

A special meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Monday, January 10, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

President Brian S. McCarthy presided; Deputy Clerk Patricia E. Lucier recorded.

Prayer was offered by Deputy City Clerk Patricia E. Lucier, Alderman Vitale leading in the Pledge to the Flag.

President McCarthy

I would like to remind members of the Board and of the public to please turn off cell phones and pagers. If you must use them please leave the room quietly before doing so.

The roll call was taken with 13 members of the Board of Aldermen present; Aldermen Shaw and Bolton were recorded absent.

His Honor Mayor Bernard A. Streeter was also in attendance.

President McCarthy

Alderman Bolton was unable to make it this evening, and Alderman Shaw is busy with the Capital Improvements Committee down the hall.

President McCarthy announced that the purpose of the special meeting of the Board of Aldermen was to conduct the public hearing on Amended Resolution R-04-121, Proposing an Amendment to the City Charter Relative to Requiring the Vote of at least Ten (10) Aldermen for the Annual Budget or any other Appropriation.

Alderman Tollner

Mr. President just before we start we got this legislation a while back and over the last 2-3 days I have had some conversations with a number of people, and as late as late this afternoon with you Mr. President and Corporation Counsel. It is my understanding, and I welcome the comments from the public, that if this particular piece of legislation were to be approved by the Board of Aldermen basically what we are saying is that we would need to have 10 votes from the Board of Aldermen regardless of how many members were present, and we would need 10 votes regardless of whether we wanted to override the cap, add \$100 to the budget, add no money to the budget, or cut the budget if we were to get a final budget. Is that correct?

President McCarthy

That is my understanding of the legislation.

Alderman Johnson

Mr. President may I comment on this? I don't see anything wrong with that. The people entrusted whether we add money, subtract money, or leave it alone. I think this is a way that 10 of us are here to vote on the budget to be accountable rather than what happened in August. That was the biggest sham that happened in August. The budget should have been held up until we had at least 10 Aldermen here to vote on the budget. Unfortunately people went on vacation, but you know what this is accountability.

Alderman Tollner

I am not arguing pro or con.

President McCarthy

I don't want to have a debate over it. You asked a clarifying question, it has been answered, and the debate on the merits of the bill will be taken up at the Board of Aldermen meeting on Wednesday.

Alderman Tollner

Thank you.

Public Hearing

**R-04-121**

**PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY CHARTER RELATIVE  
TO REQUIRING THE VOTE OF AT LEAST TEN (10) ALDERMEN  
FOR THE ANNUAL BUDGET OR ANY OTHER APPROPRIATION**

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR:

Mike Lowe, 6 Sheffield Road

George Martin, 5 Lone Star Drive

Phillip Forrest 24 Monroe Street

Virginia Hinkle, 37 Windemere Way

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION:

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Mike Tobasco, 5 Federal Hill Road

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TESTIMONY IN FAVOR:

Bradley Whitney, 38 Fifield Street

Robert Sullivan, 12 Stonybrook Road

Bob Leith, 19 Burgess Street

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TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION:

-  
None.

TESTIMONY

-  
Paul Bergeron, 9 Chase Street, Hudson, NH

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE THAT THE JANUARY 10, 2005 SPECIAL MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ADJOURNED  
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Attest:

Paul R. Bergeron, City Clerk