

## BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

**October 15, 1996**

**7:30 PM**

Mayor Wieczorek called the meeting to order.

Mayor Wieczorek called for the Pledge of Allegiance, this function being led by Alderman Reiniger.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Clerk called the roll. There were ten Aldermen present.

**Present:** Aldermen Wihby, Elise, Reiniger, Clancy, Shea, Domaingue, Pariseau, Cashin, Robert, Hirschmann

**Absent:** Aldermen Sysyn, Soucy

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

Mayor Wieczorek advised if you desire to remove any of the following items from the Consent Agenda, please so indicate. If none of the items are to be removed, one motion only will be taken at the conclusion of the presentation.

### **Ratify and Confirm Poll**

- A. Conducted October 4, 1996 relative to a communication from the City Clerk, approving the utilization by "Kids Voting" of space at the corner of Concord and Elm Streets, free of charge, from October 8, 1996 through November 8, 1996, subject to insurance coverage, and approval of the Risk Manager and City Solicitor.

### **Informational to be Received and Filed.**

- B. Copy of a communication from Robert Howe to Associate Attorney General Ramsdell relative to an incident at the Empire Theater on July 5, 1996.
- C. Communication from Felix M. Torres expressing his appreciation for having been allowed to address the Board at its October 1st meeting.

### **REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES**

#### **COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

- D. Communication from Chief Driscoll, seeking approval to add one vehicle to the Police Department fleet for parking enforcement purposes.
- E. Communication from Robin Bonneau, Riverfest, Inc., submitting a proposal that the area adjacent to Stark Landing be official designated as "Riverfest Park".
- F. Communication from Alan H. Yeaton, submitting a two-part proposal for deveopment

of properties located at the intersection of West Mitchell Street and Wolcott Avenue as follows:

- (1) discontinue a portion of West Mitchell Street; and
- (2) purchase all or a part of the property owned by the City between the railroad and West Mitchell Street.

#### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**G.** Responses from City departments relative to potential FY97 budget cuts.

**H.** Resolutions:

“Amending the 1997 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds for various School Department Projects.”

“Amending the 1997 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of \$12,500 for the 1997 CIP 5.20201 Library Literacy Volunteers of America Project.”

“Amending the 1996 and 1997 Community Improvement Programs, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of \$50,000 for the 1997 CIP 7.50102 Sidewalk Fifty-Fifty Program.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars from the 1996 CIP 7.50101 School Sidewalk Construction Program to the 1997 CIP 7.50102 Sidewalk Fifty-Fifty Program.”

#### **COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL/INSURANCE**

**I.** Communication from Thomas Adams, Jr., Spokesperson for the Coalition of Organized Public Employees, requesting that the Aldermen appoint a special sub-committee to review a report on the conditions of employment in Manchester.

#### **COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/PUBLIC SAFETY**

**J.** Communication from Patricia Goley, American Towing, Inc., offering to provide their services to the City for all towing.

### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

#### **COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

**K.** Recommending that the Title I Program be increased by adding Manchester Science Institute FY 97 - \$7,500 Walker Foundation; NHJTC/Goal FY 97 - \$74,125; 1996 Special Education Summer School Program - \$119,868.98; 1996 Deaf and Hard of Hearing Summer School Program - \$14,968.00; and NYNEX/New Hampshire College Technology Grant - \$6,000.00, and for such purpose an amending resolution has been submitted.

**L.** Recommending that a request for acceptance and expenditure of grant funds in the amount of \$12,500 from the Bean Foundation for the 1997 CIP 5.20201 Library Literacy Volunteers of America Project be granted and approved; and for such purpose an amending resolution and budget authorization has been submitted.

**M.** Recommending that a request for sewer abatement for property located at 105 Taylor Street be approved in the amount of \$103.85. The Committee notes that such amount was recommended by the Environmental Protection Division.

- N.** Recommending that the Board accept the recommendations for Centralized Fleet Maintenance submitted by the Mayor as enclosed herein; and further, that the Municipal Fleet Maintenance Advisory Committee established through such recommendations look into cutting 20 percent of the vehicles in the City.
- O.** Recommending that a request of the Police Department to change the language in Chapter 20, Article II Sec. 20-30. Disposition when unclaimed., reducing time required to hold property from 60 to 30 days, be approved and referred to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for ordinance preparation.
- P.** Recommending that the Building Commissioner be directed to remove the vacant building adjacent to the Somerville Street Fire Station utilizing funds from the Dilapidated Building Account.
- Q.** Recommending that \$25,000.00 of the School Sidewalk Bond funds be utilized for the 50/50 Sidewalk Curb Program, and for such purpose an amending resolution and budget authorizations have been submitted.
- R.** Recommending that the Board of Mayor and Aldermen thank Laura Bascom for her offer of deeding property on Sheffield Road to the City, but advise that the City is not interested in accepting the land at this time.

**Warrant to be committed with abatements totaling \$5,659.14 to the Tax Collector for collection under the Hand and Seal of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.**

- T.** Warrant for Collection of Sewer Charges in the amount of \$97,720.43; with abatements as forwarded.

