

A regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at 7:36 p.m. in the aldermanic chamber and via Zoom teleconference which meeting link can be found on the agenda and on the City's website calendar.

President Lori Wilshire presided; City Clerk Susan Lovering recorded.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Susan Lovering; Alderman Richard A. Dowd led in the Pledge to the Flag.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. If you are participating via Zoom, please state your presence, reason for not attending the meeting in person, and whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-To-Know Law.

The roll call was taken with 12 members physically present and 2 members via Zoom of the Board of Aldermen present: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons (via Zoom), Alderwoman Kelly (via Zoom), Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey, Alderman Thibeault, and Alderman Wilshire.

Alderwoman Timmons was recorded absent.

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

REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

President Wilshire

Mayor Donchess did you wish to address the Board this evening?

Mayor Donchess

Yes, thank you very much Madam President. Well I wanted to mention to you a few things some of which are on the agenda here. First, you see on your desk the proposed Fiscal 23 budget. This 312 pages. I will be appearing at the Budget Committee which I believe is scheduled for Monday to talk with you through more of the details, but overview the budget is impacted by inflation in a number of areas - electricity, fuels costs, construction, and therefore some of those costs are up and we will again talk about the details when I address the Budget Committee if we can look through it in detail.

One thing about presentation, you will notice that every year we are adding more explanation regarding the functions of each Division and each Department so it's a little more accessible to the public. None of that explanation was there a few years back and we are trying to improve that and expand that every year so that people can use the budget document as a way to understand the functions of city government, what each department, and what each Division not only does but has accomplished and hopes to accomplish in the future year.

Madam President another issue on the agenda is the paving bond. This has been endorsed by the Budget Committee. This will continue the paving plan of action for another five years. As a result of the support of the Board of Aldermen, we've been able to greatly improve the condition of the City streets. You've heard some of the details in prior discussions, but every street in the City is ranked according to a PCI (Paving Condition Index). That has been used by Public Works - those ratings to decide which streets should be paved when and so far we have either paved or preserved through crack sealing or another method about more than two-thirds of the City streets. Still more work needs to be done. This is a quality of life issue in terms of the appearance, the image of the community, as well as the importance of the transportation for our residents getting around town without breaking axels and encountering other difficulties on our streets.

Another item Madam President is the Police contract. I know Chief Rourke would have probably wanted to be here but he is ill and out of work today. The Budget Committee endorsed the contract. We were very thankful that they agreed to the healthcare plan that has been developed by the City. This will save us some money there and I hope you will follow the recommendation of the Budget Committee and endorse that contract.

One thing that we've talked about a little bit in the past is the lack of a third member of the Board of Registrars. You'll see here that there's the nomination of Bill Grady which will provide partisan balance. I need to give credit to Alderman Trish Klee. This is not an easy position to fill and Bill Grady is a resident of Ward 3 and Trish was able to contact him and he was very enthusiastic and put himself forward to serve. So I want to thank him for his willingness and Trish for coming up with a very good idea.

And finally I have to give Alderman O'Brien yet more kudos regarding his efforts up in the Legislature. So that you will recall the Legislature broke its legal obligation to pay 35% of pension costs for cities and towns. Alderman O'Brien has been trying to restore a portion of that. Through some series of miracles, he got it through the House - floor fights, close votes, reconsideration, on, and on, and on. I call him the Tip O'Neil of Nashua. That Bill was tabled in the Senate. So Alderman O'Brien did not give up and attached the same provision as an amendment through another floor fight winning by four votes. They attached it to a different Bill. I forget what the subject of the Bill is, so it's now going back to Conference Committee where the Senate and House will discuss and those in the Legislature can provide better detail than I but we'll discuss how to resolve the differences between the two versions of that Bill and hopefully the Conference Committee will agree to Alderman O'Brien's amendment. If so, it would benefit the City to the tune of \$2 million a year. So thank you Alderman O'Brien for all your efforts.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Donchess

And with that, I will conclude Madam President.

President Wilshire

Thank you Mayor.

RESPONSE TO REMARKS OF THE MAYOR

Alderman Klee

Thank you Madam Chairman. I want to correct something that the Mayor had said. Mr. Grady is now in Ward 2 because of redistricting, but yes I did bring his name forward. Just kind of a side note when I first met Mr. Grady, he posed a whole list of questions to me and my answer wasn't good enough. It was but why do you feel that way? And he tested me to no end. We are in opposite parties and we have grown to have great mutual respect. We don't always agree on everything, but I really thought that as a constitutional person and so on that he would be perfect for that position. When I recommended him to the Mayor, I felt very confident in doing so. Because he was no longer in Ward 3, I didn't feel like there was any kind of conflict going on there and so on.

For those who did not have the privilege of watching Representative O'Brien speak, it was quite a pleasure and if he could have he would have gotten a standing ovation. There were a lot of great jobs as he walked off from being in the well. Thank you so much for continuing to do this. Thank you.

Alderman Moran

Thank you Madam President. Mr. Mayor, maybe Alderman O'Brien, when they were over on the Senate side, I didn't catch it, were there any Representatives of the Senate from Nashua that voted to table your first Bill?

Alderman O'Brien

I'm not 100% sure. There's two Senators. I know one Senator did not. Perhaps maybe the other Senator, but I can't confirm. But at this particular time what will happen, I can give you just a brief history. It's like the Mayor referred to as a Committee of Conference, members from the Senate and members from the House and I'm hoping to get appointed to the Committee of Conference to push it through, but it can in the worst case scenario be voted down in the Committee of Conference. So I'm hoping that it isn't. Again, a lot of cities and Towns this Bill is particularly backed on the New Hampshire Municipal Association so benefits a lot of municipalities within our State. Hopefully our friends in the Senate listen to their municipal leaders and listen to their tax payers, but sometimes people just don't listen.

Alderman Moran

Well my fingers are crossed that Senators representing Nashua would side with Representative O'Brien.

Alderman O'Brien

You would think, you would hope!

Alderman Lopez

Just a question of the Mayor regarding that 320 page George R. Martin edition of the City budget.

Mayor Donchess

312.

Alderman Lopez

People who don't want the giant paper version of it, will they be able to get that online through PDF?

Mayor Donchess

They will, yes. It will definitely be online.

Alderman Lopez

I highly recommend that version.

Alderman Dowd

I'd be remiss if I didn't point out that John Griffin's group, Cheryl and a number of others in Finance, it takes a long time and a lot of work to put that book together that you're looking at. So kudos to them. I have numerous meetings with the Mayor and Division Directors to formulate this and then we will be starting our reviews with Division Directors next week. I just want you to appreciate the number of hours that go into preparing this book.

RECOGNITION PERIOD – None

READING MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS - None

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING ONLY PROCEDURAL ACTIONS AND WRITTEN REPORTS FROM LIAISONS

From: Kevin Burgess, Chairman, Board of Fire Commission
Re: Resolution R-22-021 to recommend passage

From: Alderman John Cathey
Re: Liaison Report - Nashua Senior Activity Center

From: Matt Sullivan, Community Development Director
Camille Correa, Transit Administrator
Re: O-22-012 – Authorizing a Stop Sign on Garden Street and Establishing a Portion of Garden Street as One- Way in an Easterly Direction

From: James Gerry, Municipal and Property Director
Linda Kennedy, Supervisor
Re: 2021 Equalization Ratio for the City of Nashua

From: Lisa Fauteux, Director of Public Works
Re: Referral from Board of Aldermen – R-22-020

From: Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager
Re: Communications Received from the Public

From: Matt Sullivan, Community Development Director
Re: Referral from the Board of Aldermen on proposed R-22-023 - Relative to the Adoption of the Nashua Arts and Cultural Plan

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

Kevin Rourke, Chief of Police

Good evening everyone. Kevin Rourke, Chief of Police. Thank you for allowing me to speak tonight. Tonight in front of you is the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Nashua Police Commission and the Nashua Patrolman's Union. The Police Commissioner I feel is a fair and reasonable contract. This contract was negotiated in the presence of City Attorney Bolton and Director Kleiner. We knew that the city's major emphasis was on the HMO deductible give back which was not an issue with this Union.

Two years ago the City started with the contract strategy meetings to switch HSA because of the savings the City would have. We attended these meetings and listened. This Union started to jump on board back then. A large majority of the members have already switched over to that HSA Plan prior to this agreement. These are the men and women who are your backbone of this Police Department and ultimately the public safety of our great City. The same City according to WalletHub is recognized as the 3rd safest City in the country.

