

A regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Tuesday, January 8, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

President Lori Wilshire presided; City Clerk Patricia D. Piecuch recorded.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Patricia D. Piecuch; Alderman Ernest A. Jette led in the Pledge to the Flag.

The roll call was taken with 13 members of the Board of Aldermen present; Alderwoman Melizzi-Golja was recorded absent.

Mayor James W. Donchess and Corporation Counsel Steven A. Bolton were also in attendance.

President Wilshire

Alderwoman Melizzi-Golja did let me know that she was unable to join us this evening.

REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Donchess

First I wanted to address something on the Agenda which is the report from the Rail Committee that Tim Cummings, the Economic Development Director has forwarded to you, and which I understand will be referred to one of the committees. For those of you who were not here when the committee was formed, and I think there are a number of you, we formed the committee through Legislative action when the possibility of working with the Boston Surface Rail Corporation originally arose. The idea was to appoint people knowledgeable and interested in the task of bringing rail service to Nashua to help advise the Board of Aldermen and the City as to how to proceed.

Of course, I am preaching to the choir; I know here when I say that a rail would bring great benefits to the State of New Hampshire in its entirety as well as to the City of Nashua, as well as to the neighborhood that would host the rail station and of course all the commuters who drive from Nashua into Boston or Massachusetts.

The Rail Committee was given actually a limited term but they have continued to work as issues have come up and I think that definitely has been a good thing. They have kept up-to-date regarding rail issues; they include a number of recommendations in their report. They are basically suggesting, and you will hear this directly when they report in more detail; they are basically suggesting that we as a City continue to pursue two parallel tracks. Number one, our work with the Legislature in the effort to get the last planning stages for the capital quarter project funded with the \$4 million dollars of Federal money, not one State dollar involved that would be required to complete that last planning phase, while at the same time acknowledging that over time there has been quite a bit of opposition to rail in Concord and many legislators over time have not been supportive. So, at the same pursuing the joint approach with Boston Surface Rail to work with them to determine if they could bring a private service to the City; the Committee is recommending that we pursue these two tracks and you will hear more about that when they report.

We do have a very active Committee, technically its life has run out but I don't think we should let that interfere with their work. We could re-authorize the Committee to give them an indefinite life, if we want to make this formal is something that we could do. If we do do that, I think we should expand the membership by a couple of members. In appointing the initial people on the Committee we included two people who were in the Legislature and very active and interested in the rail issue; those being Bette Lasky who was then District 13 Senator as well as Carl Seidel who was then a Ward 1 Representative. Neither serve in the Legislature at this time but both are interested and involved and in the Committee and are knowledgeable on the rail issue. If we expand the membership it would be my intention or suggestion that we appoint two additional members who are in the Legislature because of course that feedback from the Legislature is very important and we could find maybe 2 or 3 other people from the Legislature who are involved in the appropriate committees and could help provide a perspective as to what is going on in Concord.

In any event, those are all issues to consider as they make their report and as we think more about the rail issue.

Another item on the Agenda, Madam Chair, is the continuation of the baseball contract with the Silver Knights for another 3 years. I think they have provided a very valuable entertainment asset to the City. A lot of people attend and it is great to have them playing all of their home games at Holman Stadium and so I am sure that you all agree that continuing our agreement with them would be a very positive step forward.

Finally on a sadder note, Madam Chair, I wanted to give my condolences to the family of Jack Nelson. Jack passed away about a week ago, I think on December 31st, his wife and now widow Mary Nelson, who lives down in Ward 8, was a State Senator in the City for a number of terms. She was very effective; she helped bring the Court House actually over here. She was very instrumental in bringing the downtown Court House when that seemed like it might not be possible; the State wanted to locate elsewhere, and accomplished a number of things for the City. Then she later worked for the City of Nashua, worked over at Public Health & Community Services as their Director for a number of years and I think retired in about 2008.

In any event, Mary and her family, Jamie and the other members of the family have suffered a very significant loss, Jack was a really great guy and so I want to extend my condolences to Mary and her kids and grandchildren.

With that, Madam Chair, that is all I that I have.

RESPONSE TO REMARKS OF THE MAYOR - None

RECOGNITION PERIOD - None

READING MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the minutes of the Board of Aldermen meetings of December 20, 2018, and December 26, 2018, accepted, placed on file, and the readings suspended.

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING ONLY PROCEDURAL ACTIONS AND WRITTEN REPORTS FROM LIAISONS

From: Tim Cummings, Economic Development Director
Re: Nashua Rail Transit Committee Report

There being no objection, President Wilshire accepted the communication, placed it on file, and referred it to the Committee on Infrastructure.

