

BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

November 6, 1996

7:30 PM

Mayor Wieczorek called the meeting to order in joint session with the Library Trustees.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Board of Aldermen: Ald. Elise, Reiniger, Sysyn, Clancy,
Soucy, Shea, Domaingue, Pariseau, Cashin, Hirschmann

Library Trustees: Karen Sheehan-Lord, Kathleen Sullivan,
Dr. Virginia Theo-Steelman, Madeleine Roy, Kevin Devine

Absent: Ald. Wihby and Robert
Library Trustee Romeo Dorval

Mayor Wieczorek advised that nominations were in order to fill a vacancy of the Manchester City Library Board of Trustees; such nominee to succeed John B. Howe, term to expire October 1, 2003.

Library Trustee Sheehan-Lord moved to nominate Roger Duhaime to succeed John B. Howe, term to expire October 1, 2003 as a member of the Manchester City Library Board of Trustees.

Ms. Sheehan-Lord stated Mr. Duhaime was a Vice-President for Commercial Lending with Citizens Bank residing at 736 Belmont Street and a resident of Ward 4 in the City of Manchester noting that Mr. Duhaime has been very active in community affairs for a number of years and was present this evening if anyone had questions to ask of him.

Ald. Sysyn duly seconded the motion.

Ald. Cashin moved to suspend the rules and confirm the nomination of Roger Duhaime to fill a vacancy of the Manchester City Library Board of Trustees, term to expire October 1, 2003. Ald. Pariseau duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Ms. Sheehan-Lord stated the Library Trustees were very interested in having a representative from the Board of Aldermen to act as a liaison with their Board of Trustees noting it was in their By-Laws. She commented that Alderman Shea had had a lifelong

interest in the Library and that they would be very interested in having him serve as their liaison for the Board's consideration.

Ald. Pariseau moved that Ald. Shea be named as a liaison to the Manchester City Library Board of Trustees. Ald. Cashin duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the joint session, on motion of Ald. Domaingue, duly seconded by Ald. Pariseau, it was voted to adjourn.

Mayor Wieczorek called the regular meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen to order.

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

Present: Ald. Elise, Reiniger, Sysyn, Clancy, Soucy, Shea, Domaingue, Pariseau, Cashin, Hirschmann

Absent: Ald. Wihby and Robert

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.

Approve under Supervision of Department of Highways

- A. Public Service Company of NH Petition #11-790.

Informational to be Received and Filed

- B. Communication from the City Clerk advising that the City Clerk's Office, unless otherwise order by the Board, will not be issuing the residential parking permits as the Police Department is willing to issue the permits.
- C. Communication from the Finance Officer advising that the 1996 tax rate for the City of Manchester has been set at \$30.84.
- D. Communication from the Health Officer submitting the recently completed Management and Operating Systems Audit report of the Manchester Health Department.

- E.** Communication from the Manchester Transit Authority submitting minutes of their September 24, 1996 meeting along with the Financial and Ridership Reports for the month of September 1996.

REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION/INFORMATION SYSTEMS

- F.** Communication from Alderman Robert requesting the Board's consideration of his proposal to ban video poker machines completely within the city limits of Manchester.

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

- H.** Communication from the Health Officer, requesting the Board authorize acceptance of a grant in the amount of \$1,019 from the Cogswell Benevolent Trust for lead poisoning prevention and remand to the Department for the purpose intended.
- I.** Communication from the Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation & Cemetery, submitting a request from New England Telephone/NYNEX, Right-of-Way Department for an easement to construct a utility building in Livingston Park along the D.W. Highway.
- J.** Copy of a communication from the Deputy Chief of Police Robinson, advising of a grant award in the amount of \$109,081.00 from the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office under the Violence Against Women Act, Federal FY96, and requesting authorization for the Mayor to execute such documents as may be required.
- K.** Communication from the Director of the Manchester School of Technology requesting authorization to obtain a "G" plate for a 1992 Dodge van for use in the GOAL Program.
- L.** Communication from the Water Works Director seeking approval of a renewal lease between the City of Manchester, Manchester Water Works and Camp Carpenter Trustees for 20.8 acres of land located on the east side of Bodwell Road.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

- O.** Resolutions:

“Amending the 1991, 1995 and 1997 Community Improvement Programs, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of \$40,758.99 for certain CIP projects.”

“Amending the 1996 Community Improvement Program, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of \$13,985 for the 1996 CIP 8.20401 Archival Record Retrieval Project.”

“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 for the 1997 CIP 2.10606 Cultural Diversity Task Force.”

“Amending the 1997 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds for the 1997 4.20105 Juvenile Jail Removal.”

“Amending the 1997 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of \$500,000 for the 1997 CIP 7.30260 Residential Sound Insulation.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of \$24,659.47 from the 1996 CIP 8.30366 Hallsville School Handicapped Accessibility Project to the 1997 CIP 5.10153.4 Urban Parks - Wolfe Park.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Twenty Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Three Dollars (\$20,843.00) from Contingency to the Police Department for a U. S. Dept. of Justice, Local Law Enforcement Block Grant.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Fifty Eight Thousand Dollars (\$58,000.00) from Contingency to the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Departments.”

COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/PUBLIC SAFETY

- P.** Communication from Rick Gelinas regarding neighborhood parking problems in the residential area surrounding the Federal building.
- Q.** Communication from Marie Wingate submitting a petition on behalf of area residents requesting a 3-way traffic signals at the intersection of Bridge and Belmont Streets.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION/INFORMATION SYSTEMS

- R.** Recommending that Section 14-207 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester, relative to Taxicab drivers licenses, be amended to clarify the intent of the ordinance to comply with National Institute of Drug Abuse standards in the City's drug testing programs, and that the same be referred to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for ordinance preparation.

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

- S.** Recommending that a request for acceptance and expenditure of grant funds in the amount of \$13,985 from the Samuel P. Hunt and Parker Nelson Foundations for the 1996 CIP 8.20401 Archival Record Retrieval project be granted and approved; and for such purpose an amending resolution and budget authorization has been submitted.

- T.** Recommending that a request for acceptance and expenditure of grant funds by increasing Title II Eisenhower Math & Science Education FY 97 from \$95,700.00 to \$103,790.00, and by adding Title VI - Innovative Education Program Strategies FY97 - \$108,173.75 and FLAG (Foreign Language Assistance Grant) - \$469,645.00 be granted and approved; and for such purpose an amending resolution has been submitted.
- U.** Recommending that a request for acceptance and expenditure of grant funds by increasing the 1997 CIP 2.10606 Cultural Diversity Task Force from \$1,500 to \$1,900 be granted and approved; and for such purpose an amending resolution and budget authorization has been submitted.
- V.** Recommending that a request for acceptance and expenditure of State funds by adding the 1997 CIP 4.20105 Juvenile Jail Removal - \$48,550.32 be granted and approved; and for such purpose an amending resolution and budget authorization has been submitted.
- W.** Recommending that a request amending the 1997 CIP 7.30260 Residential Sound Insulation changing the budget from \$2,500,000 FAA and \$300,000 MAA to \$2,000,000 FAA and \$800,000 MAA be granted and approved; and for such purpose an amending resolution and budget authorization has been submitted.
- X.** Recommending that bond funds from the Hallsville School Handicapped Accessibility Project and cash funds from the Energy Conservation Program be transferred to Wolfe Park (\$30,000.00), West High Lab Equipment (\$8,000.00) and Crystal Lake Project (\$2,758.99). The Committee notes that such recommendation is based on a report from the Planning Director enclosed herein. For such purpose resolutions and budget authorizations have been submitted.
- Y.** Recommending that a 3-year lease extension with amendment initiating January 1, 1997 between the University of new Hampshire and the City of Manchester for the Hackett Hill Fire Station be approved; and further that the Mayor be authorized to execute same on behalf of the City, subject to the review and approval of the city Solicitor.
- Z.** Recommending that the City exercise its option for a lease extension agreement between the City of Manchester and Carnoustie LLC for space for Elderly Services initiating November 1, 1996 through October 31, 2001 at a cost of \$47,591.25 annually plus a proportionate share of any increase in real estate taxes above the base year 1995, be approved; and further that the Mayor be authorized to execute same on behalf of the City, subject to the review and approval of the City Solicitor.
- AA.** Recommending that proposed revisions to Chapter 21A of the Sewer Use Ordinance have been approved and requests they be referred to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for ordinance preparation.
- AB.** Recommending that in accordance with RSA 80:80 the Mayor be authorized to dispose of a certain property situated at 243 East High School, known as Map #410, Lot 7, by executing a deed releasing all rights, title, interest, or claims in said property. Said property owned by Bryan P. Durette and Nancy Hendrickson was acquired by the City of Manchester by virtue of Tax Collector's deed dated April 17, 1992 and recorded in the Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds on May 15, 1992, in Volume 5341, Page 0018.

The Committee recommends that said property be disposed of through sale to owner of abutting property, Moses Coltey, at a price of One-Thousand, Five-Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00), the only offer received on the property and determined to be a fair compensation for same by the Board of Assessors. The

Committee recommends that such sale be subject to consolidation of the properties into one lot.

The Committee advises that it has found just cause to sell such property to an abutter as it would benefit only an abutter, will place the property back on the tax roles, and provide for consolidation of lot lines.

The Committee further recommends that the Tax Collector and City Solicitor be authorized to proceed with disposition and prepare such documents as may be required, and that the Finance Officer be authorized to credit tax deed accounts as deemed necessary, following adoption of an ordinance. The Committee also recommends that this report be forwarded to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for ordinance preparation.

- AC.** Recommending that in accordance with RSA 80:80 the Mayor be authorized to dispose of certain properties situated at Chestnut Street and River Road, known as Map #222, Lots 52 & 79, by executing a deed releasing all rights, title, interest, or claims in said properties. Said properties formerly owned by Beverly Van Cor were acquired by the City of Manchester by virtue of Tax Collector's deeds dated April 17, 1992 and recorded in the Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds on November 21, 1994, in Volume 5593, Pages 1663 and 1664.

The Committee recommends that said properties be disposed of through sale to owners of abutting property at 1371 North River Road, currently known as Mr. and Mrs. Roland P. Cloutier, at a price of Four-Thousand, One-Hundred, Fifty-two Dollars and Fifteen cents (\$4,152.15), the only offer received on the properties and determined to be a fair compensation for same by the Board of Assessors. The Committee recommends that the sale be subject to an agreement to demolish a structure on the property commonly referred to as a collapsed barn and consolidation of the properties into one lot.

The Committee advises that it has found just cause to sell such property to an abutter as it would benefit only an abutter, will place the properties back on the tax roles, and provide for consolidation of the lot lines.

The Committee further recommends that the Tax Collector and City Solicitor be authorized to proceed with disposition and prepare such documents as may be required, and that the Finance Officer be authorized to credit tax deed accounts as deemed necessary, following adoption of an ordinance. The Committee also recommends that this report be forwarded to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for ordinance preparation.

- AD.** Recommending that in accordance with RSA 80:80 the Mayor be authorized to dispose of certain property situated at 398-400 Hanover Street, known as Map #289, Lot 15, by executing a deed releasing all rights, title, interest, or claims in said properties. Said properties formerly owned by 727 Realty Trust, Gerald Parker Trustee, were acquired by the City of Manchester by virtue of Tax Collector's deeds dated April 28, 1989 and recorded in the Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds on April 18, 1996, in Volume 5701, Page 0239.

The Committee recommends that said property be disposed of through sale to owners of abutting property at 400 Hanover Street, Karen Kean-Gould, at a price of One Dollar (\$1.00), determined to be a fair compensation for same by the Board of Assessors. The Committee recommends that the sale be subject to an agreement to demolish a structure on the property for which the city will pay Two-Thousand, Six-Hundred Dollars (\$2,600.00) from the Building Department Demolition Account and consolidation of the properties into one lot.

The Committee advises that it has found just cause to sell such property to the abutter because the property contains a jointly-owned structure considered to be a dilapidated building presenting a blight and hazard to the neighborhood.

The Committee further recommends that the Tax Collector and City Solicitor be authorized to proceed with disposition and prepare such documents as may be required, and that the Finance Officer be authorized to credit tax deed accounts as deemed necessary, following adoption of an ordinance. The Committee also recommends that this report be forwarded to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for Ordinance preparation.

- AF.** Recommending that a request from Beverley Hanson, Right-of-Way Manager for NYNEX to obtain an easement on the north end of Pickering Road/Goodwin Street for the placement of a concrete pad with a cross-connect cabinet be approved, subject to the review and approval of the City Solicitor and Highway Department.

COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL/INSURANCE

- AG.** Advising that it has requested the Quality Management Team, working with the Personnel Director, to prepare an RFP for a study of the City's Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan. It is intended that the Quality Management Team will provide further report to the Personnel Committee for consideration.
- AH.** Recommending that it has approved the following items in actions taken on agenda PC 7-96 for Parks, Recreation & Cemetery and Police Departments.

COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/PUBLIC SAFETY

- AI.** Recommending that a request of Alderman Shea for review of the Noise Ordinance for potential changes to address the needs of residents bordering industrial areas be referred to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading, with a report to be made by a staff team consisting of MEDO, Planning Department, Police Department, Building Department, City Solicitor and the Mayor's Office; such report to be made in thirty (30) days.
- AJ.** Advising that Ordinance:
 "Establishing the maximum fees which may be charged to towing a motor vehicle without the consent or authorization of the owner or operator."
 has been approved; and recommending that the Ordinance be referred to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for technical review.
- AL.** Advising that a request of Grace Episcopal Church to install three church signs as outlined herein was considered and the Committee recommends approval of two signs at the intersection of Elm Street and the Amoskeag Bridge on the eastbound side and at the intersection of Elm Street and Queen City Avenue on the westbound side, subject to the approval of the Traffic Director.

- AM.** Recommending that a request by Claudia Lee for the closure of Elm Street from Merrimack to Bridge Streets as enclosed herein from 2:30 PM on Tuesday, December 31, 1996 until Wednesday, January 1, 1997 at 1:00 AM in conjunction with First Night Concord/ Manchester 1997 be approved under the supervision of the Police Department.
- AO.** Recommending that certain regulations governing standing, stopping and parking, be adopted and put into effect when duly advertised.

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

- G.** Communication from the City Solicitor seeking authorization to apply for and to accept a grant from the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency to hire a motor vehicle prosecutor in order to further traffic safety in our community.

Ald. Reiniger stated the City Solicitor asked him to pull this item so that the Solicitor may be able to address it further as he understood they would like to move in a very quick fashion to seek the funds.

Assistant Solicitor Arnold stated it was a grant that would allow the City Solicitor's Office to hire a prosecutor, specifically for traffic related offenses; that the grant funds expire on September 1997, no matter when they received them. In other words, the longer they wait to get approval to accept the funds the less they would be able to use - it was not a year from the date from which they would receive the grant. The grant was one hundred percent (100%) funded including the salary of the prosecutor and benefits and was renewable for a period of up to three years meaning they would have to apply every year and there was no obligation to keep on the individual who would be hired after the funds ran out and as the funds became essentially unusable the longer they delayed asked for the Board's approval of this item this evening.

Ald. Reiniger moved to approve the request seeking authorization to apply for and accept a grant from the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency to hire a motor vehicle prosecutor in order to further traffic safety in our community. Ald. Domaingue duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

- M.** Communication from Andre Gelinias submitting a petition on behalf of Mystic Street area residents requesting attention be given to the public way east of South Beech Street in way of alignment and construction of sidewalks in order to ensure the safety of those in the area.

Ald. Pariseau moved that the communication from Mr. Gelin as be concurrently referred to the Committee on Community Improvement Program and the Committee on Traffic/Public Safety. Ald. Shea duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

- N. Communication from Peter Wyso submitting a draft lease for the use of Gill Stadium and a draft of an agency agreement in conjunction with professional baseball coming to Manchester.

Ald. Reiniger stated the City of Manchester had recently been generating interest on the idea of a professional baseball team noting one such group being led by Peter Wyso and had pulled this item from the Consent Agenda as Mr. Wyso was present this evening and had indicated he would be willing to listen to any particular concerns which might be brought up and could respond to such questions at the Board's pleasure.

Mayor Wiczorek stated he felt it should be referred to the Committee, so that it could be discussed at the Committee level before being presented to the full Board noting a lot of weight to be given to this item would be the recommendation coming from the Committee assuming all the details could be worked out and did not think they wanted to bring it in at the Board level.

Ald. Elise stated as Mr. Wyso was present she indicated she would not mind hearing a brief presentation by him this evening, as a courtesy. Mayor Wiczorek reiterated that the proper procedure was to refer it to the Committee and the Parks & Recreation Commission and make their full presentation there.

Ald. Elise stated she knew that not all Aldermen were able to attend sub-committee meetings to hear such presentations, noting Mr. Wyso had traveled to Manchester and reiterated she would be willing to hear from Mr. Wyso.

Ald. Reiniger moved that the communication from Mr. Wyso be referred to the Committee on Community Improvement Program. Ald. Cashin duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Report of Committee on Community Improvement Program

- AE. Recommending that a request of Walter Bachta for reimbursement in the amount of \$168.75 resulting from a flooding problem in his basement be denied.

Ald. Hirschmann stated he did not have the experience to know what the procedure was noting all he was trying to do with the action was as a result of there being two people in

their 80's who suffered a loss because the City of Manchester's sewer pipes were blocked and as a result their whole basement filled up with water because the City's pipes were blocked with grease from abutters flushing food into the sewer system noting he had gone to the Bachta's home on a Friday night and had seen what had occurred and felt it was reasonable that \$168.75 could be afforded by the City and he was not asking that the City cut a check for these people, but rather was asking if future sewer fees could be deleted until it reached the \$168.75 amount they had to pay out.

Mayor Wieczorek stated he believed it was referred as a claim to the Risk Manager's department and after having had an opportunity to review it, they found there was no grounds for the claim noting the problems with items of this nature was if they started making exceptions then everything that would be done would be done so by exception rather than having a policy which would go along noting he those Mr. and Mrs. Bachta and they were wonderful people, but thought if the Board were to start making exceptions to the policy the City currently had they would have a tough time because when requests such as this one was received they were referred to the Risk Manger who in turn referred them to those individuals who settled the claims who came back with their recommendations.

Ald. Hirschmann asked that a letter of explanation be sent to Mr. and Mrs. Bachta regarding the denial of their claim.

Ald. Hirschmann moved to accept, receive, and adopt the report of the Committee on Community Improvement Program. Ald. Shea duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Report of Committee on Traffic/Public Safety

AK. Advising that Ordinance:

“Amending an Ordinance Regulating Traffic Upon the Public Streets of the City of Manchester by replacing Sections 54, 57, 59 and 63 of Article VIII. Parking Meters and Regulations Governing the Use Thereof.”

has been approved; and recommends that such amendment be referred to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for technical review.

Ald. Elise stated I just wanted to express my opposition to this ordinance. This is an amendment to the parking meters and regulations governing the use of the meters and there is a phrase in the ordinance that states “use of such parking meters would be to reduce over parking.” I am in favor of utilizing meters to turn over parkers in areas where you need that type of turnover, but I feel that the City has gone to installing meters and increasing the cost of the meter fees to obtain revenue and I feel that that is detrimental and this ordinance, it's not consistent with the policy of the City, at this time,

to obtain revenue. If it was truly to turn over parkers in areas that need turnover, I would be in agreement to it, so I just wanted to express my opposition to it.

Ald. Sysyn stated the reason we did this as far as Downtown was so that people would be encouraged to use the garages and would leave spaces available for businesses Downtown. Also, there were a lot of people utilizing parking in front of people's houses for hours and worked Downtown.

Ald. Elise stated I do understand that putting in meters to turn spaces over for needed areas, but I feel that the City has turned to installing meters and increasing the cost of meter fees for revenue and I do understand what you're saying, Mary, but that is just my opinion.

Ald. Sysyn moved to accept, receive and adopt the report of the Committee on Traffic/Public Safety. Ald. Pariseau duly seconded the motion. The motion carried, with Ald. Elise recorded in opposition.

AN. Advising that it has approved a parking proposal for City employees, submitted by the Quality management Team, allowing for parking at the Hartnett Lot, Canal Street Garage, Victory Garage, Center of NH Garage and Pearl Street Lot as assigned and outlined herein.

The Committee notes that such action was based on the underutilization of parking spaces and the need to address employee concerns. The Committee shall receive quarterly reports from the Traffic Director regarding the occupancy of the garages, to allow for monitoring of potential revenue losses. Employees taking advantage of such offer shall be required to provide a deposit of \$20.00 to the garages.

Ald. Elise stated I just had some questions about this, this is a parking proposal to allow City workers Downtown to utilize spaces in parking lots and parking garages and in the proposal it just refers to people, City workers using the garages and putting down a \$20.00 deposit. Is there cost for City employees to use the spaces in the lots and the garages.

Ald. Sysyn replied no.

Ald. Elise stated I know the studies here did refer to one of the reasons why they allowed this program is underutilization of the parking lots and the parking garages and I know what Mary was referring to earlier was the increase in meters and the increase in meter fees were going to cause people to use the parking garages and lots more, so is this

underutilization study, I guess timely, is this study projecting accurately in the future what spaces will be available after people use these parking...go to the parking lot.

Ald. Sysyn stated they have electronic devices that tell you how many people use those garages. Where I am at the Canal Street Garage, I didn't even know there was a basement there, it's empty, so they'll be using that floor. If the day came where the garages got filled up and we were told the employees were taking up too much room, we'd have to rescind it so that the customers or whoever used it.

Ald. Elise asked is this a little premature.

Ald. Sysyn stated David Waldecker who runs the National Parking Garages did the study and he did all the empty spaces, all the ones at the parking lots because there are people that work on Bridge Street that'll use Pearl Street, they'll have a permit and there are people that will be using the Holiday Inn parking lot, the Board of Health is going to need that there because they're closer to there and the people from City Hall will use where I am at the Canal Street Garage.

Ald. Elise asked should we wait until, let's say, the fees go up and then see how much spaces are available then.

Ald. Sysyn replied, no, I think we could do it now because he already did and there's an awful lot of spaces empty. You're talking 80 spaces in that basement alone. I think there's more than 80, I think there's about 95, but he's planning on using 83 for City employees.

Ald. Elise stated so, there's no cost to the City employees, at all, except for the \$20.00 deposit.

Ald. Sysyn stated the deposit was for the little card that let's you in the electronic thing, but they have to park in that designated area and that will be monitored.

Ald. Elise stated I know that City employees in other locations like schools and so on that have parking can park for fee, but Downtown no one can park for free.

Ald. Sysyn stated no, but these people are using Downtown parking spaces that we're talking about where the meters are, they feed the meters all day long which stops businesses. I have people going to the Y that feed the meters for three hours.

Ald. Elise stated but, you wouldn't give them free parking to get them out of those spaces.

Ald. Sysyn stated no, but they won't park for three hours, it'll be cheaper for them to park in the garage now, so they'll go into the garage.

Ald. Elise stated I know, but is it fair that we give the City employees free parking Downtown and everybody else has to pay.

Ald. Sysyn stated let me just tell you this, Fran. I felt the same way you did when this first came out, well, why should we give it to the City employees, but the bank pays for some of their employees to park, they get free parking, the courier just told me that he's going to be parking for nothing now because he's going to be working out of that operation at the Hampshire Plaza.

Ald. Elise stated the bank is a for-profit institution and the City is not.

Ald. Sysyn stated right, but are you reimbursing those City employees who work at City Hall because they have to pay \$40.00 a month or \$45.00 a month when the guy at the School Department whose making the same salary gets free parking. If you were in private industry they would do that for parking.

Ald. Elise stated private industry would pick up the cost of the parking, they may or they may not.

Ald. Sysyn asked but, is it fair for the kid that's making \$15,000 a year, say at the School Department to get free parking.

Ald. Soucy stated there were two issues. One is that, actually there are three issues. Number one, is that the City employees would be tenants-at-will, the moment that the garages start to fill up and we get more people Downtown they're gone and they know that from the moment that they accept the space. Number two, it's not costing us anything because they're vacant spaces anyway. So, it's not like we're losing revenue or we're paying ourselves for the use of the space. It's a wash because it's just sitting there vacant. The third thing is we hoped that it would, having people in the garages on a daily basis would encourage other people to go in there because they would feel a greater sense of security seeing more people going back and forth. One of the problems for some of our garages is that people feel that they walk in there and there's no one else there, they feel uncomfortable, they feel frightened and in an effort to try and get more traffic in

there, to give people a better sense of security, we thought allotting some of those spaces to the City employees would be helpful.

Ald. Elise stated I can understand that, but I don't know if that's making sense to the people that are paying that increase on their registration fees to go to repair the garages when they know that people are parking there for free.

Ald. Sysyn stated but those people are also paying for an increase on their car registrations, too.

Mayor Wieczorek stated it can either be vacant or you can put some cars in there, I guess that's the choice. As I see it here, I guess what you're really going to be looking at the people that are currently parking on the street that are paying at the meters. What's the impact going to be with the meters and I guess what they're going to be doing is monitoring that to find out. I'm assuming that Intown Management is in favor of this project because what they really want to do is get the cars off the street and this is an attempt to try to get those cars off the street to find out if, in fact, it's going to be helpful to the merchants in the Downtown area. So, as long as they understand that when there's going to be a demand for the spaces, you're on your own and then you will either pay to maintain a space or you'll have to find another space and if they understand that...

Ald. Elise stated I can understand the whole logic to this definitely, but I do still have a problem with increase in registration fees going to the parking garage repair and then having some people park for free and I know that people definitely might differ from me, so I would have preferred a small fee for the employees to pay a small fee. I can understand that they are tenants-at-will and we'll get more people in the garages and more people off the streets. If there's any City department head that is allowing their employees to go and feed the meters, I don't think it's the employee we really should be blaming. But, okay, it's my opinion, I would have preferred to have a small fee, so I'd like to oppose this and I think there should have been at least a small fee.

Ald. Cashin stated your Quality Management Team has recommended this, number one. I think we gotta support that. Two, my understanding is that the spaces are presently vacant anyway, so you're not losing any revenue. Three, the employee realizes that once we start to fill those garages they have to move out, they've accepted that and I hope and I'd like to make this recommendation that by doing this we free up some of the spaces behind City Hall to make it more convenient for the taxpayers to do their business here.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I'd like to get rid of all of the cars behind City Hall.

Ald. Cashin stated I was going to suggest that too. But, I figured if you took a few, then you could take a few later. I really think you should. As an Alderman, the thing that aggravates me when I come down if you can't find a place to park and I don't see any reason why if you're going to do this and allow City employees from City Hall to park there why we shouldn't be able to free up at least a half-a-dozen spaces behind City Hall so that the taxpayers can do their business there and I think that ought to be part of the proposal and if that requires a motion, I'll do it.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I think what we should do is that the Traffic Committee ought to refer that to the Traffic Committee and have them come back with some recommendation, maybe they'll have more or less and let them look at it.

Ald. Cashin moved to accept, receive and adopt the report of the Committee on Traffic/Public Safety. Ald. Soucy duly seconded the motion. The motion carried, with Ald. Elise recorded in opposition.

Confirmation of nominations to the Personnel Appeals Board as follows:

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.

On motion of Ald. Clancy, duly seconded by Ald. Pariseau, it was voted to confirm the nominations to the Personnel Appeals Board as follows: 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.

On motion of Ald. Reiniger, duly seconded by Ald. Shea, 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 1991, 1995 and 1997 Community Improvement Programs, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of \$40,758.99 for certain CIP Projects.”

“Amending the 1996 Community Improvement Program, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of \$13,985 for the 1996 CIP 8.20401 Archival Record Retrieval Project.”

“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 for the 1997 CIP 2.10606 Cultural Diversity Task Force.”

“Amending the 1997 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds for the 1997 4.20105 Juvenile Jail Removal.”

“Amending the 1997 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of \$500,000 for the 1997 CIP 7.30260 Residential Sound Insulation.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of \$24,659.47 from the 1996 CIP 8.30366 Hallsville School Handicapped Accessibility Project to the 1997 CIP 5.10153.4 Urban Parks - Wolfe Park.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Twenty Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Three Dollars (\$20,843.00) from Contingency to the Police Department for a U. S. Dept. of Justice, Local Law Enforcement Block Grant.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Fifty Eight Thousand Dollars (\$58,000.00) from Contingency to the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Departments.”

ought to pass.

On motion of Ald. Domaingue, duly seconded by Ald. Sysyn, it was voted to accept, receive and adopt the report of the Committee on Finance.

Communication from the Deputy Finance Officer advising of the receipt of funds in the amount of \$63.00 for the D.A.R.E. Program, requesting the Board accept same and remand for the purpose intended.

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

Communication from the Deputy Finance Officer advising of the receipt of funds in the amount of \$615.00 for the K-9 Unit, requesting the Board accept same and remand for the purpose intended.

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

Communication from Harold Gulley, Jr., Commanding Officer of The Salvation Army, requesting participation of the Board as well as other City boards and departments in the 1996 Christmas Kettle Campaign which runs from November 19th through December 24th.

Mayor Wiczorek stated he wished to welcome Captain Gulley to Manchester noting he had been assigned to the City of Manchester and the City had had a long-standing and good relationship with The Salvation Army for many years and asked Captain Gulley if he wished to address the Board.

Captain Gulley stated thank you, your Honor, for the opportunity to speak tonight noting the relationship mentioned by the Mayor goes back 105 years that they have been serving the needs of the community as part of Manchester and the greater Manchester noting one of the things that had made their organization so successful in that period of time has been their ability to rely on a vast range of volunteers, volunteers covering a broad spectrum of groups and individuals throughout the community and including groups from large corporations to small businesses, college groups, church groups, school groups from some of the public schools, a broad range of people who have supported them in the process. Captain Gulley stated The Christmas Kettle Campaign is their biggest, single, unrestricted donations/fund raising campaign of the entire year and because of it, it is a very important part of their planning process and they had to rely on volunteers to do that. This year's goal was to raise \$100,000 just from the bell ringing campaign and they believed it could be done, but the key to that was to rely on volunteers. Their purpose in writing and requesting that your Honor and the City support this process is that they felt that by example their participation and actively ringing bells for The Kettle Campaign would encourage an even broader spectrum of volunteer support throughout the community, so their request was that the City, by example, participate in the Kettle

Campaign by selecting a day in which they could get out in the cold and shake the bell for a while and help them provide the services to the community. There were a total of thirty (30) days in the campaign that needed to be covered noting there were approximately five 2-hour shifts they ran and the way in which most organizations and groups handled the process is that they assign a representative to coordinate the sign-up procedures and they generally stand in pairs of two individuals for 2-hour periods and cover, at minimum, they request a full day for purposes of making it easier for their volunteers who help with putting the sites out and picking up the collections afterwards, but they would work with any group that could not completely comply to those general procedures.

Mayor Wieczorek suggested the City Clerk's Office be designated to coordinate the effort indicating to Captain Gulley he could contact the City Clerk to assist him.

Ald. Elise stated both her and Ald. Reiniger had already agreed that they would like to volunteer at one of The Palace Theatre's Nutcracker performances.

On motion of Ald. Domaingue, duly seconded by Ald. Soucy, it was voted to designate the City Clerk's Office to coordinate the effort relative to the 1996 Christmas Kettle Campaign.

Captain Gulley suggested whoever was to coordinate the effort contact their Kettle Coordinator Keith Landry who was responsible for scheduling all of the groups.

Resolutions:

"Amending the 1991, 1995 and 1997 Community Improvement Programs, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of \$40,758.99 for certain CIP projects."

"Amending the 1996 Community Improvement Program, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of \$13,985 for the 1996 CIP 8.20401 Archival Record Retrieval Project."

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“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Fifty Eight Thousand Dollars (\$58,000.00) from Contingency to the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Departments.”

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

On motion of Ald. Sysyn, duly seconded by Ald. Clancy, it was voted that the Resolutions pass and be enrolled.

Mayor Wiczorek nominated Mr. Mike Kania to fill a vacant position as an Alternate on the City Planning Board, term to expire May 1, 1998.

TABLED ITEM

Ordinance: (Noted: 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.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Wiczorek stated City officials had been talking to some bond insurers regarding a means and a method of doing something regarding a civic center, and asked Mr. Clougherty to provide an overview to the Board as to what has transpired.

Mr. Clougherty stated if the question had been asked several months ago about whether or not bond insurers would be interested in the civic center project they would have said it was unrealistic, however, the City had been contacted by them noting there was some very real interest on their part in playing a role in the development of a civic center; that the initial thought had been to go to the State and have the State guarantee the debt so that

the City's taxpayers would not suffer the burden. This guarantee by the bond agencies, bond insurance companies would serve that same purpose. There were several large companies (i.e., Ambac, MBIA) and what they do is to examine bond issues around the country and they would make a determination as to whether or not they would want to risk their capital to insure a project is done noting they would have to be paid for that risk, but if the cost of the project is within a reasonable range, bond insurance was a normal course of business. There were a number of small cities and towns that did not have good credit ratings who relied exclusively on bond insurance companies to get their municipal bonds issued, so the interest of these agencies in this area was something which was unexpected, but was certainly something the City should not close the door on and should take a look at. The way in which to do it and in order for the City to proceed with a bond issue which would be insured by one of these companies they would have to make sure that the underlying credit was of an investment grade by the credit rating agencies and the way in which to do it would be to do more detailed number crunching that what the City Finance Office had been able to do and to move that analysis forward. They would be going out with an RFP to select an underwriter. The underwriter would perform the reviews of the different approaches to insuring the issue to see if it was viable. The underwriter would not be compensated unless there was eventually a bond issue, so from the City's standpoint there was no risk in terms of capital and if they could not pull together something that was a deal that the bond insurance companies felt was feasible, then there would be no expense. The project itself was basically the same one which had been talked about right along, they would simply take all of the numbers that the City's had and turn them over to the underwriters and have them take a look at it and see if they could refine the numbers better, take a look at different reserve requirements which might be required by the insurance companies and come back to the City with some recommendations as to whether or not it would be feasible noting they could come back saying it just wouldn't work in which case they would have exhausted that option, but yet they could come back and say this is something which could be done and explain what the different types of arrangements might be and what the costs and risks to the City would be. So, they would be moving on that and keeping the Board apprised of the reports of the underwriters as they moved forward.

Ald. Soucy asked what the time frame involved was with respect to a project such as this would be and finding out whether or not the City could do the bond issue.

Mr. Clougherty replied to get an RFP out they would like to be able to do so within the next couple of weeks and then would have to give people time to respond, come in and make a selection noting once the underwriter has been selected it would take some time for them to perform their due diligence and take a look at the numbers, so they would expect sometime in between Thanksgiving and Christmas where they would start to get

some feedback as to whether this was something the City would want to proceed with or was something that would have to explore but perhaps would not work out. So, by Christmas they should have a good indication as to what types of steps might be involved noting he expected the underwriters would come back seeking more information where they would be exchanging information regarding numbers and if they could do so and come up with something viable noted it would be up to the Board to move on it and if the Board felt comfortable with it, do the bond authorization with all of the necessary approaches but did not see that happening until after the first of the year, at best.

Ald. Elise stated a civic center would be excellent for the City and in terms of pursuing it noted the City needed to be very persistent with respect to developing something which would be acceptable to the public and thought it was wonderful that they were pushing it forward knowing that the Manchester Economic Development Board as well as others had felt that the Civic Center Committee was dead and asked if it would be helpful to revitalize that committee or put together another committee.

Mr. Clougherty replied it was better left in the hands of the City officers and the Board because it was not something which would require any type of State participate although the underwriters could come back and recommend something different than what had already been tried noting the more simple and direct it was kept...as the underwriters would want to look at numbers and take a look at schedules to see if those numbers could be validated and if they were realistic.

Ald. Shea stated when the underwriters would begin to investigate various investment procedures, etc. asked if they would be looking at different options for a civic center such as in a different part of the City or at a different level or would they be looking at that one proposal which had been proposed or would they be looking at different options which might not be as detailed as expensive, not relating to that particular area of the City and could they explore other areas or would they be limited to that area.

Mr. Clougherty stated it was his understanding that the site, although when LDR did their study they really liked the mill building down on Canal Street and putting in the civic center in the elbow of that building which was attractive to them and for purposes of illustration and costing a site needed to be chosen and do it, but that site was never the only site or firm noting it would rest with the Board; that the numbers whether the facility was located on Elm Street or someplace else would be what they were as it might cost more to do improvements to a building on Canal Street, but it would be pretty much the same range and what they wanted to do was to get to the point where from a financial feasibility standpoint there was enough money to do the project and then they could get into the details of where it should be, how it would be run and those types of things, so

right now what they were requesting was merely a prelude to it noting that at some point in time they would have to firm those things up so long as they were able to get past this first hurdle and it was determined that those companies were interested and it was feasible.

Ald. Hirschmann moved to authorize the Finance Officer to proceed and investigate such bonding for a potential civic center with a report back to the Board at a later date. Ald. Pariseau duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Ald. Clancy moved to nominate Thomas C. Nichols to succeed himself as a member of the Board of Assessors, term to expire January, 2003.

Ald. Sysyn moved to close nominations to the Board of Assessors. Ald. Cashin duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Ald. Sysyn stated she was in receipt of a communication from First Night New Hampshire and moved that such communication be referred to the Committee on Traffic/Public Safety. Ald. Soucy duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Ald. Elise on behalf of Ald. Wihby who was absent, moved to nominate Leo R. Bernier to succeed himself as City Clerk, term to expire January, 2003.

Ald. Domaingue moved to close the nomination of City Clerk. Ald. Shea duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Ald. Reiniger moved to nominate Kevin A. Clougherty, to succeed himself as the City Finance Officer, term to expire January, 2003.

Ald. Domaingue moved to close the nomination of the City Finance Officer. Ald. Clancy duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Ald. Cashin stated as elections were over, he wished to take a few moments to thank some people noting that the President was here in Manchester last weekend and the advance team had been very impressed with the City and the cooperation they had received and wished to thank the Traffic Department, Highway Department, Fire Department, Police, Parks & Recreation, Public Service of NH and the Telephone Company. With the short notice given to Manchester, the people from Washington were so impressed with how everything worked out that they had asked him if he would publicly thank everyone on their behalf and with to thank the Merrimack Restaurant and

their employees for allowing them to go in on Sunday taking the entire facility over noting they were very nice.

Ald. Hirschmann stated he hoped the advance team was impressed enough to send the City a check for Police protection noting he wanted to make sure that was followed up on as that was a campaign event.

Ald. Cashin stated he believed all of the bills had been paid indicating he would be willing to sit down with Ald. Hirschmann to discuss it further.

On motion of Ald. Pariseau, duly seconded by Ald. Clancy, it was voted to recess the meeting to meet with the Chief Negotiator for a negotiation strategy session.

Mayor Wiczorek requested Dave Hodgen, Chief Negotiator, to outline the contract for the record.

Mr. Hodgen stated the highlights of the tentative agreement with the bargaining units in the Health Department were that the duration of the collective bargaining agreement would be four years starting back on July 1, 1994 until June 30, 1998 noting the City was agreeing to wage increases across-the-board of 2 1/2 percent on the date of ratification and also the step raises which had been frozen since July of 1994 would be reinstated but there would not be any retroactive aspect of those step raises with another across-the-board raise of 2 1/2 percent of July 1, 1997; that the bargaining unit members had agreed that they would no longer be eligible to participate in Blue Cross Blue Shield Plan JW, but that they would change either to BlueChoice or Matthew Thornton as soon as practicable after ratification noting there was a minor increase, a 10-day increase from 66 days to 76 days in the amount of sick leave that they could accrue and then there were some other minor language changes because what they had done was basically to convert the AFSCME Master Contract to a free-standing contract just with the bargaining unit members in the Health Department and so there was some language to that aspect of the agreement indicating the Mayor would discuss Rule 26.

Mayor Wiczorek stated a vote would be taken at which time it would lay on the table until the Board's next meeting according to Rule 26.

Ald. Cashin moved to approve the layover of the agreement with AFSCME Health Department bargaining unit in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented for ratification at the next meeting. Ald. Sysyn duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

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

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk