

A regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Tuesday, February 14, 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; Alderwoman 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 13 members of the Board of Aldermen present: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderman Lopez (arrive at 7:57), Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault (via Zoom), Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire.

Alderman Sullivan and Alderman Moran were recorded absent.

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

REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

President Wilshire

Mayor did you wish to address the Board this evening?

Mayor Donchess

Yes, thank you Madam President.

Well first I wanted to speak about R-23-082 which is the Community Power legislation. I see Doria Brown and Deb Chisholm in the audience. I want to thank them for all the effort and work that they've put in on this over a period of years really. Community Power is a way authorized by the State Legislature to introduce additional competition into the electric market and to potentially provide Nashua consumers with a lower price of electricity. Lower than the .22 cents currently being charged by Eversource. Now if you look at your electric bill, it consists of a number of components. One of those being the cost of the electricity itself and that is where the savings could be realized. What the Legislature has authorized is one or a group of communities getting together to purchase power on behalf of customers who are currently being served by Eversource. This means customers who are being provided their electricity through Eversource rather than an alternate provider and there are a number of people who are already with an alternate provider.

The way we proceed it is that we join the Community Power Coalition of NH. A group of about 17 cities, towns, and one County including Dover, Hanover, Cheshire County, and other communities. Together the proposal is that we would - this group of communities and one County would together with the use of a professional power buyer that works with community power organizations across the country, including in California, and in Massachusetts, and a banking institution would together buy power on behalf of Nashua consumers currently served by Eversource.

Now this transition would occur automatically and no one would really notice the difference except that potentially they could pay less on the line for the purchase of power. Eversource would continue to bill the customers. Eversource would continue to be paid for all of the items on the bill except for that one line which is the purchase of power. Eversource is principally a distribution company. They would continue to be paid for the use of their lines, and poles, and for their efforts in providing electricity in that way to homeowners and businesses. The launch could occur as soon as April or May depending on circumstances in Concord. One thing I do want to stress is that a consumers' choice is completely retained by this legislation in the sense that yes anyone who is currently buying power from Eversource will be automatically switched over. Anyone who wishes to stay with Eversource either at the beginning or at any time during after the program is initiated, anyone who wants to switch back to Eversource can do so. That's what the State law provides and that is the way it would work. So a consumer actually has the possibility of going back and forth between the Nashua Community Power as we're going to call it and Eversource.

So given the sky-high electric rates that we have seen recently, this will introduce competition, retain choice for our consumers, and potentially save people a lot of money. If we can save 2.5 cents per kilowatt, the savings to an average consumer, residential consumer, would be about \$100 per year. Finally the professionals that came before the Committee, not everyone was there, but said that if we went out today, we would save a considerable amount versus Eversource charges. So I hope you follow the recommendation of the Committee. In my opinion, act in the interest of Nashua consumers and enable this legislation to go forward by of course voting to pass it.

Second Madam President, I wanted to mention there is some good news at the Police Department. They were able to hire four additional officers which are starting very soon. All are from other Departments. This is a new approach taken by the PD and three more are on the way. So they're down nearly 15 but maybe it's 11. I think it's 15 and 11 though with a 4 and then 3 more coming. One thing that I think is obviously true is that Nashua pays police officers very well and this helps the Department persuade or attract recruits from other departments like a City like Concord or a town like Londonderry. Police officers want to come here because of the pay. That's a good thing and because the Department has a very good reputation, very professional. So there is some good news there.

There are a few pieces of legislation regarding the Mohawk Tannery clean-up around the agenda for a first reading. They will be referred to the appropriate committees. I won't get into the details now. We have discussed that in the past but I'm sure there will be a lot of discussion of the proposal to clean-up of the polluted Mohawk Tannery site in the weeks ahead but certainly that is important legislation that deserves everyone's attention.

Finally, I did want to wish everyone a Happy Valentine's Day. I hope you enjoy it at home with your loved ones, your family, and so I wish you well. That's all I have Madam President.

President Wilshire

Thank you Mayor.

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 regular and Special Board of Aldermen meetings of December 13, 2022, January 10, 2023, January 11, 2023, and February 7, 2023 be accepted, placed on file, and the reading suspended.