These officers have been through a lot the past couple of years. I will only mention a few of the issues. They've been in the forefront of the recent challenges that have faced police agencies across the country. Yes even here in Nashua, NH. They were getting blamed for things that were happening elsewhere in the country that they had no control over. We have all had to deal with the pandemic, but these men and women still came to work every day and provided the same service to their community that they did before the pandemic. They handled themselves with a great amount of professionalism. I can personally tell you it was not easy to watch because I knew they carried a lot of anxiety with them coming to work every day and responding to calls. Many of them lived with elderly parents, pregnant wives, and people with existing health conditions. They were also fully aware that there were police officers in the country dying from this virus on a daily basis. They were afraid of catching the virus and bringing it home to their families and maybe infecting some of the previously stated individuals. They did not once complain. In fact, they did their job with honor and integrity and knew that this was what they signed up for. These are the type of men and women you have working at this Police Department. They are extremely brave and I am so proud...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds

Kevin Rourke, Chief of Police

...of being their Chief. I am hoping tonight that you'll support them and vote "yes" on the contract that is in front of you. Thank you all for your continued support.

President Wilshire

Thank you Chief. I hope you feel better.

Lindsay Rinaldi

Hi folks. My name is Lindsay Rinaldi. I'm at 37 June Street in Lowell. However, I grew up here in Nashua, went to Nashua schools, and am thrilled to be back here and serving as the current Chair of the Nashua Arts Commission as well as my full time job as the Executive Director of the Non-Profit Nashua Community Music School.

I am appearing before you today to request your strong favorable approval of the Nashua Arts and Culture Plan. My understanding is it's come before the Board of Aldermen a few weeks ago and has since gone out to two different committees, both of which I am thrilled to say came back with a favor recommendation for the Board of Aldermen's consideration. The Nashua Arts & Culture Plan is one of the most important things that the Nashua Arts Commission is charged to do as part of our Charter. It's to give our City a direction for the arts and culture that exist to maintain the beauty that is here now and to develop new and exciting ideas that will enrich our community for years to come.

Within the Nashua Arts and Culture Plan all these sorts of wonderful ideas have been very carefully and strategically thought out and organized into a series of four different top goals. What is even more wonderful is that the second goal of our plan is collaboration. So we said well why do we have to wait until the plan is in business to be able to do that? So one of the things that we thought was so important was to make sure that we were collaborating alongside the ImagiNashua Project, the long-range strategic plan, for the City of Nashua as we were creating the Nashua Arts & Culture Plan as it sits before you. So there's a wonderful, cohesive flow between the long-range strategic plan, particularly the arts and culture section that you folks have already approved, into the Nashua Arts & Culture Plan for the next five years. So there's a natural flow and natural collaboration. It was so important for us as the Arts Commission to not only have the

full Arts Commission’s approval of this plan and enthusiastic support but to also have the support of our Mayor and of course the support of our Board of Aldermen.

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds

Lindsay Rinaldi

So I ask you today when this comes up on the agenda please vote an enthusiastic “yes” so we can move this direction forward for the beautification of our City. Our collaboration part of our plan can start now with all of you.

President Wilshire

Thank you.

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING FINAL APPROVAL

From: Steve Bolton, Corporation Counsel
Re: Confidential Attorney/Client Communication

MOTION BY ALDERMAN O’BRIEN TO AUTHORIZE MAYOR DONCHESS TO EXECUTE THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE PURPOSES THEREIN CONTAINED, BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

President Wilshire

Alderman Cathey?

Alderman Cathey

I just have a quick PI. If, and I'm not saying that I do, if an Alderman had a question about his, would for future reference would we have to go to a non-public to talk about it and answer questions?

Steve Bolton, Corporate Counsel

That would certainly be my recommendation.

Alderman Cathey

Just want to know for future reference I appreciate it. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Will the Clerk please call the roll?

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

Yea: Alderman O’Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran,
Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly,
Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey,
Alderman Thibeault, Alderman Wilshire

14

Nay:

0

MOTION CARRIED

From: Mayor Jim Donchess
Re: Award of Multi-Year Contract in Excess of \$1 million – Biosolids Management

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE THREE YEAR CONTRACT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,940,000 WITH RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, INC., OF HOLDERNESS, NH, FOR MANAGEMENT OF BIOSOLIDS AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 169 WASTEWATER; FUND: WASTEWATER; ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION: 54 PROPERTY SERVICES, BY ROLL CALL

President Wilshire

You've heard the Motion, discussion on that Motion? 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 Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey, Alderman Thibeault, Alderman Wilshire	14
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Nay:		0
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MOTION CARRIED

PETITIONS - None

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

Appointments by the Mayor

Board of Registrars

William Grady (new appointment) 14 Tinker Road Nashua, NH 03064	Term to Expire: May 1, 2025
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Conservation Commission

Richard Widhu (new alternate appointment) 23 Syracuse Road Nashua, NH 03064	Term to Expire: May 1, 2025
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President Wilshire

Alderman Cathey?

Alderman Cathey

A question for clarification. On the City's website it is not declared the party that the current members of the Board of Registrars belong to. So could we get a confirmation that it is 2 and 1 or 1 and 2 however the breakdown is based on the Charter because I couldn't see it so.

President Wilshire

Mayor do you have that information?

Mayor Donchess

So we have Mr. Grady. He's a registered Republican. There is one registered Democrat and the third person I'm not sure if she is Democrat. She's undeclared. So there's a third person who's undeclared. So one of each category.

Alderman Cathey

Thank you, I appreciate it.

President Wilshire

Anything further? Seeing none, I will refer those to the Personnel Committee.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Finance Committee..... 04/06/2022

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the April 6, 2022 Finance Committee be accepted and placed on file.

CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-22-020

- Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
- Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
- Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
- Alderman Richard A. Dowd
- Alderman Ernest A. Jette
- Alderman John Sullivan
- Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
- Alderman Thomas Lopez
- Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
- Alderman Derek Thibeault

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY TREASURER TO ISSUE BONDS NOT TO EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF THIRTY-SEVEN MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$37,500,000) TO FUND THE SECOND FIVE YEAR PHASE OF A TEN YEAR PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN SULLIVAN FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-22-020, BY ROLL CALL PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTIONS 49 AND 56-B

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

Yea:	Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey, Alderman Thibeault, Alderman Wilshire	14
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Nay:		0
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MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-22-020 declared duly adopted.

R-22-021

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

CHANGING THE PURPOSE OF UP TO ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-TWO THOUSAND AND THIRTY DOLLARS (\$152,030) OF UNEXPENDED BOND PROCEEDS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT PUMPER TRUCK AND AERIAL LADDER TRUCK PURCHASES TO INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-22-021, BY ROLL CALL PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTIONS 49 AND 56-B

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

Yea:	Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey, Alderman Thibeault, Alderman Wilshire	14
Nay:		0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-22-021 declared duly adopted.

R-22-023

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

RELATIVE TO THE ADOPTION OF THE NASHUA ARTS AND CULTURAL PLAN

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-22-023, BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Klee

May I make a brief statement?

President Wilshire

Yes.

Alderman Klee

Thank you. As you heard Miss Rinaldi's enthusiasm, I can attest to the enthusiasm of the entire Committee. The Commission is just a great group of people, but the one thing that I'm not sure was really addressed was that they much like Imagine Nashua. They put this out to the public and they had public hearings. They got positive and negative comments. Even those were adopted and put into this. There was one comment that kind of stuck in my head was that why are we concentrating on dollars and cents when we should be concentrating on the arts and so on. That was because they did look at how this could bring in dollars and cents as well as the public and so on. I think that was really important. They set it up in goals and each of the goals has long-term, short-term, and medium-term type of things. I cannot say enough wonderful things about it. I came in as they were finishing so I absolutely nothing to do with it. They are just an incredible, incredible group of people. I'm sure that we're going to give it a good thumbs up. Thank you, Madam President.

President Wilshire

Alderman Cathey?

Alderman Cathey

Thank you Madam President. Just for clarification, this is preceding what would then later come as a strategic plan like

the Library is doing, right? This is more of a bird's eye and we're going to have a more thorough approach as I understand. I just want more clarification on that.

President Wilshire

Alderman Klee?

Alderman Klee

I'm not sure it's necessarily the same as the Library – what the Library is going to be looking into all of their needs and putting that forward. This is just like Imagine Nashua. This is just kind of where the City can go. It's a five-year plan. Not everything in it is going to happen in it but it moves us forward. It already says some of the things that we need to look at - how we need to build a cohesive art environment, which I really do think we have, but it helps bring it together. It talks to it and so on. Unlike the Library which will be coming back with a strategic plan, they need HVAC, and they need to clean this up, and they need to do that. That's not going to happen so much with this. Just is just like Imagine Nashua is. It's the five year plan of what the community wants for the City. It doesn't necessarily mean it's always going to happen 100%, but it's a goal to look forward. The nice thing about this particular one is they took those goals and they put it into a couple of good (inaudible).

So this is kind of - I don't want to say it's a strategic plan because a strategic plan you're going to accomplish. These are hopes to accomplish. These are dreams. These are exactly what Imagine Nashua is. It's when they make the decision up on the Planning Board that you're part of. You'll look to it and say is this what's in the plan of the City. So when we make decisions and so on. I think one of the things that was brought up and I can talk to because it's in my Ward is the Greeley Park band shell. That is one of the items but it doesn't necessarily mean it's going to happen. It's some of the things we need to look forward to.

Alderman Cathey

Appreciate that. I'll be a little more poignant to make it easier. Using the band shell as an example, that's one of their goals - birds-eye but then they would come with a plan and further say we would like to fix it. Here's what it needs. How much is it going to cost? That's what I meant. There will be a more dialed-in plan and this is more so for the public benefit than my own because I was in the other committee. So let's just say this is what we're shooting for. This is what we like. Later on we'll come back and say this is what we need definitively to achieve said goals that were in this plan. Is this correct?

Alderman Klee

Yes. I see Miss Rinaldi's head shaking. Yes so to add to that, yes. The thing that I did not want to fall into the trap of, they're not going to necessarily come up with the money or funding. So I just want to make sure you understand that yes, they're going to look toward how we're going to accomplish these particular goals and that is what their job is to work with. So yes, I apologize.

Alderman Cathey

No that's okay. Thank you.

President Wilshire

All set Alderman Cathey?

Alderman Cathey

All set.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Madam President. So absolutely, this does not authorize them to just go build a band shell or any of the other things that are in it. It doesn't authorize money. All of that stuff has to come through us at some point anyway.

For me, and I mentioned it in the PEDC Committee when it came to us, I love this plan. I think it's good to have goals and I think it's good to have these type of goals. Any City - if you look at a City as a pie chart, arts and cultural takes a piece

of that and I think it's important for a City like us to continue to really make sure that we care about the arts and culture of the City. It's an important piece along with the other things that make up the City whether it's downtown businesses, or revenue in the shopping malls, all that stuff. It's a piece of Nashua. I think it's a great plan and I thank her for bringing it forward and for her team for working on it. I look forward to voting yes on it.

President Wilshire

Alderman Sullivan?

Alderman Sullivan

A simple question. The reason that we're making a Resolution around the strategic plan does that signifies that the City endorses this? That the City says we're going to move ahead with that? Is that essentially what this means? Is that why we're doing that?

Alderman Klee

I think as we do with Imagine Nashua. It's a goal to shoot for but it doesn't necessarily – that's why I keep trying to say it doesn't necessarily mean that we're going to hit and attain every little item that is on there. It's a hope. It would be wonderful if we were able to do all those other things. I don't believe if you look through the plan that they necessarily put anything specific. They talk about how to work with all the different groups, and how to make them more cohesive as a unit, and even types of fundraising. How can we bring more into this community? How can we bring everybody into the fold and work together as one? I brought up the band shell just because it's in my Ward. That's something that's always been kind of a thorn in the side of some of the people that are doing. I would love to see it happen. I think that there's already discussions. I think, if I'm not mistaken, there was something already brought up on the Planning Committee that there has been already talk about that. So this is kind of moving forward so when that would come forward, they would see that it's part of the Imagine Nashua or the arts mission. So it would give the Planning Board something to hook into and say we're just not willy-nilly. This is kind of the plan to moving the City forward. Does that answer your question?

Alderman Sullivan

Yes, thank you.

President Wilshire

Alderman Lopez?

Alderman Lopez

I'll endorse this because in terms of identifying a plan and organizing priorities for the City, it's very important for the City. As somebody very involved in different art organizations over the years, collaboration can be the most successful – I believe – the most successful events. I know Positive Street Art in the earliest collaborations with Northern Ballet really changed the City's perspective on Hip Hop dancing because there was two different arts organizations collaborating bringing their own different gifts and they're both incredible dancers that really created a whole new way of looking at things. There is a lot of benefit to that economically at events, and activities, and then culturally as well. This is one example. The list goes on indefinitely, but when you have all these different organizations and Nashua is a very cultural city so the strength but it also means we get in each other's way a lot because they are duplicating effort or they're looking for the same resources and don't realize that somebody else already has them.

Having the Nashua Arts Commission showing leadership in that particular area is something long sought after by the community. Having somebody who is willing to just make a list of who the artists in the City are, what the events are, those are objectives on the plan that I think we definitely be supporting because as we start to come out of the pandemic and as Nashua starts to re-emerge and invest more in destination activities, and in events and performances of all levels whether it's local events venues, garage bands playing in coffee shops, or performing arts events at the Nashua Art Center. Making sure we that have some kind of organization to it and collaboration and coordination, it just makes a lot of sense. So I'll endorse this, I'll support it, and I encourage everyone else on the Board to do as well. Thank you.

President Wilshire

But will you support it enthusiastically? Alderman Moran?

Alderman Moran

Thank you Madam President. I will support this enthusiastically unlike Alderman Lopez over there. I think it's a great plan. It came to PEDC. We talked about it in pretty good depth and one of the things about arts and culture is it helps keep the City not just a destination City, but a place that people want to move to and live in and you can see how the investment from the Performing Arts Center is already paying off and it's not even completed yet but it's neighbor SURF already completing a renovation and facelift. So the more we bring vibrant things to the City, the more we invest through arts and culture and other aspects, development and I think we're going to see a lot of private investors, private companies investing in themselves like we saw with M/T's downtown. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Alderman Cathey?

Alderman Cathey

I'd like to mildly enthusiastically endorse the plan.

President Wilshire

Alderman Klee?

Alderman Klee

I do want to add one more thing. One of the important things when people were speaking about 14 Court Street, it was something that I didn't even realize and it moved me that we have students that walk from Mount Pleasant, again in my Ward, that go to 14 Court Street and can watch a show. As a child, that was something that brought me to love the theater and I think that's what this plan does. It puts all those groups together. So as Alderman Lopez said, we're not duplicating efforts. We're working together rather than trying to vie for the same type of thing.

A perfect example of what the Commission has done and kind of what this working together is the grant. Nashua is one of a group of sixteen that were given the NEA Grant and I believe the only one in New England if I'm not mistaken. That's quite a feat and it's because of having plans like this. It's because of all that we do here in Nashua as far as the arts community. We stand out and we will bring people here and we will bring people here who want to have – I can see people even online kind of shaking their heads too so. It's something that's just so important and this plan helps move us forward. I am definitely enthusiastic. I don't think I quite have the energy that Miss Rinaldi has.

I also want to add one more thing. While Miss Rinaldi is the face of this plan and so on, there were a lot of really hardworking people and she'll be the first one to tell you that behind the scenes that painstakingly even where they would put a box of words and so on so that it grabs the people and it meant something and not just a piece of paper with words on it so thank you.

President Wilshire

Alderman Comeau?

Alderman Comeau

Yes, thank you Madam President. I haven't heard any opposition to the plan so I will stop short of making an official motion to move the Question, but I suggest it seems that we are all in support so I look forward to voting.

President Wilshire

Is there any further discussion? Seeing none.

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran,
Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly,
Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey,
Alderman Thibeault, Alderman Wilshire

Nay:

0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-22-023 declared duly adopted.

R-22-024

- Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
- Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
- Alderman Richard A. Dowd
- Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
- Alderman John Sullivan
- Alderman Patricia Klee
- Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
- Alderman Thomas Lopez
- Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
- Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
- Alderman Alex Comeau
- Alderman Tyler Gouveia
- Alderman John Cathey
- Alderman Derek Thibeault
- Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

APPROVING THE COST ITEMS OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NASHUA BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS AND THE NASHUA POLICE PATROLMAN'S ASSOCIATION FROM JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-22-024, BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Dowd

I'd like to briefly speak to this.

President Wilshire

Alderman Dowd?

Alderman Dowd

This is perhaps one of the best contracts that I've seen come out of the Police Department. It's very reasonable numbers. They've taken the insurance that we have asked them to take and this is a group of people that keep us safe every single day. As liaison, I get all the police reports every day and I'll tell you, we are safer every day because of these people. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Any further discussion on this? Seeing none.

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey, Alderman Thibeault, Alderman Wilshire

14

Nay:

0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-22-024 declared duly adopted.

R-22-025

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND EXPEND THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ("CDBG") AND HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023

Given its second reading;

President Wilshire

Without objection, I'm going to re-refer Resolution R-22-025 to the Human Affairs Committee as we have not received the notification of funding from HUD. So we'll send it back to Committee. Once HUD decides what they're giving us, then the Resolution can be amended in Committee and then sent back to us.

President Wilshire

Alderman Lopez?

Alderman Lopez

I was just curious why we wouldn't just table it because our next Human Affairs Committee is in June. So we'd have a Board of Aldermen meeting first and we'd already talked about it.

President Wilshire

Well I'd rather not keep it at the full Board because if it's going to get amended, it should be amended in the Committee.

Alderman Lopez

Like I said, I was asking for educational purposes, so I appreciate the answer.

President Wilshire

Alderman Cathey?

Alderman Cathey

While it's here, just a quick question so I understand this correctly. We're applying for a grant that we assume we're going to get and then spend those monies?

President Wilshire

Not necessarily.

Alderman Cathey

Okay. With that in mind, what happens if we don't get the money? We do need the money that's the assumption, right? So then what would happen from that point on just for my own educational purposes?

President Wilshire

Nashua is an entitlement community so we will get funding from HUD. There are other parts of the State that get funding from HUD through like the NH Housing & Finance Authority or some other organization that would get the funding and disperse it. Nashua is an entitlement community so we get the funding directly and we - Human Affairs Committee and

this Board - dole that money out to the non-profits and City projects. We've been getting this as long as I can remember. Decades and decades.

Alderman Cathey

Can I follow-up?

President Wilshire

Sure.

Alderman Cathey

So what I hear you're saying is we are getting money. It's just a matter of how much and if then if they add on any provisions about how we spend the money because that's what comes with all the grants too as well, right?

President Wilshire

Yeah.

Alderman Cathey

But generally, we're going to get the money?

President Wilshire

We're going to get the money.

Alderman Cathey

Thank you. I appreciate that.

President Wilshire

Yup, you bet. So I'm going to re-refer that to the Human Affairs Committee.

R-22-026

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman-at-Large Gloria Timmons

AUTHORIZING FIRST AMENDMENTS TO DEVELOPER AGREEMENTS FOR BRONSTEIN REDEVELOPMENT

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-22-026, BY ROLL CALL

President Wilshire

Discussion on that motion? 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 Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran,
Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Kelly,
Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey,
Alderman Thibeault, Alderman Wilshire

Nay:

0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-22-026 declared duly adopted.

R-22-028

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman John Sullivan
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NASHUA TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CITY OF MANCHESTER REGARDING A WELFARE SOFTWARE APPLICATION

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN GOUVEIA FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-22-028, BY ROLL CALLPresident Wilshire

Discussion?

Alderman Klee

Thank you. This came to the Finance Committee and the exciting thing about this is that they're actually buying the software from us. This isn't something we're spending. We created this and we're spending it. When I asked would there be other communities - and if I'm not mistaken, it's the charge that we gave them of 50% of the cost of us creating this. When I asked if there were other communities that were interested, there are other communities. So potentially this could become a profit type of thing or at least a break even. I think it's very exciting that Nashua has created something that another community, especially a community as large as Manchester. It speaks volumes to our IT Department and I was quite excited to hear about this in Finance and I was thrilled to be seated in the Chairman's seat at that time.

President Wilshire

Alderman Lopez?

Alderman Lopez

To Alderman Klee or possibly Attorney Bolton. Can Manchester sell our copy of it once we sell it to them?

Steve Bolton, Corporation Counsel

We provided against that.

President Wilshire

Alderman Cathey?

Alderman Cathey

Thank you Madam Chair. Just for my own again edification. My understanding is I don't know how to say it, just short of the contract.

Steve Bolton, Corporation Counsel

It's another word of the same thing.

Alderman Cathey

Okay, that's good.

President Wilshire

Alderman Dowd?

Alderman Dowd

I've always been a proponent of collaboration with another entity to save money for the City. So since it's a positive influence and money coming into us, as Budget Chair I appreciate that.

The other thing is I think there is more that we could do in the long run sharing things with Manchester where we could both benefit from collaboration together. I know collaboration is not usually recognized north of Manchester, so I'm glad that we can do this for Manchester.

President Wilshire

Alderman Comeau?

Alderman Comeau

Yes, thank you Mr. President. Alderman Klee said a lot of the things that I was going to say. It was nice in the Finance Committee to vote on something for once that brought money in instead of sending money out. I would also like to thank Jason Toohey and the IT Team. It was impressive the presentation that they gave. It's nice to hear that we had some City employees that developed something that was so good and so impressive that other municipalities around wanted to get on board and be a part of that. So kudos to him and his team and it's just a great thing all around.

President Wilshire

Agreed. Further discussion? Seeing none, the motion is for final passage. Would the Clerk please call the roll?

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

Yea:	Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey, Alderman Thibeault, Alderman Wilshire	14
Nay:		0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-22-028 declared duly adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – ORDINANCES - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-22-029

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

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY TREASURER TO BORROW AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED SIX MILLION NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$6,900,000) THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND/OR A LOAN THROUGH THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUND FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT DRY WELL VALVE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

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, MAY 23, 2022, by President Wilshire

R-22-030

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Tyler Gouveia
Alderman John Cathey
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF \$25,000 FROM DEPARTMENT 194 "CONTINGENCY", ACCOUNT 70100 "GENERAL CONTINGENCY" TO DEPARTMENT 109 "CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES", ACCOUNTING CLASSIFICATION 56 "OUTSIDE AGENCIES" FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDING TO THE NASHUA ASSOCIATION FOR THE ELDERLY

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

R-22-031

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

AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NASHUA TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH THE SOUHEGAN VALLEY TRANSPORTATION COLLABORATIVE, NASHUA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, RIVIER UNIVERSITY, TOWN OF HUDSON AND TOWN OF MERRIMACK FOR TRANSIT SERVICES

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

R-22-032

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman John Sullivan
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Derek Thibeault
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 D, FOOD SERVICE WORKERS FROM SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2024

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

R-22-033

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

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF \$283,031 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INTO COMMUNITY HEALTH GRANT ACTIVITY "COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT (COAG) FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE"

Given its first reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN LOPEZ TO SUSPEND THE RULES FOR A SECOND READING OF R-22-033, BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Lopez

So this was presented to us last night as a discussion item at the Human Affairs Committee. The Committee that would have ordinarily been referred to through typical process. To summarize, Director Bagley was approached Thursday of last week and asked if she could have an answer by Wednesday on a grant that was essentially applied for by the City and authorized by this Board last year in February. So what's happening is sometimes grants take a long time at the State to be approved to be refined to the point where they're putting requests out. Alderman Klee also pointed out that sometimes additional money becomes available towards the end of the year and so in the State, they do grant requests or communicate with different recipients. So because the timeframe on this is so narrow and there is another one as well where our typical committee process would be responsive to it, we were trying to push for a second reading tonight. The Human Affairs Committee has already met twice this month. We could do a third meeting, but it would be just for this grant and we were able to vet it last night as well.

The grants for reimbursement for things such as staffing that was required for COVID-19 and then also to continue to support different programs that we have for substance misuse, and mental health, and emergency planning programs that the Public Health Department is organizing. So I would encourage the Board definitely I know it's a little unorthodox to do a second reading and I have reached out to our Legislative Affairs Assistant to see if we can move our meeting so that it's not before all these things happen. If our meeting is in between the two Board of Alderman meetings instead of outside of them every month, we may be able to do this more effectively in the future.

President Wilshire

Alderman Cathey?

Alderman Cathey

Thank you Madam Chair. I have what I call a procedural question. Alderman Lopez you said this popped up last night. I'm wondering if as a legislative body we would want to wait until the public sees it on an agenda and they can weigh in. But on the other hand, maybe it's been so long that they've had enough time to weigh in. So I just kind of wanted to put that on the table discuss for my own clarity because you said it popped up last night so that means did someone come in the room and someone said "hey let's talk about this" or was it on the agenda where public knew it was there and it was a last minute thing?

President Wilshire

Alderman Lopez?

Alderman Lopez

If I can clarify. It was brought to my attention actually on Friday by Director Bagley and my focus was making sure the Committee members were aware of it so we could vet it previous to this. So I had asked if she would bring it to us as a discussion item and send a memo to the Committee members so that the Committee members were at least aware of what was being requested. In the committee meeting, we attached the memo to that. So it was introduced on the record last night and then as an agenda item tonight because initially its first reading and first exposure, other than back in February of 2021, would have been tonight.

President Wilshire

Alderman Cathey?

Alderman Cathey

Thank you Madam Chair. Just again for my own edification, what happens if we wait? You said it's "crunch time" can you give me a date? What are we looking at here?

Alderman Lopez

We would not be meeting again in time for the first one that we're doing tonight right now. I believe Alderman Klee has an additional one which is in a similar situation, but we would at last have time to convene a third Human Affairs Committee if we needed to. Our next Human Affairs Committee is June 12th.

Alderman Cathey

I'm asking for what is - you that Director Bagley asked for a response.

Alderman Lopez

We have to be willing to accept it – the money.

Alderman Cathey

Right. Is there a drop-dead date that she's looking at that we need to pass this by for her own sake?

President Wilshire

Alderman Moran?

Alderman Moran

Is Director Bagley here?

President Wilshire

She is here. Director Bagley would you mind? Thank you. It's not uncommon for us to get grants at the last minute. They have to get to Governor and Council before a certain date and...

Alderman Cathey

I'm not against it, I just want clarification.

President Wilshire

Okay.

Bobbi Bagley, Director Health & Human Services

Good evening and thank you President Wilshire. So the two Resolutions that are before you this evening are for Fiscal Year 2022 and so the State would like for us to be able to receive these funds before June 30th so that we can apply the funding for Fiscal Year 2022 in this fiscal year. If this is not approved tonight, it won't be approved until Fiscal Year 2023 and its Fiscal Year 2022 funds. So there's actually two things that we talked about. The one that we spoke of last night is another grant award that will be coming through and that's the larger one. That's over a million dollars and that one is the one that we talked about last night, but these two were already on your agenda and the request for the second read was so that we could get it passed for before Fiscal Year 2022.

Alderman Cathey

Thank you for the clarification. I appreciate it.

President Wilshire

Alderman Moran?

Alderman Moran

Director Bagley were one of these or maybe it was the million dollar one. Were those or any of these held up by Executive Council is that why it's putting pressure on us?

Bobbi Bagley, Director Health & Human Services

So these two Resolutions for tonight were the ones where the funding came in earlier in 2021. It was delayed and then dispensed out to the contractors. So we just got a notification of the \$60,000 and then the \$283,000 that Alderman Klee is going to speak on. That notification those just came out a week ago and so yes those were held up. The \$1 million is a contract that we will be submitting that's due by May 23rd.

Alderman Moran

Thank you Director. I would like to express my dismay with the Executive Council and especially our Executive Council David Wheeler for holding this up and not getting the funding in a quick manner to us when it's evidence based stuff that needs to come back to the City. I watched, re-watched, and listened to those Executive Council Committees and his excuses for holding this up was ridiculous. I just want to express my gratitude to Director Bagley for pushing this through and working with Alderman Lopez. The people in the City don't deserve something like this to happen, especially when it comes to mental health and substance issues. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Alderman Comeau?

Alderman Comeau

Yes, thank you Madam President. Through you to Alderman Lopez. Where the motion before us is to suspend the rules, my question to you would be is there any benefit to waiting for the Committee or do you feel like what you talked about last night was enough that you're comfortable moving forward with the second reading tonight?

Alderman Lopez

I'm comfortable with it. I think the Committee members are as well. That was the intention by making sure that we did at least have a presentation and some discussion on it.

Alderman Comeau

Since the motion right now is just to suspend the rules and we're not on final passage yet, I'd like to move the question.

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO MOVE THE QUESTION

President Wilshire

Okay. Motion to move the question? Would the Clerk call the roll?

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

Yea:	Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey, Alderman Thibeault, Alderman Wilshire	14
Nay:		0

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION BY ALDERMAN LOPEZ TO SUSPEND THE RULES FOR A SECOND READING OF R-22-033, BY ROLL CALL

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran,

Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly,
Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey,
Alderman Thibeault, Alderman Wilshire

14

Nay:

0

MOTION CARRIED**R-22-033**

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

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF \$283,031 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INTO COMMUNITY HEALTH GRANT ACTIVITY "COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT (COAG) FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE"

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN LOPEZ FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-22-033, BY ROLL CALLON THE QUESTIONPresident Wilshire

Motion is for final passage. Alderman Dowd?

Alderman Dowd

I just want to state that over the years that I've been here, this is money coming into the City for Public Health and the sooner we get it in the better for the citizens of Nashua. I know moving these things forward quickly on many things is sometimes a question, especially if we're spending money, but in this instance I've never heard anybody complain about it and this is critically important that we get this passed and get the money in our hands before the State loses it.

President Wilshire

Alderman Thibeault?

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you Madam President. Just one thing. I don't think we should be moving questions when three or four hands are up for one thing.

Second mental health wise, we need this money. I don't even know why we're even questioning the fact that we're even questioning this. This is money that's given to us by grants. We can give by the State, federal, or whatever. We can give to people that need it here in the City. I don't see why we shouldn't just pass this unanimously right now.

President Wilshire

Alderman Klee?

Alderman Klee

Thank you Madam President. One of the questions I asked last evening was did we have to put up any funds from the City and the answer was no. This was 100% grant as is. So in essence, this is free money for us to be able to do these functions and the next one, without going ahead too fast, is of the similar ilk but its COVID-19 immunization.

I think it's important that when it's offered to us, and yes I agree with Alderman Moran had said relative to Executive

Council, the Executive Council had, if we all remember was in the news, they said no to all the money that came through and our Governor was quite upset. Through much wrangling, we finally got them to approve it but in the meantime, they kind of sat on it, and sat on it, and sat on it and the last minute they threw it to the communities, the municipalities and said take care of this and do everything when they know we have a certain process that we have to follow.

Having to take this out of order is disruptive to the public. It's disruptive to our process and it doesn't make anybody look good. It was shameful as Alderman Moran had pointed out. The excuses that were given for it, it made no sense. There were no strings attached really to it. Maybe they said you can't use it for this or that, but it was going for a good cause and we need this type of money to continue to come into our community so that we can continue to move forward. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Alderman Dowd?

Alderman Dowd

Just like my colleague, I'm not going to move the question but I think we're in a position where everybody, or at least the majority, would be in favor of this. I suggest that we move along.

President Wilshire

No further discussion, will the Clerk please call the roll?

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

Yea:	Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey, Alderman Thibeault, Alderman Wilshire	14
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Nay:		0
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MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-22-033 declared duly adopted.

R-22-034

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman John Cathey
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF \$60,000 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INTO COMMUNITY HEALTH GRANT ACTIVITY "COVID-19 IMMUNIZATION ACTIVITIES"

Given its first reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE TO SUSPEND THE RULES FOR A SECOND READING OF R-22-034, BY ROLL CALL

President Wilshire

Okay, will the Clerk please call the Roll?

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran,
Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly,
Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey,
Alderman Thibeault, Alderman Wilshire 14

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

R-22-034

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman John Cathey
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF \$60,000 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INTO COMMUNITY HEALTH GRANT ACTIVITY "COVID-19 IMMUNIZATION ACTIVITIES"

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-22-034, BY ROLL CALL

President Wilshire

You've heard the motion, discussion? Seeing none, would the Clerk please call the roll?

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran,
Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly,
Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey,
Alderman Thibeault, Alderman Wilshire 14

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-22-034 declared duly adopted.

There being no objection, President Wilshire suspended the rules to allow for the introduction of Resolution R-22-035 that was received after the agenda was prepared.

R-22-035

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

**RELATIVE TO THE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NASHUA
GENERAL, ENTERPRISE, SPECIAL REVENUE AND GRANT FUNDS**

Given its first reading; Assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE and SCHEDULED A SPECIAL BOARD OF ALDERMEN PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:00 PM ON TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2022 AT NASHUA HIGH SCHOOL NORTH AUDITORIUM, by President Wilshire

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

O-22-015

- Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
- Alderman Patricia Klee
- Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
- Alderman Thomas Lopez
- Alderman Richard A. Dowd
- Alderman Tyler Gouveia
- Alderman John Cathey
- Alderman Derek Thibeault

ESTABLISHING A GREELEY PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Given its first reading; Assigned to the PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE by President Wilshire

O-22-016

- Endorsers: Alderman Patricia Klee
- Alderman Derek Thibeault
- Alderman Thomas Lopez

CLARIFYING ANIMAL PROHIBITIONS IN PARKS

Given its first reading; Assigned to the PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE by President Wilshire

O-22-017

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

ESTABLISHING A HOUSING TRUST FUND COMMITTEE

Given its first reading; Assigned to the PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE by President Wilshire

PERIOD FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

President Wilshire

No one had signed up in the chamber.

Beth Scaer

I'd like to speak.

President Wilshire

Okay well the process is - you know the process Miss Scaer that you sign up.

Beth Scaer

I'm used to being on Zoom at home. So I wasn't aware that you had to sign up before the meeting.

President Wilshire

Okay we'll let you speak. You have 3 minutes.

Beth Scaer

Beth Scaer, 111 East Hobart Street. My husband and I raised the "save women's sports flag" on the citizen's flagpole on the Nashua City Hall Plaza on October 10, 2020 with permission from the City. It was supposed to stay up a week, but Mayor Donchess had my flag removed in less than 24 hours claiming the message "women equals adult human female" on the flag is offensive and allowing women to have their own sports violates State law.

Attorney Steve Bolton's response to my appeal to have my flag put back up, he cited the court case Shurtleff v. Boston as justification for having my flag stay down. I warned Mayor Donchess and Attorney Bolton repeatedly that the Shurtleff was being heard at the Supreme Court and it was going very badly for the City of Boston but they ignored me and continued to allow community Groups to fly flags on the citizen flagpole. Last week the US Supreme Court Justices voted unanimously in favor of Shurtleff and said it was a viewpoint discrimination to deny him the right to fly his flag when Boston had allowed all other flags that were requested to be flown.

Attorney Richard Lehmann sent a letter on my behalf to Attorney Bolton calling out the unconstitutionality of what Mayor Donchess did and requested that I be allowed to fly my flag again. The City of Nashua's response was to remove the webpage for the citizen flagpole program from the City website and this is an acknowledgement of wrong-doing by Mayor Donchess and the City of Nashua. Mayor Donchess acted unconstitutionally when he had my flag removed and I'm delighted the City has finally acknowledged it after a year and a half. I brought my flag to celebrate and I'm just really grateful finally to have this wrong put right by having my say. Even if the flag never goes up, I know it was unconstitutional.

I also want to say the Mayor left the third seat open on the Board of Registrars for an extended period of time. He never contacted the Nashua Republican City Committee for any suggestions on who could serve on that Committee. But after someone had contacted the Attorney General...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds

Beth Scaer

...to say that the seat had been left open for such a long time, suddenly the Mayor has appointed someone. It seems like quite a coincidence that after all this time that it was filled after he was being held accountable. Thank you.

Scott McCullough

My name is Scott McCullough, 49 Congress Street, Apt. 6. I'd like to say a special thanks to Thomas - the guy who said about the Best Buddies Walk. Thank you so much for mentioning about the Best Buddies Walk because I would like to know if the Mayor is going to - could you guys make a donation and mail it in please Mayor because I've been waiting to see if you would maybe let me know or I can come down and I will get the check personally and I will give it to Best Buddies. If Ben Clemons or anybody on the Board would like to donate, you can go on my page directly on Facebook www.bestbuddies.org/donation or you can find me on Facebook and donate whatever amount. I'm just asking Board of Aldermen if you guys can help me. I greatly appreciate any help.

My goal I want to get these nice ear plugs they have, but I have to raise a lot of mucho dineros. Please if Steve Bolton and Mayor Donchess and you guys would like to join us, you guys are welcome to. June 11th - Saturday morning. Please come on out. If Nashua citizens are listening, you can still register. If you want to register on my team on the Best Buddies on the Loose Team. Best Buddies has changed my life in many ways. It's built my confidence level. It's made me stronger. Before Best Buddies, I was lonely and now I'm part of a family and I love Best Buddies. Hopefully I'm not making Ben cry.

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds

Scott McCullough

I just get emotional guys. Thank you and hopefully the Board of Alderman will support me. If you guys want to write out a check Mr. Mayor, I can swing by maybe Thursday to pick it up.

Mayor Donchess

Can you come by tomorrow?

Scott McCullough

I can probably try to.

Mayor Donchess

Thursday?

Scott McCullough

Thursday, yes. In any amount that you want. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Thank you. Laurie Ortolano?

Laurie Ortolano

Hi. I'm Laurie Ortolano, 41 Berkeley Street. Just a couple of things. The Greeley Park Advisory Committee - I understand what you're trying to do here, but I think you should broaden that because I think that that kind of got going when the purchase of the land was happening up on Bartlett Street and the interest to make certain the park is what the citizens want it to be. But I think you have it as an important issue going on in Roby Park right now and you could certainly have a Roby Park Advisory Committee. But more importantly, I think you should just an overall Park Advisory Committee. I would really like to see that as an oversight committee to DPW. I think the Conservation Commission should be involved. It's just apparent to me given the way decisions are made and actions are taken that they're too singular, too outside of the public's participation and eye, and when things don't go well, we are not a very kind City. Our leadership, I think, is not overly kind to citizens that take different positions than them. So I could like to see that expanded into just a Park Advisory Committee for the City of Nashua.

The animals in the park ordinance that's going to be referred to committee, I would like you to consider a language change on that in that the Superintendent of Parks and Recs is assigned the responsibility to notice the parks for pet accessibility. Really we've had a lot of issues with that Superintendent position. Very heavy turnover, very short term. I really think that anything written in the name of the Superintendent should now be changed over to the Board of Public Works. I think it was at one point and I think you should consider that now in the language.

Also, I was very disappointed to see the City put up such a fight on the Right-to-Know training that was remanded by the Court for the City to participate in given what's gone on. It's just rather amazing to me that the Mayor would petition that to the Supreme Court rather than do the training. We've had 7, 8, 9, 10 Right-to-Know violations that have been found. I know there are more and it just seems to me when the City has had that many problems with the Right-to-Know Law that it would be reasonable that training is done. I wrote a training memorandum...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds

Laurie Ortolano

...that I gave to you all and I think that you have to remember that all these violations were the responses that came directly from the Nashua Legal office and it's very concerning to me that we can sit here as a Board and as a community and say we don't need any training. I think the Board could have done a lot more to assist in these matters and they're much more proactive. Thank you.

Richard Smart

Good evening. My name is Richard Smart. I live at 159 Searles Road. I am a life-long City resident. I am a current resident of Ward 9. I am here to talk to you about the disc golf course at Roby Park. I learned how to play disc golf while in college in Montana. When I returned home from school, there wasn't a very big community around here so I started playing disc golf in places like Fitchburg and Devens, Massachusetts. I started playing in places like Amherst, Pelham, Manchester, NH. In 2017, it became an addiction for me. I have been hooked for a long time.

In 2018, I approached the then Superintendent of Parks, Nick Caggiano and he told me to petition the people of Nashua and send that information to the Mayor. We did that in early 2019. At the same time we established the Gate City Disc Golf organization. Our sole goal is to bring disc golf to the City of Nashua. This project was actually approved by the Board of Public Works in August 2021. We worked closely with Alderman Melizza-Golja, Alderman Cleaver. We held nine public meetings. We went on several walkthroughs of many properties throughout the City. New Hampshire has 71 courses - 36 of which are 18-hole courses. There have been zero reported incidents of injury. None. This has been a grassroots project from the beginning. As much as I'd love for the Mayor to play disc golf, he is not a disc golfer. As far as I know he has thrown a disc golf disc once. It was a great throw!

This project was not brought to the City by the Department of Public Works. This was a grass roots effort. Myself and Mr. McClain in the back have been working on this project for many, many years. Alex started in 2016. I came on board in 2017. This is not a project that has been put through the process without pressure from others. We have followed every rule that the City of Nashua put forth in front of us...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds

Richard Smart

When they told us to work with the Conservation Commission, we did. When they asked us to go to the Board of Public Works for permission, we did. Alderman O'Brien sits on the Board of Public Works as the liaison to this Board. For any member of this Board to claim that our project has been in the cloak of darkness is wrong. There is no public funding being spend on this project. Thank you for your time.

President Wilshire

Thank you.

Alex McClain

Sorry. I'm Alex McClain of 47 Williams Street. Mr. Smart said 2016. I've actually been pushing this since 2015 - a year ahead. I just wanted to come in and speak a little bit about we already have progress made on the course itself. We're just about maybe half way done. We have been working with the Conservation Committee. We went to nine Board of Public Works meetings over the last few years. It's been a long process and to say that we haven't gone the process is hard sometimes to hear. So I just wanted to touch base on that to give you guys a little bit of an update. I have more stuff to go over, but Mr. Smart already hit most of them on the head already, so I'll make it short and sweet. Thank you guys.

President Wilshire

Thank you.

REMARKS BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

President Wilshire

Alderman Sullivan?

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you very much. I will be brief. Earlier tonight we talked about Court Street. I do appreciate all the people coming out again. One person made a comment about make sure you do the right thing or something to that sort. As far as I know, there's nothing in front of this Alderman to do anything about Court Street. We did it a few weeks ago. We passed a Trust Fund. That's done. It's in the rear view and I think the conversations that we had were all very good. I will say I think there are some hard conversations that need to be had about Court Street and I look forward to having them because all of these organizations that use the building deserve a great building, a safe building, a building that maybe offers a lot of competition for people to come in and vie for more office space, stage space and whatnot. So I look forward to having those harder conversations about how we get Court Street not even profitable but maybe at a break-even level. So, again, I do appreciate that. I remind everybody on this Board, I want the same outcome that you all do. I just want to make sure we start to have those conversations.

Secondly on disc golf that is in Roby Park, which is now in Ward 9. It wasn't when I got elected, but it is now. Thank you to whoever did that. So I will say that a lot of people are concerned about it and as this Alderman his email box is filled about concerns. I listened to the concerns and I went back and I watched every meeting and I also know there was an ask by one of the members of the Board of Public Works to have a public hearing and that was denied. As the Chairwoman of the Conservation Committee told me, the parks belong to the people. I want to make sure as we go through this we are as transparent as possible just to cut down on my email volume, but to make sure people are being heard and everything moves ahead properly. Thanks.

President Wilshire

Alderman Klee?

Alderman Klee

Thank you Madam Chairman. I'd like to address two comments that we made. We have two Bills that will be going forward. One is the, I'm not quite sure I like the title of it, but it's called "the Animals in the Park Prohibition" type thing. There's been a lot of talk on social media and I think it's just confusion. They read that one line and they're not reading the body of it. This is nothing more than a clarification of an existing ordinance and the existing ordinance basically says those parks that already prohibit dogs and horses, we're changing it to pets. The reason for it was is when it was originally written, the exotic pets that exist today didn't exist then but we'll discuss that in Committee. I just wanted to make a clarification of it that it's not what much of the public believe it is. We are not banning dogs or pets from Mine Falls, or Greeley Park, or Roby Park. Only those where they are already prohibited.

And as far as the Greeley Park Advisory Group, that was brought forward by a separate group called "Friends of Greeley Park". I don't really believe that it was necessarily because of this property sale next to it but what I think it did was it brought awareness when people started talking that there is some things that could be done with Greeley Park as far as clean-up and so on and that the City just hasn't the time.

I did want to touch really quickly on disc golf. I wasn't going to. It's not my Ward, but because all of our mailboxes are completely filled with these conversations. I did reach out to Public Works and I did learn that the Bittersweet or some people refer to it as Bitterroot is what was killing a lot of those trees. I can tell you from having Greeley Park in my Ward, there's a portion of Greeley Park down by where the ballparks are. People can't really walk through that area. That was very similar to the wooded area within Roby Park. This is actually going through cleaning it, making it more useable. So we're actually increasing the public space and the public usage of that which I was really glad to hear. Trees will remain in there because that is all part of the disc golf course. We're not going to clear cut. It's not going to look like a golf course and it's not golf. I wish they didn't use the word "golf". It kind of gives a misnomer of the whole thing.

I know there was a direct attack on myself and the Mayor as how can you be for this when you didn't want anything to be harming Greeley Park. Well the truth is, not harming Greeley Park, but I'd love to see something go in there and clean up all that wood so we can use more trails down that way and even the portion that I was trying to protect as well. We have a lot of fallen trees but we have Public Works that only has so much time on their hands. So I think this project is great because it's going to clean out all that and it's going to make more useable community space. I just want to have that and I was quite – I heard it from Public Works as well that there were no reported injuries in the 71 courses that already exist in New Hampshire. So that was a good thing to hear.

Two more things actually. On Saturday, there will be a cleanup. I'm not the one who started it. It's call the "Litter Crew" will be cleaning up Greeley Park. They do many other parks throughout the City - actually the Merrimack and so on. They will be meeting and hopefully I will be there too. It's going to be a beautiful day. Ten o'clock over by the band shell. And to Scott, Alderman Clemons has put together and we have been collecting funds. To-date I know that I have raised \$175. It's not a lot of money, but I plan on being there and walking along Alderman Lopez. I know my husband is going to try to join if his health is well, but we will be there to do that one mile walk and if all is good, I'm bringing my Greyhounds along with me.

President Wilshire

Alderman Moran?

Alderman Moran

Thank you Madam President. I just have a few things, a couple announcements and such. I do want to follow up with

regards to the save women's sports flag. It was actually pointed out to me by a lot of constituents that the Satanic Temple has just asked Boston to fly their flag after the Supreme Court ruling. I've had – maybe through you to the Mayor - Mr. Mayor had many, many people in this City that have approached me to say that the Satanic Flag needs to fly with the Save Women's Sports flag in the City because they are so closely related together. These aren't my words. These are the words of my constituents and I just wanted to share them with you. It might be a good idea symbolically to have these two flags flying together as they are so closely related. I'm a God fearing Catholic. I can't stand on the side of the Satanic Temple, but thankfully people like Miss Scaer can lock arms with them and I do appreciate that for the sake of freedom and the freedom of speech for everyone around the country.

Other than that, there is a mental health first aid training right here sponsored by the Public Health Division on May 26th. The training happens from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and I think – I'm a mental health train the trainer. I think that's a wonderful program that any layperson in the City can take advantage of. You don't have to be a clinician. You don't have to be even in the health care. Anyone here can join and become a first aid mental health provider. It's upstairs in the auditorium.

Second, there's the first annual Nashua High School South baseball home runs and hot rods car show that is this Saturday, May 14th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. It's at Nashua High School South, 36 Riverside Street in Nashua, NH. I encourage everyone to check that out. They have a hockey stick from the Bruins signed by Pasternak for raffle. I think everyone should take advantage of that. My company has also donated a Hayward's Ice Cream Gift Certificate to be raffled off as well.

Lastly I just want to express my thoughts and prayers to my Father-in-law. He had a very intense, major surgery - two days of surgery. He had a tumor removed from his carotid artery that essentially they said probably not going to make it, but he made it. He's in recovery up at Dartmouth right now. I'm glad that my children didn't have to at the moment experience losing two grandfathers in a single year. I want to thank the people at Dartmouth for the great surgery that they did. One thing he told me before he went into surgery was touching. I'll try to not be as emotional as Alderman Cathey was a couple weeks ago about his Father-in-law, but he came up to me and he said, "I want you to know, you're the only Democrat other than JFK that I've ever voted for". What an honor to be compared to JFK and I do appreciate that. Many people know – well maybe not the public – but he was represented by Alderman Comeau which he was very happy to vote for in the last City Election. I appreciate that he gave me his vote and told me that before he went into his major surgery. Thank you Madam President.

President Wilshire

Alderman Lopez?

Alderman Lopez

I want to wish Alderman Kelly and any other any other Aldermen who may be recovering from COVID-19 a speedy recovery.

This Sunday, the Gate City Running Festival is going to be on Main Street at 11:00. I might be a little in over my head for what I registered for, but it should be a good time to see some runners out there. I just wanted to announce and invite anybody to attend. Just be cautious of the traffic.

And then as Alderman Klee mentioned with regards to Scott McCullough, I know he was in for public comment earlier in the Best Buddies walk, I just wanted to announce that I'm organizing a team. Alderman Klee and her husband are both on the team. I've invited all the Aldermen to join my team, but we could also probably join Scott's team. I have reached out to the Administrator because a team is really just an electronic page to see if we can all be shuffled over to Scott's team. So I'll be in touch with the Board shortly so that any donations that we're collecting on Scott's behalf can be fairly attributed to Scott so that he can get earbuds but also because he's raising awareness of a great cause. He seems like a guy I'd be happy to walk with and I'm sure many of the other Aldermen agree as well. So I will try to send an email out updating everybody as to where that stands. Anybody who's interested in joining whatever team I'm on, I have the link on my Facebook page if anybody wants to join. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Alderman Clemons?

Alderman Clemons

Thank you Madam President. Just a couple of things. I did want to address Court Street. I wanted to thank everybody that came out tonight to tell us a little bit about the different things that go on in that building and the different organizations that use it. I want to say that I agree with Alderman Sullivan. I would love to have serious discussions on that building and I would love for it eventually to be able to break even as far as the income coming into it. But with the understanding that not every building in the City does that. In fact, most of them don't. Our Police Department, our Fire Department, our schools, City Hall, any number of buildings most of them are a drain on the budget for various reasons. Very, very good reasons. This is a situation where we might be able to recoup some of the drain if you will, but it's not a non-starter for me if this building continues to lose money because I think that it's important to understand that its purpose.

I think that we really understood that better tonight by hearing the different organizations that are in that building that benefit from it. These are organizations that really support the arts community in not only Nashua but Greater Nashua, Southern NH, and I think anything that we can do to make that building better for them and do it in a way that where we can recoup some of the cost I think is a good thing going forward. I look forward to working with all my colleagues on that in the future.

One last thing, Scott McCullough thank you for calling me out. I've got to say you're probably one of the best fundraisers that I've seen. So don't worry, I will get in touch with Alderman Lopez and I will give you a donation as well. I can't do the walk, but I do wish you all the best and luck with that and you have my support going forward buddy. All right, take care.

President Wilshire

Alderman Dowd?

Alderman Dowd

Just very briefly. The new light at Pennichuck Middle School on Manchester Street had some issues that have been fixed now. It's a temporary light so it's not the state-of-the-art equipment that we're putting in shortly. The gas valve has been moved by the gas company, so the widening of the street, the travel lanes, and the turn lanes, and the new traffic light work will be starting extremely soon and it will take in the June and July before it's all completed, but then everything will work correctly or I'm going to make sure it does.

President Wilshire

Alderman Cathey?

Alderman Cathey

Thank you Madam Chair. I appreciate the people that came in and spoke about the Court Street building. I know that they want their building and I don't necessarily disagree with having the building. As we spoke about it before, I just disagree with that particular route with the Trust Fund being built. I think it could be done a different way and I think we need a plan that has a little more clarity, vision, and focus on what we're doing with that building rather than just a trust fund.

As far as the disc golf course goes, I think part of the problem, and I've expressed to some other people is, I'm not against or for disc golf. If you have it great, I'll play. If they don't, I'm not going to ask for one. It doesn't matter to me personally. I think the struggle is when you go back and read some of those meetings when the course designer was saying we're going to limb some trees, and we're going to do this, and we're going to do that. I think that had a lack of clarity about what actually was going to happen. I'm not saying it was on purpose, I'm not saying any of that. I'm just saying the public is seeing a disparity between what was said and what is happening and that deserves a little more clarification. I know talking to Director Sullivan that there's going to be – I think the Conservation Commission is going to come in and look at things. I don't know the whole process with that. So I do think – I'm not saying we need a public hearing but I do think there needs to be more clarity about what's going on with disc golf and what happened. I've gotten a lot of complaints about it. Some are legitimate, some are not. I think some people don't understand the process. We don't have to notify abutters. Site plans are handled at a Planning Board level. DPW that not what they do. I'm not saying that's the best way to do it. I'm just saying that's how the City runs so there's no in the dark cloak thing. It's just a process. This is how we do it and now we have to sort of clarify a few things, which is fine. I don't think in the end it will be a problem. We just need to get ahead of this.

Are we going to have a special meeting for the million dollar contract thing that we have to do that's due by May 23? You don't have to answer right now, but I heard May 23rd and I was like we've got to pick up the pace.

Thanks Scott for also calling me out because I've been emailing Alderman Lopez about the Best Buddies Walk. I'm just trying to figure out if I have time in my schedule to make it up to Concord and do the walk because I'd really like to do the walk for Best Buddies and if not, I'll definitely donate some money to the cause.

And then lastly, I know that the citizen flag pole part of the website is down. I don't know what that means. I've been asked about it, so I would appreciate clarity from the Mayor's office about is it going to continue. Is it not going to continue? What are we doing in light of the Supreme Court case? I think there are some people that would like to know what way we're heading. I don't have an opinion on that right now, but I think there is definitely some clarity that citizens would like about whether is it going to continue, whether it is not going to continue, and that whole rigmarole.

On the subject of the flag pole, I find interesting – actually know what, I'm going to save that for another time. Sorry. Yeah, that's it. That's all I've got. Thanks.

President Wilshire

Alderman Thibeault?

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you Madam President I have a couple of things. I do also want to thank Scott. Unfortunately on that day I'll be coaching a baseball game in the morning, so I won't be able to attend but I'm more than happy to get some money over to Mr. Lopez and to get that to you. Thank you for speaking. I really appreciate that.

Also thank you to Mr. Smart and Mr. McClain. I know I've seen Mr. McClain on both social media and on email and I know he's fighting off the brunt of some of the more avid anti-disc golf people out there. There is a lot of myths out there and I think Mr. Smart really came up today and I wish some of the other people that were against it were here so they could maybe compare a little bit. I thought he was really good at kind of dispelling some of the myths that were out there. The big one being that our Mayor is an avid disc golfer because there is a video of him throwing one not so well, but that's a myth.

Mayor Donchess

It went about 30 feet. That idea that it was a good throw is ridiculous.

Alderman Thibeault

The other piece of that, you know I heard a myth to that the disc golf store that went up over there was the reason why the course was there. It's the other way around. The store went there because the golf course is going to be there. Disc golf is not golf so any ordinance that says that, golf is not disc golf. We can have disc golf in parks. I compare it to polo and water polo. Just because the word is in it doesn't mean it's the same.

When I came on to be Alderman Elect, I met with DPW and that was one of the things at the time that was going to be in my Ward. I'm very gracious that the Clerk has taken it out of my Ward even though I love that park. I hear Alderman Sullivan. I see the emails. We all get together and I thought everything was done by the book. I don't think there was any cover of darkness. I'm not a disc golfer so I'm not speaking from experience there, but I think that they did a great job and I hope people look at that and see what both of them said today. I really appreciate that.

Senior Center real quick. If anybody has any issues with the money we put towards the Senior Center, I really wish that you guys would go and take a tour if you haven't. I was able to take a tour a couple of weeks ago and I thought it was worthwhile to see what they do. David Fredette is on the Board. He was there and so was Alderwoman Caron.

Court Street. So felt today - I didn't even know why we had presentations. I was wondering why they were hear. I felt that they were almost here to beg for what they do there. I felt kind of bad for them that they had to come and actually almost - I don't know if they're seeing it or feeling it on social media or feeling out there that people want to get rid of arts, or get rid of that building, or what but like I said earlier, we need arts in the City. Everybody that's doing something - Liquid Therapy is a great business to have there. I thought Mr. Tremblay spoke great about what they've done for the City.

Finally the flagpole. I mean if someone wants to put a Nazi flag, do we put it up because we have to put every flag up? We don't have to have a citizen flagpole. No one says we have to have one. I thought that was something that probably

started out for goodwill and to put anything up there that might offend someone, and I don't mean just offend somebody a little bit, but offend someone is, is wrong. It's just wrong. Why would we do it? We wouldn't put that up against any other kind of group, so why would we put something up there that is hateful toward the trans community. I think that's just wrong. They are citizens too just like we are. Just like we are. I don't know what to do about that, but that's it. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Mayor do you want to address that?

Mayor Donchess

I will, yes. The Supreme Court basically said that there are two ways that a community can go. Number one - you open it to anyone and everyone, which means the Nazi flag, the hammer and sickle, the Venezuelan whatever. Number two, you can control the message. The City can control the message and say we're not flying anything. We're flying only messages that we approve. So we had decided to adopt the second approach. We're not going to fly the hammer and sickle. We're not going to fly President Putin's whatever he wants. We're going to fly a limited number of flags. We really changed the policy immediately after the one flag was removed, but that's been done more explicitly now. So Ukrainian flag, the Irish flag, the Greek flag, the Pride flag – that's an event we support, the Pride Parade, but other flags, political flags that have political messages, other messages that really are not in our judgment appropriate will not be allowed. Mostly national flags recognizing national heritages, Dominican flag, Dominican independence, Greek independence. There's a policy now that is written and makes that clear.

President Wilshire

Alderman Moran and then Alderman Cathey.

Alderman Moran

Thank you Mr. Mayor for your Administration taking such a hardline against communism and anti-LGBTQ messaging. I do appreciate that on behalf of my constituents. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Alderman Cathey?

Alderman Cathey

I just a question. The policy that you've now adopted is that going to be known to the public or would it be that they submit and then you make a decision on the flag after it's been requested?

Mayor Donchess

Correct. Now there is a written policy which may already be on the website, but will soon be if it's not and there is a new application that makes all this clear. So yes you will have to apply and be approved before you can fly the flag.

Alderman Cathey

Thank you.

Committee announcements:

Alderman Dowd

I think we already said there is a Budget meeting Monday the 16th and that's Administrative Services. We'll be having numerous meetings. Everybody in the Budget Committee should have a list of the meetings. Those are going to be working sessions formally because we have a quorum. It's not a meeting but it's only going to be a working session. It's your opportunity to ask the Division Directors and their departments the questions you have relative to their budget. You only get one bite of the apple because we don't bring them back. So I ask you to review the sections before the meeting so you can ask questions that you might have.

Alderman Cathey

Not necessarily a committee announcement but just a reminder to the public that there is another Parking Study be done on Wednesday the 11th at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium upstairs. If you'd like to participate, you can do it either in person or on Zoom.

Alderman Moran

On Tuesday, May 17th, the Planning & Economic Development Committee will be holding a public hearing to amend the zoning map by rezoning land situated north and south of Lake Street and west of Pine Street from local business to local business with mixed use overlay district followed by a joint meeting of Economic Development Committee and the Committee on Infrastructure.

President Wilshire

Okay. I just have a reminder – well not a reminder. I just wanted to mention that the Board of Alderman group photo will take place at our next meeting before our next meeting on May 24th at 6:30. I hope no one has a conflict.

POSSIBLE NON-PUBLIC SESSION - None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN THAT THE MAY 10, 2022, 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 Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey, Alderman Thibeault, Alderman Wilshire	13
Nay:	Alderman Lopez	1

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Attest: Susan K. Lovering, City Clerk