you very much.

President Wilshire

You're welcome. Further discussion? Alderman Lopez

Alderman Lopez

I would also probably go on the record as pointing out that if we create an overlay district which has specific rules for a specific area and someone intends to make the argument that because their area wants those different things, we can point to the fact that it doesn't have an overlay district and say okay well you don't have the modifying criteria that are relevant and that creates the opportunity for people in the neighbors to say do we or do we not want that overlay? Before a developer might propose a project that the residents are very strongly against and I think that's also an example that we can probably use as we start to look at Land Use Codes and say okay well this is where overlay districts have been useful and very effective and this is where they are no longer a good idea or no longer being used. I think again speaking to the unique nature of this project, the unique nature of this project is that it should have been a superfund site 30 years ago and hasn't been cleaned up or made safe since then. Right now, we have open pools of contamination that are exposed to the air that we can't keep exposing residents to and the rest of the City to. We have an opportunity to develop it, encapsulate it, and reduce the impact to the environment, and the threat that a large scale flood would represent.

So that's why this project is unique and that's why it's important to move forward with this and to get a developer who is willing to clean up someone else's mess from a private company that dissolved itself and the City can't hold accountable is unique. So I'll be supporting this.

President Wilshire

Further discussion? Motion is for final passage of O-23-043 as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance O-23-043 declared duly adopted as amended.

O-23-044, Amended

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

ESTABLISHING THE VETERANS MEMORIAL PARKWAY REDEVELOPMENT OVERLAY DISTRICT

Given its third reading;

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF O-23-044 AS AMENDED
MOTION CARRIED**

Ordinance O-23-044 declared duly adopted as amended.

O-23-045

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

AMENDING THE ZONING MAP BY ADDING THE VETERANS MEMORIAL PARKWAY REDEVELOPMENT OVERLAY DISTRICT

Given its second reading;

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF O-23-045
MOTION CARRIED**

Ordinance O-23-045 declared duly adopted.

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS**R-23-109**

Endorsers: Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderwoman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

AUTHORIZING PENNICHUCK CORPORATION AND PENNICHUCK WATER WORKS, INC. TO RENEW ITS FIXED ASSET LINE OF CREDIT WITH TD BANK, N.A.

Given its first reading; Assigned to the PENNICHUCK WATER SPECIAL COMMITTEE, by President Wilshire

R-23-110

Endorsers: Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

AUTHORIZING PENNICHUCK CORPORATION AND PENNICHUCK EAST UTILITY, INC. TO ENTER INTO A TERM LOAN AND RENEW A FIXED ASSET LINE OF CREDIT WITH COBANK, ACB

Given its first reading; Assigned to the PENNICHUCK WATER SPECIAL COMMITTEE, by President Wilshire

R-23-111

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

RELATIVE TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$365,083.34 OF FY2023 UNANTICIPATED REVENUE INTO FUND #7024 "OPIOID ABATEMENT EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND"

Given its first reading; Assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE and SCHEDULE A SPECIAL BOARD OF ALDERMEN PUBLIC HEARING at 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2023 in the aldermanic chamber, by President Wilshire

R-23-112

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

RELATIVE TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$18,009 OF FY2023 UNANTICIPATED REVENUE INTO FUND #7026 "CAPITAL EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND"

Given its first reading; Assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE and SCHEDULE A SPECIAL BOARD OF ALDERMEN PUBLIC HEARING at 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2023 in the aldermanic chamber, by President Wilshire

R-23-113

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess

Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

RELATIVE TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$35,360.50 OF FY2023 UNANTICIPATED REVENUE INTO FUND #7026 "CAPITAL EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND"

Given its first reading; Assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE and SCHEDULE A SPECIAL BOARD OF ALDERMEN PUBLIC HEARING at 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2023 in the aldermanic chamber, by President Wilshire

R-23-114

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF \$5,000 FROM DEPARTMENT 194 "CONTINGENCY", ACCOUNT 70100 "GENERAL CONTINGENCY" TO DEPARTMENT 144 "EDGEWOOD & SUBURBAN CEMETERIES", ACCOUNTING CLASSIFICATION 51 "SALARIES & WAGES"

Given its first reading; Assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE, by President Wilshire

R-23-115

Endorsers: Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A FEDERAL AID PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING AN ACCESSIBLE RAMP TO THE COTTON MILL TRANSFER BRIDGE AND TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE \$300,000 FOR THE PROJECT

Given its first reading; Assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE and SCHEDULE A SPECIAL BOARD OF ALDERMEN PUBLIC HEARING at 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2023 in the aldermanic chamber, by President Wilshire

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

O-23-052

Endorsers: Alderman Ernest A. Jette
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Tyler Gouveia
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

DESIGNATING THE JOYCE PARK WILDLIFE SANCTUARY AS CITY CONSERVATION LAND

Given its first reading; Assigned to the PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, by President Wilshire

PERIOD FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Stephen Scaer

Hi. Stephen Scaer, 111 East Hobart Street. I just wanted to draw your attention to Mine Falls near the Pine Street Extension over by where the Gate City fencing is. There's a trail that went by that was built there I think about 15 years ago after there was a violent assault among the homeless camp in an area that was called "Pine Island". So it was cleaned up in a nice trail there because people realize it wasn't a safe situation.