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING ONLY PROCEDURAL ACTIONS AND WRITTEN REPORTS FROM LIAISONS

From: Downtown Improvement Committee
Re: Minutes with recommendation for support

From: Sam Durfee, Planning Director
Re: Referral from the Board of Aldermen on proposed Petition for Street Discontinuance – Dozer Road, Lots A-990, 132-85, A-994, A-768, A-68, 132-1, A-67, and A-58

From: Sam Durfee, Planning Director
Re: Referral from the Board of Aldermen on proposed O-23-040, amending the Land Use Code regarding parking space requirements for middle and high schools

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

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND ALLOW FOR A COMMUNICATION RECEIVED FROM ALDERMAN SULLIVAN, BY ROLL CALL

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons,
Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia,
Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire 12

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

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

Andrew Prolman

Andrew Prolman, Esquire - Prunier & Prolman

Good evening. My name is Andy Prolman, Attorney with Prunier and Prolman here in Nashua. I'm here on behalf of the Flatley Company tonight. We are seeking approval of the discontinuance of a portion of Dozer Road - the south end of town north of the Sheraton Tara. I could speak to this now or when the matter comes up before the Board whatever your pleasure?

President Wilshire

Now is fine.

Andrew Prolman, Esquire - Prunier & Prolman

Okay. Madam President, Members you have the recommendation of the Planning Board. You have the positive recommendation of the Infrastructure Committee. We are seeking this discontinuance of Dozer Road to allow for the development of a subdivision that was approved last August by the Nashua Planning Board and portions of Dozer Road interfere with the back of house lots and interfere with some of the roadways that are part of that subdivision. The subdivision comes off of Spindlewick in the Lancashire Heights neighborhood. The Petition is to discontinue Dozer Road and ultimately convey that to the Flatley Company so that the subdivision project can go forward. They are looking to get in the ground this spring to start the project. I believe they have already started cutting some trees so we're looking for the Board's final passage of this tonight.

I did have some subdivision plans. Do you have those in case anybody had any questions? There is a condition of approval recommended by the Planning Board and recommended by the Infrastructure Committee that there is a small triangular parcel of land about 2,000 square feet in total that when discontinuing Dozer Road, it will cut off access to that little triangle of land and it's in the very bottom right-hand corner of this plan that's one the screen before you. That is a City owned parcel of land and the condition from the Planning Board and Infrastructure Committee was that the Flatley Company either grant an access easement or purchase that small little triangle. The Flatley Company has agreed to grant an access easement and we will start the process of acquisition. It's one of those parcels that the appraisal is probably going to cost more than the value of the land but that's part of the process. The Flatley Company has agreed to grant an access easement as part of this process and we have a draft of that I'll be submitting soon to staff. So with that Madam President, I can answer any questions from the Board.

President Wilshire

Not at this time. Thank you though.

Matthew Gouthro

Matthew Gouthro, 104 Fawn Lane. Good evening I am here before you to speak again Ordinance O-22-19 which is recommended for final passage at this meeting. We already have in place an ordinance that gives the Downtown Improvement Committee funding that's contingent upon surplus revenues gained from parking enforcement. The bottom line, parking enforcement revenues were down last year. Unfortunately decisions by the Mayor and his Economic Development Director blessed by this Board of Aldermen to spend \$100,000 in taxpayer funds to reduce our parking in favor of outdoor dining in our historic downtown has caused this dilemma. This all should have been sorted out in the 2023 budget sessions but it got kicked forward until now. We are left with this unnecessary legislation that is being created to give a flat \$100,000 to the Downtown Improvement Committee.

Now we all want to see our downtown bright and vibrant but I have serious concerns about this Committee. First, more than half of their member's terms have already expired and they barely have enough members to hold a quorum. Second, I recall the Chair of the Downtown Improvement Committee when it came to budget discussions last year bringing up the difficulty of getting City staff to attend their meetings or even post their minutes. In looking through those minutes, you can see that they haven't had any City staff attend their meetings including Director Cummings until October of 2022. Third and finally, when was the last time any of you attended their meetings? The last time was by the author of this legislation who hasn't attended a meeting of the Downtown Improvement Committee since August of 2022.

So in conclusion, you are being asked to give \$100,000 in taxpayer funds in perpetuity to a committee who barely has enough members appointed by the Mayor to hold a quorum...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

One minute.

Matthew Gouthro

...that has little support by City staff at their meetings and what I'll call "infrequent attendance" in support by the Board of Aldermen. I'd say that the Downtown Improvement Committee has far greater challenges than funding sources and I call upon you to reject this unnecessary legislation which is merely a last minute attempt to circumvent your annual budget process. Thank you.

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING FINAL APPROVAL

From: Mayor Jim Donchess
Re: Contract for Professional Services related to Nashua Downtown Riverfront Implementation Project

MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE TO APPROVE A CONTRACT FOR ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND LIGHTING DESIGN OF THE RIVERFRONT PROJECT WITH FITZEMEYER & TOCCI ASSOCIATES, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$145,000. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 183 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; FUND: 81700 INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS/BOND, BY ROLL CALL

President Wilshire

You've heard the Motion. Is this discussion on the Motion? Seeing none.

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons,
Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia,
Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire 12

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

From: Mayor Jim Donchess
Re: Contract award in excess of \$1,000,000 – Continental Paving, Inc.

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN TIMMONS TO APPROVE THE AWARD OF THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE 2023 PAVING PROGRAM – CONTRACT 1 TO CONTINENTAL PAVING, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,684,994. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 160 ADMIN/ENGINEERING; FUND: \$1,473,244 ACCOUNT 54210/PAVING BOND, \$52,500 ACCOUNT 54210/STORMWATER, AND \$159,250 ACCOUNT 54210/SEWER REHAB BOND, BY ROLL CALL

President Wilshire

You've heard the Motion. Is this discussion on the Motion? Seeing none.

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons,
Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia,
Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire 12

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

From: John Griffin, CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector
Re: DPW request to change the timing of the purchase of two dump trucks on the CERF schedule

MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO APPROVE THE REPLACEMENT OF A 6-WHEEL DUMP TRUCK WHICH WAS INCLUDED ON THE FY2024 CERF SCHEDULE AND DEFER THE PURCHASE OF A 10-WHEEL DUMP TRUCK APPROVED IN FY2023 CERF SCHEDULE DUE TO UNAVAILABILITY FOR THE STREET DEPARTMENT WHICH IS CONTINGENT UPON APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE, BY ROLL CALL

President Wilshire

You've heard the Motion. Is this discussion on the Motion?

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons,
Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia,
Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire 12

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

PETITIONS

Petition for Street Discontinuance – Dozer Road Lots (A-990, 132-85, A-994, A-768, A-68, 132-1, A-67, and A-58)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN CLEMONS TO GRANT THE PETITION FOR STREET DISCONTINUANCE - DOZER ROAD LOTS (A-990, 132-85, A-994, A-768, A-68, 132-1, A-67, AND A-58) ON THE CONDITION THAT THE PETITIONER EITHER GRANT THE CITY AN ACCESS EASEMENT OR PURCHASE LOT 114-233 FROM THE CITY FOR FAIR MARKET VALUE, BY ROLL CALL

President Wilshire

You've heard the Motion. Is this discussion on the Motion?

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons,
Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia,
Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire 12

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

The following appointments were read into the record:

Animal and Dog Park Advisory Committee

Amber Morgan (re-appointment) Term to Expire: September 10, 2025
20 Lock Street
Nashua, NH 03064

Performing Arts Center Board of Trustees

Marylou Blaisdell (new appointment) Term to Expire: February 14, 2028
206 Main Street
Nashua, NH 03060

Ian Buckley (new appointment) Term to Expire: February 14, 2027
207 Main Street

Nashua, NH 03060

Judith Carlson (new appointment)
15 Manchester Street
Nashua, NH 03064

Term to Expire: February 14, 2026

Richard Lannan (new appointment)
7D Taggart Drive
Nashua, NH 03060

Term to Expire: February 14, 2028

Jay Minkarah (new appointment)
13 Mt. Pleasant Street
Nashua, NH 03064

Term to Expire: February 14, 2025

Amber Morgan (new appointment)
20 Lock Street
Nashua, NH 03064

Term to Expire: February 14, 2026

Lindsay Rinaldi (new appointment)
2 Lock Street
Nashua, NH 03064

Term to Expire: February 14, 2027

Philip Scontsas (new appointment)
14 Ashland Street
Nashua, NH 03064

Term to Expire: February 14, 2024

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

Human Affairs Committee..... 12/19/2022

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the December 19, 2022 Human Affairs Committee be accepted and placed on file.

Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee..... 01/03/2023

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the January 3, 2023 Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee be accepted and placed on file.

Joint Meeting - Planning and Economic Development Committee and Committee on Infrastructure
..... 12/06/2022, 01/11/2023

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the reports of the December 6, 2022 and January 11, 2023 Joint Meeting of Planning and Economic Development Committee and Committee on Infrastructure be accepted and placed on file.

CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS

Airport Authority

There being no objection, President Wilshire confirmed the re-appointment of Farrell Woods, 162 Bush Hill Road, Hudson, to the Airport Authority with a term to expire January 10, 2028.

Oath of Office administered at a later time.

Ethics Review Committee

There being no objection, President Wilshire confirmed the new appointments of Lyndsay N. Robinson, Main Street, Nashua, and Michael J. Tabacsko, 5 Federal Hill Road, Nashua, to the Ethics Review Committee with terms to expire January 10 and January 24, 2026.

Oaths of Office administered at a later time.

Mine Falls Park Advisory Committee

There being no objection, President Wilshire confirmed the re-appointments of Pamela Anderson, 8 Plainfield Lane, Nashua; Jeff Hannigan, 32 Houde Street, Nashua; Paula Lochhead, 4 Westbrook Drive, Nashua; and Trisha Mullin, 275 Broad Street, Nashua, to the Mine Falls Park Advisory Committee with terms to expire January 10, 2026.

Oaths of Office administered at a later time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-23-082

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Derek Thibeault

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A COST SHARING AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITY POWER COALITION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN GOUVEIA FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-23-082 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A COST SHARING AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITY POWER COALITION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE AND MEMBER SERVICE CONTRACT AND ALSO THAT THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN ADOPT THE COMMUNITY POWER COALITION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE'S ENERGY PORTFOLIO RISK MANAGEMENT, RETAIL RATES, AND FINANCIAL RESERVES POLICIES AS WELL AS THE DATA SECURITY AND PRIVACY POLICY, BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

President Wilshire

You've heard the Motion. Is this discussion on the Motion? Alderman Thibeault?

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you Madam President. I just wanted to say one thing about Eversource's rates. So starting February 1st they went from 22.57 cents to 20.22 cents. I'm just hoping that by the time they release the next rates, it will probably be late spring or June/July. I'm expecting them based on what I've heard to go even lower than that. So I'm hoping that going into this Community Power Plan gives us an even better rate or at least - I would hate if it backfired and went the other way. I'm still for it and I still think it's a good idea but I just want to make sure that we don't end up by some terrible mistake putting people on a plan and then all of a sudden Eversource is lower. We have to get people to switch off. You know people they don't always know they've been switched and so I just want to make sure we're doing whatever the best thing is for the citizens of the City. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Thank you. Anyone else? Would the Clerk please call the roll?

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons,
Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia,

Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire
Alderman Lopez

13

Nay:

0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-23-082 declared duly adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – ORDINANCES**O-22-019**

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

CHANGING THE DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENTS FUNDING PLAN

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN CLEMONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF O-22-019, BY ROLL CALLON THE QUESTIONPresident Wilshire

Motion if for final passage. Is this discussion on the Motion? Alderman Comeau?

Alderman Comeau

Thank you Madam President. Just briefly I initially signed on as a co-sponsor of this legislation and admittedly that was because when I read it for the first time I thought that it was doing something different than it was. After listening to the arguments in Committee and correcting some of my own misconceptions, this legislation is not something I support any longer so I will not be voting for it.

President Wilshire

Okay. Further discussion? Seeing none.

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette,
Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron,
Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire

11

Nay: Alderman Comeau, Alderman Gouveia

2

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance O-23-019 declared duly adopted.

O-23-040

Endorsers: Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons

AMENDING THE LAND USE CODE REGARDING PARKING SPACE REQUIREMENTS FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF O-23-040, BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Dowd

I'd like to speak to the Motion just briefly.

President Wilshire

Alderman Dowd?