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT RELATIVE TO ITEMS EXPECTED TO BE ACTED UPON THIS EVENING - None

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING FINAL APPROVAL

From: Mayor Jim Donchess
Re: Contract for Primary Tank Upgrade Project – Construction Services

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND AWARD THE CONTRACT TO METHUEN CONSTRUCTION, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,629,340
MOTION CARRIED**

PETITIONS - None

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

The following Appointments by the Mayor were read into the record:

Cultural Connections Committee

Margaret Loret (New Appointment)
4 Cimmarron Drive
Nashua, NH 03062

Term to Expire: February 1, 2021

Jean Adie (Reappointment)
19A Fairmount Street
Nashua, NH 03064

Term to Expire: December 31, 2021

Mine Falls Park Advisory Committee

Richard Gillespie (Reappointment)
15 Spencer Drive
Nashua, NH 03062

Term to Expire: December 31, 2021

Nashua Art Commission

William H. Barry III (New Appointment)
161 Kinsley Street
Nashua, NH 03060

Term to Expire: April 1, 2019

Sara Ceaser (New Appointment)
3 Pine Street, Studio 2D
Nashua, NH 03060

Term to Expire: April 1, 2019

Paul Laflamme (Reappointment)
28 Lutheran Drive
Nashua , NH 03063

Term to Expire: April 1, 2020

Jennifer Latouche (New Appointment)
7-2 Hickory Lane
Hollis, NH 03049

Term to Expire: February 1, 2021

There being no objection, President Wilshire accepted the Appointments by the Mayor as read and referred them to the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Finance Committee..... 01/02/2019

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the January 2, 2019, Finance Committee accepted and placed on file.

Planning & Economic Development Committee..... 12/18/2018

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the December 18, 2018, Planning and Economic Development Committee accepted and placed on file.

CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE R-18-073
MOTION CARRIED**

R-18-073, Amended

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy
Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Jan Schmidt
Alderman Tom Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Brandon Michael Laws
Alderman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja

**PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY CHARTER RELATIVE TO FILLING VACANCIES
ON ELECTED BOARDS BY MAJORITY VOTE OF THE REMAINING MEMBERS OF THAT
BOARD**

Given its fifth reading;

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN THAT R-18-073, AS AMENDED, IS NECESSARY AND THAT A
PUBLIC HEARING BE SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2019, AT 7:00 PM IN THE
ALDERMANIC CHAMBER
MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO TABLE R-18-073
MOTION CARRIED**

R-18-099

Endorsers: Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman-at-Large David C. Tencza
Alderman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman Jan Schmidt
Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Tom Lopez
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright

**AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A SUCCESSOR "CONCESSION
AGREEMENT" WITH NASHUA COLLEGIATE BASEBALL, INC.**

Given its second reading;

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN CARON FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-18-099
MOTION CARRIED**

Resolution R-18-099 declared duly adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – ORDINANCES – None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS – None

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES – None

PERIOD FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – NoneREMARKS BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMENAlderman Lopez

I just left a pretty contentious-looking meeting over at the Library held by the Board of Trustees, there is obviously a large amount of concern from a small group about the Drag Queen Teen Story Event coming up this Saturday. So I wanted to express my support for our Library Director. I think Jen McCormack has done an outstanding job with the Library. She has run a variety of very relevant and important programs which is reflected by the Library's high utilization. It is a very important central piece in our community; whereas a lot of towns at this time are trying to decide whether they should even have a Public Library – ours is thriving.

I think her judgement in terms of programming and execution is something that we can have full confidence in. I don't expect her to run any events that would be inappropriate or un-family friendly or anything of that matter. And as I said, I appreciate the work that she does and the work that the Board of Trustees are doing right now at the Library.

Alderman Dowd

Yes I just wanted to state that I was at the Board of Education meeting last night and Heather Raymond has been elected as the new president of the Board of Education and Mr. Guarino has once again been nominated as the clerk. So they are off on a new year and I provided some guidance to them and hopefully we will have a much smoother year.

Alderman O'Brien

I too would like to as with the Mayor, offer my condolences to the Nelson family. I do know Mary, I had the pleasure to work with her both at the State level and everything and my thoughts are with them at this difficult time. Thank you.

President Wilshire

I too would like to send condolences to the Nelson family. Jack was a great guy and Mary was always a terrific person to work with. So my condolences to that family.

Committee announcements:

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you. I would just like to remind the Aldermen and to the public, there seems to be great interest in what the Mayor has spoken about with the report coming out on the rail and that is going to be held at the Infrastructure and that is going to be on January 23, 7:00 P.M. in the Aldermanic Chamber. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN THAT THE JANUARY 8, 2019, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ADJOURNED
MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Attest: Patricia D. Piecuch City Clerk