

You're a new appointment. Have you had an opportunity to attend some of the Child Care Advisory Commission meetings?

Lyn Nelson

Not yet.

Chair Tollner

Are there any questions from the committee members?

Alderman Dion

How long have you been a resident of the City of Nashua?

Lyn Nelson

17 years.

Alderman Dion

How long have you been a teacher?

Lyn Nelson

I taught for 12 years. I have been out of teaching for about 3 ½.

Alderman Dion

You seem dedicated being a teacher and going for a commission that deals with children I would say is in your ballpark.

Lyn Nelson

My degree was in early childhood education. Childcare is definitely my area.

Alderman Nickerson

What age levels did you actually teach?

Lyn Nelson

Four year olds and five year olds – preschool and kindergarten. Most recently kindergarten.

Alderman Liamos

Ms. Nelson what do you see as your role in the Child Care Advisory Commission, and what do you see as some of the biggest challenges for childcare here in the city of Nashua?

Lyn Nelson

I think some of the biggest challenges are of finding quality childcare at prices that people can afford. I think that is important and finding assistance for people that are having a hard time making ends meet and still want their children in some sort of a preschool program or are looking for some better quality for their kids. I hope that my background can play a part in it.

Alderman Lamos

I certainly applaud you for being willing to volunteer your time and serving the city in this capacity. I think it is great. I think it is equally well that you have your professional experience in the area of early childhood development. I'm sure I speak for all of the members of the committee that we appreciate your willingness to serve. Thank you very much.

Alderman Nickerson

What do you actually see as the goal of childcare and providing childcare – what is the overall goal that you see of the teachers actually in that classroom environment?

Lyn Nelson

The overall goal of childcare or the teachers?

Alderman Nickerson

The teachers themselves.

Lyn Nelson

Professional development I think is really important at this level. I have always felt that it was really important to have well educated individuals working with young children because I have always felt, through experience in addition to my background – my schooling, that at that age level a lot of times it is viewed as it is babysitting, it's childcare, and really so much learning goes on in those early years that it is important to have teachers that are well educated. They are underpaid already and a lot of them are under-educated. The field is moving more towards some professionalism, but – to give you an example, when I graduated from Rivier there were only two people that graduated in that year with my degree – two. It is definitely changing. More and more people are going to school. I think that is really important for the teacher's involvement to understand their educational purpose in childcare and educate the children that are in their care.

Alderman Nickerson

What do you see as the ideal teacher/child ratio in say a four-year-old classroom?

Lyn Nelson

In a four-year-old classroom it is 12 to 1 in New Hampshire. I think ideally I would say 10-1.

Alderman Nickerson

Glad to hear that. Thank you.

Chair Tollner

Are there any other questions from the committee? Okay. Let me just give you an idea of what we will do. Tonight we will vote on you in committee, then what will happen is that will be sent to the full Board, and I don't think it will be this Tuesday night. Are you aware of any time constraints or urgency in appointing you to the Child Care Advisory Commission?

Lyn Nelson

Not that I know of.

Chair Tollner

Tonight being that it is Thursday and we have a committee on Tuesday I am not sure if the minutes will be transcribed in time, but the Aldermanic Liaison will get in touch with you. Thank you very much. I appreciate you coming.

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Tollner

We did receive a communication from Patricia Lucier the Deputy Clerk in your packets over the weekend. A number of years ago anybody that wanted to run a business, have a cart in the city, etc. used to come before this committee for approval for permits and licenses. I think it was about 2 years ago after speaking with Chief Largy at the time it was recommended to the committee that was no longer necessary that what they would do is file the request with the City Clerk's office and a copy would go out to the Police Department for review, and as long as those two entities were comfortable with it they could go ahead and receive the permission or the permit. Part of that arrangement was that any time the Police Department had any concerns or issues or there were any violations or arrests for those individuals who had applied for permits or running a business in the city, the Police Chief would send a letter to the Chairman of the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee, and I would discuss it with you as far as were we comfortable with the Police Department's request.

In your packet you received a letter from Chief Gross dated February 20th requesting that we

remove the license to purchase precious metals and stones from a particular vendor in the city because they were arrested and charged with a Class B felony. I just wanted to make sure that the committee was aware of it, and they understood the communication, and that we support this decision and the license will be revoked. Are there any questions? Did everyone receive a copy?

Alderman Nickerson

I didn't receive a copy.

Chair Tollner

I will read the two – one from Pat Lucier and one from the Police Chief and then I will give you a paper copy at the end of the meeting.

From Patricia Lucier, Deputy City Clerk - Enclosed is a copy of a letter received from the Nashua Police Department concerning the above-referenced individual. The Police Department is requesting that this individual (I will not read the name of the individual now, but you will have a copy. The Nashua ordinances state that the license may be revoked by an appropriate Aldermanic committee for just cause at any time after notice to the license and hearing on the question of revocation. She also states "I have enclosed a copy of his license to purchase precious metals and stones. Our office issued it on September 20, 2001 with the approval of the Police Department." The Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee is meeting on Thursday, March 7th. If you wish to discuss this at this time the individual should be notified as soon as possible.

From the Police Chief – Pursuant to NRO Article III, Section 12-34(d), the Nashua Police Department is requesting the revocation of the license to purchase precious metals and precious stones issued to this individual. It also details his date of birth. The address of the location is on Amherst Street. He was arrested by this department for receiving stolen property, a Class B felony, stemming from the operation of his business entitled Jenny's Pawn Shop situated at 112 Amherst Street.

I will get you all a paper copy of that. As a committee we have never gone against the recommendation of the Police Chief.

Alderman Rootovich

We haven't had one of these in the last six years, but the first couple of years that I sat on the committee, any of those licenses that are revoked I believe takes an act from this committee so I would suggest that we accept that, place it on file, and grant the recommendation from the City Clerk to revoke the license so that it is on the record.

From: Patricia E. Lucier, Deputy City Clerk
Re: Wilfredo B. Enamorado – Jenny's Pawn Shop

MOTION BY ALDERMAN TOLLNER TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE, AND GRANT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE CITY CLERK'S

OFFICE TO REVOKE THE LICENSE
MOTION CARRIED

APPLICATION TO LICENSE HAWKER'S, PEDDLER'S, ITINERANT VENDOR'S

APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR

Child Care Advisory Commission

Lyn Nelson (New Appointment)
12 Baymeadow Drive
Nashua, NH 03062

Term to Expire: October 13, 2004

Robert Odierna (Re-Appointment)
214 Main Street
Nashua, NH 03060

Term to Expire: October 13, 2004

Jan L. Poirier (Re-Appointment)
51 Coburn Avenue
Nashua, NH 03063

Term to Expire: October 13, 2004

MOTION BY ALDERMAN TOLLNER TO RECOMMEND THE CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF LYN NELSON TO THE CHILD CARE ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE OCTOBER 13, 2004
MOTION CARRIED

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DION TO RECOMMEND THE CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENTS OF ROBERT ODIERNA AND JAN L. POIRIER TO THE CHILD CARE ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR TERMS TO EXPIRE OCTOBER 13, 2004

ON THE QUESTION

Chair Tollner

Just for the record. I think Jan Poirier has moved. I will get her correct address.
Alderman Dion

Still Nashua I hope.

Chair Tollner

I don't know where. I know she is not there now, that I know. I will check, and if we find out that it is not in Nashua we can make a motion to hold in committee.
MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - RESOLUTIONS

R-02-18

Endorser: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Alderman-at-Large David Rootovich
Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner
Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane
Alderman-at-Large Steven A. Bolton
Alderman Kevin McAfee
Alderman Kevin E. Gage
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon
Alderman Stephen C. Liamos
Alderman Lori Cardin
Alderman Robert A. Dion
Alderman-at-Large Paula I. Johnson
Alderman Brian S. McCarthy
Alderman-at-Large Frederick Britton
Alderman Scott A. Cote

OFFICIALLY NAMING THE BASKETBALL COURT LOCATED ON LEDGE
STREET
AT MEMORIAL FIELD "AL SAVAGE COURT"

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DION TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Dion

I have known Al Savage for many, many years, and he was a devoted Elk member for many, many years. He served as the grand exalted ruler, state president, and has been involved with the Spartans, children's basketball, Babe Ruth, etc. He has been working with kids all of his life. I think it is very appropriate that we name this basketball court Al Savage Court.

Chair Tollner

I agree. I have run into him during the past two weekends, and he is absolutely ecstatic and touched by the fact that the city would like to name a basketball court after someone who pretty much started biddy basketball and has kept it alive all of these years. His big push, and the reason for it believe it or not is just to keep the kids away from drugs. He will tell you that to this day. If he was in this room – that is what he preaches day in and day out every day of his life. It is a pleasure to do that.

Alderman Rootovich

This was also assigned to the Board of Public Works. I was wondering if you received a

recommendation back from them.

Chair Tollner

I did not. I have not received anything.

Alderman Rootovich

I would either suggest that you either pass it with the condition that you receive a favorable recommendation and/or either hold it to get a recommendation first. I know that there are several members of the commission who had some – not objections, but other issues that they may want to discuss. I will leave it up to the committee, but I know they wanted to discuss that in detail.

AMENDED MOTION BY ALDERMAN TOLLNER TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE
PENDING AN OPINION FROM THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Tollner

I think that getting their opinion is important, but even if they were not in favor of it, it is still under the purview of the Board of Aldermen to name these, but that is a very good idea. Thank you Alderman Rootovich.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

MOTION BY ALDERMAN TOLLNER THAT THE RULES BE SO FAR SUSPENDED AS
TO GO OUT OF THE REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS TO TAKE UP O-02-09
MOTION CARRIED

O-02-09

Endorser: Alderman Marc W. Plamondon
Alderman-at-Large David Rootovich

AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO SUSPEND OR REVOKE A PERMIT
FOR AN EMERGENCY ALARM SYSTEM

MOTION BY ALDERMAN TOLLNER TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE

ON THE QUESTION

Walter Bausha

This legislation is to give us the ability to revoke a fire alarm license if somebody doesn't pay the fines, which we didn't have before. We could threaten them, but we couldn't actually revoke the license.

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Alderman Rootovich

I guess there is nothing further to add except that I know that there are some businesses out there that are not paying. They are requesting the service when the alarms go off. Having everything fair, equitable, and equal I think that if they are going to have the service of having the alarm they should pay for that service, and if not – the Police Department has gone out of their way on several occasions with many businesses to work with them, but you have to have a limit when you send several letters and you have done everything in your power to get those funds, and they don't pay. I think the Police Chief needs the power to do that. I will support this wholeheartedly.

Alderman Liamos

I would like to know what the dimension of the problem is in terms of how many calls, or exactly how many problem cases we have out there in this regard. I agree with my colleague President Rootovich, that it gives you some teeth, but are we talking about 2-3, 10-20 businesses? Can you give me some kind of order of magnitude?

Walter Bausha

-
Through the course of a year you are talking probably several businesses per year. What you run into is that it is the same ones all of the time. Some of them are very good about getting in line. Some of them have to do with new employees going to work at a store or a bank that don't understand the alarm system, but then you might get 2-3 a year that just don't want to do anything to help you, and that is where the problem is.

Alderman Liamos

Once again, with the Chair's indulgence – would there be some type of – does this legislation specify criteria or some sort of hierarchy that you will get a warning, etc. It is applied evenly throughout or is it up to the Police Chief's judgment?

Alderman Rootovich

The legislation does not give any specific criteria whether they have to receive one warning either through a telephone call or several letters – it is clearly up to the discretion of the Chief to pull that permit at any time. I would say that since the Chief is making decisions that affect all of our lives everyday, making a decision relative to revoking a permit would be one of common sense, and would allow him the latitude to do that if necessary.

-
Alderman Johnson

This piece of legislation basically is about when we go out, and they don't pay the bill after we go out?

Walter Bausha

Sometimes not paying the bill, but not even taking the necessary work to correct the problem they have.

Alderman Johnson

So when we send them invoices basically stating that there is a fee involved here, how many times do we send an invoice to them to ask them to remit payment usually?

Walter Bausha

It is usually 30, 60, and 90 days. Sometimes if they have a malfunction problem where they have to get assistance in fixing it we do give them some leeway.

Alderman Dion

Are we talking about silent alarms that are connected to the Police Department? That is what we are talking about right?

Walter Bausha

Yes.

Alderman Dion

Let's say you have a new employee and he goofs up and the alarm goes off. Let's say it happens 2-3 times. What is the criteria? After this happens a couple of times in the course of a calendar year they get a bill for the police department responding? Is that correct?

Walter Bausha

It is a fine.

Alderman Dion

After how many instances?

Walter Bausha

A lot of it is discretionary depending on what the problem is – if it is the same employee all of the time, sometimes it can be employees, other times it can be the system not working right. We take that into consideration.

Alderman Dion

What is the fine?

Walter Bausha

I think it is \$25.00.

Alderman Rootovich

It is \$25.00. Bob this is the same thing. All of the stores that I have are all alarmed. In Massachusetts, it is \$75.00 for a false alarm, but again if we have a new employee and we explain that to the Chief or one of the officers on duty they will waive that. They usually give you three chances. Most of the facilities that I have they give three chances before they charge you for a false alarm, however, they give you a bill and it is expected to be paid within 30 days. A lot of these businesses have 4, 5, 6, 7 that go off in a week's time. Every time we have to send a cruiser over there it costs money. Like Mr. Boucher said, they are given every opportunity to correct the situation whether it is a malfunction with the equipment or you have an employee or some other incident that it happened within the bank or some other business they didn't take care of – there has to be a limit in terms of correcting that. Again, it is pretty common sense. You are allowing the Chief to make that call if necessary. I don't see it as a severe problem. I just think there are a couple out there where you need to give the authority to the Chief to make that decision.

Alderman Dion

Right now we are talking about delinquent – what we are trying to do now is to suspend these flagrant offenders that are not paying the fines is that correct?

Walter Bausha

Not paying the fine or not correcting the problem.

Alderman Dion

That will be at the discretion of the Police Chief?

Walter Bausha

Yes.

Alderman Dion

It makes sense to me.

Chair Tollner

Are there any other questions?

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION BY ALDERMAN TOLLNER TO RETURN TO THE REGULAR ORDER OF

BUSINESS
MOTION CARRIED

O-02-05

Endorser: Alderman-at-Large David Rootovich

CREATING ONE-MEMBER ALDERMANIC LIAISON COMMITTEES TO THE
BOARD
OF PUBLIC WORKS AND THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

MOTION BY ALDERMAN TOLLNER TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Rootovich

There are two parts to the ordinance. When I asked Corporation Counsel to draft this legislation to create a liaison member to the Board of Fire Commissioners it was discovered that we did not have any ordinance on the book that established our current liaison to the Board of Public Works. That position was created in 1998 through a communication from then President Fredette who sent the communication out to the Board creating that position, we accepted it, placed it on file, and then the position was created, and I had the opportunity to serve on that committee as the liaison the first time it was created. As you can see I have a handout (copy on file with City Clerk) that I have given you that shows all of the current liaison membership from the Board of Aldermen. There are currently four that are set up by Charter, and the rest are set up by ordinances. We felt to be consistent we should have these two also come under the frame of ordinances. The only one that is not currently on by Charter or by ordinance is the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund, which is governed by state law. That is clear and concise on who serves on that and the term, etc.

As far as the position of liaison to the Fire Commissioners, if you remember last year we had some heated and lengthy debate on eliminating both the Public Works and the Fire Commissioners, and one of the messages that came out of there, one of the suggestions that I found that was quite strong is that there clearly should be a liaison member set up from the Board of Aldermen.

You also have a letter that was sent to you by the Fire Chief that was endorsed by the Fire Commissioner, who would support this and think that it is a great idea that we should have this established. It will clearly open up the lines of communication. It will allow the Board to communicate better with the Fire Commissioners to understand their issues, their problems, and their scenarios. I would ask you to support this, and if and when it does pass at that time I will submit a name to be a liaison member as well as an alternate member.

Chair Tollner

Are there any questions from the committee members?

MOTION CARRIED

DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DION TO ADJOURN
MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared closed at 7:35 p.m.

Alderman Timothy B. Nickerson
Committee Clerk