Alderman Dowd

For those that hadn't been to any of the Committee meetings, this got a favorable recommendation from the Planning Board, also from Planning itself, and it is to correct an ordinance that's old and not accurate, and it's to allow for additional parking spaces constrained by one of two things either the amount of land we have at the middle school or high school and the zoning. So it's based for either the maximum amount of parking spaces is increasing from 2 to 2.5 per classroom and this is because today we have additional staff in schools we didn't have when this ordinance was originally written or original zoning rather. With para-professionals, psychologists, added nursing staff, added food service staff, additional people in the front office, etc. so in order to have enough parking, I recommend that we pass this.

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 O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire	13
Nay:		0

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance O-23-040 declared duly adopted.

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-23-084

Endorsers: Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Tyler Gouveia
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderman Derek Thibeault
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 SCHOOL CUSTODIAN UNION, LOCAL 365/COUNCIL 93, AFSCME, AFL-CIO FROM JULY 1, 2021 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025 AND RELATED TRANSFERS

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

R-23-085

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

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF \$58,753 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, EXOTIC SPECIES PROGRAM AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF MATCHING FUNDS

Given its first reading; Assigned to the HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, by President Wilshire

R-23-086

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A LEASE WITH RAMBLING HOUSE, LLC

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

R-23-087

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

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY TREASURER TO ISSUE BONDS NOT TO EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$525,150) FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE NEW 850L CRAWLER DOZER FOR THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS

Given its first reading; Assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE, BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, and SCHEDULE A SPECIAL BOARD OF ALDERMEN PUBLIC HEARING at 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023 in the aldermanic chamber, by President Wilshire

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

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

O-23-041

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly

AUTHORIZING A STOP SIGN ON TOPAZ DRIVE AT ITS INTERSECTION WITH KELLY STREET

Given its first reading; Assigned to the COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE, by President Wilshire

O-23-042

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Tyler Gouveia
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

ALLOWING LEASES FOR SPACES IN THE WATER STREET PARKING LOT

Given its first reading; Assigned to the COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE, by President Wilshire

O-23-043

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 first reading; Assigned to the PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, PLANNING BOARD, and SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED BY PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, at 7:00 PM ON TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023 in the aldermanic chamber, by President Wilshire

O-23-044

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 first reading; Assigned to the PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, PLANNING BOARD, and SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED BY PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, at 7:00 PM ON TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023 in the aldermanic chamber, by President Wilshire

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 first reading; Assigned to the PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, PLANNING BOARD, and SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED BY PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, at 7:00 PM ON TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023 in the aldermanic chamber, by President Wilshire

PERIOD FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Matthew Gouthro

Good evening again. Matthew Gouthro, 104 Fawn Lane. I wanted to bring up a concerning statement that was brought up at the last Budget meeting on February 8th. During that meeting, the discussion went back and forth on the funding legislation for the Downtown Improvement Committee that you voted on this evening. The Chair Alderman Dowd brought up the fact that even though parking revenues were low last year, they were going to go up once the Performing Arts Center had opened. The Chair had to be reminded at that meeting that there's no parking enforcement in the downtown after 7:00 p.m. That's when Alderman O'Brien chimed in to reassure everyone that we've already fixed that and he continued you'll find out about that later.

Well I don't know about you but I haven't seen any Legislation that has come through sub-committees or this full Board of Aldermen that dramatically changes our parking ordinances here in the City of Nashua. I was shocked. I'm surprised that many of you that were in that room that night weren't shocked as well. Madam President you were there. Transparency in government. That's all we ask for as citizens. Look around at your colleagues on this dais. Why do we have Aldermen voted on by our residents sitting here in this room? Why do we even need to hold public hearings? Why when the outcomes are already determined by closed door meetings by a select few. Think about this, we are in this chamber on Valentine's Day and if we truly want to share the love for our great City, we need to be clear, accountable, and truthful with our citizens on how our tax dollars are being spent and the way and means by which we govern our great City. Thank you.

REMARKS BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Alderman Klee

I just want to say that I am glad we did pass the Downtown Improvement new funding. I think they are an important asset to the City. I don't know who does or doesn't attend that meeting but I do know that those that are running the meeting are doing a very good job and they have my support. Thank you.

