

A special meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Wednesday, July 20, 2005 at 7:50 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

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

Prayer was offered by Deputy City Clerk Patricia E. Lucier; Alderman Robert Shaw leading in the Pledge to the Flag.

President McCarthy

I will remind the members of the Board and those of the public to please turn off all cell phones and pagers.

The roll call was taken with 11 members of the Board of Aldermen present; Aldermen Tollner, LaRose, MacLaughlin and Plamondon, and were not in attendance.

President McCarthy

Alderman Tollner and Alderman LaRose are on vacation.

His Honor Bernard A. Streeter and Corporation Counsel David R. Connell were also in attendance.

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE TO AMEND THE AGENDA BY ADDING PERIODS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
MOTION CARRIED**

COMMUNICATIONS

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN ROOTOVICH THAT ALL COMMUNICATIONS BE READ BY TITLE ONLY
MOTION CARRIED**

From: Brian S. McCarthy, President, Board of Aldermen
Re: Special Board of Aldermen Meeting

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN ROOTOVICH TO ACCEPT AND PLACE ON FILE
MOTION CARRIED**

From: Bernard A. Streeter, Mayor
Re: Veto of R-05-245

MOTION BY ALDERMAN ROOTOVICH TO ACCEPT AND PLACE ON FILE

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Bolton

May I ask the Mayor a question?

President McCarthy

You may.

Alderman Bolton

Mr. Mayor the next to the last sentence of your veto message says "I respectfully ask that you sustain this Veto or adjust the annual salary to a figure closer to \$125,000." Can you give us any illumination as to what figure you would deem appropriate?

Mayor Streeter

My answer is the same as I have given to that question any number of times when it has been posed. It is not my role nor my duty to set the salary of the Superintendent of Schools in our city.

Alderman Bolton

Can I name specific figures, and will you give me yes or no answers?

Mayor Streeter

If you name specific figures I will give you specific answers.

Alderman Bolton

One hundred and thirty five thousand dollars?

Mayor Streeter

I will veto that.

Alderman Bolton

One hundred and thirty thousand dollars?

Mayor Streeter

I would not veto that.

Alderman Bolton

One hundred and thirty three thousand dollars?

Mayor Streeter

I would veto that.

Alderman Bolton

One hundred and thirty one thousand dollars?

Mayor Streeter

I would veto that.

Alderman Bolton

I think we have narrowed it down. Thank you sir.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Brian S. McCarthy, President, Board of Aldermen

Re: Special Board of Aldermen Meeting

MOTION BY ALDERMAN ROOTOVICH TO ACCEPT AND PLACE ON FILE

MOTION CARRIED

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT RELATIVE TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Fred Teeboom, 24 Cheyenne Drive

First let me thank Alderman Deane for permitting public comment during the meeting.

I would like to mention first we should recall that over a decade ago Referendum 2 was passed into city charter law to authorize the Board of Aldermen to set salaries for the school district. This came as a direct result of the Board of Education's "in your face" attitude, same then as now. Referendum 2 passed with a large majority of the city's vote. I have seen my five children pass through Nashua's schools, and 2 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren will soon enter the school system. My granddaughter teaches elementary school in Nashua. I have taught as an associate professor at NH Community Technical College, served as a substitute teacher in Nashua public schools, and as aldermen helped get Mr. Giuliano selected as Nashua Superintendent. This allows me some perspective on the current situation.

Let me say from the outset that I believe that public school academic performance in Nashua needs vast improvement. More than half our schools are scoring substandard on standardized state and federal achievement tests. This failure to achieve includes (from published 2004 data) both high schools, our three middle schools and 6 of our 12 elementary schools. (Hopefully, performance is better when 2005 test data is available). From my personal observation and experience, student achievement in critical math and science courses in our middle and high schools is substandard.

This brings me to Dr Earl's experience. I studied her resume and published background carefully. She has never served as a superintendent, and was passed over three times for promotion as superintendent---in application with school districts in Louisiana, in Arkansas and evidently in her own district in Klein, Texas with last year's retirement of its superintendent (which I suspect prompted her resignation). Her background is in instruction, not in managing school budgets and people. I cannot find clear evidence that she even served as a principal of schools. She appears to have credentials similar to Richard LaSalle, our recently resigned associate superintendent. I listened carefully to her press conference and remarks before the aldermen. I heard only the usual educational dogma. She is well spoken and pleasant, and may be an outstanding teacher, but I do not see her as a superintendent with the experience we need in Nashua.

Dr. Earl did not respond well, in my opinion, to questions posed by aldermen Gage and Johnson and Rootovich concerning our schools failing to score adequately on federal and state assessment tests. She failed to address how to hold students accountable for performance on achievement tests. She responded with buzzwords like "statistical trending" but did not address how to correct out substandard school performance. She mentioned "zero-based budgeting" another buzzword without real meaning in a cost environment dominated by union contracts. She did not address how to deal with special education, the primary cause for our many schools failing to meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) under federal guidelines. She did not address how she has experience dealing with teacher unions. She did not address "distant learning" for gaining course credits. She stated that teacher performance in the classroom cannot be measured. Strictly conventional educational dogma.

Is Dr. Earl really the best we can do from a nationwide search, as the BOE claims? Especially when the federal government threatens to remove BOE authority completely from our several schools failing to meet Adequate Yearly Progress if their performance does not soon improve?

Next, let us examine the controversy over salary. The Governor in this state earns a salary of

\$101,000. The mayor \$92,000; Nashua's superintendent \$112,500, and the associate superintendents \$95,000; Nashua Chief of Police \$104,000; Nashua Fire Chief \$ 97,000. The Chief Justice in the NH Supreme Court earns \$132,000, other state judges salaries range from \$120,000 to \$128,000.

Why should Dr. Earl's salary be higher than any other public official in the state? Why should it even be as high as \$125,000? With her limited background, let the BOE offer her about the same as Mr. Giuliano, and place her on a performance contract specifically measured against her leadership ability to significantly improve Nashua's performance on achievement tests and pull Nashua's failing AYP schools out of failure within the next two years.

I urge this board to stick with the \$125,000 maximum limit already voted, thus providing \$12,500 in performance incentive against a salary of \$112,500, the highest paid in our city, the first year of her employment. Next year the board could then examine how well she performed, and consider a pay increase tied to meeting quantitatively measured objectives. If this is not acceptable to Dr. Earl I recommend strongly the search continue with an Associate Superintendent acting temporarily as Superintendent. Thank you very much.

Suzanne Harvey, Representative Ward 2, 8 Crawford Lane

I would like to just first of all maybe comment that I thought this meeting was about the salary for the Superintendent not about the candidate and whether or not she is the correct candidate. The other thing is we have heard so much about that this salary is the highest in the State specifically for Superintendents. I think that is irrelevant. I think what is relevant is that Nashua needs to be competitive with like school districts. We have 13,000 kids in the district. We have a huge budget. We have a lot of diversity. We have a lot of special needs whether it is ESL or other needs. It obviously takes a special person with some special skills to come into our school system and do some fixes, make it a better school system, and make it stronger for our kids. Of course this is all about the kids. I just want to put in my two cents about the fact that I really do think it is irrelevant what the other cities are paying or what other jobs are going for. We need to be competitive with the towns and states around us if we want to get the right candidate looking at all the candidates in the country. Thank you.

Kim Shaw, 14 Sweet William Circle. I was not planning on speaking tonight, but one of the previous speaker's comments I felt verged on perhaps libelous, so I think I need to correct a few of those misconceptions that were put out there. Dr. Earl was not passed over from Louisiana; she withdrew her name on the advise of her consultant. Let's get the record straight there. She does have significant administrative experience both in supervising teaching professionals and other administrators, as well as experience in cutting millions of dollars in budget and finding efficiencies. She is more than open to performance increases and actually suggested that to the Board, herself. Mr. Guiliano and Mr. Masse, I'd like to remind everybody, were not superintendents before they started working as superintendents in Nashua either. Thank you.

Robert Hallowell, 6 Chaucer Road. I'm here tonight not really to speak to the merits of the superintendent's salary range increase. I made my support for the \$140,000 clear since the beginning of this discussion. It was an educated compromise based on the facts and comparisons to superintendents in other school districts that are similar to Nashua.

I speak tonight to express my outrage at the mayor of this city and process that we have just been through. Should the mayor be part of this process? Yes. Does he have the right to veto this legislation if he thinks it is excessive? Absolutely. But throughout this salary process and throughout the budget process the mayor has only engaged after each crisis has formed and only acted in response to long accepted realities. The superintendent salary range I think is a prime example. Anyone who was paying attention would have know that despite the original aldermen's decision to cap the salary at \$125,000 the Board of Education continued to pursue candidates that were close if not above that range. I brought that to your attention to the meetings that I had been at. It was also well at the time and the mayor or the board of aldermen could have raised the issue weeks' ago. Instead everyone chose to ignore it and went for the showdown. That is not leadership. That is called ignorance is bliss. No one reached out from either side and offered any type of compromise. The mayor also complained that he was not included in the hiring process. Yet, did he ever ask to be included? I do not think it was a well-kept secret that the candidates were being interviewed. It was public record or even that the board of ed. was down to two candidates. One presumes that once the mayor had vetoed the \$150,000 that he analyzed the situation and determined the salary level at which he would be comfortable. Yet at last week's board of aldermen meeting when asked repeatedly by aldermen what upper range the mayor would support, we saw the mayor bob and weave in a scene reminiscent of Muhammad Ali. I might have respected, but not agreed with the mayor's decision, to tell the aldermen that night that \$125,000 was the highest range he would allow. To merely string along the board of aldermen, the board of education, the perspective candidate and indeed the entire city and then veto the measure at the last possible moment shows in my opinion a complete lack of leadership by the mayor. One suggestion I have about the salary is some of the board are concerned about that this investment is not worth it and we would be paying an increased salary for a very long time. Perhaps one solution would be to add up this increase over the expected ten years and deduct

that amount from this year's school budget. If you increase to \$15,000 take \$150,000 from the school budget now right after you vote for this. The board of education gets the room to negotiate with candidates – this one or another one – and the members concerned about the fiscal situation get an additional decrease in the overall school budget. Sounds reasonable to me, but I'm not sure compromise was ever considered here. I ask the mayor to immediately sign whatever, if any legislation is passed this evening. This entire process at all levels has been an embarrassment to the city and it needs to end tonight.

Bob Burgess, 32 Bates Drive. I strongly agree with the mayor's veto. I think we should keep it right at \$125,000. Back in May the Board approved the range up to \$125,000 and I don't think we should pay one penny more than the \$125,000. Take this candidate and say this is what we got. We have been playing games with this now for two or three meetings. I think it ought to be at \$125,000. I was amazed reading the Telegraph today. It must be a typographical error at \$224,000. I think this candidate – I won't mention the name – or if I was running for that, I would have my price range corrected. The school board originally said it was \$127,500 she was making. Then all of a sudden now, I don't know how many people we sent down to this town in Texas and at what cost to the taxpayers. One of the school board members said, it's between \$125,000 and \$130,000. The candidate said today it was in the one twenty-five range. Doesn't anybody know what this candidate is making? I can't see spending not even a penny more than \$125,000. I think it is a good price. If we go up to \$130,000 we're talking 16 or 17 percent increase in the ranges in this position. What are you telling this janitor out in the hall here or that girl down there working in the tax office that ain't going to get a raise this year. I think it is a slap in the face for the people who have work for this city for many, many years and we can't afford to give them a raise but yet we have a candidate here that we want to give up to a 16 percent raise. I can't the mayor keeps playing games with this. We set this back in May. \$125,000 was the top. That's where it ought to stand. I urge you to vote tonight to keep that at there. One of the members here is related to the president of the school board. I think it is a conflict of interest if he votes on this. I really, really do.

Dot Nice, 8 Maywood Drive

I've been sitting here many nights listening to you. I wasn't here last night, but I heard you. Let me tell you something. The mayor did the right job. According to the people that have called me, and even sent me letters and asked me to make sure the Mayor would veto this so I would go into the mayor and say you have to do it; look at the phone calls you've got. He knows he got the phone calls. We called to make sure. Most of the taxpayers are involved and most of the city is involved. The aldermen in here are doing the best they can. The mayor is doing the best he can. But this little bickering has to stop and it has to stop here. I know the mayor and the aldermen can

work together. I've been sitting here for 8 ½ years and you all do a damn good job as far as I am concerned. And, I hope to sit for another eight.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-05-184

Endorser: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter

RELATIVE TO THE ADOPTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2006 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NASHUA GENERAL AND ENTERPRISE FUNDS

Given its eighth reading;

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE TO LAY R-05-184 ON THE TABLE UNTIL THE END OF NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES
MOTION CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

O-05-105

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane

INCREASING FIRE ADMINISTRATION SALARIES ABOVE THE MERIT PLAN

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

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN ROOTOVICH TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE R-05-184
MOTION CARRIED**

R-05-184

Endorser: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter

RELATIVE TO THE ADOPTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2006 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NASHUA GENERAL AND ENTERPRISE FUNDS

Alderman Deane

Would it be possible to have Mrs. Anderson come up so we can go over the numbers that have been changed overnight? Do we have an amended copy of this?

President McCarthy

I have not seen one that reflects the amendments we made last evening. I have a copy marked up with what they were however.

Alderman Deane

Could we go through the amended numbers once again starting with the first paragraph and the I believe it was \$210,422,601 is that correct?

President McCarthy

The general fund revenues – the general fund appropriations.

Alderman Deane

The general fund revenue has changed to what number now if at all?

President McCarthy

It is \$26,044,807.

Carol Anderson

The only thing I would say on the general fund appropriations there was \$5,000 that I thought had been added in that had not so we just have the \$5,000 that was – this is the number.

President McCarthy

Last night we subtracted \$5,000 and then we put it back. At the end of the evening last night we wound up still with a figure that ends in 601 is that ...

Carol Anderson

But the \$5,000 we did not add it back in for strategic planning. The \$5,000 was cut from strategic planning and I thought that there was another \$5,000 that was in account 535 that had been added back and it had not so the number as it stands...

President McCarthy

So we should then amend that again to be \$210,417,601?

Carol Anderson

Yes that is correct. Then the revenues that you stated Mr. President that is correct, \$26,044,807. The education funding stays the same at \$23,861,884, and then in the second paragraph if you go down to the part the total proposed enterprise fund appropriation amount is and that should be \$18,416,523. Then the next line on the enterprise fund revenues that number should be \$16,292,450. There are no other changes.

President McCarthy

So the only one of those that we don't actually have corrected is the \$210,422,601 should be \$210,417,601.

Carol Anderson

Yes.

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE TO AMEND BY CHANGING THE AMOUNT OF GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS TO \$210,417,601

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-05-184 AS AMENDED

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

Yea: Alderman Vitale, Alderman Cardin, Alderman Deane, Alderman Shaw, Alderman Lozeau,
Alderman McCarthy

6

Nay: Alderman Gage, Alderman Dion, Alderman Rootovich, Alderman Johnson, Alderman Bolton

5

MOTION FAILED

Alderman Dion

I have a question for Mrs. Anderson or Mrs. Lemieux if I may through the Chair. Mrs. Anderson last night the projected figure for the property tax increase was 5.88%. Are we still looking at the same figure this evening?

Carol Anderson

Yes.

Alderman Dion

How much money did we take out of fund balance and other sources to offset the budget?

Carol Anderson

The original one was \$2.5 million out of surplus, which was amended to add in another amount for bonding for the \$265,000 that was just a technical change so that put it up to \$2,765,000 I believe

and then we voted to abolish the School Capital Reserve Fund so we are putting that portion about \$4.8 million applied out of that amount, and then it looks like it is higher than that because there is a portion that is coming out to fund the \$10 million in the capital improvement that originally started at \$10.2 million to re-establish the School Capital Reserve Fund, but now it is at \$8 million and \$2 million went to the self insured fund. It ends up being it appears to be over \$17 million, but \$10 million of that is from the abolishment of the School Capital Reserve.

Alderman Dion

My question is how much money was used to offset the tax rate?

Carol Anderson

In essence, it will be the \$2,765,000 and the \$4.8 million and the rest ...

Alderman Dion

In other words we are talking about \$7.5 million here?

Carol Anderson

Yes.

Alderman Dion

So \$7.5 million are .7/10 of 1 percent on the tax rate we are talking 5.25%?

Carol Anderson

Right.

Alderman Dion

So if you take the 5.25% and add it to the 5.88% you have 11.13% really increase in the budget am I correct?

Carol Anderson

Yes.

Alderman Dion

In other words we are not really talking 5.88% here for an increase in the budget. Without the money that we put in there to offset the tax rate it would have been – assuming we had no money to put in the tax rate increase would have been 11.13%. Is that correct?

Carol Anderson

Yes.

Alderman Dion

Who says that next year assuming we don't have that money to offset the tax rate then what do you do? You have reached the point of no return. You have about 5% in the fund balance now?

Carol Anderson

It will appear that we have greater than that because of money coming out of the School Capital Reserve Fund going back into the fund balance.

Alderman Dion

Which will bring it to?

Carol Anderson

I wouldn't say for sure, but it is going to be I know over 8%. I would say 8%, but it is almost like I would call artificially inflated to jump that much, but if you remember correctly in the past couple of years we haven't been able to use any of the School Capital Reserve Fund to put towards the bonded debt. We were not allowed to do that so we have depleted the fund balance so now what we are doing is we are replenishing basically what we have taken in the past couple of years and have not replenished to put towards the bonded debt.

Alderman Dion

Thank you Mrs. Anderson. The reason I asked these questions is to fully let the Board know exactly what kind of budget they are voting on. It is not a 5.88% increase. That is bad, that is real bad, but the actual figure is 11.13% and we still haven't taken into consideration the revaluation of properties, which is going to be another disaster. I believe that we should take some serious efforts – there are a lot of people on this Board that haven't made any motions to cut the budget whatsoever. I really urge my Board members to get their heads together and try to bring this increase – we are talking about senior citizens that are hanging by a thread with the taxes they are paying right now. A lot of people are cutting down on their medications in order to buy food that is how bad it is for certain people. Here we are going to reach in their pockets and take more money again and next year even more so if we don't do something this year. Ladies and gentlemen of the Board of Aldermen we have to put our heads together here and do something.

I compliment Alderman Deane for all he has done on the Budget Committee, but we have to do more. We have to do more. There is no question about that. If you are going to pass a budget the way it stands right now you certainly don't have my support. If you can bring this down to a

respectable level – at one time we spoke about what a respectable level was – we were going to take a poll – Alderman Tollner and Alderman McCarthy suggested that we take a poll and see where we stood on what we would be willing to accept as a tax increase. We never did that. I did mention at the time that the CPI was my number, but you know everybody has to compromise to a certain degree. This kind of increase along with the re-assessment is completely out of order. We cannot do this. We have to put our heads together one more time. We can't act hastily. We have to do something and people have to go to start making motions. It is going to hurt, but it has to be done.

I remember one city official telling me at one time back some years ago that his opinion was that any department could sustain a 5% cut in their budget without any cutting of services. I really believe that also. Just a passing thought. Thank you.

Alderman Johnson

Mrs. Anderson what is the CPI over the last three years averaged out again?

Carol Anderson

It was lowed in the past two years, but it is about 2.5% overall.

Alderman Johnson

Has anybody heard what Social Security is getting this year as far as an increase? I know the last couple of years I think it has been about 1%. That is lower than what we have given out for contracts. Then they take MediCare out of that and you end up with nothing. Alderman Tollner is not here, but he said to me that he doesn't like when I preach to the Board. Last week or so and I even had lunch with a State Rep. today and she saw people stopping me. I am not preaching. If I need to go food shopping it takes me two hours to get out of the food store. I don't mind talking to people and they say we don't want to bother you. They are not bothering me they are telling me that they cannot afford their homes. The seniors are about pushed out. I have said many a times when you see these seniors bagging groceries do you think they are doing it because they like it? They are doing it – I had a gentleman stop me in Wal-Mart in Amherst one day and say to me you are absolutely right I am doing it because my wife needs medication. That is the only way I have the money for her medication. This is really sad. We always talk about Massachusetts to the south of us – all of the salaries down in Massachusetts – we have to be competitive with them, but now Massachusetts and I read it last night is starting to lay off. They can't afford contracts anymore. They cut their budget in Tyngsboro and the union came back and said rather than laying off two officers we are willing to renegotiate. Public works the same thing – I read it last night.

Well maybe we should take a sign from Massachusetts that they went over their heads. We are not the only ones that are in a budget mess like this, but other cities and towns are starting to go back to the unions and say we need help. I don't know why we haven't done it. I sat with many people from the city. They were willing to furlough a couple of weeks because they are afraid they

might lose their job. I haven't heard what administration has done here. I have asked. It is sad. We are in a situation because the contracts were negotiated and you have to pay your contracts and there is really nothing else left when you are done paying salaries and benefits. The cost of benefits have risen over 25%. We know it is happening – over \$18 million in the cost of benefits. We are stuck here. Every time I make motions they fail. It is sad, but you know it is about time we are going to have to really get into the meat and potatoes.

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 501-99999 BY \$5,852
MOTION FAILED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 502-99999 BY \$7,736
MOTION FAILED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 511-99999 BY \$2,568
MOTION FAILED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 513-99999 BY \$7,181
MOTION FAILED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 515-99999 BY \$4,589
MOTION FAILED**

MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 516-99999 BY \$6,121

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

Yea: Alderman Gage, Alderman Dion, Alderman Rootovich, Alderman Johnson

4

Nay: Alderman Vitale, Alderman Cardin, Alderman Deane, Alderman Shaw, Alderman Lozeau,
Alderman Bolton, Alderman McCarthy

7

MOTION FAILED

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 517-99999 BY \$7,382
MOTION FAILED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 518-99999 BY \$5,147
MOTION FAILED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 519-99999 BY \$10,992
MOTION FAILED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 520-99999 BY \$618
MOTION FAILED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 522-99999 BY \$15,555
MOTION FAILED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 523-99999 BY \$1,913
MOTION FAILED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 524-99999 BY \$1,898
Division Taken
MOTION CARRIED**

MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 531-99999 BY \$157,469

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

Yea: Alderman Gage, Alderman Dion, Alderman Rootovich, Alderman Johnson
4

Nay: Alderman Vitale, Alderman Cardin, Alderman Deane, Alderman Shaw, Alderman Lozeau
Alderman Bolton, Alderman McCarthy
7

MOTION FAILED

MOTION BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON TO REDUCE LINE ITEM 532-99999 BY \$134,538

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

Yea: Alderman Gage, Alderman Dion, Alderman Rootovich, Alderman Johnson
4

Nay: Alderman Vitale, Alderman Cardin, Alderman Deane, Alderman Shaw, Alderman Lozeau
Alderman Bolton, Alderman McCarthy
7

MOTION FAILED

Alderman Johnson

I am going to end it right here because I can see where it is going. The people of this city do not deserve a budget increase like this. Some of these were 2% and the last couple of ones I did for the police and fire were only another 1% increase. Thank you.

MOTION BY ALDERMAN ROOTOVICH TO ADJOURN

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Bolton

Parliamentary Inquiry – one votes yes to adjourn that means we are precluding any public comment period correct?

Alderman Rootovich

My apologies – Alderman Bolton is correct.

MOTION WITHDRAWN

Alderman Deane

On R-05-245, where do we stand with that currently?

President McCarthy

The Mayor has vetoed that resolution. No motion for reconsideration was made and therefore the veto is sustained.

Alderman Deane

Thank you Mr. President.

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE TO HOLD R-05-184 AT THE FULL BOARD

MOTION CARRIED

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

–
Fred Teeboom, 24 Cheyenne Drive.

I think we lost the definition of “adequate education.” I tracked pretty closely all of these lawsuits. There is at least five lawsuits on file that the Supreme Court has made rulings on. Maybe more. The Supreme Court has consistently declined to address the definition of “adequate education.” As consistently stated in their decisions, they do not wish to address what is an adequate education. This is up to the legislature to define. I don’t understand the lawsuit. I think it is more foolish spending. The \$50,000 is going to be a drop in the bucket; just like the Pennichuck, which is well over \$1 million at this point. More foolish spending of money you don’t have. You should be budgeting around the money that you know you have, not with the money that you think or wish or hope to get. I would also like to mention that if you would like to discuss the budget that any percentile tax rate increase based on the budget increase must be directly added to the percentile increases of someone’s assessed value of their home given the assumption that the total valuation in Nashua stays the same. The housing market has pretty much stabilized. Just take that into account. It’s a point that Alderman Johnson has made a number of times. The percentage increase in the valuation of your home is directly added to the percentile increase as a result of increases in your budget.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN CARDIN THAT THE JULY 20, 2005 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ADJOURNED
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Attest: Patricia E. Lucier, Deputy City Clerk