**HAVING READ THE CONSENT AGENDA, ON MOTION OF ALDERMAN SHEA, DULY SECONDED BY ALDERMAN PARISEAU, IT WAS VOTED THAT THE CONSENT AGENDA BE APPROVED.**

- S.** Recommending that a Universal Accessibility Advisory Board be established under the name of Access Manchester; such Board to be comprised of citizens, representatives from Planning, Building, Public Buildings Services, Elderly Services and Personnel, a designated Aldermanic liaison and the City's ADA Coordinator as Chairperson. The Committee notes that it is the intent that such Board shall provide reports to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen regarding handicapped accessibility issues.

Alderman Reiniger moved to amend the report to include the Highway and Traffic Departments. Alderman Domaingue duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Domaingue, it was voted to accept, receive and adopt the report of the Committee on Community Improvement Program as amended.

Brief presentation to be made by Dean Kamen relative to updating the Board on U.S. FIRST.

Mr. Kamen stated although it was late in the year wished to officially present the Clock which had the year and the recipient of each of the prior winners noting at the end of this year the City would have to move onto whoever would be next year's recipient and thought it would be appropriate to have all the teams who represented specifically the City of Manchester come and present it to the Board noting there were representatives from all of them including Public Service of New Hampshire with West High School, Osram Sylvania with Central, Light Machines with Memorial. Mr. Kamen stated it was a clock to remind people that time goes on and had to keep moving ahead and hopefully the Mayor would be present at Epcot Center on April 10, 11, 12, 1997.

Mayor Wieczorek stated, on behalf of the City, he would accept the award noting it was a very prestigious award and U.S. FIRST was a project he had supported and when he was the Mayor-elect in 1989 and talked to Dean about it indicated it was a program that would do Manchester very well and more importantly would fill a niche in a void which really needed to be filled, not only in our City and State, but our country as well and wished to thank Dean especially for being the motivator and prime mover of getting this project done, expressing his thanks to all of the young folks who have been involved as he knew from people previously involved it had turned their lives around because it turned out to be a project where they developed an interest in science which was very important. Mayor Wieczorek expressed his thanks to the companies who participated on a regular basis noting they did a tremendous job working with these young people and having been to each of the competitions at Epcot that the adults got as caught up in the process in the competition as the youngsters did and it was very nice to see everybody working together, the young people, the engineers, and all of those who put their time in to make the project the real success that it is. Mayor Wieczorek stated today at the Airport the Southern New Hampshire Convention and Visitors Bureau opened up an office at the Airport and what they would be trying to do would be for people to come here on business or pleasure, to stay in New Hampshire, Manchester to see some of the things that New Hampshire has to offer which fit right in with what was happening and later at the Center of New Hampshire there was another program where it was a premium edition of a book sponsored by Public Service, the Bank of New Hampshire and Business New Hampshire Magazine which dealt with products made in New Hampshire and U.S. FIRST would become a very important component and in having Manchester become part of a center where people would hopefully spend a day or two and give them something that would be of interest to them noting there were a lot of things here in our City and in the State and was really very, very pleased to see the way things were coming together because in his opinion over the years they would see something very good coming from it noting the competition got bigger and bigger every year and believed that they expected to have 200 teams for this coming year and commended Dean Kamen for the real good job he has done in getting the young people interested in science and math and the things that would hopefully move our country ahead and to all the companies hoped they would continue to sponsor the teams and to all of the young folks who have been involved in the competition

Mayor Wieczorek hoped that as they graduated and got out into the field that they would come back and be a part of working with the youngsters who would come along after them and was very pleased with the effort they all put in - our young people, the companies that sponsor it, Dean and his team who really put it together and accepted the award graciously and knew how important the award was and would cherish it until next April when they would have to give it away, but would be there for the competition.

Mr. Kamen stated moving forward he believed everybody had a handout of what had been done this year noting the important part was the letterhead itself which listed the people who were now on the Executive Advisory Board which included Paul Allaire who was not only the Chairman of Xerox, but the Chairman on the Council for Competitiveness and looking down through the list there was the President, Chairman or CEO of about 62 percent of the GNP of the United States who was sending teams to the competitions noting those individuals represented a fairly substantial cross section of some of the major companies in the United States which most of them having made personal commitments to participate and to help them. Mr. Kamen stated in terms of updates relative to the building in addition to the expected component he had another piece of news he hoped the Board would find interesting and exciting noting that one of the world's largest and most well-recognized toy company, a two billion privately-held company called Leggo happened to be a Danish Company, but they had a major national headquarters in Enfield, Connecticut had agreed to do two major things for them, actually three. One was they would sponsor the child care, the small version of the toddler room in the first piece of the building that would open in July and they were doing it because he had asked them to, but much more importantly than that was as the next phase of their program went on-line which was in July of 1998, they intended to have a technology camp where they would be inviting teachers from all over the United States to come in for two-week classes during the summer and would probably go as awards to recipients of various scholarships and awards given out to team who participate in the competition, but Leggo had agreed to sponsor and run that for them and would have a permanent space in the larger scale version of FIRST as they grew into the building. Thirdly, and perhaps the largest commitment, they had a lot of the companies they have been working with nationally and internationally who want to know what is U.S. FIRST going to do to appeal to the kids below high school age, but it was kind of too late to get kids interested when they were in high school and what would they do to go after the younger kids with the analogy being you can show them the NFL but you have to have fields for them to play in, you can show them the World Series, but they have to have Little League at home to get good at it and they obviously with the limited resources of FIRST cannot do that nationally, but they had put together the beginnings of a coalition between Leggo, a company which had a presence in 74 percent of the houses in the United States and the YMCA who had a very keen interest in supplying things in the future beside basketball and they may have a Leggo League which was a younger kids version of the FIRST competition which they would be coordinating again through the national headquarters facility and Leggo was particularly interested in sponsoring that noting he went over to Denmark to visit with them a few weeks ago and as a result of his trip to Europe he had another meeting with them here in the U.S. and they were planning to do an experimental