Alderman Lopez

I have a question. Did this letter that was on desk here was that entered in? Okay. I wanted to make sure I reference it in the public for them to see it. There is a communication from Alderman Sullivan requesting that we do a special committee for the Mohawk Tannery Project. I was not contacted with that so the first I found out about that was here. I think traditionally if an Alderman who is representing one Ward or to make proposals that affect another one, you would maybe mention that to that Alderman but it's possible that Alderman Sullivan wanted to be so transparent that he introduced it to everybody at the same time which is fair. I would say that I do not think that a special committee is necessarily a good idea and would need to be considered much more carefully and discussed with residents and with the people involved with the project with regard to timeframe because I think what we've consistently been hearing and seeing with just a presentation alone is that we don't necessarily politicize or overburden a project that that neighborhood really, really needs. We need to clean up Mohawk Tannery. We need to take decisive action and move forward with steps. The neighbors are extremely cautious of any politically motivated efforts to slow that down or adjust its outcome. I realize that anything in the City of Nashua belongs to all of the City of Nashua but this is their back yard and I think we should listen to their voices if we're going to start adding layers of administration.

I think the Mayor's department has been transparent since this project was announced. I think that the planning and proposals and the developers have been very, very active interacting with the neighborhoods. That may not be something that general public is aware of because there's many projects happening on in Nashua and there is many different priorities that come up as they approach their decision points. This has always been a priority for those neighbors and they have been very consistently following what's going on. I think their voices would probably be more important on this matter. Those are just my opinions.

As the Ward 4 Alderman in addition to those comments, I would also like to thank everybody who supported the chili cook-off for Veteran's on Sunday. We had a great turn out. We had some support from local businesses. A new one, the Good Place, which hasn't even fully opened yet contributed. It's important to remember that when we have holidays that we're all able to celebrate, we remember that not everybody is able to celebrate them equally. Our Veterans have served our country and have done everything they can to protect our rights. So doing something small like thinking of them on Valentine's Day and having something to kind of pick them up a little bit over the weekend, especially since the Patriot's weren't in the Superbowl and they needed something to celebrate, it is important. I wanted to thank everybody who supported that, everybody who donated chili, and the Veteran's themselves who contributed obviously the winning pots of chili, and did a great job of working with each other. So thank you very much.

Alderman Clemons

Thank you. I wanted to it is Valentine's Day. It's more than just Valentine's Day for my wife and I. We actually officially became a couple nine years ago today. Since I am here and she is at home, I want to wish her a Happy Valentine's Day. I did see her earlier. We did go out to dinner last night and had a great dinner. We celebrated early. Happy Valentine's Day to everybody especially my beautiful wife at home.

Alderman Comeau

Yes, thank you Madam President. I just wanted to say thank you and good luck to everyone who's here instead of out to dinner with their significant other right now.

Also, best of luck this weekend. Saturday is the Division 1 Championships for High School wrestling. South has a number of highly-seated wrestlers that are going to be competing on Saturday. If proud Papa can have his moment of indulgence, they released the rankings today. My son Connor is currently the third seated wrestler in the Division at his weight class. So best of luck to all the South wrestlers that are going for State Championships this weekend.

President Wilshire

Congrats to your son. Alderman Gouveia?

Alderman Comeau

Thank you.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you Madam President. Just want to give a shout out. We have the 6th Annual Chocolate Stroll on Saturday. It was a great event downtown about 20+ downtown businesses participated. It was a really good time.

Alderman Caron

Yes, thank you. I also would like to wish my husband a Happy Valentine's Day. Only it's 48 years valentines. But the other thing is tomorrow is the Mayor's Ward 7 meeting at Dr. Crisp School. It will start at 6:00 p.m. I know that he's trying to keep it to one hour. We want to make sure that we can answer all your questions but if you have something that is really important for you, if you send something to me, I'll try to bring it with me, or try to get some answers ahead of time for you. Thank you.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Madam President. I just got a couple of things. First, just regarding that letter that Alderman Sullivan sent out. There's one piece in there where he talks about putting two committees together for the downtown barriers committee. We didn't do that. We always do that. We do that for a lot of different items. That's why we have these committees because then you can maybe put two together to work on some of these bigger issues.

I think to Alderman Lopez's point, I don't think we need another committee either. I think we have the committees that are there. We just got to make sure that they hit all the committees they're supposed to on the different issues that will come up through this huge, huge plan.

Next thing, I know we're not supposed to say names of the people in the audience but and I won't this time. 'Il just say to Mr. thank you for coming. It's been a while since we've had people come to public comment. I always whether I agree with it or don't agree with it, I think it's important. I think people are staying away. I don't think they should. I think they should come and say their peace for the time that they have. So thank you to him for continuing to comment. It's been a little while.

Also, congratulations to Fairgrounds Middle School. They won the Tri-county Basketball Championship over the weekend and coached Dan Caruso who did an awesome job with those kids including my own.

Finally for my wife, it's her birthday today. Probably one of the toughest birthday's outside of maybe Christmas that you can have. So us being both sick and having to come to this meeting, it's not much of a Valentine's Day or birthday but I just want to wish her a Happy Birthday and great Valentine's Day. Thank you.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you, Madam President. I wasn't going to mention anything but I got triggered by Alderman Clemons. I did spend the day up at Concord and here I am in the chamber but honey I'll be home soon. Please take my picture off the milk carton.

I just would like to just to briefly rebut but basically to keep the clear, and accountable, and truthful end of it. What happens at one particular meeting does not really need to get in-depth particularly when the subject matter isn't germane to what we're getting into. That being said, I do recognize the citizen that did say it because it was the perfect segway into committee announcements of what's going to happen. I did give the forewarning. The parking study is getting ready to roll out. Put your seat belts on folks, it's going to be not in one meeting, not in two, but it's going to take several meetings with the full Board and everybody else. There's other potential changes. It's gonna involve Public Works, coming down to trash collection, everything else. We have to get it right and we have to get it right from the get go not piece mail it. So if people say that it's taking a while, we're trying to get all pieces to the jigsaw puzzle together. I'm looking forward to it and Madam President not to jump you but if you're ready for committee assignments, I got a couple good ones for ya.

Committee announcements:

Alderman O'Brien

Aw perfect Segway. Thank you Madam President. There's going to be a joint meeting of Infrastructure and PEDC Wednesday, February 22, to discuss the BIDA. It's going to be in the introduction with that Committee with the parking study. Then coming in the future will be Infrastructure meetings on March 8 and March 22. Thank God they didn't write March 17th to discuss the parking study. So it's coming and I'm going to need all your help and assistance to make sure we get this right. Thank you, Madam President.

President Wilshire

Other Committee announcements? None. Okay.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN THAT THE FEBRUARY 14, 2023, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ADJOURNED, BY ROLL CALL

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

Yea:	Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire	13
Nay:		0

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Attest: Dan Healey, City Clerk



THE CITY OF NASHUA

"The Gate City"

Nashua Board of Aldermen

To: Board of Aldermen
Fr: Ald. John Sullivan, Ward 9
CC: Mayor James Donchess
Date: Tuesday, 14 February 2023

My Fellow Colleagues,

I believe we are all serving this city at a pivotal time in our history. With all that is happening internally with several projects as well as externally with macro-economic pressures affecting our citizens, we should be mindful of each step we take.

I am writing to all of you to express my desire to form a special committee around the planned residential project at the former Mohawk Tannery Site. We need this special committee to be completely focused on the projects while consistently making decisions that are all related to a positive outcome. Issues such as environmental clean-up, affordable housing, zoning, bonding, and tax abatement. The one issue that I believe to be paramount in all of it is transparency.

A special committee will commence as the first pieces of legislation are presented and will meet at the proper cadence to keep the project moving forward without a sense of urgency. It should consist of 5 aldermen, a representative from our Conservation Commission as well as from the Housing Authority.

Special committees do have precedence. In preparation of writing this memo, I researched that David Deane established a special committee for substandard living conditions in 2015. Recently, we formed a joint committee with the purpose of discussing the impact of barriers on Main Street.

A special Mohawk committee can focus solely on all of the legislation presented, debate it, amend it and evaluate the policy. This committee can work only on legislation related to the project without the stress of having to discuss and debate other legislation. This efficiency and focus will allow full conversation and more importantly, questions around the impact.

Please consider this option as we move forward with this project. I appreciate you taking the time to read this communication.

Best regards,

John