

A special meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Monday, April 24, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the aldermanic chamber.

Vice-President Michael B. O'Brien, Sr., presided; City Clerk Dan Healey recorded.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Dan Healey; Alderman Derek Thibeault led in the Pledge to the Flag.

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

City Clerk Healey called the roll.

The roll call was taken with 10 members of the Board of Aldermen present: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault.

Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderwoman Timmons, and Alderman Wilshire were recorded absent.

#### Vice-President O'Brien

I would like to thank all the Aldermen that made special attention to make it this evening. I know it is school vacation week but I'm sure the citizens and myself appreciate your diligence in coming to tonight's meeting.

Also if I may have a moment briefly of personal privilege. I'd like to thank everybody for their well wishes when I was a little bit ill there. I'm up and doing fine. Strong like bull, so we're good to go. Thank you.

Seeing that as per our custom, I will now turn the meeting over to the Chairman of the Budget Committee Alderman Richard Dowd.

#### Chairman Dowd

Okay this evening we have a public hearing on six different resolutions so we'll try and move through those as quickly as possible and we'll be addressing these in Budget right afterwards.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### **R-23-103**

### **AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY TREASURER TO ISSUE BONDS NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,700,000) TO PURCHASE ONE NEW LADDER TRUCK FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

#### Chairman Dowd

Is there anyone here who would like to come up and give us an oversight?

#### Steve Buxton, Chief Nashua Fire Rescue

Good evening. This funding mechanism is to replace our aerial ladder truck that is stationed at 15 Amherst Street. The truck is currently due for replacement in the CERF schedule in FY'27. However, build times for apparatus at this point in time exceed 32 months so we're trying to stay ahead of it. There are some further details in regards to motors that we can probably get into at the next meeting but I won't get too deep in the weeds at this point in time.

Chairman Dowd

All right. Any questions for the Chief while he's here?

Vice-President O'Brien

Alderman Dowd if I may. You can't see me back here but a question through the Chair to Chief. We have done this in the past haven't we when we have a special situation to order because it takes quite a long time as you mentioned to build these things to put there spot on the floor?

Steve Buxton, Chief Nashua Fire Rescue

That is correct. We replace our engines at 12 year cycle and then we put them in reserve status. They're not on the front line and aerial apparatus are replaced at a 15 year mark and then put in reserve status. So we get pretty much 20-25 years out of each piece of apparatus that we have and purchase. Due to the excessive build times that are currently underway is the reason we have to get out in front of this.

Vice-President O'Brien

Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions? Thank you Chief. I'm sure you'll be back up in a minute.

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

Chairman Dowd closed the public hearing on Resolution R-23-103 at 7:06 p.m.

Chairman Dowd opened the public hearing on Resolution R-23-104 at 7:06 p.m.

**R-23-104**

**AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY TREASURER TO ISSUE BONDS NOT TO EXCEED NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$900,000) TO PURCHASE ONE NEW PUMPER TRUCK FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Chairman Dowd

Chief?

Steve Buxton, Chief Nashua Fire Rescue

Good evening. Steve Buxton, Nashua Fire Chief. The funding in this mechanism is to replace a pumper truck. This truck is again stationed at 15 Amherst Street. It's due for replacement in FY'26 and current build times for pumper trucks are 28+ months. So again, we're looking to get this funding so we can hold our schedule. Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions for the Chief? No, okay.

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

Chairman Dowd closed the public hearing on Resolution R-23-104 at 7:07 p.m.

Chairman Dowd opened the public hearing on Resolution R-23-111 at 7:07 p.m.

**R-23-111**

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

Chairman Dowd

Is there anyone here to speak to that? Any Aldermen that have any questions about it? Nope. Alderman Jette?

Alderman Jette

I really don't have any questions but I want to express my disappointment that there's no one from the City to explain this. I think it's happened in the past where someone from the staff has not come in to explain a request. I just want to express my disappointment and hope that in the future that the Mayor makes sure there's somebody here to explain the request.

Chairman Dowd

Understood and we may have the same problems we have with some of the Aldermen all being on vacation now that we're getting into that early vacation period for the summer. Alderman Lopez?

Alderman Lopez

I just want to add that my agreement with both my two colleagues that just spoke. That this is a difficult week I'm sure for many parents but this is a major issue. I think as Aldermen, we need to be informed as to the scope of the continuing issues with opioid and other forms of addiction in the City. We are seeing our City services get stretched and taxed by this. So this is an opportunity for whatever it's worth to educate legislators and policymakers as to the need for this funding. It's not necessarily questioning the need but I think it could have been an opportunity to talk about the scope of the problems the City is facing and the different activities that are essential to combatting it.

Chairman Dowd

I'll see if I can find out if anybody was informed to be here. Great. No other questions? I'll open up the public hearing on R-23-111.

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

Chairman Dowd closed the public hearing on Resolution R-23-111 at 7:10 p.m.

Chairman Dowd opened the public hearing on Resolution R-23-112 at 7:10 p.m.

**R-23-112**

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

Chairman Dowd

Is anyone here to talk to the Capital CERF?

Cheryl Lindner, Treasury Management Officer

Good evening. I wasn't here originally to speak to it but I can just explain. So this amount is going back into the CERF account. It was generated by an insurance reimbursement for an Environmental Health Department vehicle that was lost – for a loss. Sorry not lost the vehicle but that's where this funding is coming from. So we're going to need to replace that vehicle out of the CERF fund so the insurance reimbursement will go towards that. It will go back into the fund.

Chairman Dowd

Any questions on that? So its money that's going into CERF from outside from insurance because of a vehicle that was, I'm assuming, in some type of accident. Okay, thank you. No further questions?

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

Chairman Dowd closed the public hearing on Resolution R-23-112 at 7:12 p.m.

Chairman Dowd opened the public hearing on Resolution R-23-113 at 7:12 p.m.

**R-23-113**

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

Chairman Dowd

Miss Lindner?

Cheryl Lindner, Treasury Management Officer

Thank you. Again this is another vehicle. It was a loss of 2021 Chevy Volt in the Transit Department and the insurance reimbursement is just going back into the CERF fund which we'll use to turn around and buy another vehicle

Chairman Dowd

Thank you. Any questions for Miss Lindner? Alright, seeing none.

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR – None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

Chairman Dowd closed the public hearing on Resolution R-23-113 at 7:13 p.m.

Chairman Dowd opened the public hearing on Resolution R-23-115 at 7:13 p.m.

**R-23-115**

**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**

Chairman Dowd

Please come up and give us an overview.

Amy DeRoche, Economic Development Project Manager

These funds are from an unanticipated federal grant. They are congressionally designated to only be spent on the ADA ramp over at the Cotton Mill Transfer Bridge. If they're accepted, then they'll go into the TIF fund and they'll be used to help offset construction costs when we construct the ramp this summer.

Chairman Dowd

Any questions? Thank you. Seeing no further questions.

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

Chairman Dowd closed the public hearing on Resolution R-23-115 at 7:14 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN THAT THE APRIL 24, 2023 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ADJOURNED**

**MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Attest: Dan Healey, City Clerk

Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.,  
Clerk, Pro Tem