I was just back there again just walking on the trail and it's really crowded with garbage. I don't know how many different tent sites were there. I expect as weather is getting warmer, there's more but there's garbage anywhere and God knows what else. I don't think it's too hygienic. Nothing I suggest, we all couldn't agree but maybe on one solution but what we're doing right now just heeding land over to people with addiction problems, and mental illness, and leaving them in an unsafe and unclean situation doesn't seem like a good idea. So I'm just requesting that you look into this and see if you can find an acceptable solution because whatever you're doing is going to be better than what is there right now. Thank you.

REMARKS BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Alderman Klee

Thank you Madam President. This is just to - I didn't want to do it at committee announcements because it's for a May 3rd meeting for the Pennichuck Special Committee. Donna had sent out a message. We're going to have to have a meeting on May 3rd so if you could get back to her and let her know whether or not you can make that. I know there's another event going on that day but it's important that we know whether or not we'll have quorums. Thank you.

Alderman Moran

Thank you, Madam President. I know the Mayor brought this up earlier but most of us were there. I think maybe even all of us were at the opening of the Performing Arts Center. It was a wonderful event. I got to go for the first part with my middle child and she enjoyed walking around and meeting everyone. The second half my wife and I got to enjoy the shows. Then we left - and I mentioned this at the PEDC - we left for an early dinner through the shows and we had to go all the way down to the Hidden Pig in order just to find a table that was open. It wasn't even a table. We had to take the bar. So the impact of the opening was substantial and Director Cummings, the Mayor - I know the Mayor doesn't like taking credit for anything but it was really well done opening and very excited for it.

Anecdotally I'll share this joke and Alderman Clemons will probably support me on this. It's already happened to Alderman Comeau but I introduced my daughter to Alderman Clemons and she just ignored him, look at me, and said where's the Mayor? So Alderman Comeau has a similar incident with both my daughters around Christmas time for the Holiday Stroll. So you have a big impact on the kids in my family I guess Mr. Mayor.

Alderman Lopez

I just want to remind the Public that on May 16th we are organizing a job fair organized in partnership with the Nashua Public Library and by the Greater Nashua Continuum of Care. A collaboration of different organizations working to end homelessness and address the needs as such. So any employers that are looking for candidates, anyone who is trying to fill some City staff departments, and looking for people who are motivated and immediately employable and accessible, that's a great opportunity for it.

Over the weekend Stepping Stones also made a pretty exciting announcement that they've probably taken the biggest step in at least a decade to address the issues of youth homelessness. Individuals under 25 who are homeless, including minors, and so they are working towards executing an emergency shelter for youth as well as a transitional housing program to help them not only intervene with the housing emergencies but also to help them develop the systems they need to continue to pay rent and provide for sustainable housing. Those are some pretty important systems particularly transitional housing has a very important role in our City because if people aren't able to build up support systems and mechanisms that are sustainable, then we put a lot of work into getting them into a place and then they aren't able to maintain it.

There was a lot of concern about the transitional housing program Mary's Place. The Front Door Agency announced that they were taking over ownership of the management of it, which I thought was very exciting and interesting. So I just wanted to reassure the public that that program will continue. It has the number of single female adults in our community of various age and medical condition.

Finally, I would like to apologize to the individuals who are walking through the trail and might be distressed by the life experiences and tragedies that others experience. I know when people go through Mine Falls, they're not necessarily

looking for a front door into all the social justice challenges that our society produces but we do have a very robust partnership between outreach workers who spend all week engaging people in camp sites and unsheltered homelessness and DPW and Nashua Police. It's very important for legal purposes and humanitarian purposes not to just displace the homeless when they become inconvenient for the public. So we work with them to try to create more sustainable solutions, try to engage them in sheltering processes. If substance use disorder is an issue, then we help them into rehabilitation processes. There's a lot of work being done every week, every day to that end.

We just had a cleanup last weekend of a site. There was some public concern because the public felt that the City had just removed it summarily but I was able to verify that the people that were living there were engaged in different programs and were able to find stable housing through partners with Greater Nashua Mental Health and that Public Health and DPW did collaborate and coordinate. There are additional cleanup days that are being done with people who are outreach workers and are trained and have resources to offer people that are transitioning out. DPW has been very, very responsive to such concerns but DPW also does have limited capacity in terms of how quickly they can respond to things, what resources they have because of staffing and budget size. So we do try to address the situations as fairly to everyone as possible. Sometimes it doesn't impact people in a proportionate manner. Thank you.

Alderman Clemons

Thank you, Madam President. I, too, was able to go to the opening of the Performing Arts Center. I was very happy to be there. It was a tremendous showing of support. The event was sold out and they put on a wonderful performance. I think it's really a testament to the community coming together and collaborating. I know that when that project was first proposed in front of the Board of Aldermen many years ago in 2018, I believe it was, or 2017 maybe, we had a compromise plan that we wanted the community involved. We wanted to raise money for that project not just have it be borne on the taxpayers. We accomplished that goal. You had a million dollar private donor. Bank of America has donated \$500,000 amongst many other sponsors and we have raised millions upon millions of dollar for that.

The public money that went into it is being financed also by some private projects such as the School Street Project. Spectacle Management is basically taking care of the day-to-day for us. This is a win-win for our community. It brings a new vibe to our downtown, brings a new element to our downtown. As Alderman Moran said afterwards after the show, downtown was bustling. That's the kind of thing that we had always envisioned would happen with the Performing Arts Center. It was just very awesome and humbling to see that project when it was just an idea here, and to be part of that, and to see it come to full fruition is really something amazing. Something I'm very proud of and something Nashua should be proud of because this is going to be something that for 100 years from now people are going to say isn't this a wonderful thing that we have in our City. So we should all be proud. Thank you.

Alderman Dowd

Just a couple quick things. We had the solar project on top of Pennichuck and we were waiting for Eversource to sign the final piece of paper. It was all caught up in paperwork and we finally sat down with Vision Energy and called Eversource, got the paper signed, and I threw the switch to turn the solar power on. We are now generating solar from the Pennichuck Middle School.

The other thing is we've commenced the projects for Birch Hill and Main Dunstable. In the next few days or weeks, they will be doing the preparation at the two schools for the portables to be installed there. As soon as school is out, the work will start in earnest both schools simultaneously.

At least for the members who were on the Joint Special, I sent out the aerial photography that was taken by Channel 16 so you can see the McCarthy School progress. It's moving along very quickly, very well. We'll be doing a tour for everybody as soon as it warms up and all the mud dries and we can get in and see it.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you, Madam President. Two big contracts done tonight for the secretaries and Nashua Police Supervisors. I think that just goes to show our commitment to making Nashua a great employer. I deal with the State Troopers Association a lot of work and they've lost a few troopers now to the Nashua PD which I think is a testament to what we do bring to the table. So I think this is just another step in the right direction. I think it's a goal that all of us here should be pretty happy about. Thank you.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Madam President. Just a couple quick things. So to Alderman Moran and Alderman Clemons' points about

the Performing Arts Center. I was there from 10:00. I walked behind the Mayor and his wife to walk in. We ended up on the stage instead of in front of the building but it was awesome to see it from that angle. I didn't leave until the last performer at 4:30 and stayed the whole time. To see the joy on people's faces as they were looking around at how really wonderful this Performing Arts Center is. I said this last week at the Personnel Committee, I saw somebody online on one of my favorite Facebook sites and it said look at the elitists of Nashua. I was thinking man I'm elite. This is fantastic. I have reached Alderman Moran levels. So it was \$15.00 tickets. I don't think it was elitist of Nashua. I think it was people that wanted to see this thing finally come to fruition and finally enjoy some local talent which was there. We saw everything from ballet, to symphony to West African drumming, all over the spectrum, rock. I was in the seat of the woman that was playing the guitar and I was able to get a CD from her. I think Alderman O'Brien was actually sitting in that seat but he lost his hearing aid so I went up and got it anyway. So I think it's good and I think to Alderman Clemons' point, it's a wonderful thing for the City and it's really going to enhance the downtown. You're going to see restaurants try to open up there and really try to benefit from this great thing we have.

They did a great job and I want to thank Rich Lannan, MaryLou Blaisdell, Deb Novotny and Judith Carlson because they've done a really good job. They've taken a lot of flak and it's hard to go through. This was a big, big project. To see that smile on Rich's face when he was mc'ing the whole thing was great. He really enjoyed himself. I just wanted to thank them for that. There was many more people involved I'm sure.

Last this is – last couple things is so Chief Rourke - it's hard to negotiate these contracts. Leaders of the police force like others have said here is critical to make sure our City is safe and to make sure that they have the correct pay and benefits to continue to be here and attract that talent is fantastic. Same thing with anything with education. Adam Marcoux has a really tough job with all these different contracts and all these different job titles that he has to make sure, get proper pay, proper benefits, and he works really hard for this educational staff and the teachers. I'm very thankful for him.

Lastly, Matt Sullivan who's had to work this Mohawk Tannery these amendments to get them in so we can start working on this project that is going to have repercussions for Nashua for years to come. Good repercussions as far as getting that site finally cleaned up and to get some housing there that we desperately need. Thank you.

Alderman Wilshire

I, too, would like to commend everyone who participated from the inception of the Performing Arts Center to its opening. It was great. I was really, really something to be in there after I've had a shoe club at Alec and for 35 years and I'd go in every week and pay my shoe club. Now I get to go in there and really enjoy all the entertainment that we're going to be able to enjoy over the years. So my kudos to everyone who was involved in that.

Committee announcements:

Alderman Lopez

Human Affairs Committee is meeting at 7:00 p.m. on April 17th in the aldermanic chamber. It's the CDBG meeting and pretty important.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN SULLIVAN THAT THE APRIL 11, 2023, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ADJOURNED

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Attest: Dan Healey, City Clerk