version of that competition at this coming year's Epcot. Mr. Kamen stated in terms of where they were on teams in the competition as pointed out by Mayor Wiczorek, they had ninety plus teams last year and one regional competition and among all of the CEO's and corporations that met this summer they agreed that in order to reach their goal of 2,000 teams in the year 2000 they needed to have regionals to make it easier for the mid-size companies and smaller companies to participate noting that at that meeting Motorola, one of the world's giant electronics company, their Chairman agreed that they would sponsor, completely fund and sponsor a mid-west regional in the Chicago area this year and would be doing in on March 6 thru 8, 1997 noting he had a press conference with the Governor of Illinois and executives from Motorola early this coming week. Johnson & Johnson the world's largest medical products company through some of their top management agreed to sponsor and host a regional in New Jersey for all the mid-Atlantic states and would be doing it at Rutgers University and Christie Whitman's office and a lot of the executives from their business community were at a press conference there a couple of weeks ago with he and some of their people and it looked like it would be quite an exciting regional and, of course, the New Hampshire regional would once again be in Manchester at New Hampshire College on March 13 thru 15, 1997. Mr. Kamen stated between all of those regionals and the finals which would be April 10 thru 12, 1997 they expect to have in excess of 200 companies participate this year. Among universities they expected at least a dozen and once again they expected the universities to make strong commitments. Last year, the President of Worcester Polytech announced that they would be giving a full four-year scholarship, something in the order of \$70,000 to one of the students that participated in the even, they did that, the student is now there and they were assured that they would do it again this year, an additional full four-year scholarship noting he was attempting to get other universities to do the same thing. Other highlights coming up soon, ESPN - they would have a one hour, last year they had a half-hour show, this year thanks to some pretty major sponsorship by some of their companies particularly Johnson & Johnson they would have a one-hour special which would be seen for the first time on ESPN on December 15th from ten to eleven which was right before all of the other competitive events, the football games and thought that was a pretty prime time to be there and hoped it would generate some serious interest and get them some more teams this year noting it would be on at two additional times. Mr. Kamen stated the model for First Place was here noting it was designed and developed by Applebaum, they would, as promised, would be moving in and opening the first 10,000 feet by July of this coming year with the theme being built around the competitions and it would be very different from the typical hands-on science center in that it had that specific theme but similar in the sense that people come in, they're engaged, they're involved, they have to participate and it really will be the first piece of the major program to form the entire FIRST headquarters. Mr. Kamen stated there were pictures, layouts and models which had been prepared noting they had taken the detailed specs of those models and given them to three local architects since they haven't selected which New Hampshire firm would be the actual architects to run the job, he didn't really want to say a lot about that at this time other than to assure that they would be one of the local ones and they would make that decision within the next few weeks, so they could be ready by July.

Mayor Wieczorek stated he wished to express his thanks for providing an update to the Board and letting them know that the project was on schedule and it would be what was expected, a world-class science museum with the beginning coming next July 1st.

Brief presentation to be made by Helen Hamilton and Michael McCluskey for the purpose of updating the Board on plans with respect to "Kids Voting" on November 5th.

Mr. McCluskey stated I'm with NYNEX here in Manchester, but for the purpose of tonight more importantly, I'm the founding Chair of Kids Voting New Hampshire and introduced Helen Hamilton who was the Project Manager for the program and was hoping to take the opportunity this evening to spend a couple of minutes explaining where they were with Kids Voting New Hampshire. Mr. McCluskey stated it was a non-partisan program and the objective for Kids Voting was to increase adult participation both today and in the future and thought the means of what they use to accomplish that is that they have students go through 10 to 13 hours of classroom curriculum and then they try to give them as realistic a voting experience on election day as is possible and they do that by having them go, sign in, actually get a ballot, they'll vote to President, they'll vote for Governor, they'll vote for the First Congressional District and here in Manchester they'll vote for City Charter approval or disapproval that is before them and they will actually put their ballots into voting machines and will tabulate those and report in the evening just like the adults would participate. The way that it increases adult participation is for the kids to go and vote, they have to go accompanied and if they're not, if they're non-high school with their parent on election day. They had started it out, the program was a little bit less than a year old. The first place in New Hampshire they tried it was on the west side here in Manchester and at that time they had four schools and about 4,000 students and was pleased to say that this fall on election day they will be in all of the public and parochial schools in the City of Manchester and would have 26 schools participating and would have over 20,000 kids involved in the program. So, obviously, a great expansion and they were hopeful that if it was successful here in Manchester that maybe some other towns would follow suit in the future, but Manchester was their primary source. At the end of the primary last year, they also sampled the people that took part to get their reactions both from parents and from the students, as well as School Administrators and in all of those categories they found a very good level of acceptance. They actually saw that it increased voter participation at the polls, they found that as students were discussing the issues in school they were going home and actually discussing things at home, so they thought it brought the level of knowledge and involvement of the whole family that leads up to it and they'd also seen an increase of people who come in and register as the kids kind of put the pressure on the parents about are they going to vote to get down there and register to vote. So, it's been a very successful program, but obviously to be successful, it requires a lot of help from various people and obviously the Manchester School system has been very supportive of this program, and thought they enjoyed it because it was a professional developed curriculum which was put together, the teachers had been very supportive of implementing the entire program and they'd received very good support from the business

