

A regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Tuesday, April 12, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Acting President James R. Tollner presided; City Clerk Paul R. Bergeron recorded.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Paul R. Bergeron; Alderman Johnson leading in the Pledge to the Flag.

The roll call was taken with 14 members of the Board of Aldermen present.

His Honor, Acting Mayor Brian S. McCarthy, and Corporation Counsel David R. Connell were also in attendance.

REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

First congratulations to Mr. Ed Roach on his retirement from city service. He received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Mayor's office. Fire Training Superintendent Bob Leuci was recipient of the Mayor's Public Safety Award and Longevity Award for his years of service as a Nashua Fire Fighter.

Superintendent Giuliano has informed us that the tentative plan at least for the high school graduation is to hold separate graduations for the North and South schools both to be held on Saturday, June 18th at the Verizon Center.

The Division of Health & Community Services reports that they sponsored a Nashua Community Day on the 9th of April to recognize National Public Health Week. The event was held at Nashua High School South and featured 30 community partners and 250 attendees. It included a cholesterol screening, blood pressure screening, and information on nutrition and wellness.

Director Russakow reports that the Environmental Health Department is collaborating with the New Hampshire DHS to plan for the 2005 West Nile Virus season. For more information call the Environmental Health Department at 589-4530.

The Department of Public Works will host an Arbor Day ceremony at the Roby Park Tot Lot on April 22nd at 11:00 a.m. featuring the planting of an Ash tree with assistance from the students at World School Learning Center.

Soft yard waste pickup begins on April 11th. I would like to remind everybody that the Nashua Pride's opening day game is on May 2, 2005.

The State of New Hampshire CMAC Committee has awarded the City of Nashua an additional \$800,000 towards the Daniel Webster Highway traffic and improvement project. Total estimated cost of the project is \$2 million.

The State has indicated that the city will be eligible to receive emergency funding for snowstorms that occurred on January 22nd and the 23rd in 2005, which will lessen the burden on our overstressed snowplowing budget.

The pothole hot line is open for the season at 589-4750.

In honor of National Library Week, the Nashua Public Library held a grand opening reception to honor its new front doors on Sunday afternoon. The event was followed by a concert by the Irish singing group Shauna Chie, an artists reception, and a family story time. National Library Week is sponsored by the American Library Association, and celebrates libraries and librarians and pleasures and importance of reading.

Downtown Parking Manager has heard a consistent theme about what the city should do to provide merchants with affordable parking for its part-time employees and encourage them to utilize the garages and long term parking lots. With that in mind, a proposal was sent to the Infrastructure Committee and approved by the Board of Aldermen on February 22nd. In consideration of way to increase occupancy, discourage all day parking at two hour meters, and a system providing merchants with a reduced rate that should be used for their employees – the rates have been lowered to \$.35 an hour using a City of Nashua parking card in the garages only. The rate at the meters remains at \$.50 per hour for those patrons paying with coin. Currently the High Street Garage has 59 metered spaces and the Elm Street Garage 89 metered spaces. The Parking Department expects that occupancy will increase by using this method for downtown businesses.

The Hunt Building restoration is continuing with two current projects; the exterior brick surfaces on the clock tower are being repaired and new mortar joints and replacement of broken bricks. Once this portion is completed the brick around the exterior of the main reading room will be addressed. Internally the main reading room walls are currently being repaired and repainted. The newly refurbished lights and new ceiling fans have been hung in this room. Plastered walls in the back stairway and the front foyer have been repaired and repainted. Boiler is scheduled for replacement in May. The annual city auction will be held this year on June 11th.

Update on the Pennichuck acquisition – we have this week started to work on the details of the calendar for the evaluation portion. April there will be supporting intervenor testimony on public interest and in May Nashua gets to send its first round of valuation data requests to Pennichuck and Pennichuck and other parties get to send requests to Nashua and other intervenors regarding technical, financial, and managerial capabilities and public interest. Both of those are the first round of those questions.

In a matter before the Board, last evening I was requested to get a complete package of the Mayor's reduction plan to the Board. I am happy to report that most of the division directors have already been able to provide that. The rest had asked for time until tomorrow morning, so by tomorrow the Legislative Assistant should have all of those submissions and will make up packets for the Board. Thank you.

RESPONSE TO REMARKS OF THE MAYOR

Alderman MacLaughlin

Thank you. I was hoping that with a new Mayor seated in the chair tonight that it would be a Mayor who didn't read to us through the section called Remarks of the Mayor. I look at this as an opportunity for the Mayor or the Acting Mayor to address the major issues of the day and inspire me as a member of this Board with a call to action. I think he did better at the end when he spoke extemporaneously regarding a matter that I know is important – that is the Pennichuck issue. It is important that we address other major issues during this period of the meeting as well. It seems like this is a great opportunity that has yet to be taken advantage of by the administration. Thank you.

RECOGNITION PERIOD

R-05-191

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Board of Aldermen

HONORING LYNN OUELLETTE AS THE RECIPIENT OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Given its first reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN CARDIN THAT THE RULES BE SO FAR SUSPENDED AS TO ALLOW FOR THE SECOND READING OF R-05-191

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-05-191 given its second reading

MOTION BY ALDERMAN CARDIN FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-05-191

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-05-191 declared duly adopted.

R-05-192

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Board of Aldermen

CELEBRATING AND SUPPORTING THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

Given its first reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN VITALE THAT THE RULES BE SO FAR SUSPENDED AS TO ALLOW FOR THE SECOND READING OF R-05-192

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-05-192 given its second reading

MOTION BY ALDERMAN VITALE FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-05-192

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-05-192 declared duly adopted.

READING MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION BY ALDERMAN BOLTON THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING OF MARCH 22, 2005, THE SPECIAL BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETINGS OF MARCH 21, 2005, AND APRIL 5, 2005, AND THE PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED BY THE HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF MARCH 16, 2005 BE ACCEPTED, PLACED ON FILE, AND THE READINGS SUSPENDED
MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS

MOTION BY ALDERMAN SHAW THAT ALL COMMUNICATIONS BE READ BY TITLE ONLY
MOTION CARRIED

From: Brian S. McCarthy, President, Board of Aldermen
Re: Appointments to the TIF Advisory Board

MOTION BY ALDERMAN LOZEAU TO ACCEPT AND PLACE ON FILE
MOTION CARRIED

From: J. Bradford Westgate, Esquire
Re: Webster Lawn, LLC – Petition for Waiver of Public Schools Facilities Impact Fees

MOTION BY ALDERMAN ROOTOVICH TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND REFER TO THE PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, THE PLANNING BOARD, AND THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING
MOTION CARRIED

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT RELATIVE TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Robert Burgess, 32 Bates Drive

The Acting Mayor was talking about the library. I think it is great to finally see that door up and operating. I happened to go down there a week ago Tuesday. I frequent the library quite often. The condition of that library I have never seen it so filthy in my life. I have been going there over the years and it was deplorable. It didn't look like the rugs were vacuumed at all. The rugs were filthy. I know in the winter months you see the dirt get in there and everything, but I think it was time that these rugs should have been cleaned. I don't know if any housekeeping was done that day prior to that – that was at 2:00 p.m. I was stunned at how dirty it was in the library. Like I say I frequent it quite often, and this was the first time I saw it in this condition. I think it was deplorable.

The first one I want to talk about – this one really put my lights out. R-05-204 – Authorizing the conveyance of a 12-acre parcel on Gilson Road, tax map D, lot 521 to Deborah A Gleeson for

\$100,000 for use as a private school. Anybody that looks at the assessments down in this area, Candlewood Park and everything, these acres are going for roughly \$200,000 an acre. Everybody I talk to in the city says gee if we are going to sell the land at \$100,000 for 12 acres I don't know how many people wanted to get on the bandwagon – me too I would like to buy this for this price.

I admire the Alderman that sponsored this. I think he is a good Alderman and everything, but this one here like I say it blew my lights out. I thin the taxpayers in the city has a right to know who set the price on this and why are we selling city land at this price. We take \$200,000 an acre today it should be worth over \$2 million not \$100,000. To me this is a give away a real give away.

Acting President Tollner

Mr. Burgess. Excuse me maybe I can help you. We are not going to sell the land for \$100,000. That was just a figure that was put on the legislation. There is going to be an appraisal done on the value of the land so I just wanted you to know that. We will not end up selling it for \$100,000.

Robert Burgess

I think the price should have been on here if this is coming before the Board tonight what we are selling this at because ... okay let's move on to the next one. R-05-205 – Direct the Mayor's Office and the Purchasing Manager to prepare documents and make recommendations to the Board of Aldermen with respect to competitive proposal for the privatization of solid waste collection and disposal to the solid waste function – really I hope we are not opening the door trying to bring in someone to take over that landfill. I think people voted on this and said hey the landfill I think it is being run great. I think we can be proud of the people there. Really I can't see getting involved in this.

The next one is R-05-195 – Approve and adjustment to the upper end of salary range for non-affiliate personnel of the Nashua School District – as we look at these figures this is giving them the power – we are giving them a 9% they can do what they want with this money, but on top of this if you look at what is coming in for the proposal for a new Superintendent we are talking bringing that Superintendent up from \$112,000 to possibly anywhere up to \$175,000. I think this is trying times for the city, and I think we should make note to the School Board that this is unacceptable for this Superintendent and giving them the power for a 9% in here to move this money around at this time I don't think it is feasible.

The last one is this \$5 fee. Anybody follow this I call this the Fredette fee. This was instituted back when he was in the Public Works a number of years ago. If we look at this thing out of Concord this is giving us the power to use this anything for parking garages to streets to sidewalks. We can even use this for the Tinker Road bypass if we want to move some money around. Really and truly I think if this Alderman decides to go with this – also in this the State says you can either use this like

an ordinance or a resolution – you can pass it or you can pass it on to the voters to accept this at an election. I am a firm believer – right now our taxes are high enough – we see Proposition 2 coming up and our tax rate and everything. I think the people just can't afford any more money here. I think if you people want to pass this let's push it onto the ballot and the voters, which the State says can be done. Either that or you have the power to enact it yourself, but I really think if you want to hit the taxpayers even a lousy \$5 and the uses of this can vary very much. I don't think this is the time for it. Thank you.

R. Deborah Gleeson, 15 Tanglewood Drive

Thank you for giving me a few minutes of your time. I own and operate the Nature of Things Learning Center here in Nashua. We are a full service childcare facility and educational facility. We offer services to kids of all ages. We're currently looking for some space to expand our facility. Part of our school's mission is to offer children an opportunity for environmental awareness and appreciation. We are doing this through some of our programs including environmental science, organic gardening, and nature studies. Unfortunately our current location has very limited outdoor space so we are looking for a piece of property with some open air space where the children can do some environmental studies on the land.

About two years ago we approached Kathy Hersh here in the City of Nashua and brought out concept of having an environmental school to her. She had pointed out some possible pieces of property that the city owns to purchase for this concept for our school. We have been spending the past two years working with Roger Houston and speaking to some of the members of the Board of Aldermen and inquiring about the possibility of purchasing a piece of land. One of these parcels that they pointed out to us was the 12-acre parcel on Gilson Road. I am here tonight to ask your consideration for this bill, I think it is R-05-204, to enable us to purchase a piece of city land. We would be happy to split the cost of an appraisal to have a fair appraisal done on this land for the purchase. I thank you for your consideration of this bill. Thank you.

Rick Piwowarski, 20 Stillwater Drive

I am here in support of R-05-205. I think given the crisis the city is in right now and what I just read this morning and with the Board of Education recommendations on limiting the busing and actually cutting it out for the high school, cutting funding on lunches – I am sure everybody is aware that read the paper. Any monies that can be saved while the services aren't cut is a benefit to the city, and I urge all of the Aldermen to at least consider this proposal/referendum, and give it a listen from Aldermen Lozeau and Dion. I know it is a tough job to find monies to cut, but I think this is an area where it has to be looked at. I think the government in the city has gotten too big. A lot of cities are going to this privatization. I think we should at least look at it. Thank you.

Fred Teeboom, 24 Cheyenne Drive

First I would like to address R-04-1212. You had a public hearing on it last night. I walked in on it a few minutes late, 4 minutes after 7:00 p.m., at that point you had gone through the call to order, a prayer, a pledge of allegiance, and a roll call. When I walked in it was all done. I don't know how

you can do this in 4 minutes time, but I would like to take the opportunity to talk about what I would have otherwise talked about last night. That is the question about the change of the wording to make it clear that the exemption or the exception to budget limitations extends – certainly the language is much clearer are presented, and I am certainly much in favor of putting this on the ballot. If you look at the language it takes out it says 2/3 of the members now when this petition was presented to the voters it was represented to be 2/3 of the members here. It is unclear what the difference is to be 2/3 of the members or 2/3 of the members here. There is other language elsewhere – for instance in the bonds when we look at bonded debt, Section 254, when it talks about city bonds and referring to State Law Chapter 33, which is the municipal bond act, it talks about having a bond resolution passed by at least 2/3 of all of the members of the Board. Well you can argue that the members of the board, all of the members of the board, we will be splitting hairs when you look at the difference. I think it has always meant and was always intended to be the membership of the Board meaning 2/3 of the membership meaning 10 votes. I wanted to bring this up. It is pretty clear and the language is not always used to make it clear you need to have 10 Aldermen to vote on something as I just mentioned.

The next one and I want to ask a question of the Acting President is R-05-193 – is there a typographical error on that resolution on paid to the Aldermen and if there is – I hope there is because of there isn't it is an attempt to try to pay the Alderman \$19,200 a year.

I made several phone calls to the Aldermanic Office to try to clarify that and nobody called me back all through the day. The language in the existing ordinance, 221, says that you will receive payment of \$5,000 per year. Acting Mayor McCarthy wrote this ordinance. I don't know if he did this maliciously or accidentally.

Acting Mayor McCarthy

I think it is absolutely clear and I wish you would admonish the speaker for ...

Acting President Tollner

I will.

Acting Mayor McCarthy

- Thank you. I think it was clearly to simply deal with our portion of the budget for this year.

- Acting President Tollner

- Mr. Teeboom I think the way we all read it here was right now I think the Board members are

compensated approximately \$5,000 a year. In order for us to return approximately 1% of the budget that would mean that we would have to cut our stipends by approximately \$200 each. That was the intent of the legislation. I think the next time you broach this you may want to ask what the intent was before...

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Fred Teeboom

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I did.

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Acting President Tollner

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Before making the comments that you just made.

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Fred Teeboom

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I did ask what the intent was and I mentioned to you that if you do this correctly is you write \$4,800 per year paid quarterly. The way the language reads now you should be \$4,800 paid each quarter.

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Acting President Tollner

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Thank you for bringing that to our attention. We will correct it.

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Fred Teeboom

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The next issue I would like to address is R-05-195 – now this is proposed by Alderman Bolton. When we have serious budget issues and are facing 8-12% increase in our tax rate this is not the time to pay your Superintendent \$150,000 to \$175,000. Currently the range is \$95,000 to \$115,000. That represents a 58% increase in salary. Is someone here trying to tell me that we have been underpaying our current Superintendent that he didn't do the job properly that you can't find a Superintendent to do the job unless you pay a 58% increase in pay – that would be in the lower end? That is incredible that this kind of thing is being proposed by the same School Board that comes out and gets Alderman Bolton to make this resolution – I presume they are pushing it – when you see in the paper that they are proposing to cut high school busing, but they are willing to pay the Superintendent an increase anywhere between \$150,000 and \$175,000. Not only that, but propose to pay the Assistant Superintendents between \$75,000 and \$103,000. It just goes on. The Director up to \$95,000. There are 12 positions apparently are necessary to get an increase because they are against the stops. It mentions in the resolution that 12 members are affected well there is a total of 32 members stated on this particular resolution. That means over 1/3 apparently of these positions are against the upper range. Otherwise how can you give them a 3% increase? I find it incredible that at a time of cutbacks you are proposing these kind of increases, salaries, and ranges.

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The next thing I would like to address and it is the last one, is the solid waste – R-05-205 – the solid waste has a \$2 million deficit in this year, '05, it is running a \$3.7 million deficit proposed for FY '06. That means someone doesn't know how to run it. Alderman Lozeau's proposal to take a look at

privatizing is totally appropriate. Ten years ago we formed a privatization committee to look at privatizing any number of operations in the city. I know the union operated entities are dead set against this, but when you run a \$3.7 million deficit times are really serious budget issues – we have huge increases in our budget, high tax rates – this is a time to look at privatization of these kind of functions.

Final point on 05-204 – I was not going to mention it, but I heard the Acting President of the Board mention that he would look at it – the resolution right now reads \$100,000 quick claim deed. Right now the resolution says you will quick claim deed this property, which is 12 acres for \$100,000. I suggest you modify that language. Thank you.

PETITIONS

Petition for Street Discontinuance – An Unmarked Way off of Edinburgh Drive

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DION TO ACCEPT THE PETITION AS READ, REFER IT TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE NASHUA CITY PLANNING BOARD, AND SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2005 AT 7:00 PM IN THE ALDERMANIC CHAMBER
MOTION CARRIED

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

Appointments by the Mayor

The following appointment by the Mayor was read into the record:

TIF Advisory Board

Thomas Corbett (New Appointment)
(Library Representative)
Two Court Street
Nashua, NH 03060

Term to Expire: One Year from Date
of Confirmation

MOTION BY ALDERMAN GAGE TO ACCEPT THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR AS READ AND REFER IT TO THE PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Budget Review Committee..... 03/17/05

There being no objection, Acting President Tollner declared the report of the March 17, 2005 Budget Review Committee accepted and placed on file.

Budget Review Committee..... 03/19/05

There being no objection, Acting President Tollner declared the report of the March 19, 2005 Budget Review Committee accepted and placed on file.

Budget Review Committee..... 03/28/05

There being no objection, Acting President Tollner declared the report of the March 28, 2005 Budget Review Committee accepted and placed on file.

Budget Review Committee..... 03/29/05

There being no objection, Acting President Tollner declared the report of the March 29, 2005 Budget Review Committee accepted and placed on file.

Budget Review Committee..... 03/30/05

There being no objection, Acting President Tollner declared the report of the March 30, 2005 Budget Review Committee accepted and placed on file.

Finance Committee..... 04/04/05

There being no objection, Acting President Tollner declared the report of the April 4, 2005 Finance Committee accepted and placed on file.

Human Affairs Committee 03/16/05

There being no objection, Acting President Tollner declared the report of the March 16, 2005 Human Affairs Committee accepted and placed on file.

Police HVAC Ad Hoc Committee..... 03/16/05

There being no objection, Acting President Tollner declared the report of the March 16, 2005 Police HVAC Ad Hoc Committee accepted and placed on file.

CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS

TIF Advisory Board

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE TO CONFIRM BY VOICE VOTE THE FOLLOWING

INDIVIDUALS TO THE TIF ADVISORY BOARD: ED HUMINIC, ONE HARBOR PLACE, PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE, MARK MAYNARD, MORGAN RYAN REALTY TRUST, 99 WRIGHT ROAD, HOLLIS, NEW HAMPSHIRE, MICHAEL CONNEELY, TOUREEN REALTY, LCC, 45 WINGATE STREET, HAVERHILL, MASSACHUSETTS, AND RICHARD SEYMOUR OR HIS DESIGNEE, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, 165 LEDGE STREET, NASHUA FOR TERMS TO EXPIRE OCTOBER 31, 2005, AND EDWARD F. GAGNON, BAE SYSTEMS, 95 CANAL STREET, NASHUA, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE ONE YEAR FROM DATE OF CONFIRMATION

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman MacLaughlin

Thank you Mr. President. Interesting isn't it that in our first TIF Advisory District we are going to, if we approve this tonight, put a majority of out of town residents on this very important board. Due to the fact that three of the five are not Nashuans and do not reside here I will not support this group of nominations. Thank you.

Alderman LaRose

Thank you. I think that the honorable member from Ward 8 needs to look at the State law and that is why the way the State law reads that is why these individuals are there because it has to be people who abut the district that we are putting the TIF under. It so happens that people who are abutting it and qualify to be appointed to this happen to either reside in cities that are outside of the City of Nashua. I believe it is beyond our power to say that it can only be Nashuans.

Acting President Tollner

I think there was also a letter in everybody's packet with certificates determining that the appointments have been qualified.

Acting Mayor McCarthy

Alderman LaRose is correct, and I had conveyed a correspondence to the Board that indicated that they all were individuals who own property that abutted the TIF, which is required.

MOTION CARRIED

Acting President Tollner declared Ed Huminic, Mark Maynard, Michael Conneely, Richard Seymour and Edward F. Gagnon duly appointed to the TIF Advisory Board for the aforementioned terms.

Oath of Office administered by Corporation Counsel to Michael Conneely and Richard Seymour.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-04-119

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Paula I. Johnson

Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane
Alderman Kevin E. Gage
Alderman-at-Large David Rootovich
Alderman David D. Lozeau

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY CHARTER RELATIVE TO THE DATES FOR SUBMISSION AND ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET

R-04-121

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Paula I. Johnson
Alderman Robert A. Dion
Alderman-at-Large David Rootovich
Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane
Alderman David D. Lozeau

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

Given its sixth reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON THAT R-04-121, AS AMENDED, BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT AT THE NEXT REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION AND THAT COPIES OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT AND A SUMMARY THEREOF BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC IN THE CITY CLERK’S OFFICE AT LEAST TWO WEEK’S PRIOR TO THE ELECTION

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

Yea: Alderman Vitale, Alderman LaRose, Alderman Gage, Alderman Cardin,
Alderman MacLaughlin, Alderman Deane, Alderman Plamondon, Alderman Lozeau,
Alderman Dion, Alderman Rootovich, Alderman Johnson, Alderman Tollner
12

Nay: Alderman Shaw, Alderman Bolton
2

MOTION CARRIED

R-05-182

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Alderman Lori Cardin
Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF \$8,500 FROM THE NEW HAMPSHIRE CITIZENS CORP COUNCIL INTO SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT 335-6351

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN CARDIN FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-05-182

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-05-182 declared duly adopted.

MOTION BY ALDERMAN LAROSE THAT THE RULES BE SO FAR SUSPENDED AS TO ALLOW FOR THE SECOND READING OF RESOLUTION R-05-190, WHICH WAS INADVERTENTLY OMITTED FROM THE AGENDA

MOTION CARRIED

R-05-190

Endorser: Alderman Richard LaRose

ESTABLISHING AN EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND FOR ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS FROM DEVELOPERS AND OTHERS FOR A FIRE STATION PLANNED TO SERVE THE AMHERST STREET CORRIDOR AND OTHER NORTHERLY PORTIONS OF THE CITY

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN LAROSE FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-05-190

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman LaRose

Thank you. The reason that I brought this in was and everyone here is aware that there is a need for a firehouse in the Amherst Street corridor. The City approximately 20 years ago purchased a piece of land for such a project. In the past, as Amherst Street has been developed, contributions have been asked from developers to mitigate traffic problems on Amherst Street. We have received and there are some funds still in escrow for that purpose. The State of New Hampshire is going to embark on a widening project of Amherst Street, 101A, from Somerset Parkway to the Merrimack town line. They will be adding a lane on each side, sidewalks on both sides.

The State of New Hampshire has asked the City of Nashua to be the project manager on this. I know there is legislation forthcoming. My plan is for future development of Amherst Street and the strip of Somerset Parkway that it would make sense to ask major developers to contribute towards a fire house in that section that one would help protect their property as the response time would be quicker, probably help them save on their insurances – 2 – previous developers helped to make sure that Amherst Street is a roadway that has sufficient lanes for the traffic to move – albeit sometimes it seems that there is more traffic than can be handled. I believe that this ordinance is warranted and that hopefully developers would see that and be favorable to contributing towards a firehouse. Thank you.

Alderman Plamondon

If I might Mr. Acting President pose a question to the maker of the motion – Alderman LaRose what was the recommendation out of committee on this? Did it go to committee?

Alderman LaRose

Yes it went to the Budget Committee. It passed the Budget Committee I believe it was 4-2. I know there were 2 people who were opposed.

Alderman Plamondon

I think it is good legislation. A couple of points of what may be interest – station 6, the airport station, currently is responsible for this area. Land wise it represents a third of the City of Nashua with one engine. We have one engine coming out of the airport station. Therein lays the problem. However, on the plus side with our mutual aid with Merrimack in the last 4 years Merrimack has fully staffed their station over in that northwest quadrant – Nashua area, but it is in Merrimack. Having worked in that area for many years and seen the response time, typically right behind Merrimack is not only station 6, but station 1 firehouse. I just want to say that our current Nashua Fire Rescue employees do navigate that road as quickly as possible, but it is not without problems. As we all know all of the lights, Opticom sometimes does not work and that is also a problem with Merrimack and their Opticom. Having a station in this area would certainly help. With the development that has been going on there if we can put funds towards this project I think it makes a lot of sense, and I will support it. Thank you.

Alderman Johnson

I don't believe I was here that night it was discussed so I have a couple of questions. Mr. Acting President may I ask Alderman LaRose a couple of questions?

Acting President Tollner

Yes you may.

Alderman Johnson

Thank you. The money that Concord gave us for Amherst Street was that impact fee money?

Alderman LaRose

The money from whom?

Alderman Johnson

From Target was that ever impact fee money?

Alderman LaRose

No. There are no impact fees. To my knowledge the only impact fees the City of Nashua has is for housing towards the construction of schools. This is not an impact fee this is voluntary.

Alderman Johnson

Okay was the money given by Target used to upgrade Amherst Street or was that a gift?

Acting President Tollner

I can answer that. The money that was given by Target to the City when it was first given to the City was really to improve the traffic flow of Amherst Street. There are conversations going on now to use that money not directly on Amherst Street but on another project that might affect Amherst Street, but it was given to the City for Amherst Street.

Alderman Johnson

Can someone clarify the Target money?

Alderman Deane

I am of the understanding that when that expendable trust fund was set up it was for Amherst Street road improvements. It wasn't for mitigation. That is what it was for. That is what the money was taken for. I think Corporation Counsel we had a little discussion on this and they did some research whether it was a gift or donation or contribution. I forget which one it was.

David Connell

I think those three terms are synonymous for our purposes here. There are two components here. One as you mention Alderman Deane there is the nature of the expendable trust fund that this money sits in is for Amherst Street improvements. The original money was collected as a donation from a certain developer for a certain improvement. That developer's successor in interest was contacted and asked if the purpose of the donation could be changed. They consented. The money as far as I know still lays in the same expendable trust fund, and can't be withdrawn from that unless measures are taken to adjust that purpose of the expendable trust fund.

Alderman Deane

So a subsequent resolution has to be filed in order to change the use of those funds?

David Connell

That is correct.

Alderman Deane

Thank you.

Alderman Johnson

This is what my concern is going to be – that the money will go into a fund, it will be there for a certain purpose and we can make a phone call or get a letter and say well you know what was this really a donation? We need to use it for another purpose, and then we will file legislation and we will move this money around like what might happen now with the money for the Amherst Street road improvements from Target. That is what my biggest concern is and that is why I will not support this.

Alderman LaRose

I did talk to Public Works, I talked to Engineering, I talked to Traffic – I also talked to the Mayor's office, Planning, the Fire Department – no one especially in Public Works said they were against this. They supported it I believe. I don't know if it was whole-heartedly, but they support the concept. Thank you.

Alderman Deane

I support the concept as well. I think it is a great idea. Whether you support it or not it is regardless it is what future boards may have for ideas of what to do with the monies. If it is our intention as Alderman LaRose has said to take the money – gift, contributions, donations however you want to garner them and place them in the fund to help offset the cost of the fire station by development that goes up there that is fine and well, but it takes one member of this Board to re-direct those funds out of that expendable trust fund to be used for other purposes. It is what it is and I think we would be foolish not to attempt to collect them.

Alderman Vitale

It is my understanding that when one of these future individuals would contribute to this fund that could not be used for anything other than the fire house unless we would go back and get the permission of the giver. Correct me if I am wrong on that please.

David Connell

That is correct that is the nature of gifts.

Alderman Vitale

Thank you.

Alderman MacLaughlin

Thank you Mr. President. I would gently suggest that not just one member can do anything in this Chamber. You can propose, but it takes a majority to dispose. Thank you.

Alderman Lozeau

Right now we both support this resolution to channel money to the fire department. There is no question in my mind that the Thornton Road that quadrant of the city needs a fire station. I brought this up in regards to the existing fire station we are proposing to build. Anything that we can do to move that along and decrease the cost to the taxpayer and increase the public safety of that area is very important to me. I wholeheartedly support this. Thank you.

Alderman MacLaughlin

I would point out that public safety is an issue. It is not simply among the fire service, which has been recently rewarded for its efforts lobbying for the fire station on East Hollis Street. It is also on infrastructure, which by the way isn't receiving a whole lot of attention from this administration. Roads need to be maintained and heavily traffic roads need to be improved. Amherst Street is such a road. I guess I will support Alderman Johnson in opposition this evening.

Alderman Deane

I just wanted to comment on Amherst Street. I believe we were told that the State is going to redo the entire stretch of Amherst Street.

Acting President Tollner

Just so everybody is clear the motion on the table is for final passage of R-05-190.

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

Yea: Alderman Vitale, Alderman LaRose, Alderman Gage, Alderman Cardin, Alderman Deane,
Alderman Plamondon, Alderman Shaw, Alderman Lozeau, Alderman Rootovich,
Alderman Bolton, Alderman Tollner

11

Nay: Alderman MacLaughlin, Alderman Dion, Alderman Johnson

3

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-05-190 declared duly adopted.

MOTION BY ALDERMAN PLAMONDON FOR RECONSIDERATION OF O-05-78

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Plamondon

Ordinance 05-78 we had voted earlier about a month ago shooting it down. This is amending the restrictions on accepting solid waste from outside Nashua at the city landfill. I am making this motion simply to keep all of our cards on the table so to speak during this budgetary time. I whole heartedly believe that we need to keep all of our options open particularly where we are looking at other potentials – I am not saying I advocate or I am opposed, but other options such as privatization, selling off city land – I think it is good to bring those items to the table so they get to committee so we can have all of our options before us and make intelligent decisions on where we cut, what we sell, and so on.

It would be my intent that should this pass that I would request that this legislation be sent to Budget as the lead committee and Infrastructure for future consideration. I fully expect both committees to hold this legislation until such time as the Board of Aldermen can come to resolve as to our current budget situation. This is a request again to keep all of our options on the board. It is not necessarily a vote of support, but it is a way of a city controlled and managed additional solid waste into our landfill. Again the key is city controlled and managed should this pass a final vote. Right now I am hoping we can just keep this on the table. Thank you.

Alderman Cardin

I won't support this. I made a comment a couple of weeks ago when I was frustrated with the Mayor's budget that trash was starting to look good. I didn't really mean that I wanted to take trash in. Just the concept of filling up one of the greatest assets in our city whether we see it that way or not just doesn't make sense to me. It is a short-term fix for a long-term problem that – I just can't support that.

Alderman Dion

I agree with Alderman Cardin it is a band aide repair job that will not solve the situation whatsoever. I was under the understanding Mr. Chairman that when a reconsideration vote was taken reconsideration was only legal the meeting immediately following the resolution being defeated. It seems to me this was a lot longer than the last meeting.

Acting President Tollner

There have been a number of Budget meetings that is probably why it seems so long. You are absolutely right, but the meeting that we voted to indefinitely postpone it was on March 22nd, which was our very last Board of Aldermen meeting.

Alderman Dion

This has been around so long I lost track, but I thought it was further back than that. Thank you.

Alderman MacLaughlin

We may need to keep our options open, but we don't need to open our landfill to outside trash. I voted no on it once and I am ready to do so again this evening. Thank you.

Alderman Deane

I wanted to ask Corporation Counsel about reconsideration ... **tape flipped** ... last evening I believe would have been the night to bring this forward.

Acting President Tollner

That is a good question. You would like to direct that to Corporation Counsel.

Alderman Deane

Unless you can answer it Mr. President.

Acting President Tollner

Well we did have a Board of Aldermen meeting last night, but ...

Alderman Deane

Don't let us down.

David Connell

The rule is found at NRO 2-42 and it says that the motion has to be made at the same or at the next regular meeting of the Board.

Acting President Tollner

In your opinion, would tonight be the next regular...

David Connell

I would go out on a limb and say tonight is the next regular meeting.

Alderman Gage

-
I have not changed my stance since March 22nd. I don't want to take anything from the outside into the landfill. We just spent a lot of time and a lot of funds to get it in place. I think we can use every year we have out of it. As the Mayor stated a couple of weeks ago we have to make some very hard decisions. Well in my opinion bringing this back to us was not a hard decision on the administration's part.

Alderman Shaw

I am actually willing to support this reconsideration. Again I share a similar view I think as Alderman Plamondon. I am not necessarily ultimately in favor of us following through on this, but the one thing that I came to think about a little bit in this regard is the context of it is, and I was the one I think that actually spoke about it being a jewel in terms of assets that we have in the city, however, we are talking about something that affects the city ultimately 15-30 years out and the timeframe that we might in terms of how we might affect the long term life of the landfill. However, the current budget discussions there has been talk about slash and burn and various drastic cuts and the many millions of dollars that we might need to consider to bring the tax rate to something that would be acceptable. I am deeply concerned that some of those actions potentially will very much hurt us for the next 3-5 years and have us digging out of a hole that quite frankly if it comes to trading something off in terms of what will happen over the next 3-5 years versus something that will happen over the next 15-30 years I would really rather trade that short term versus that long term.

I still don't know if that is going to be the right thing, but I would like to have this back on the table because I think any of the many various things that we might do could have I think dire consequences. This could be viewed as a dire consequence in that long term and I know I have been one of the ones that has advocated for long-term consideration of things as we go forward and wanting us to consider what happens in the near term fiscal years beyond the current one we are in. I think it behooves us to actually keep this option available to us, and again I don't necessarily know that I would even still want to consider it, but I would like to see the option since we have so many other dead ends that I think we are going to be turning at when it comes to other ways we might increase revenue or find cuts that will not produce really drastic results. Thank you.

Alderman Plamondon

Just to make my position clear – I don't necessarily agree with this, but I do want and I think we need to keep all of our options open, and yes it is tough times and yes it is tough decisions. This is one of those tough decisions that shouldn't be just made right here and there. We should leave it open on the table, go through our budget process, and I hope we never have to go this route, but we are looking at a lot of tough things. This could very well be something that is a lesser of many evils. We are looking at a lot of very tough choices. All this does is keep it on the table, and hopefully the budget will get resolved and this is something that we won't even have to consider or look at. It keeps it on the table. Play with 5 cards not 4. Thank you.

Alderman Vitale

My line of reasoning would go along with Alderman Shaw and Alderman Plamondon. It does allow us to continue to look at it. I also don't know if I would support it in the end, but I would have to see how all of the rest of the discussions play out and then make that determination at that time. Thank you.

Alderman LaRose

This evening we have introduced a resolution for privatizing the landfill. I think that is what should be held in committee because if we decide that we want to allow trash to be brought in from outside the city we can amend that resolution that will be in front of Infrastructure and probably the Budget Committee. I don't think we need two different pieces of legislation to accomplish the same thing.

Acting President Tollner stepped down and Alderman-at-Large David Rootovich presided.

Alderman Tollner

I will support the motion for reconsideration with similar thoughts to those speakers that were before me. I am not saying that I would approve this, but as we go through the next hopefully it is month or so instead of 6 months or so, as we are trying to gravel with the budget and get our hands around it and come up with a reasonable tax rate I think we need to have as many options open and available to us as we possibly can. By approving the motion for reconsideration this will provide us with one more option. I am not saying that we are going to pick up on it, but it does provide us with another option. Thank you.

Alderman-at-Large Rootovich stepped down and Acting President Tollner presided.

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

Yea: Alderman Vitale, Alderman Plamondon, Alderman Shaw, Alderman Rootovich, Alderman Tollner

5

Nay: Alderman LaRose, Alderman Gage, Alderman Cardin, Alderman MacLaughlin, Alderman Deane, Alderman Lozeau, Alderman Dion, Alderman Johnson, Alderman Bolton

9

MOTION FAILED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – ORDINANCES - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-05-193

Endorser: Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy

AMENDING COMPENSATION FOR THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006

given its first reading; assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE by Acting President Tollner

R-05-194

Endorsers: Alderman Marc W. Plamondon

Alderman Kevin E. Gage

Alderman Lori Cardin

CHANGING THE NAME OF A PORTION OF SPRING STREET TO MEDICAL CENTER DRIVE

given its first reading; assigned to the COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE and the BOARD OF

FIRE COMMISSION by Acting President Tollner

R-05-195

Endorser: Alderman-at-Large Steven A. Bolton

APPROVING AN ADJUSTMENT TO THE UPPER ENDS OF SALARY RANGES FOR NON-AFFILIATED PERSONNEL OF THE NASHUA SCHOOL DISTRICT

given its first reading; assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE by Acting President Tollner

R-05-196

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter

Alderman Lori Cardin

Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner

Alderman Kevin E. Gage

Alderman David D. Lozeau

Alderman Marc W. Plamondon

Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane

Alderman Kathryn D. Vitale

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AND HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS GRANT, FISCAL YEAR 2006

given its first reading; assigned to the HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE by Acting President Tollner

R-05-197

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter

Alderman Lori Cardin

Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner

Alderman Marc W. Plamondon

Alderman Kevin E. Gage

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS FROM THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES AND APPROPRIATION INTO ACCOUNT #342 SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM SERVICES

Given its first reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN CARDIN THAT THE RULES BE SO FAR SUSPENDED AS TO ALLOW FOR THE SECOND READING OF R-05-197

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Cardin

This is an HIV prevention grant. It is the amount of \$127,982 each year for the next three years. There is a process this goes through at the State level through the Attorney General's Office that takes approximately 6 weeks. They are looking to get a fast turnaround on this. They want the contract back by April 15th, which is only a few days from now. I would beg the Board's indulgence to allow for the second reading this evening. I know that Dr. Paul Etkind is here from the Community Health Department if anyone has any questions regarding this grant. Thank you.

Acting President Tollner

Alderman Cardin do you know if there is any requirement of the city as far as matching grants?

Alderman Cardin

There are no matching funds required on this.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-05-197 given its second reading

MOTION BY ALDERMAN CARDIN FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-05-197

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-05-197 declared duly adopted.

R-05-198

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Alderman Lori Cardin
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon
Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF \$9,394.14 FROM RIVIER COLLEGE INTO SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT 352-6515 FOR LANDSCAPING AND IRRIGATION AT THE SOUTH MAIN STREET ROUNDABOUT

given its first reading; assigned to the HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE by Acting President Tollner

R-05-199

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Alderman Lori Cardin

RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF \$16,875 FROM ACCOUNT #505-81008 "FUNDING FOR THE ARTS" INTO VARIOUS ARTS ORGANIZATION ACCOUNTS

Given its first reading; assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE by Acting President Tollner

R-05-200

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane
Alderman Kevin E. Gage
Alderman Lori Cardin
Alderman David D. Lozeau
Alderman-at-Large David Rootovich
Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner

RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF \$16,400 FROM ACCOUNT 591-86005 "GENERAL CONTINGENCY" INTO ACCOUNT 520-75130 "HUNT BUILDING – REPAIRS, HEATING SYSTEMS"

Given its first reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE THAT THE RULES BE SO FAR SUSPENDED AS TO ALLOW FOR THE SECOND READING OF R-05-200

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-05-200 given its second reading

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-05-200

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Johnson

– May I pose a question to Aldermen Deane please?

Acting President Tollner

Yes you may.

Alderman Johnson

Alderman Deane we have been putting a lot of money into this building. What is our proposal to open it up and get some type of revenue stream coming back from this building as far as renting it out? Do you have or know anybody having any plans to do this?

Alderman Deane

Last week at a Board of Trustees meeting Jay Minkarah attended and I have been in communications with the folks from Great American Downtown who were interested in looking for some space. They have some other folks that will be looking for space. The whole idea is to get the downstairs rented out as well. Currently the issues with the building that we are dealing with in the water infiltration for your folks who have been up the north end of town and see the building all staged, we are starting to re-point the building now. The windows are being repaired; they are painting the south meeting room. When they pull the staging down off of the tower they will be replacing the roof on the south reading room as well and slowly working our way. The boiler issue – the boiler is gone. Two sections of it are rotted and it doesn't work, but we the trustees are in the process of renting it out. They have been out doing some of their fundraising as well. The back stairwell has been done. They have gotten grants, and they are actively looking for people to be tenants in the building.

Alderman Johnson

One other question – I don't mind repairing the building I just want to make sure we get some revenue to offset all of our expenses in this building. There is an issue of parking over there that if

they do get tenants in the building that they will have adequate parking in the area.

Alderman Deane

There is parking made available down in the Railroad Square lot. There is on-street parking as well.

Alderman Johnson

I just want to make sure because I know there are meters over there and we are not allowed to keep putting money in the meters. If you are going to have tenants in the building you have to make sure there is parking so people can work there for 8 hours or whatever duration other than with the 1 or 2 hour meters. I just wanted to make sure of this. Thank you.

Alderman Lozeau

I would like to speak to Alderman Johnson – in the last couple of weeks I have recommended to a couple of people looking for a place to rent for either wedding receptions or rehearsal dinners both people were quite excited about the possibility of having both or either at that location, and they are actively pursuing the rental of that location for that purpose. There is an excitement out there for things like that. They recently put in somewhat of a workable kitchen where you could actually prepare and serve food from. It meets sanitation code requirements and it is definitely a step in the right direction for those uses. Thank you.

Acting President Tollner

Is there any further discussion? The motion on the floor is for passage of R-05-200.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-05-200 declared duly adopted.

R-05-201

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Acting Mayor Brian S. McCarthy
Alderman David D. Lozeau
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon
Alderman Richard LaRose
Alderman Kevin E. Gage

RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF \$27,388 FROM EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND ACCOUNT

#996-5330 "CITY RETIREMENT", INTO ACCOUNT #532-11900 "FIRE DEPARTMENT – FULL-TIME PAYROLL"

given its first reading; assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE by Acting President Tollner

R-05-202

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Acting Mayor Brian S. McCarthy
Alderman David D. Lozeau
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon
Alderman Richard LaRose
Alderman Kevin E. Gage

**RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF \$13,059 FROM ACCOUNT #596-86531
“CONTINGENCY RETIREMENTS – POLICE” AND \$54,485 FROM EXPENDABLE TRUST
FUND ACCOUNT 996-5330 “CITY RETIREMENT” INTO ACCOUNT #531-11900 “POLICE –
FULL-TIME PAYROLL”**

given its first reading; assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE by Acting President Tollner

R-05-203

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Acting Mayor Brian S. McCarthy
Alderman David D. Lozeau
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon
Alderman Richard LaRose
Alderman Kevin E. Gage

**RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF \$12,364 FROM EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND
ACCOUNT #996-5330 “CITY RETIREMENT” INTO ACCOUNT #544-11900 “WELFARE
DEPARTMENT – FULL-TIME PAYROLL”**

Alderman Bolton

Perhaps should have asked this question on the last two as well, but given that the once and future Mayor has complied with the provisions of the City Charter and notified the City Clerk in writing of his inability to perform the duties of the office of Mayor due to his absence, is he permitted to introduce legislation, and has he in fact endorsed the legislation as required by actually signing?

David Connell

It is interesting that the Charter gives the Mayor the right to initiate legislation. It doesn't specify the means by which he does. The Board's rules talk about members having to endorse the legislation that they introduce or co-sponsor. It doesn't say anything about the Mayor having to do so. We have never dealt with signatures in our department. We get oral or written communications from the Mayor or his office or you all and then forward it from there to the Legislative Office. I am not sure what is done on the signature end. As far as practice goes I am not that well informed. There is nothing in the Charter that says the Mayor has to sign a piece of legislation in order to submit it.

Alderman Bolton

Perhaps more important though was my question as to given his notification that he is unable to exercise the duties and given then Charter provision for the transfer of authority for the exercise of those duties, by what authority does he introduce legislation to this Board?

Acting President Tollner

Before you answer that I guess when did he submit the legislation?

David Connell

That would be the point.

Alderman Bolton

Officially tonight is when legislation is submitted.

David Connell

He authorized us to prepare it and forward it to the Legislative Office. In the case of these the intent was manifested before midnight on Friday morning. Any item that arose after that was not under his sponsorship. Alderman Bolton raises another question of when is the action effective is it tonight or is it when it is authorized. The answer to that without thought and research is if someone else wanted to sponsor this instead I suppose that would make it moot.

Alderman Lozeau

Thank you. I would be happy to put my name as co-sponsor or sponsor to these two resolutions. Thank you.

Alderman Bolton

There are actually three.

Alderman Lozeau

That is fine.

Alderman Plamondon

That is exactly what I was going to say and I would put my name to co-sponsor as well.

Alderman LaRose

That is precisely what I was going to say. I would gladly sponsor.

given its first reading; assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE by Acting President Tollner

R-05-204

Endorser: Alderman David D. Lozeau
Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner

AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF A 12-ACRE PARCEL ON GILSON ROAD (TAX MAP D, LOT 521) TO DEBORAH A. GLEESON FOR \$100,000 FOR USE AS A PRIVATE SCHOOL

given its first reading; assigned to the COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE PLANNING BOARD by Acting President Tollner

Alderman Gage

I am sorry Mr. President, but I do have a question regarding the last three that we all just signed onto. I would like to know if the Acting Mayor had indicated if he wanted to sponsor these.

Acting Mayor McCarthy

I would be happy to sponsor.

R-05-205

Endorsers: Alderman Robert A. Dion
Alderman David D. Lozeau
Alderman-at-Large Paula I. Johnson
Alderman-at-Large David Rootovich

DIRECTING THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AND THE PURCHASING MANAGER TO PREPARE DOCUMENTS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN WITH RESPECT TO COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS FOR THE PRIVATIZING OF SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL FOR THE SOLID WASTE FUNCTIONS

given its first reading; assigned to the COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS by Acting President Tollner

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN SHAW THAT THE RULES BE SO FAR SUSPENDED AS TO ALLOW FOR THE FIRST READING OF A RESOLUTION RECEIVED AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PREPARED
MOTION CARRIED**

R-05-206

Endorser: Alderman Rob Shaw
Alderman-at-Large David Rootovich

RELATIVE TO AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS TO EXPEND THE SUM OF \$38,383 FROM THE EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND, SIDEWALK CONTRIBUTIONS –

SOUTHWEST QUADRANT, FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SIDEWALKS ON LAMB ROAD

Given its first reading; assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE by Acting President Tollner

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

O-05-82

Endorser: Alderman-at-Large Paula I. Johnson

BROADENING BUS STOP VIOLATIONS AND INCREASING AND POSTING THE RELATED FINE

Given its first reading; assigned to the COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE by Acting President Tollner

O-05-83

Endorser: Alderman-at-Large Paula I. Johnson

BROADENING EMERGENCY LANE VIOLATIONS AND INCREASING AND POSTING THE RELATED FINE

Given its first reading; assigned to the COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE by Acting President Tollner

O-05-84

Endorser: Alderman Kathryn D. Vitale

ESTABLISHING A 25 M.P.H. SPEED LIMIT ON BELFAST STREET, BOXWOOD COURT, BUTTERNUT DRIVE, CARDINAL CIRCLE, CATHEDRAL CIRCLE, CHRISTIAN DRIVE, CIDER LANE, FROST DRIVE, HAMPTON DRIVE, HEMLOCK COURT, POPE CIRCLE, RESURRECTION CIRCLE AND SUNSHINE COURT

Alderman Gage

I have a question if I could, and maybe Corporation Counsel can answer this. In the first four years that I was on the Board I was a member of the Infrastructure Committee and we had a couple of discussions regarding speed limits on streets. We had discussed, even recently it was discussed about citywide 25 mph speed limit. One of the things that came out of Corporation Counsel's office I believe in the last 5-6 years is that when you had submitted a piece of legislation like this for so many streets the most you could do was three. I am wondering if that has changed because that is what I was told 3 or 4 at a time – you couldn't do more than that. It has obviously come out of your office, but I didn't know if something has changed.

David Connell

I am not aware of that rule. It might be some rule of thumb from the traffic division that is as much as could be studied at once. I am not sure where that came from.

Alderman Gage

Thank you.

David Connell

Each of these does have to have a study to determine reasonableness.

Alderman Deane

I have a question for the legal man in the corner there. Can we make the entire city 25 mph unless otherwise posted?

David Connell

If you study it sufficiently to justify it. The law requires the study to go below the speed limit. In each case that is supposed to be what is going on.

Alderman Deane

So the justification could be rendered by the Traffic Department?

David Connell

The Infrastructure Committee would know better, but I believe that is how it is done that they don't hire outside engineers I think they use in-house people for that.

Alderman Deane

Boy have we been told a lot of different stories on this one. That is good news. Thank you.

Given its first reading; assigned to the COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE by Acting President Tollner

O-05-85

Endorser: Acting Mayor Brian S. McCarthy

ELIMINATING CONSERVATION COMMISSION COMPENSATION

Given its first reading; assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE by Acting President Tollner

O-05-86

Endorser: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter

Acting Mayor Brian S. McCarthy

ESTABLISHING AN ADDITIONAL MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE OF FIVE DOLLARS PER VEHICLE AND ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION FUND FOR SUCH FEES UNDER RSA 261:153 VI

Given its first reading;

Alderman Gage

I would also inquire to the Acting Mayor if he is a sponsor of this legislation or not.

Acting Mayor McCarthy

I would be willing to sponsor it for purposes of the discussion.

MOTION BY ALDERMAN BOLTON TO ACCEPT THE FIRST READING OF O-05-86, REFER IT TO THE BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE AND SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2005, AT 7:00 PM IN THE ALDERMANIC CHAMBER.

MOTION CARRIED

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Burgess, 32 Bates Drive

I am deeply disturbed with all of the efforts Mr. Deane has put in for these trust funds that apparently they are going down the tube. I suggest we get the Acting Mayor to maybe get back to Target and maybe take that money and put it towards that fire station. I think it would be more valuable than the access road to Tinker Road for the safety and the traffic on Amherst Street. I think this would be a wise decision for him to get back here and have him reconsider this.

I was wondering Mr. Mayor you stated all of the information was going to be from the different departments – the cuts the Mayor had suggested. I know we have a public hearing coming up on the 5th of May. Is there any way possible the residents could get a copy of all of these figures? I am a firm believer if you want a public hearing we should have all of the information available to us so we know where we are coming from.

Last night I attended the School Board meeting. I thought we were going to get into the budget and maybe people could get the input, but it was a long dragged out thing. Some of them were interviewing for a principal or something and it got dragged on. I am afraid the School Board once again is going to come in and propose cuts to things that they will really get on the backs of the Aldermen say like the sports and the buses and stuff when like I say I suggested we ought to look at the enrollment figures. Let's look at the guidelines what the State was – the enrollment figures are way down in the grade school and even up through the junior high and high school – with all of the extra Vice-Principals we have why should the taxpayers be funding for an all day kindergarten? To me after 3 or 4 hours you can't get these youngsters to sit still. These are avenues that I think should have been looked into. I know they only had until I believe it is the 15th before any slips could possibly go out. I happen to be sitting with a Headmaster last night and I said you know we could resolve this very easily. I was once in a union – we had to take cuts. We had to give up

benefits and stuff. I said we could sit down here and all put in another 5% on the insurances across the board for the unions. He said oh this would take years. Well this could have resolved a good many of our problems.

We look at the health insurance, which figures we are hearing now I think the HMOs are going to be for a family plan up around \$18,000 this year, and the taxpayers are probably going to absorb all about probably \$900 of this or probably \$19 a week by the employee – a tough one really to swallow.

Mr. Tollner at the last Board of Aldermen meeting I was here. I know you didn't mention my name, but you were referring that you had called the Police Chief – these were your remarks at that meeting "Speaking with Chief if you recall that public meeting on the Budget at one point was scheduled for a different date, and was re-scheduled." If we looked at this came before the Board of Aldermen on February 22, 2005. Mr. Bolton said send this on to the Budget Committee, which it went fully blast – 14 people voted for it. On 3-2 it went to the Budget Committee. Alderman Deane said we are going to hold this in committee pending the public hearing on March 21st. Both of these to me were sufficient to say everybody knew there was a meeting on March 21st – the public hearing. I know the local gazette the following day decided to give me a shot. "It is easy to talk tough when nobody is there." Well I think if we sit in this room tonight there is only one person in this room that has probably attended as many public hearings on the budget, Mrs. Lucier and let me tell you she is a fine woman and I hope you never get her to retire.

If we look at the procedure the people have that ran these budget hearings, we went down the line with different departments – right down the line every time for probably 25 years I have been going there. Alderman Bolton was doing the same. In fact I think I had questioned him and said I think we missed the traffic department and he informed me no we went through that. Knowing how the procedure was we go down the line so I couldn't get my questions in because that is one department I really love to ask questions to because I can't seem to get anywhere with these people. So this is the proper procedure and I think the paper was a little out of line and maybe ought to be brought up to date the way this procedure runs in the city.

Another thing came up back a week or so ago I was reading the Lowell Sun. Apparently the news comes out in the other papers before they do the local papers. I saw in the paper Tyngsboro was voting to tie into our sewerage plant. I got on the phone and called a couple of Aldermen and said is this correct? I said to myself what is really going to be the benefit of this. They checked it out and sure enough – I think the Board of Public Works Director was a little surprised this came out, but I think all of this stuff should be in the open before the boards and everybody else in the city before you read it in the paper another town is taking a vote on tying in, which never took place.

Let's go back to another one on when we had a \$3 million deficit. I got on the phone and left a message on the Telegraph line stating I think this would be a good story for the taxpayers. We are \$3 million in the hole and you ought to look into it. A week went by – nothing. Today I pick up the paper again well we have dissolved the drop out school committee. That was in the Manchester Union Leader a week ago. Then we go again the Manchester Union Leader picked up another story well the Pride is getting rid of the stands in Holman Stadium and putting in a merry-go-round

or something down there. These are things the local paper isn't picking up. He can say what he wants, but I used the proper procedure. We went through the departments. I never dodge anybody and I would be glad to – on May 5th if the Police Chief is there I will give him my questions. I will furnish it to him and hope that we can get some answers here. I never dodge the bullet. Thank you very much.

REMARKS BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Alderman Johnson

First of all I would like to thank the members of this Board, my constituents for their condolence calls to my house and the letters for the passing of my Mother. It has been a real shock, and I am still not getting back to the swing of things because of it. I do appreciate all of the letters and cards of condolences regarding that and the concern of my Board members. Every time I come in they always say are you okay. You have your good days and your bad days.

The next Board of Aldermen meeting and the Infrastructure meeting at the end of the month I will not be here. I am going to be taking a couple of days off with my husband, which is well deserved after all of this time.

I would like to respond to a couple of comments from Mr. Burgess. I want to thank him for sending me an e-mail regarding the tie in with the Tyngsboro sewerage to Nashua wastewater. I did send that article over to Mr. Seymour and it was kind of like very casual – well we have had some discussions, but nothing has come out of it. Thank you Mr. Burgess for doing your job. I greatly appreciate it.

As far as the Pride and the merry-g-round, I think this budget season has become a merry-g-round, and new keep going round and round and where we stop nobody knows.

I would again like to say to everybody thank you for your words of condolences to me and my family. Mr. Sister and I greatly appreciate it. Thank you.

Alderman Rootovich

I just want to caution everybody as we proceed through the budget deliberations that the cuts that members of the Board make are not made through emotion or our personal opinions on how some divisions or department are run. We all know we have some tough decisions. We need to take a look at everything.

I did a little research today looking at some of the payrolls in some of the different divisions. I find it

kind of amazing that there are two divisions where their payroll is literally 92% of their budget. If you look at 92% of their budget is payroll and it leaves 8/10 left over and that was police and fire. If you are looking to make any cuts in those two divisions you need to take a hard look. The only thing you really have to cut in those two divisions is payroll. Just take a hard look at that. Again everything has to be on the table. We do have to make some tough decisions. The decisions we make have got to be for the best interest of the taxpayer. We do have to keep services in mind. I hope again that we make those decisions based on rational reasoning and not through emotion and based on our own personal opinions on how a particular division or department is run. Thank you.

Alderman Dion

This will be part of the answer to Mr. Teeboom to his comments about last night's public hearing. I was disappointed about the public hearing that was held last night. This is such an important issue; I am talking about R-04-121 – proposing an amendment to the City Charter relative to requiring the vote of at least 10 Aldermen for the annual budget or any other appropriation to be passed. I was very disturbed with the lack of people that showed up last night. In fact there was nobody. You did open the meeting at 7:01 p.m. in answer to Mr. Teeboom. There was no one to speak for it or against it. IN fact, you asked the question twice. We closed the meeting immediately because nobody was here to speak on it. That is in answer to Mr. Teeboom. We did have the public hearing. You walked in a little too late Mr. Teeboom. You walked in at 7:07 p.m. I believe. I hope we have better attendance from the public at the election in November pertaining to this resolution. It certainly can't be any worse than it was last night. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Alderman Plamondon

I will start with the good news. The Mayor's Task Force on Youth as well as a variety of youth organizations all the way up to Rivier College – we have had an art contest regarding painting the mural on the back wall of Firman's Fabrics, which the back of the building abuts the Nashua Heritage Rail Trail. The contest ended Saturday. Winners were chosen. The painting was to start Sunday. The bulk of the work will be done this coming weekend. It will be a railroad engine with three cars and a caboose. The three cars, the sides of the cars will be reproductions of the paintings and artwork that was submitted by youth – the winners of the contest. For those who wanted to know the engine will be heading towards City Hall. It is a real good project. The area is going to be illuminated. It is a project that is ongoing – the entire Heritage Rail Trail – this is just one big piece where we will see some real positive reactions and interactions with the residents and neighbors as well as youth. It is an exciting program.

On the challenging side, I want to remind the residents of Nashua and my colleagues on the Board this Thursday's Planning meeting will have a couple of contentious issues coming up. One is an

additional pharmacy on Main Street on the corner of Otterson and Main that will extend to Elm Street. This particular additional pharmacy will affect and demolish – it involves 6 properties and 5 large buildings that will be torn down; two individual homes, 12 apartment units, and a whole variety of small businesses. If anyone is interested that is number 5 on the agenda for this Thursday evening's Planning Board meeting, which starts at 7:00 p.m.

Item #9 I think is the most contentious that is facing us right now and that is a proposed 7,420 sq. ft. methadone clinic on Pine Street directly across the street from Bronstein, which is a part of Nashua Housing, which is a drug free zone. The size of this facility dwarfs the methadone clinic in Hudson. This clinic will not help the heroin and oxycodone addicts that are on the street. This will only help those that have insurance, that are gainfully employed, that can come and get their methadone. In this particular neighborhood, which has the highest crime rate in the city, which has the desist population in the city this is not the place for it.

Also having noted that we already have a methadone clinic for pre-natal at Southern New Hampshire Medical I would have to question the need as well as we have a methadone clinic in Hudson. I would also quote one of Nashua's well known doctors who is board certified in addiction psychiatry in Nashua "Methadone has problems. Like heroin it is strongly addictive. The Drug Enforcement Administration classifies methadone in the same category as cocaine and PCP, which are Schedule 2 drugs. Here in the United States research reveals methadone's 50% success record." The Telegraph editorial also quotes "Citing clinic next to a crowded downtown residential neighborhood won't help to revitalize an area, and the Board should reject." I would encourage the citizens of Nashua this Thursday night at 7:00 p.m. – it is item 9 on the agenda – to come to the third floor, City Hall auditorium – it is very important that their positions be heard. Thank you Mr. Acting President.

Alderman Deane

Thank you. First off I would like to thank members of the administration the last couple of weeks for the work they are doing. Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Lemieux, and who could forget Mr. Fredette. The other day I had requested from Mrs. Anderson a copy of the miscellaneous stipends that are given citywide. I asked for a comprehensive list. Doreen Beaulieu did it. She is currently giving me a spreadsheet on the totaling of these. Last evening and I don't know I forget who was here. I know most of you folks are here, but I would hope that everybody get a copy of this. I find this very, very revealing of what has been going on. Some of this is out of control what we are doing. We hire people to do work and then we pay them additional stipends for services. I am having trouble with this.

To you Mr. Mayor you said it – I can't even count that high how many times you have said this is the policy setting board. I will give you a copy of policy #40, which was adopted by the Board of Fire Commissioners as policy pertaining to their uniform merit employee benefit structure. I don't know how many of you elder statesmen on this Board have ever seen this, but it pertains to the approval of the stipends that are given to all of the uniformed merit employees of Nashua Fire Rescue. I see

we have the Legislative Business Liaison - \$416.67 a month to serve on the Emergency Preparedness Committee. I want people to look at this. Doreen is going to get the totals.

We get into longevity. Some of this is contractual. A lot of it is not. A lot of this pertains to contracts that we deal with that we approve, we bargain, and then we sit there and give this away and get nothing in return. Normally when they bargain the contracts, the language or whatever – we do get it is a chip and these are chips that we are just throwing out in some cases not in all. At the closing of the meeting I will get copies for whoever didn't get a copy of this and I will get Mayor McCarthy a copy of policy #40 for your review and I would really like to have that looked at. I would like to thank Doreen for her hard work.

On another note, I don't know how many of you saw opening day of the Red Sox. I think the most touching part of it was watching Johnny Pesky who has spent his entire life with a bat and ball in his hand and he is probably close to 80. He has been in that dugout for over 50 years. I don't think he has ever had another job. When he ran down and congratulated the folks all the guys on the team they shut all of the music off and I couldn't believe some of the stuff he was saying, but it was real good to see. I am happy for him. He is a great guy. Thank you.

Alderman MacLaughlin

To sort of add on to what Alderman Deane has just presented, last night we were discussing issues with the solid waste division. It is really interesting to me as someone who is in charge of a rather significant payroll from my employer that when I pay people who work for our company for an 8 hour day I expect that those people will have worked an 8 hour day, and if and when they are entitled to overtime, which is tightly controlled and frowned upon outside of certain periods of our business, it seems as though overtime is figured on hours that may or may not include a fully worked 8 hour period. It is this type of arrangement within contracts that have gone unchallenged and un-re-negotiated according to the testimony I heard last night for over 20 years that are adding to the burden of the payroll on these budgetary requests that we are addressing. Therefore, it ties our hands when it comes to finding areas to make cuts so that we can avoid situations such that we are in right now with an 8% minimum proposed increase in this budget and who knows it could go higher.

The policy I am referring to is neatly described as pick-up and go. I would like to see it renamed to drop off and stay. The reason is that the taxpayers of this city, a majority of them who are not employed by the City of Nashua do not have this type of situation. If they leave work early they are not getting paid unless they are salaried employees and even then that is really frowned upon, and even then only for emergency purposes or unless these people are self-employed and they can afford to close their business for an afternoon. It is really a very bazaar negotiation arrangement that we have with the unions when we allow policies like this to go unchallenged and unrevised or un updated for 20 years or more. That on top of what we have learned about the healthcare co-pay contributions, and now in light of Alderman Deane shedding light on Policy 40 dealing with stipend compensation within just one department I would say we have to really take a magnifying glass out

and look at the rest of these things that we may or may not be aware of. Thank you.

Alderman Gage

Just a quick thing that I read in the paper. I don't know if anybody happened to notice it when they talked about the school funding up in Concord – the House Committee that is dealing with it currently came out with the City of Nashua getting \$23.6 million, which is \$1.4 million less than the re-arranged budget by the administration. It does go to the House Finance Committee in the next few days and then to the full House by the end of the month and then on to the Senate.

I also want to commend among others I remember seeing Alderman Bolton's name as one that went up before the House Committee and spoke on behalf of the City. I do appreciate that as an Alderman that wasn't able to get there.

Also I want to thank the close to 100 people that came out to a Ward 3 meeting last night. Mr.. Burgess we missed you there. We didn't see you this time around. I want to thank representatives of the Neighborhood Housing of Greater Nashua regarding their presentation and also thank Kathy Hersh, Director of Community Development, who came out and assisted with some technical questions. Thank you.

Alderman Vitale

I would like to announce to the residents of Ward 1 that I will be holding a Ward 1 meeting on May 4th at Nashua North High School. It will be held in the Board Room. The main couple of topics will be the Broad Street improvements and any discussions that people might want to bring up regarding the budget. Thank you.

Acting Mayor McCarthy

I did actually want to bring something up with the Board both from this seat now and in anticipation of being back in that one when and if a budget resolution is returned to the full Board. I mentioned at our last meeting that I was concerned that we would do things that would have a disastrous long-term effect on the community in an effort to make the budget balance this year. I would like to reiterate that concern and make a suggestion. I think there have actually been a lot of things that have come up during budget discussions such as the ones mentioned by Alderman Deane and Alderman MacLaughlin that require the action of the Board to examine them and determine what to change if anything. I am fearful that in the totality of those things when we get done with them they won't even come close to what we consider to be solving the budget problem for this year. What I

worry about is that we will attempt to do things by the method which for better or worse the administration has chosen to do, which is to put a across the board cut on programs that may or may not be sustainable after that cut is in place.

I think as the policy setting board for this city it is incumbent upon us to make decisions at a higher level about the future of the services we provide to the citizens. I in fact received comments at the staff meeting yesterday that there are members of the staff who would like to understand the priorities of this Board so that they can make recommendations on budget reductions that are consistent with this Board's stated priorities. Now I have to say we started down that road a year or a year and a half ago with some of our planning sessions and then decided on a few top priorities to dwell on, which are not necessarily the program choices that are before us now. What I would suggest that the Board do at least in terms of framing discussion is to go back to the program descriptions that we had the staff prepare for us prior to the budget season beginning and at the very least simply take all of the programs that are listed in there and each of us ought to go through and prioritize which ones are important to us and which ones aren't and come up with a list. We may find that there is a lot of common ground on programs that wind up at the bottom of that list that we think it may be time not to provide anymore.

What I don't want to see is for us to come up with a bunch of band-aided programs none of which works effectively enough to be worth what we pay for them. We ought to decide those things that are important and make sure we do them well enough to justify the expense of doing them in the first place. I would like the Board to consider taking a look at those programs and consider that at some point we ought to get together and sit down to discuss the priorities of programs in anticipation of making changes at that level rather than in the individual line items of the budget.

Alderman Deane

I wanted to respond to the Mayor's remark. You know Brian I agree, and we never set the priorities – never got done. We kind of road the pine a little bit on it and we got away with it last year, and then when the administration made this terrible, terrible mistake of level funding the self-insurance fund, the 508 account, and I have talked to some of my colleagues where we have come in and we hemmed and hawed and last year was a problem – you have been on this Board for a number of years – when they come in after the fact and add \$10 million on to something that is already at 5% it makes it awful difficult – it is not business as usual. Through the budget process that we have currently gone through now we are going back and we are going to prioritize through the narratives and the data that they gave us, which we should have done prior, where our biggest problem is. My concern is as Alderman Rootovich had brought up if you look at the percentage of the budget that is head driven. I find it rather interesting that we ask for recommendations from departments or the administration on what they can cut for that 1% and low and behold I will guarantee you that this stipend list there is not one dime out of this amount of money that was brought forward – not a dime. So unfortunately I have to start or others – also we have to start drilling in to these areas. Some of these are complex, some are contractual, some of it is not. As the Mayor had stated tough times require tough decisions. I find it rather ironic that things that financially affected most of the

administration they would just forego, but I mean we have to make concessions in areas.

If we have to cut stipends to keep the kids getting bused to schools then so be it. I would like to see everything put out on the table and that is not really being done so you have to spend time to drill into these areas and find things out. It is time to start. We have to make some decisions and we have to make some cuts. Unfortunately we are in a situation that none of us in this room have ever been in. I am having difficulty dealing with it where I want to understand more and I have asked Alderman Bolton on numerous occasions to bring people in for discussion because I think we all need to have some discussion to see what we can do because it is not like you are just cutting percentages out of line items here we have a ton of money that has to be brought down to get this tax increase reasonable for people. Thank you.

Alderman Johnson

I agree with a lot of what Alderman Deane said. This year it is not a question about a line item reduction. You can't reduce that much in line items. I guess what gets me a little nervous now is that if in fact the Telegraph is correct and if in fact we don't get that additional educational funding and the Mayor came in with a higher amount, which I would have actually budgeted lower and been happy getting the higher amount because this way we wouldn't be scrambling for over another million dollars that we don't have. When I take a look at this budget this year it is not that I want to cut programs or reduce services it is what I need to do to make sure that we can live in an affordable community. It is great to say we have great schools and great services, but if you can't afford to pay for it, it is not great anymore. If you start adding up the tax increases it is not a great community anymore because nobody can afford to live here. I know it is going to be tough this year. It is going to be tougher than we have ever known on the four years that I have been on this Board. We all just have to roll up our sleeves and throw everything out and see where we can make these reductions whether we like it or not. Thank you.

Acting President Tollner

My final comments for the evening I want to wish Dot Nice's husband, Walt, all the best. I know he is going through some tough times. Hang in there.

Committee announcements:

Alderman Dion

The Committee on Infrastructure will meet tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. in these Chambers.

Acting President Tollner

There will be a special meeting of the Board of Aldermen tomorrow night if I am not mistaken at 7:00 p.m. There will also be a Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Chamber on Thursday night.

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ADJOURNMENT

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MOTION BY ALDERMAN ROOTOVICH THAT THE APRIL 12, 2005 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ADJOURNED
MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Attest: Paul R. Bergeron, City Clerk