

## **Board of Public Works Meeting Meeting Minutes June 30, 2020**

A meeting of the Board of Public Works was held on Tuesday, June 30, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. via WebEx Conference Call.

Mayor Donchess stated as Chair of the Board of Public Works, due to the state of emergency declared by the Governor Sununu as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with Governor Sununu's emergency order #12, pursuant to executive order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically. Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting as authorized, pursuant to the Governor's emergency order. However, in accordance with the emergency order, I am confirming that we are providing public access to the meeting via telephone with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means. We are utilizing WebEx through the city's IT Department for this electronic meeting. All members of the Board of Public Works have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform and the public has access to contemporaneously listen to this meeting by dialing the following number 978-990-5298 and using the access code 273974. The public may also view this meeting on Comcast channel 16. Secondly, providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting; we previously gave notice to the public for accessing the meeting for public posting. Instructions have also been provided on the City of Nashua's website at [www.nashuanh.gov](http://www.nashuanh.gov) and has also been publicly noticed at City Hall and at the Department of Public Works at 9 Riverside Street. Thirdly, we have also provided a mechanism for the public body to alert us if there are problems with access. If anyone has a problem accessing the meeting via phone or channel or 16, please call 603-821-2049. In the event the public is unable to access the meeting via the phone number mentioned, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled. Please note that all votes taken shall be done by a roll call vote.

We will start the meeting by taking a roll call of attendance. When each member states their presence and why they are not physically present for the meeting, they will also state whether there is anyone in the room with them during this meeting. This information is required under the Right-to-Know law. The public can also submit comments by e-mail which will be accepted and placed on file within this meeting. Please e-mail your comments to [bpwcommissioners@nashuanh.gov](mailto:bpwcommissioners@nashuanh.gov).

Mayor Donchess, Chair, declared the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and called the roll.

### Members Present:

- Mayor James Donchess, Chair

I am attending remotely due to the emergency order and the social distancing and I am alone in my living room.

- Commissioner G. Frank Teas, Vice Chair

I am attending remotely due to the emergency order and the social distancing and I am alone in my office.

- Commissioner Tracy Pappas

I am attending remotely due to the emergency order and the social distancing and I am alone in my room at my house.

- Commissioner Kevin S. Moriarty

I am attending remotely due to the emergency order and the social distancing and I am alone in my office.

- Commissioner Shannon Schoneman

I am attending remotely due to the emergency order and the social distancing and I am alone in a room in my house.

Also Present:

Ms. Lisa Fauteux, Director, Division of Public Works  
Mr. David Boucher, Superintendent of Wastewater  
Mr. Jeffery Lafleur, Superintendent of Solid Waste  
Mr. Dan Hudson, City Engineer  
Mr. Jon Ibarra, Superintendent of Streets

**Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION:** Commission Pappas made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Pappas, 5  
Commissioner Teas, Commissioner Moriarty,  
& Commissioner Schoneman

Nay: 0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- **May 28, 2020 – Regular Meeting**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Pappas made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 28, 2020, as presented.

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, 5  
Commissioner Pappas, Commissioner Moriarty,  
& Commissioner Schoneman

Nay: 0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

➤ **June 3, 2020 – Special Meeting**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Pappas made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 3, 2020, as presented.

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, 5  
Commissioner Pappas, Commissioner Moriarty,  
& Commissioner Schoneman

Nay: 0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Pappas to approve the request from Nashua PAL to waive disposal fees at the Four Hills Landfill for the renovation of Nashua PAL's Youth Safe Haven facility as outlined in the letter dated June 22, 2020.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Shaun Nelson, Executive Director, Nashua PAL

The request is to hopefully waive the fees which would normally be assessed for contractors to dump at the Four Hills Landfill. For the folks who have never heard of "Building on Hope" before, Nashua PAL applied for and received a grant which is essentially a group of contractors, designers, electricians, and hundreds of other New Hampshire based companies who were involved in a major renovation for one non-profit in the State of New Hampshire every other year. They chose Nashua PAL for the most recent renovation. The way this project works is that they don't actually supply cash but we will eventually receive about \$1.2 million worth in renovations for approximately \$200,000. We ask a lot of folks in the community to take a little piece. We are hoping in addition to this, the Board of Aldermen, who have already waived the permit fees, that we could also request a waiver of the waste fees related to this project which will be happening over the next two to three months.

Mayor Donchess

Are there any questions or comments from members of the Board?

Commissioner Pappas

Certainly, I think this is a great project and I will support this but I am just hoping that the Director or the Solid Waste Superintendent can give us an idea of how much this will cost. Just out of curiosity.

Director Fauteux

That's a good question, Commissioner Pappas, and I don't really know the answer to that. It depends on how much material we receive and I know that they are doing a lot of demolishing and there is going to be a combination of C&D trash, concrete, and bricks. It could be a fair amount of material but I honestly have no sense of what the total amount would be. We certainly could provide the Board with updates as the material comes in.

Commissioner Pappas

I do remember when we let the "Y" dump I think we had a dollar figure but I understand time is of the essence. Is the Superintendent of Solid Waste on the call?

Director Fauteux

I'm the one who has been dealing with this. If it's ten to twelve containers then they are probably on average 25 tons a piece. Is that right, Jeff?

Mr. Lafleur

Yes, that is correct.

Director Fauteux

Let's assume that it's all MSW, of course, the C&D would be more at \$90, and trash would be \$80. I would say it's roughly \$25,000 to \$30,000 worth of disposal.

Commissioner Pappas

That's far less than what we had approved for the "Y" and I think these folks certainly do provide an invaluable service to the city.

Director Fauteux

If that number changes, I will certainly let the Board know.

Commissioner Pappas

I want to say it was approximately \$75,000 or \$95,000 the last time we did it so that's why I was just curious as to what it was.

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, 5  
Commissioner Pappas, Commissioner Moriarty,  
& Commissioner Schoneman

Nay: 0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

Mayor Donchess

Good luck with the project. When do you start the project, Mr. Nelson?

Mr. Nelson

We already started this week.

Mayor Donchess

When do you think the completion date is?

Mr. Nelson

We are hoping for Halloween but based on the CDC's regulations the project has just been extended. We will keep you posted.

**Aldermanic Referrals**

**A. R-20-040 – MOTION:** Commissioner Pappas to recommend a positive review of R-20-040 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY TREASURER TO BORROW FROM THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUND AN ADDITIONAL AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED TWO MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,500,000) FOR PUMP STATION UPGRADES.

**Discussion:**

Mr. David Boucher, Superintendent of Wastewater

We have a project upgrade which includes thirteen of our pump stations throughout the city in two phases. We will currently be finishing the first phase and we are using state revolving fund money. It is estimated that we will need to borrow more money from the state to cover the cost of phase two. Phase one is to do six pump stations, and phase two is the remaining seven. We just want to make sure we have enough money to cover phase two.

Mayor Donchess

Do you know what the interest rate is on these?

Mr. Boucher

Yes, it's 2.0%.

Mayor Donchess

Does anybody have any comments or questions?

Commissioner Pappas

Can you provide a quick explanation as to why we have to do it? I know it's important to keep up the pump stations.

Mr. Boucher

Sure. Some of the pump stations date back to the 60s' and some of them are very deep with only one pump. If that one pump fails we have the potential of having sewer back-up into the streets. Some of the stations receive high-flow with a lot of rags and need a different style pump to break up the rags so they don't clog. All of the pump stations will be getting two pumps. Some of the pumps will be brought above ground; the ones that are deep – some go down 20 feet below ground. They will be getting a building above ground which will make it easier for the wastewater staff to service them and maintain them. Some of our existing buildings have generators that need to be replaced. We have already purchased some new pumps which were approved by the Board of Public Works and those pumps will be used with some of the upgrades. When we bought new pumps we made sure they were the same kind of pumps that were going to be specked out in the upgrades. They are also getting new controls. It's important that we have good communication to feedback to the wastewater plant so we know when there is an alarm so we can respond in a timely fashion. We are tying into the fiber line on the poles because we have bad communication in some locations. That's all being upgraded as well.

Commissioner Pappas

Thank you, I think everyone sees that it is a need because I don't think anyone wants to see sewerage on their city street.

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea:	Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, Commissioner Pappas, Commissioner Moriarty, & Commissioner Schoneman	5
Nay:		0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

## **Solid Waste Department**

**A. MOTION:** Commissioner Pappas to approve the Cooperative Service Agreement between the City of Nashua and the USDA Wildlife Management Service not-to-exceed \$80,462.98 for FY21. Funding for this agreement is through Department: 168 Solid Waste; Fund: Solid Waste; Account Classification: 53 Professional & Technical Services.

### **Discussion:**

Mr. Jeffery Lafleur, Superintendent of Solid Waste

This is our contract with the gull people. They scare the birds away from the landfill and they also go around scaring any turkey vultures in the city that have become nuisance problems, and they take care of any rodents hanging around the landfill. They have been doing this service for well over 20 years with the City of Nashua and they do an exceptional job.

Mayor Donchess

Are there any questions or comments from members of the Board?

Commissioner Schoneman

Mr. Lafleur, can you please explain how they go about scaring the vultures away?

Mr. Lafleur

They are trained professionals and use pyrotechnics to scare away the seagulls and the turkey vultures off of the landfill when it is operating. They are permitted, as am I, through the city to take up to 200 seagulls per year, and 75 turkey vultures. They don't do that unless the birds absolutely won't leave the landfill. They try the pyrotechnics and scaring them off with noises first but if they won't leave then that's when they have to them. They fill out all of our degradation permits through the state so they do a lot of clerical work for us also.

Commissioner Schoneman

So if the birds won't leave then they shoot them?

Mr. Lafleur

They dispatch, right, they are permitted to do that.

Commissioner Schoneman

Is anyone upset by the discharge of firearms around the landfill?

Mr. Lafleur

It's been going on for years and years. Every now and then we have a complaint and we will go over and explain what is happening and most of the time the residents are great with it.

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, Commissioner Pappas, Commissioner Moriarty, & Commissioner Schoneman	5
Nay:	0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

**B. MOTION:** Commissioner Pappas to approve spending up to \$4,000 from the Public Works Asbestos Site Expendable Trust Fund to pay for health and safety related items and worksite supplies for the asbestos disposal site team. Funding for this is through Department: 168 Solid Waste; Fund: Trust; Account Category: 61 Supplies & Materials.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Lafleur

We have to get this request approved by the Board of Public Works to use monies from this fund. My guys and some of the Streets Department workers have asbestos worker's licenses and these are all of the safety materials that we need to replenish. If they run into an asbestos pipe out there they cut it, cover it with plastic and duct tape, and it also includes the respirators that are needed to do it.

Commissioner Pappas

How many folks have a certification for asbestos disposal?

Mr. Lafleur

Including myself and Kerry Converse, my Environmental Engineer, we have six or seven here at the landfill, and one or two at the Streets Department who are certified.

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, Commissioner Pappas, Commissioner Moriarty, & Commissioner Schoneman	5
Nay:	0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

**C. Informational:** Thank you letter.

Mayor Donchess

We received a thank you letter praising Mr. John Naro from the Solid Waste Department for his exceptional performance of his duties. We congratulate him for doing a good job!

**Engineering Department**

**A. MOTION:** To approve the Residential and Commercial Wastewater Service Permits and Fees as submitted.

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, 5  
Commissioner Pappas, Commissioner Moriarty,  
& Commissioner Schoneman

Nay: 0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

**B. MOTION:** To approve the hardship request from Liberty Utilities for excavation to repair two Grade 2 leaks located at 10 Manchester Street and the Cote Avenue/Chapman Street intersection.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Dan Hudson, City Engineer

As noted, the requests are for two grade two leaks and as previously discussed, the need to be repaired within six months and in the same calendar year that they were discovered. Manchester Street was paved in 2015 so it is almost out of the moratorium, but not quite. Cote Avenue and Chapman Street were paved in 2018 and these two separate excavations are estimated to be approximately 4 feet wide x 8 feet long and if approved they would make the required improvements.

Mayor Donchess

Are there any questions or comments from members of the Board? There were none.

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, 4

Nay:

0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

**Recorder's Note: Commissioner Moriarty did not vote as he lost internet connection.**

**Streets Department**

- A. MOTION:** Commissioner Pappas to approve the award of the FY20 Pavement Markings contract to Hi-Way Safety Systems, Inc. of Rockland, MA in the amount of \$248,570. Funding for this contract is through Department 161: Streets; Fund: General and Prior Year Escrow; Account Classification: 54 Other Services.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Jon Ibarra, Superintendent of Streets

This is the award for the annual pavement markings contract. We've been contracted with Hi-Way Safety Systems, Inc. since 2014. They were going to raise their prices but on the last change order, they agreed to hold off on raising their prices until this June. We had to go out to bid and as luck would have it they were the only outfit that bid on the contract. This is for all of our long lines, our crosswalks, our stop bars, turn lanes, symbols, and any thermal plastic that we put down.

Commissioner Pappas

I think it's really nice to keep up with these items, particularly the crosswalks. I just remembered that there was one stop bar that was requested on Concord Street...right where it meets the Henri Bourque Highway.

Director Fauteux

I'm not sure where that is Commissioner Pappas, was it a while ago?

Commissioner Pappas

It was a while ago. We had just paved the street and we thought we are going to keep up with it. I think it's Academy Drive. People are lining up to either go straight on Concord Street to go into Merrimack or they are taking a left onto Henri Bourque. It's a really busy intersection and sometimes people can't get in or out of that street.

Director Fauteux

Are you concerned that it may not have been painted?

Commissioner Pappas

Oh, I know it didn't get painted and I keep forgetting to send you an e-mail.

Director Fauteux

Okay, we will definitely get to that.

**Recorder's Note: Commissioner Moriarty was able to re-join the meeting.**

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, Commissioner Pappas, Commissioner Moriarty, & Commissioner Schoneman	5
Nay:	0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

**B. MOTION:** Commissioner Pappas to approve the purchase of 2- CMS-T333 Electronic Message Boards from American Signal Company of Atlanta, GA for the total purchase price of \$33,602. Funding will be through Department: 161 Street; Fund: Grant; Activity: GOFERR Grant.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Ibarra

These two message boards would be in addition to the fleet. We currently have four and we place these citywide for various special events or during the winter months alerting people of snow emergencies and parking bans.

When the COVID-19 came out we ended up dedicated two of them on Main Street when we did the expansion for the outdoor dining. When this funding became available and we discussed what we could use we thought this would be a great addition to the fleet because it helps us get our messaging out more broadly across the city.

Commissioner Pappas

I think more of those boards are not a bad thing at all. It is a grant and is not paid for by the taxpayers.

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, Commissioner Pappas, Commissioner Moriarty,	5
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Nay:

0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

**Wastewater Department**

**A. MOTION:** Commissioner Pappas to approve the purchase of the chemical Sodium Hypochlorite in the amount of \$125,000 from Borden & Remington of Fall River, MA. Funding will be through: Department: 169 Wastewater; Fund: Wastewater; Account Classification: 61 Supplies & Materials.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Boucher

The Sodium Hypochlorite is a chemical we add to disinfect our treated water before it is discharged to the river. This chemical is purchased through the Northeast Merrimack Valley Chemical Consortium so it's a bid process and Borden & Remington was the lowest bidder. It's the same company we used last year. It's a 1 ½% increase over last year but it's still a good price. This will cover the annual cost of the chemical and it's a chemical that we add every day.

Mayor Donchess

Are there any members of the Board who have questions or comments? There were none.

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, 5  
Commissioner Pappas, Commissioner Moriarty,  
& Commissioner Schoneman

Nay: 0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

**B. MOTION:** Commissioner Pappas to approve the purchase of the chemical Sodium Bisulfite in the amount of \$64,000 from JCI Jones Chemical of Sarasota, FL. Funding will be through: Department: 169 Wastewater; Fund: Wastewater; Account Classification: 61 Supplies & Materials.

**Discussion:**

Mr. Boucher

This chemical is another one that we add daily. It was also being purchased through the same consortium for a bid process. We add this chemical to remove the Sodium

Hypochlorite before it actually gets to the river because we are not allowed to chlorinate the river. This product is cheaper than last year by 1.4%. This covers the cost of the annual purchase of this chemical.

Mayor Donchess

Are there any members of the Board who have questions or comments? There were none.

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, 4  
Commissioner Pappas, & Commissioner Schoneman

Nay: 0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

**Recorder's Note: Commissioner Moriarty did not vote as he lost internet connection.**

**Administration**

**A. MOTION:** Commissioner Pappas to approve the proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations for Outdoor Dining to allow the use of umbrellas with logos.

**Discussion:**

Mayor Donchess

Up to now, for the past numbers of years, umbrellas with advertising logos were not allowed in the outdoor dining areas. The outdoor dining areas have been significantly expanded and there are many more outdoor tables. Many of the downtown restaurants who are taking advantage of the expanded outdoor dining had informed them that they can get additional outdoor umbrellas and if they use the logos they can get the umbrellas for free. They shared that they had suffered some pretty hard times and it would be helpful. The Board of Aldermen and the Board of Public Works need to approve this. There is a proposed ordinance change that is sponsored by a vast majority of the members of the Board of Aldermen. Therefore, we are here to propose this change which would allow advertising logos on umbrellas on Main Street as long as the umbrellas remain within the areas that are allowed for outdoor dining.

Commissioner Schoneman

What is the reason for not allowing the logos in the first place?

Mayor Donchess

I think it was an esthetic choice and I don't even know when that prohibition was imposed but it was probably when the outdoor dining was authorized but I'm not sure. Some people felt that it would look better if there were no advertising logos.

Commissioner Teas

I am in favor of this but are the restaurants able to use umbrellas with logos in perpetuity or is it just during the pandemic?

Mayor Donchess

This would be a permanent change, although of course, it could be changed back. I would say the chances that we would continue with the outdoor dining in the expanded areas beyond this season are pretty good.

Director Fauteux

The rules and regulations for outdoor dining were approved by the Board of Public Works on June 25, 2015, and one of the conditions was that the umbrellas not contain any logos. That would change the approval that took place on June 25, 2015.

Mayor Donchess

Was there a time period when logoed umbrellas were allowed?

Director Fauteux

There was a little period of time prior to June 25<sup>th</sup> when they were allowed.

Mayor Donchess

Are there any other questions or comments? There were none.

**Recorder's Note: Commissioner Moriarty was able to re-join the meeting.**

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, Commissioner Pappas, & Commissioner Schoneman	5
Nay:	0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

**B. Informational:**

- i. Budget Transfers – May 2020

## Mayor Donchess

The budget transfers are self-explanatory so unless anyone has questions we will move along to the Director's Report. There were no questions.

### ii. Director's Report

- We had our Military Tribute Banner Ceremony on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The video is on Facebook as well as on our website.

## Director Fauteux

This is a tribute written by Rosemary Rung, who is the daughter of one of our Nashua Weeks heroes, Mr. Paul P. Kaminsky. She is also a New Hampshire State Representative from Merrimack so clearly, public service runs in their family.

Lieutenant Colonel Retired, Paul P. Kaminsky was not only the best husband and father we could have asked for but he was a consummate citizen of our great community of Nashua. As a man of deep faith he served St. Patrick's Church as a Eucharistic Minister, Lector, and overall volunteer. It was common for him to go out late at night to pay for a motel room for a homeless family or to help his wife, Lou, in gathering food for the Nashua Soup Kitchen. Upon military retirement, he became a math professor at the Nashua Community College. He was particularly dedicated to non-traditional students, single mother's trying to get an education, those with full-time, minimum wage jobs, but who worked for an education and the opportunities it would provide. Paul tutored them, encouraged them, and celebrated each passing grade they worked so hard to earn. He was an officer that helped integrate the Air Force and mentored young black officers. It wasn't until after his death that we learned that he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

*Lieutenant Paul P. Kaminski, distinguished himself by extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight as an AC-119E Navigator in Southeast Asia on December 19, 1971.*

*On that date, Colonel Kaminski and his crew were directed to perform reconnaissance and to attack targets along the heavily defended supply route. Despite intense and accurate anti-aircraft fire, Colonel Kaminski exhibited superior airmanship and courage in locating and tracking targets resulting in the damage and destruction of several hostile supply vehicles. The professional competence, aerial skills, and devotion to duty displayed by Colonel Kaminski reflected great threat upon himself and the United States Airforce.*

*Distinguished Flying Cross Awarded on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 1972 by the President of the United States.*

## Director Fauteux

I think that is an interesting tribute to one of the heroes that we are displaying on the Broad Street Parkway. Thank you very much, Colonel Kaminski, for your service to our city and our country.

- The 2020 Paving Program is in full swing. This is a picture of Sunshine Paving who did Birch Hill Drive and on the right is Nasella (a subcontractor of Sunshine Paving) who is working on reclaiming Winchester Street.
- This is a picture of a catch basin installation done by SUR West on Orange Street.
- This is another sewer installation along Main Street near Mulberry Street. A 150-year old pipe had collapsed.
- This a picture of manhole maintenance at the intersection of Main Street and Hollis Street. SUR West is again performing the work.
- We are very pleased that we are at least able to offer a condensed summer camp program. A special thanks to Lauren Byers for the wonderful marketing piece she developed. The camps started this week and all of the camps are pretty much full.
- We made the incredibly difficult decision to not open our city pools for the season. Thanks to the Public Health Department, Risk Management, Emergency Management, and Cheryl Lindler, the Mayor's Chief of Staff for helping to make this very difficult decision. In the end, it was decided there was no way social distancing could be maintained and open the pools. I was trying to figure out how to make pods and keep social distancing but in the end there was just no way. Our pools have an average of 240 people and even cutting that in half wasn't enough to keep the residents safe.
- The Brewfest has been cancelled for this year. It is a significant fundraiser for PAL.
- The Silver Knights will be playing baseball at Holman this summer. The Silver Knights have put together an incredibly safe program and we were very impressed with what they put together. It was approved by Risk Management, the Public Health Department, and Emergency Management.
- On Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> there was a vigil at Greeley Park to promote social justice. About 1,200 people were at the vigil and it was very peaceful and respectful.
- This shows pictures of the boat ramp. Everything is almost completed and we hope it will be done by July 15<sup>th</sup> at the latest but I think some folks are already using it.
- This is a picture of Mine Falls Park. This is three weeks after renovation. The growth is going very well. The fields that were renovated were Mine Falls 1 through 6, Main Dunstable 1 through 5, and Charlotte Avenue. We expect them back online for early to mid-August. We took advantage of the time that

we had without people playing on the fields to rehabilitate them. Haines Street is also under renovation and will be off-line for several months. Hats off to our Park & Recreation employees for the great work that they are doing.

- On June 15<sup>th</sup> we opened our playgrounds and signage was installed reminding all users about how to play safely. Hand sanitizer stations will be deployed very soon in all of the playgrounds.
- This is a berm that was replaced on Yarmouth Street because there were some flooding issues. On the right, there was another berm replacement on Hillsberry Road.
- We had a sewer dig and backfill on Water Street. Three crews assisted wastewater in locating a block into the sewer service and made a repair.
- This is our maintenance crews/mechanics. On the right is an inspection of our sweeper and on the right is our Landfill side by side receiving routine service.
- Superintendent Boucher spoke earlier about our pump station upgrades and they are continuing at a rapid pace. On the left is the Gill Street Pump Station and on the right is the Fulton Street Pump Station. Both are nearly complete.
- This is a picture to show you what is involved. This is the bypass pumping that is set up for the replacement of the Trestle Brook Pump Station.
- Our Energy Recovery Project is nearing completion and we are just finishing up on the final punch list items like insulating a pipe.
- The Street Department repaired some asphalt in the recycling area at the Four Hills Landfill.
- There was a fire at the landfill a couple of weeks back. It happens from time to time and it's usually from ashes, lithium batteries, or pool chemicals being put in the trash. In this case, it was probably from a lithium battery. It's very dangerous for the staff and the landfill. Fortunately, we were able to get the fire out quickly and there was no damage to the landfill. Thanks to our neighboring communities who responded because Nashua does not have a tanker truck and there are no hydrants out there. Mr. Lafleur and Assistant Director Patrician are working on putting some water tanks out near the phase III landfill in the event this happens again.

#### Commissioner Pappas

Are you talking about a tiny lithium battery that you would put in a bathroom scale or are you talking about a bigger battery?

#### Director Fauteux

A tiny little battery like that can explode and start a fire. When the compactor rolls over the battery it can ignite.

Commissioner Pappas

If you can't replace the battery should you just bring the entire appliance to the landfill?

Director Fauteux

Yes, if you have anything with a lithium battery you should bring it to the scale house.

Commissioner Pappas

So one tiny little battery can cause that kind of damage?

Director Fauteux

Yes, it can.

- The bulky item collection began on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Residents can call in and schedule the pick-up of oversized items.
- With the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday falling on a Saturday, this week's curbside collection will follow the normal schedule. The landfill and the recycling center will be closed on Saturday in observance of Independence Day. We will have normal business hours on Friday.

Commissioner Pappas

So there will be absolutely no interruption of curbside service either week?

Director Fauteux

That is correct.

Mayor Donchess

Are there any questions or comments regarding the Director's Report? There were none.

Mayor Donchess

The next item is with regard to Personnel but just like the last time, it is nearly impossible to go into a non-public session without broadcasting it and then come back. I think we should take this up in the open session. The item is not controversial and I expect there will be nothing negative raised.

## Personnel

- A. MOTION:** Commissioner Pappas to approve the selection contingent upon acceptable results of criminal and driving record checks, and pre-employment drug tests, of Cory McCormack, to the position of Truck Driver/Street Repair for the Street Department. Starting salary for this position will be \$22.41 per hour. Funding will be through Department 161: Streets Fund; General Account Classification: Salaries & Wages.

### Discussion:

#### Director Fauteux

Myself and Superintendent Ibarra met with Mr. McCormack and he was a very interesting young man who took a lot of pride in working hard. He was very excited about the possible opportunity to work for the city. He did a great job at Belletetes and all of his references checked out. He is excited about the opportunity of plowing and overtime. He seemed to have a very good work ethic. I think he will be a good fit and a good addition as a truck driver for the Streets Department.

#### Mr. Ibarra

I concur.

#### Mayor Donchess

Are there any members of the Board who have questions or comments. There were none.

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, Commissioner Pappas, Commissioner Moriarty, & Commissioner Schoneman	5
Nay:	0

**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

### Commissioner's Comments

#### Commissioner Pappas

I have a few things. The first one is that I had received an e-mail from someone regarding concern for wheelchair access on Main Street. I understand that the Main Street Project really belongs to the Economic Development Department but Director Fauteux is always willing to roll up her sleeves and help out. The Director was able to find a way to make the downtown more accessible to those in wheelchairs. I got an e-mail from a constituent who has a walker and a cane and they understand how difficult it can be to set things up on Main Street but their comment was that it would be really helpful if we could put in more

handicapped parking on the side streets. Even if we meet the handicapped law, I don't think we want to exclude portions of our population from our downtown. This is someone who has limited mobility but it doesn't stop this person from getting out and enjoying the downtown area. The downtown outdoor venues are quite safe but the parking was very difficult.

Director Fauteux

I will certainly pass that on to the Parking Department. I'm glad you brought that up because today we opened up a number of areas with jersey barriers where we could. Engineer Hudson was involved regarding the safety of it. Several of the jersey barriers were opened on Main Street to allow for accessibility for people with disabilities. There were six locations where we have ordered ramps to place on the sidewalk into the outdoor dining areas. We will install the ramps immediately upon receipt of them.

Commissioner Pappas

I'm thinking it was more parking that this person had concerns with.

Director Fauteux

We will look into the parking.

Commissioner Pappas

Mr. Mayor, I will preface my comments by saying that I have tremendous respect for our Director and I often applaud and laud her for is knowing when a job has to get done, even if it's in another department, she will make sure it gets done. For example, we have seen a huge improvement in the safety of our school kids with snow clearing. Obviously, if it's within one block of the school it might be an AFSCME issue with the janitors. She has done a tremendous job of reaching across the aisle and helping out to make sure that downtown things get done. I really wish that other departments and divisions would be as helpful. She only has control over her division and I recognize that.

Mr. Mayor, I disagree with the administrative decision to close the city's pools. For the record, I believe in science and appreciate all the measures taken to contain the virus. Science tells us outside venues don't spread the virus like indoor venues. It may also help deter the spread of the virus. We've opened all of the private pools. It makes no sense to me why we have the infrastructure and the lifeguards in place. Manchester is opening their pools and they didn't have the funding or the lifeguards in place. Nashua figured out how to get outdoor dining in the downtown in a real hurry and I applaud that. The downtown has a strong lobbying group and I mean that as a compliment. By that, I mean businesses, politicians, and residents. The problem is inner-city kids don't have a lobby group so I am trying to step up and fill that void. Here are some suggestions that I offer for pool openings. I think we may need more help than what Public Works can offer.

Perhaps placing painting tape 6 feet apart so the kids can see where to lay their towels.

In order to accommodate more children perhaps having two hours at a time like 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Find some money for staff to ensure that kids have masks and are six feet apart when they are waiting in line. The city found \$24,000 for dance parties and yoga classes so I think we should be able to find monies to help open the pool.

Have the employees working from home help, have the staff from the Arlington Street Family Center help out when dealing with kid's social distancing while they are waiting in line. Ask outside organizations such as PAL or the United Way for help. They have been great advocates for our children.

If other communities can figure out a way to open their pools then so should we. These kids have missed out on a lot and they deserve to take a quick dip in the pool, even if only for a couple of hours or even 1 ½ hours or an hour. What's our battle cry going to be? Yes, we will try or no, we won't try and voices go unheard. We have camps open. Pools serve more kids than camps and they also cover a broader social class. Additionally, pools are free. I implore you, please at least try to open the pool. As I said, the Director can't ask for help because she is not the Mayor. I'm not taking a shot at her just to be clear. We might end up saying this isn't working but I just think it would be really sad if we don't just try. Those are my feelings.

#### Mayor Donchess

The decision regarding the pool was for the reasons we mentioned. The decision was made in concert with Director Fauteux as well as our Public Health Department, and others who have been dealing with the Coronavirus Pandemic on a daily basis. We are watching the science very closely. It came down to the fact that yes, outdoor is safer than indoor if there is social distancing, if people remain 6 feet apart and especially if they wear masks. In terms of determining how you would run a pool...the pools have a capacity of about 240 kids and if you cut that number by 50% you still have 120 kids in the pool. Public Health, Public Works, and the others felt, realistically, it was not possible with small kids, and teenagers to force or require that they stay 6 feet apart in the pool and it just would not work. Number two is because we wouldn't be at full capacity you would have kids outside waiting to come in and social distancing outside would probably be impossible to enforce. It would also be very difficult to enforce the use of masks outside. The decision was made, not because we don't have a lobbying group but because we don't want the Coronavirus to get a foothold in Nashua. So far we have done very well with that. Yes, Manchester is allowing their pools to be open, however, the last word I got was that they were not allowing their pools to open but maybe they made a recent decision to open them.

#### Commissioner Pappas

They did.

#### Mayor Donchess

Manchester has three times the cases that Nashua has right now. I'm not saying that has anything to do with what the city has done or not done. Another consideration was that the

vast majority of kids do not come with parents so there is no adult supervision except for the lifeguards, again reinforcing the idea that the kids are not going to stay apart. It's one of the reasons that the schools have closed and why they are considering continuing remote learning at least in some form. So, when we were thinking safety we thought that we could run the camps and require the social distancing if we use the lifeguards to go and be at the camps and make sure that the kids stay apart. It would seem realistic that with the additional staff and effort they could open the court. Certainly, you can question the decision for the reasons that you raised, and I'm not saying that having a good place for the kids to swim and have a good time during the summer is not important, it is very important, but safety has to trump that. We looked to some of the states that, unlike New Hampshire and Massachusetts, and other New England states that have been very cautious; in Florida, they opened the beaches and these are with adults and look at what happened, there was an explosion of the virus. And with that, you could maybe expect the adults to maybe stay apart. It's to the point that it may become like New York down there. They are running between 5,000 and 10,000 cases a day. I think their high was 9,000 and today was like 5,000 or 6,000. In Texas it is the same thing, Austin is at a point where they are just at a tipping point where they are sure that their hospital capacity will be sufficient to accommodate, to care for or take in all of the people who need hospitalization from the Coronavirus. These are places where a lot of young people get together.

In considering the welfare of the children, when it came to giving them a good time and giving them a place to exercise and cool off, which is important, versus their safety and the safety of the community, we made the rather difficult decision that we would allow the science...I can tell what the Department of Public Health said, they said: "unless you want to get rid of social distancing you can't do it." That was the Public Health Department and if anyone has done a good job in addition to Ms. Fauteux on the Coronavirus epidemic, it is Ms. Bobbi Bagley, Director of Public Health. Those were the factors that were discussed at length over and over again. In addition, Lowell is definitely closed as in Lawrence and we had some concern that we could get kids from out of town. You have to remember that anyone can go into those pools and kids don't come with parents or with I.D.'s and it could have created a mob scene outside with a limited number of kids inside. Those are the things that led to the decision to keep the pools closed. Again, I'm not saying that what you have raised isn't important and that certainly the issues you mentioned were discussed over and over again and for quite a while we had made no decision but recently, given the requirements of safety and given what we saw what the opening of beaches has done in Florida we made the difficult decision to weigh safety more heavily than the valid reasons that you have raised and keep the pools closed.

#### Commissioner Pappas

I don't disagree that Director Bagley has done a good job but having worked with kids I think that you can disperse them. I think you should at least give it a try. I would like to make one point of clarification, I think in Florida the places that are opening are the bars, it's the 20-year old's that is how it's spreading. We do have indoor and outdoor dining and that sort of thing and I'm just saying if we were able to figure that out...even if we limit it just for a couple of hours or 90 minutes and say this line has to disperse and come back in two hours for 90 minutes. I think if we had adults out there...as someone who has worked in education, I

think if kids know the rules they can follow the rules. I think that we should at least try and I'll leave it that we will agree to disagree.

Mayor Donchess

There was a lot of input from the people who work at the pools every year regarding whether or not they could really keep the kids apart. As far as the comparison with the beaches, those are adults and you can't even keep them apart. Many of the kids would be elementary school-aged kids.

Commissioner Pappas

Well, the private pools are doing it. I just feel badly because if a family can afford a private pool their kids can go for a swim and those that can't will not be able to and that's disturbing to me.

Mayor Donchess

My neighbor has a pretty big pool and they have three or four kids but they don't have 120 or 240 kids in it. Certainly, the city pool is bigger than that but a family that owns a pool can control the situation a lot more easily than the city can control 120 or more. I understand your point and I think you understand my point.

Commissioner Pappas

I wasn't talking about people's personal pools at home, I was talking about the private pools like at the country club. They do have a decent amount of people.

Mayor Donchess

Thank you for your comments. We will probably discuss the issue again based upon your input.

Commissioner Schoneman

I have a 3 ½ year-old son and Roby Park is one of his favorite places to go and when we went recently we saw the improvements by the turf field are inestimable, it's 100% better and I want to thank the people who are responsible for that, the people who donated money and got the job done. It really is tremendous. The shade sails make a huge difference.

Mayor Donchess

That's nice to hear.

Commissioner Schoneman

We are extremely disappointed with the city pools being closed. I've been taking Isaac to the kiddie pool at Greeley Park since he was a little baby and I have to keep explaining to him why it isn't open. Of course and doesn't get it and I admit neither do I. I don't see a lot of

evidence...I don't see any evidence of child to child transmission. I don't see any evidence that the opening of the beaches necessarily has anything to do with the explosion of positive tests in Florida. I think that I agree completely with Commissioner Pappas and she expressed it beautifully that we can at least try. We may find that the residents of Nashua will rise to the challenge of doing this well. I think that canceling the fireworks and closing the pool is sad and have taken a lot from our community. What I see from the public is that they are incredibly disappointed and a little bit angry that we can have a dance party on Main Street and yoga but not a celebration of our country. It's a little bit confusing to me and a lot of people are shaking their heads saying "what's going on?" I don't have an answer for that but I do know that there is a lot of disappointment over that decision. I understand your point, Mr. Mayor, and the choices that have been made about safety but I would have to disagree with those decisions.

### Mayor Donchess

Just a correction, the issue of the "so-called" dance party and the yoga, that's only a possibility, there's no decision to go forward with any of that and anybody who listened to the meeting or looked at the contract with the Great American Downtown and the discussion around it made it very clear that the money was going for a much broader riverfront purpose than the possibility of dance parties or yoga. Those were things that were planned pre-COVID-19 but there has been no decision to proceed with any of it. I think the people who watched or read...I don't know if they are intentionally distorting that or not but you should go back and look at the contract and watch the meeting and hear the discussion of what is really planned and what the purpose of the money is really for. To the issues of the pools again, and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July gets 25,000 people and there are no fireworks in Manchester or Lowell or anywhere else. That was a decision that the police department was very involved in. How big an area do you corner off and what about the streets that are right around it? There could be thousands of people congregating. Of course, it's easy to criticize these decisions but what if we opened the pools and had fireworks and there was an outbreak? Who answers to that, the Commissioners who sit on the Board of Public Works, I don't think so. We are working for our neighbors, for our grandparents, for our friends, and for our family members to try to protect their lives. We've had 36 in Nashua, 300 plus people in New Hampshire who have already died due to COVID-19. A lot of them had contracted the disease...and one of them, Commissioner Schoneman, lives a couple of blocks from here. That was from a community spread and not a nursing home, meaning that person who spent two months on a respirator and then passed away, had no known contacts with anyone. Somehow he and his spouse got COVID-19 and he ended up dead and his family is suffering for it so we are trying to protect the community members and it's easy to throw stones at these decisions...oh we should have the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, we should pools, and we should have everything, but if there were an outbreak then who answers for that and who grieves with those families? The person who died in our neighborhood; his family couldn't visit him for two months, they might have had one visit and I think they had to go in with hazmat suits on just to get into the room because when a person is on a ventilator they emit a lot of particles into the air that can transmit the disease to someone else. Why don't you talk to someone who knows something about this? Why don't you talk to Bobbi Bagley, especially regarding the 4<sup>th</sup> of July? I think you should spend some time talking with the Department of Public Health and find out what the reasons are, what the risks are, and what

the downside would be if we made that call and it happened to be the wrong one. Would you talk to the Department of Public Health?

Commissioner Schoneman

I attended the meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and I think it's very clear how they feel about it.

Mayor Donchess

Right, and it is pretty clear how Dr. Fauci, and a lot of other medical experts feel about it as well.

I know there is this kind of political thing that we are supposed to pretend this isn't going on to some degree and we shouldn't wear a mask and all that kind of stuff, but I don't agree with that. I think safety and science is number one, and protecting the members of the Nashua community is the most important factor in all of the decisions we are making.

Commissioner Pappas

Just to be clear, I never said open the pools and let it just happen. I'm just saying let's try to take a look at a way to do it and make sure the kids have masks while they are standing in line. As I said, my view is if things are done correctly with regard to the pools...I do think that dining facilities are a lot more dangerous but you have decided to take a chance to follow the rules on that, that's fine. I'm just saying to give the kids a chance, let's see if we can get outside people to help with the social distancing while they are waiting in line and make sure that there are extra masks if kids don't have masks. If they go into the restroom at the pool they should wear masks.

Mayor Donchess

If the pools were open we wouldn't open the restroom. Let me just ask a question, what if there were an outbreak? Then what?

Commissioner Pappas

The restaurants are more dangerous than having pools with limited access. My point is let's see if we can figure out a way to open the pools with limited access. When I decided to raise this issue, I spoke with only people I knew believed in the science and people that I knew who had pre-existing conditions and they think the country isn't necessarily handling it all that great. To me, if we are safe for downtown, okay fine, I think it's great for people to be able to get out and have it controlled. I have worked with kids and I'm just saying if we set down reasonable rules then we should give it shot with the social distancing in place and with masks so the kids from the inner city whose parents don't have the money to go to a private pool or country club, that they might have an hour or two to take a dip in the pool. I want to make it clear that I am not for any type of irresponsible opening. That's not who I am. As I said, I very much appreciate the steps that have been taken and I have an underlying so I really appreciate it. I'm just saying if we are allowing indoor dining and you think it's a responsible way to do it then let's just give the pool a shot. I'm not saying to break the gates

down and let the kids come in with no mask, that's not what I was advocating and I want to make that clear.

Commissioner Schoneman

I am also not advocating that we open the gates to a huge outbreak. Not that we could ever say oh we opened the pool and look we had an outbreak. That's not at all how it works and I believe that the Department of Public Health would agree that it is not easy to understand this virus and how it moves. What we do know is that children...

Mayor Donchess

Public Health would agree that it's not what?

Commissioner Schoneman

It's not an easy virus to understand in some ways. What we do know and the evidence is there that children are generally asymptomatic and they also don't suffer from this virus, with exceptions of course, and I think if you look at the overall health of children, keeping them out of school, keeping them away from recreational opportunities I think is not healthy for children. That's just my opinion. I think we need to stay safe and protect our citizens. I think we need to help our elderly population and keep them safe but I think like Commissioner Pappas, it would be nice to try.

Mayor Donchess

Well, of course, what the science tells you is that yes, kids are often asymptomatic, although there are kids who are affected by this as well and get a syndrome that is related to COVID-19 and die as a result. The fact that the kids are asymptomatic is part of the problem. They have gone to a pool or somewhere else and contracted the virus and they don't die from it but their grandparents do or their parents or someone else because no one knows that they have the disease. That's part of the issue. Seniors are more vulnerable. The disease can be communicated by someone of any age and the asymptomatic, you pointed out that kids can be asymptomatic, yes, you are right but they are the most dangerous ones because no one knows they have it so no one knows they should be careful. In any event, I think we have made our points pretty clearly and the community can judge whether the city's efforts with respect to COVID-19 have been effective or not.

Are there any other Commissioner's comments? There were no additional comments.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Pappas made a motion to adjourn.

*A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:*

Yea: Mayor Donchess, Commissioner Teas, Commissioner Pappas, Commissioner Moriarty, & Commissioner Schoneman	5
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Nay:

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**MOTION CARRIED: Unanimously**

Meeting adjourned at 3:39 p.m.