community and also from the City of Manchester which has been exceptionally receptive, the Ward Moderators have all been very good about making sure to separate and help us set up those things and we knew we had to get their approval or it wasn't going to apply and they've been very supportive of us and the City's Clerk Office and really trying to make sure that we used voting machines and the ballots came as close to what the adults would participate in. So, again, I think it's been from our perspective something for less than a year old to think that we're actually going to have 20,000 students that are currently involved in the program be a successful one, but where some of you as leaders in Manchester we wanted to give you an opportunity, if there were questions that we could answer for your folks, either Helen or myself and we'd like to avail ourselves of that opportunity.

Mayor Wieczorek stated the first time he had heard of the program it sounded like a real good program as people continually asked why there was such a low percentage of participation in the political process noting that the group participating to the lowest percentage was the young group, over 18, 18 to 23 years old and thought that with the program outlined here thought if you get the young people in the habit of voting they will be an entirely new generation and hope they will participate in the political process and commended NYNEX for the important role its played in putting the program together, Helen, Michael and everybody involved in the process.

Alderman Elise commented that it was a wonderful program noting she personally would like to see it expanded to municipal government noting that one thing students did not receive was education relative to municipal government where they did receive education regarding state and federal governments and wished to commend those involved.

Brief presentation to be made by a representative of the Finance Department relative to the City's Aggregation Program.

Mr. Clougherty stated Mr. Sherman would walk through a presentation which was given to Alderman Elise's task force a while ago.

Mr. Sherman stated about 15 months ago Alderman Elise had started a committee having to deal with electric rates and had brought in representatives from the business community and the utilities, some utility lawyers to figure out what the City could do with the high cost of electricity noting the City itself spent about \$6 million a year on its electric bills which was spread out between the Airport, Water, sewer, Parks & Recreation, City Hall, all the Schools and street lighting but represented about four or five percent of the budget every year. The first screen was a calendar timeline they were operating on noting the first committee meeting Alderman Elise had on July 20, 1995 with other key dates the Board may recall that it authorized the Finance Officer, the City Solicitor, and the Industrial Agent to go out and hire some consultants to help the City deal with the Pilot Program and that contract was done on April 2nd. Mr. Sherman stated between April 2nd and July 17, 1996 about 3.5 months the City went through the Pilot Program and got its first participant cross over from PSNH to the City's supplier. In looking at July 25th and in less than a year had converted over their first customer.

To recap what the Pilot Program was indicated the Pilot Program went for two years, it started in May 1996 and would end in May 1998. What the PUC did was to take three percent load of each utility and threw them into the Pilot Program and then took each class in each utility and divided it up on a proportional basis and two three percent of each customer class. Half of the participants in the Pilot Program were going to sign up, they were going to call in indicating they wished to participate and through a random selection process they would have been selected and half of them were being selected from willing communities which were those who said they would want their residents to participate and they would submit their names as a community. Mr. Sherman stated Manchester had submitted its name, however, Manchester was not selected as one of those communities. As a background of the utilities in the State of New Hampshire and the amount of load they were required to put into the Pilot Program indicated it represented about 3 percent of their load - PSNH the largest utility in the State noting that was the utility provider for the City - communities could also be part of the program which was part of the Geographic Areas of Choice (GAC) which each utility would have within their service districts. Again, PSNH being the largest provider would have four GAC's. Manchester had put in to be one of those GAC's, but was not selected. The communities that were selected were Brookline, Peterborough, Nashua and Rochester was information received from the PUC itself and all customers in the franchised area were eligible, anybody that called in had an equal opportunity of being selected for the program. What PSNH did was to take all those customers that volunteered, willing participants, sent the file over to UNH who ran a random selection process. Approximately 17,000 customers were selected State-wide which was about 40,000 customers who had put in their names and out of those 80 communities there were seven communities that got selected, two communities for the coop area had not yet been selected as the coop had not been allowed to participate. Mr. Sherman stated breaking down the PSNH numbers they had 14,881 customer volunteer with a breakdown from the residential to the large general service type accounts, they had 72 eligible cities put in their names out of the 198 communities they had selected, so about 36 percent of the communities said they were interested in the program. Out of the 14,881 accounts there were 4,456 customers actually selected through the random process noting it did not count the customers that were selected through the GAC's. Within the City of Manchester limits there were 709 accounts that were selected, 629 were the residential accounts, 45 were general service accounts, 4 primary general service and 31 municipal accounts with the municipal accounts ranging from Hillside Junior High to City Hall to traffic lights and the Manchester participants represented 15.9 percent of all of the PSNH selected customers which was without getting a GAC. Mr. Sherman stated as far as the breakdown as part of the City's Aggregation Plan, City staff came to the Board back in May and proposed that the City aggregate the load that had been selected within the City. Once the Board adopted that plan, City staff went out and held a public hearing and tried to solicit out of the 709 accounts to join the City's Aggregation Plan. What they initially got was 153 residential accounts, 31 general services which did include 30 of the 31 municipal accounts and the one primary general service account which was Hillside Junior High. So, they started out with 192 accounts before they even knew what the rate would be. Since their rate had been published they had added 61 new residential accounts which meant that within the City's

Aggregation Program there was 36 percent of the accounts that were selected within the City and they had heard that about only 50 percent of all of the accounts that were selected had actually chosen a supplier and if those numbers were applied to the City accounts it meant that of those that had chosen a supplier within the City of Manchester they had over 70 percent in the City's plan. Mr. Sherman stated they selected six companies because they were the ones which actually bid on the Manchester accounts noting the next screen showed the commercial/ industrial rates being offered, on the next screen were the rates that the City got noting Green Mountain was sending through the mail .036 as the rate they were offering, the City got .0216 noting those were incredible rates. Tina Parsons and he had gone to a conference a couple of weeks back where there were customers as part of the Aggregation Program who were talking about the types of rates received noting that the first guy who spoke indicated he had gotten a two/four and the next one had said we got a two/two/eight and when Peter Grills who was representing the City in this issue got up and gave the City rates, both of those individuals nearly fell off their chairs noting the City was 10 percent higher than the Retail Merchants Association who had two/four and the City was five percent lower than what Ames Department Store was able to get and thought those were the lowest published fixed rates that anybody received under the Pilot Program. Mr. Sherman stated what they were able to negotiate was a scale if they were able to add more participants to the program the City's rates would continue to go down noting 61 more customers had already been added. As part of the program there was also a criteria for new load where if there were new accounts coming into Manchester that had a 100kw demand they would be eligible for the Pilot Program and knew that Jay Taylor was currently dealing with a couple of accounts, if not more, on those issues at the moment and hoped that once those got on board they would meet some of those thresholds and be able to lower the rate. A couple of things they had found out through the Pilot Program was the biggest problem that they've had was when people were getting their information through the mail they were confused, they just didn't know how to calculate their savings that they were going to get. The Pilot Program only dealt with the generation portion of your bill, it does not deal with the meters, it doesn't deal with the transmission or the distribution. If you're a Public Service customer it doesn't deal with the acquisition premium, when Northeast Utilities took over PSNH through the bankruptcy and people were confused. We found out that the public hearing was very helpful to them, the comments that we got back from that was the residents really appreciated that. We found out that the advertising that the City has done in this regard, again, to try to get people to participate worked. I know that between Jay and I we hit the radio stations, we hit WMUR, we hit The Union Leader several times, people read the ads and we had good participation as far as those folks calling in. One of the biggest things that we found is those communities that were selected as GAC's, they had participants that were thrown into a process that they were unfamiliar with. At least within the City, our participants had all gotten up and dialed in their account numbers and had taken an active role and those people out in the GAC's have kind of felt, obviously, not in all instances, but that they were kind of left hanging out there and we found that a lot of people have appreciated the fact that the City has stepped up to help them through this. Tina Parsons in our office has really done yeoman's duty as far as personal contact, she'll take a dozen calls a day, people with questions - how does it work, when is my bill going to change,

how come I'm getting two bills, can you explain my savings and I think the participants have really appreciated the effort that has been put in there. The program has not gone without its problems. Again, the first issue that we had was in the billing. Participants did not understand that they were going to be receiving two bills, they do actually still receive a bill from PSNH and they receive a bill from Green Mountain and again, the Green Mountain portion is just for the generation from the supply side and PSNH still does the billing for the meter reading, the meters itself and again transmission, distribution and any of the acquisition premiums or costs related to Seabrook. The other issue that we've had is cross over dates and that issues has obviously gone away. The Board accepted the contract on July 5th, after there was a process of noticing PSNH, getting the customers, noticing Green Mountain who the customers were and depending on when meter reading dates for specific individuals dependent on when the cross over was and that was confusion because we didn't have meter reading dates as part of our database. The last issue is publicity. This Aggregation Program has gotten not only national attention, but international attention. We have gotten calls from Tokyo, Sweden and they all see deregulation coming and they all want to know how Manchester has made it happen. We get a lot of surveys that have come, we have been asked to speak at conferences, we have done radio, TV and again national publications including energy type publications that they just marvel at what the City has been able to accomplish in this program. Now, from here what happens is...the real question is where do we go. PUC is currently in the process of looking at total deregulation of the electric industry, they have submitted a preliminary restructuring plan, the City has identified three main issues that we feel are crucial in not only keeping our costs down, but dealing with economic development and those types of issues. The first one is system reliability...you have to make sure that somebody is going to maintain the lines, cheap power doesn't do you any good if you can't get it into the City and we have some concerns in that regard. Once they start breaking up the utilities who's going to maintain those systems. Obviously, safety and environmental concerns. The second item is we obviously want to protect the City's right, the right to aggregate, the right to create its own municipal utility, if it so desires. We want to make sure that through this restructuring plan we don't lose any of those rights that we currently have. The third issue is stranded cost and this is where the big nut is. Stranded cost is pretty much the difference between the market value of the assets that the utilities have and the book value of the assets that the utility have. Obviously, as you come in and start to deregulate and we start buying our power elsewhere there are going to be generation facilities that won't be working up to capacity and there may be some stranded costs, investments that the utility have made that they cannot recoup through fees and charges. So, that's obviously a big issue and that is roughly about 40 to 50 percent of your electric bill right now and once you add in the acquisition premium, I think we're probably closer to 60 to 70 percent of your electric bills and, obviously, the City needs to deal with future aggregation if it's something that they want to consider doing once full deregulation takes effect or not and I'd be glad to answer any questions at this point, if anyone has any.

Alderman Wihby stated 30 out of 31 municipal accounts, what happened to the one.

Mr. Sherman replied that was the GV account that we had noting it's listed separately because it's a different account indicating Leo does have handouts of these slides, so you can take them with you.

Alderman Elise asked Mr. Sherman when did those 61 additional accounts come on.

Mr. Sherman replied what we did was once we got the rate, we signed that contract on July 3rd. We made another mailing to all eligible participants within the City and those accounts, the bulk of them came in late July and August, but they're still trickling in. I took an account call on Friday and got another participant who hasn't selected yet. So, we'll pick up maybe one or two a week at this point, not very many, but they are still coming in and a lot of these people had already selected another utility. But, they're not happy. Either they haven't gotten the service, nobody's answering their questions, they've never switched over and again, they're frustrated and confused.

Alderman Wihby stated so they can switch if they choose.

Mr. Sherman replied they can still switch as long as they haven't obligated to two-year commitments. A lot of the utilities were offering variable rates giving the individuals the right to get out and anybody who has that right certainly is still welcomed in the City's plan.

Alderman Elise stated one of the things I would like to point out, is the City has really done a great job on this issue and we should be really proud of this. I know that a lot of times we think we're behind the "8" ball on this and what are we going to do about that, but I put this in the lead compared to some of the other things that we've talked about this evening, Kids Voting and U.S. FIRST. This team - Finance Department, Solicitor's Office and Jay Taylor - really did a great job on this and we should be really proud of this. Another thing I do want to mention is that something this does get overlooked, PSNH did play a big role here in the success of the program, they did offer participation credit and they were very good with the changeovers, so they did play a role in the success here.

Mr. Sherman stated one thing I will say and I'm not sure if I did, the City on the average is saving 23 percent on their utility bills that got selected and that's residential and again anybody else. Ten percent of that savings does come directly from PSNH. In order to get the Pilot Program off the ground that was a concession they had made with the PUC to get the program going. The other 13 percent comes from the generation costs and the contract and the bidding process that the City went through.

Alderman Wihby stated not 23 percent of their total bill though, 23 percent of that portion...

Mr. Sherman stated 23 percent of the total bill. In contrast, at Alderman Elise's last committee meeting they had a councilman from Dover who was in. They had, at one point, thought about

doing aggregation, they didn't, they just went out to bid for their own City accounts and their savings was 17 percent.

Communication from the Deputy Finance Director submitting an Electric Industry Restructure Proceeding Cooperation and Coordination Agreement with an enclosed budget.

Mr. Sherman stated the Board back in August authorized the staff to start its participation in the restructuring program. At that point, we did not have a budget because we really didn't know what the restructuring plan was going to be, that PUC had put out. Now, that we have the plan our consultants have put together this budget for the Board's consideration. Knowing that there was going to be some substantial dollars involved in this, we went out to the enterprise funds in the City and asked for their participation. Obviously, folks like the Airport, Water, EPD are big users of electricity and we also met with the Mayor of Nashua who was very interested in playing a role with Manchester in this regard. We've met with Nashua and the enterprise funds on several occasions with the exception of Water who we will be dealing with on October 23rd, all of the enterprise funds have said they are willing to ante up their fair share based on usage. The City of Nashua has agreed to contribute 40 percent of this budget so that they can have some participation in the restructuring docket, as well and the 40 percent was based on an allocation of population, we just didn't know how else to come up with any type of fair distribution of the cost there. Nashua has already accepted the budget and the agreement that has been worked out by the Solicitor's Office, that agreement is enclosed here and I will mention that in the agreement it is stamped draft, it does have a number in there of \$275,000 for the budget, but I believe Nashua has changed that to the \$285,000 that you see in the attached budget put together by the consultants.

Alderman Pariseau moved to approved the agreement and budget as presented. Alderman Wihby duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Reiniger duly recorded as abstaining.

Confirmation of nomination of A. Joseph Dion to fill a vacant position as a member of the Planning Board, term to expire May 1,1997.

Alderman Hirschmann moved to confirm the nomination of A. Joseph Dion to fill a vacant position as a member of the Planning board, term to expire May 1, 1997. Alderman Robert duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Confirmation of nominations to the Manchester Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee as follows:

Joseph G. Fremeau  
Peter R. Madden  
Edward N. O'Brien  
Denis O. Robinson, Esq.

Alderman Shea moved to confirm the nominations of Joseph G. Freneau, Peter R. Madden, Edward N. O'Brien and Denis O Robinson as members of the Manchester Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee. Alderman Reiniger duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Confirmation of nominations to the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission, terms to expire June 30, 2000 as follows:

David Boutin  
Victor Goulet

Alderman Wihby moved to confirm the nominations of David Boutin and Victor Goulet as members of the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission, terms to expire June 30, 2000. Alderman Pariseau duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Wihby, it was voted to recess the regular meeting to allow the Committee on Finance to meet.

Mayor Wieczorek called the meeting back to order.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

A report of the Committee on Finance was presented recommending that Resolutions:

“Amending the 1997 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds for various School Department Projects.”

“Amending the 1997 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of \$12,500 for the 1997 CIP 5.20201 Library Literacy Volunteers of America Project.”

“Amending the 1996 & 1997 Community Improvement Programs, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of \$50,000 for the 1997 CIP 7.50102 Sidewalk Fifty-Fifty Program.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars from the 1996 CIP 7.50101 School Sidewalk Construction Program to the 1997 CIP 7.50102 Sidewalk Fifty-Fifty Program.”

ought to pass and be Enrolled.

On motion of Alderman Domaigne, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to accept, receive and adopt the report of the Committee on Finance.

Communication from the City Clerk, requesting that the Board schedule its first meeting in November on Wednesday, November 6th due to the State General Election being held on Tuesday, November 5, 1996.

On motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Shea, it was voted to schedule the first meeting in November on Wednesday, November 6, 1996 due to the State General Election being held on Tuesday, November 5, 1996.

Communication from the City Clerk, requesting the Board's permission that a memo be distributed to all City employees via payroll checks notifying them that there are still Sesquicentennial commemorative items remaining which could be purchased as Christmas gifts.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Wihby, it was voted to approve the City Clerk's request that a memo be distributed to all City employees via payroll checks.

Communication from the Deputy Finance Director advising of the receipt of funds in the amount of \$500.00 for the D.A.R.E. Program, requesting the Board accept same and remand for the purpose intended.

On motion of Alderman Robert, duly seconded by Alderman Hirschmann, it was voted to accept the funds and remand them for the purpose intended.

Communication from the Deputy Finance Director advising of the receipt of funds in the amount of \$34,514.55 in Drug Forfeiture funds, requesting the Board accept same and remand for the purpose intended.

On motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Shea, it was voted to accept the funds and remand them for the purpose intended.

Communication from the Deputy Finance Director advising of the receipt of funds in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the K-9 Unit, requesting the Board accept same and remand for the purpose intended.

On motion of Alderman Robert, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to accept the funds and remand them for the purpose intended.

Communication from Karen Golz, Chairman, Manchester Development Corporation (MDC), indicating that the MDC Board would welcome an opportunity to meet with the Board of Mayor and Aldermen to outline some ideas for moving forward and to allow the Aldermen an opportunity to provide their thoughts and suggestions.

On motion of Alderman Robert, duly seconded by Alderman Wihby, it was voted to schedule a meeting with the MDC Board at a future date.

Communication from Michael Roche, requesting a paid leave of absence to attend a benefits conference for public employees in San Diego, California from November 10-14, 1996.

The Clerk distributed a handout from Bob Beurivage, Assistant Director of the Manchester Water Works recommending a one day paid leave of absence.

Alderman Pariseau moved to approve the Water Works recommendation to grant one day paid leave of absence to Mr. Roche. Alderman Wihby duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Cashin asked if there were any other City employees who would be attending the conference.

Mr. Moran stated he had checked with Mr. Stanton this morning and believe Mr. Roche was the only individual planning to attend.

Alderman Cashin stated he ought to be allowed his request noting that there were others who paid who went and asked why should this person be an exception.

Mayor Wiczorek called for a vote on the motion. The motion carried with Aldermen Shea and Cashin duly recorded in opposition.

Resolutions:

“Amending the 1997 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds for various School Department Projects.”

“Amending the 1997 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of \$12,500 for the 1997 CIP 5.20201 Library Literacy Volunteers of America Project.”

“Amending the 1996 & 1997 Community Improvement Programs, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of \$50,000 for the 1997 CIP 7.50102 Sidewalk Fifty-Fifty Program.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars from the 1996 CIP 7.50101 School Sidewalk Construction Program to the 1997 CIP 7.50102 Sidewalk Fifty-Fifty Program.”

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted that the Resolutions be read by titles only, and it was so done.

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy, it was voted that the Resolutions pass and be Enrolled.

Mayor Wiczorek nominated the following as members of the Personnel Appeals Board:

William Varkas to succeed himself, term to expire March 1, 1998;  
Pauline Guay to succeed herself, term to expire March 1 1998; and  
Paul S. Boynton to succeed himself, term to expire March 1, 1999.

Under the rules, these nominations were to lay over to the next meeting.

Ratification of agreement with MAPS in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented on October 1, 1996.

Alderman Clancy moved to ratify the agreement with MAFS in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented on October 1, 1996. Alderman Wihby duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Robert duly recorded in opposition.

Ratification of agreement with PBS in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented on October 1, 1996.

Alderman Wihby moved to ratify the agreement with PBS in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented on October 1, 1996. Alderman Domaingue duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Aldermen Cashin, Robert and Hirschmann duly recorded in opposition.

Alderman Hirschmann stated the department head had told him that if the agreement were passed, it would come out of his budget and as a result less cleaning would occur which was why he was in opposition to this item.

Alderman Cashin commented they certainly couldn't do any less cleaning than what they were doing now.

### **TABLED ITEMS**

Ordinance: (Note: Tabled 3/19/96 pending submission of agreements.)

“Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Manchester by extending the B-2 (General Business) zoning district to include portions of the lots currently zoned I-3 (General Industrial) and I-2 (Industrial Park) on the southerly side of Huse Road and the easterly side of South Willow Street.”

This item remained on the table.

On motion of Alderman Elise, duly seconded by Alderman Wihby, it was voted to remove the following item from the table for discussion.

Report of the Committee on Accounts, Enrollment and Revenue Administration recommending that the City of Manchester adopt the Revenue Policy submitted by the Finance Department as herein enclosed.  
(Note: Tabled 10/1/96 pending further language from the Finance Office, a revised policy enclosed herein.)

Mr. Clougherty stated at the last meeting a proposed Revenue Policy had been presented to the Board for adoption and at that time there was one question as to whether or not they should provide for public hearings with respect to major sources of revenue which would be coming forward noting that they had reviewed the policy and had included in the policy the statement which was on the single sheet, the first line "that anything brand new would have a public hearing". Mr. Clougherty stated they had also talked to the City Solicitor's Office who suggested another option be provided to the Board which would say if they didn't want to require public hearings on everything they could require public hearings on those things were new or substantial and if it were recommended by the Committee on Accounts and Revenue, so the Board had two options before them now noting that either one was perfectly acceptable to the Finance Department and would be consistent with the policy and thought one was more inclusive than the other and offered those two options to the Board as a result of their directive a couple of weeks ago.

Alderman Hirschmann moved to amend the report of the Committee on Accounts, Enrollment and Revenue Administration to include Option 2, and to accept the report as amended.

Alderman Pariseau duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Cashin duly recorded in opposition.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Resolution:

“Continuation of the Central Business Service District.”

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted that the Resolution be read by title only, and it was so done.

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to adopt the Resolution.

Alderman Reiniger moved to adopt the Resolution. Alderman Pariseau duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Domaingue duly recorded in opposition.

Alderman Cashin stated he had voted against the auto registration fees noting he had supported the motion at the Finance Committee level that the communication from Alderman Elise be received and filed as a result of the impact it would have on the budget noting he did not wish to have anyone misunderstand his motives and was still opposed to the auto registration fees.

Alderman Shea in reference to the school cleanliness issued noted all Board members had received copies of it and it was shocking to read that some of the schools were still not being adequately cleaned and was unsure as to why and was unsure if there should be some sort of a directive sent to Mr. Houle so that some of the problems could be corrected noting some were long-standing, floors weren't being cleaned, gymnasiums, bathrooms indicating it was unacceptable and someone had to be accountable.

Alderman Domaingue agreed with Alderman Shea, but last month's report seemed to have a conflict in what they were reporting in the cleanliness report and what she had actually seen when she walked through the door and what the Principal had agreed to, so she had questions as to the manner in which the reports were being presented, but if they wanted to talk about accountability and about supervisory control then they would need start with the School Board who had felt it was more necessary to give out an administrative pay raise of \$3,000 than to purchase \$3,000 worth of paper which also made great headlines as far as blaming the Aldermanic Board for the amount of paper the School Department didn't have and saw no one raising the question where she certain did as to why they would decide to spend the \$3,000 on an administrative raise rather than purchasing much needed paper for the school district, so if they were going to talk about accountability they would need to point in the direction of the

School Board and ask them if their sincerity over there also transcends into such issues as school paper.

Alderman Robert stated he felt this issues would continue to be a political football for years to come with some people unless a certain result is reached and if the Board would like, if they wanted to refer it to CIP and could speak to Dick Houle regarding this issue and could search for reasonable solutions.

Alderman Cashin stated these forms were filled out by the Principals of the schools and to say it was posturing was not fair noting that it was his understanding that the Superintendent had asked the Principals to fill out the forms and asked would the Board criticize the Principals every time they sent something down to this Board.

Alderman Robert stated he would not comment, but if the Board wished to refer it to the CIP Committee they would review the issue.

Alderman Shea stated Mr. Baines at West High School had indicated his school was ready to open and he had forwarded the following report: number of cleaning employees (8), number at the end of the month (8), days without a crew (3), floors - not acceptable, halls - not acceptable, gymnasium - not acceptable, waste paper baskets not emptied - not acceptable, the usual horizontal surfaces dusted - not acceptable, bathrooms - not acceptable, toilet paper and towel stock - not acceptable. Alderman Shea stated that report was received by him which was at the end of September.

Mayor Wiczorek stated the Board had to remember there had been over \$2 million worth of construction work over there noting Mr. Baines had understood that there would be problems because of the work going on.

On motion of Alderman Domaingue, duly seconded by Alderman Robert, it was voted to refer the matter relative to school cleanliness to the Committee on Community Improvement Program.

Alderman Elise stated at the meeting of the Committee on Accounts, Enrollment and Revenue Administration members of the School Board were present this evening to review their budget as there had been significant problems at the School Department over the past couple of weeks specifically in reference to Special Education and felt that the Special Ed budget was infringing upon their budget with respect to providing items such as paper, textbooks, etc. and wished to inform the Board that the Committee would be reviewing the matter further.

Alderman Clancy stated in reference to Wilson School he had received a phone call from School Board member Kathy Labanaris who had told him she had gone down to the school noting the sidewalk were good, however, all of the trees that had been planted had decayed due to lack of watering, so he in turn contacted Mr. Houle who mentioned the roof was still leaking.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy, it was voted to recess the meeting to discuss union negotiations with the Chief Negotiator.

Mayor Wieczorek called the meeting back to order.

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Alderman Shea, duly seconded by Alderman Domaingue, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk