

BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

May 20, 1997

7:30 PM

Mayor Wieczorek called the meeting to order.

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

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

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

Present: Alderman Elise, Reiniger, Sysyn, Clancy, Soucy, Shea, Domaingue, Pariseau, Cashin, Robert, Hirschmann

Absent: Alderman Wihby

CONSENT ITEMS

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

Informational to be Received and Filed

- B.** Communication from the Director of Planning submitting minutes of the Planning Board meetings held on January 9, 1997, January 23, 1997, February 13, 1997, February 27, 1997 and March 13, 1997.
- C.** Communication from Thomas O'Rourke, Continental Cablevision, regarding Continental's decision not to review their contract with WMUR-TV for C-MUR programming, and advising that they hope to pursue other programming partnerships.
- D.** Communication from Susan Eid, Corporate Counsel for Continental Cablevision, announcing a new corporate name.
- E.** Continental Cablevision's 1996 Year-end Report.

Accept Funds and Remand for the Purpose Intended

- F.** Communication from the Health Officer advising of the receipt of a donation in the amount of \$500.00 for the Manchester Community Coalition for Tobacco Prevention.

REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES

**COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS, ENROLLMENT, & REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
AND
COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION/INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

- G.** Communication from the Deputy Finance Officer requesting the Board consider issuance of three City policies as follows:
- (a) directing that departments normal purchasing be halted on June 20, 1997 allowing only emergency purchases through June 30, 1997;
 - (b) authorizing the Finance Officer to process a check run on June 30, 1997 for payments scheduled for July 15, 1997; and
 - (c) establish a threshold on the amount of inventory a department can carry from one year to the next such as setting an upper limit of 1% of the department's operating budget, exclusive of restricted items or 5% of a department's non-salary line items.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

- H.** Resolutions:

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Ten Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$10,600) from Contingency to the Personnel Department.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Fourteen Thousand Dollars (\$14,000) from Contingency to the Health Department.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) from Contingency to Public Building Services.”

COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL/INSURANCE

- I.** Communication from Lloyd Basinow requesting the Board adopt a restrictive ordinance prohibiting the future employment of individuals who are direct relatives of any elected or appointed City official.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/PUBLIC SAFETY

- J.** Recommending that an Ordinance prohibiting smoking in the stands and to designate certain areas for smokers at Gill Stadium be referred to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for technical review.

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

- A. Communication from Alderman Elise wishing to recognize Jason Biondi upon the conclusion of his internship.

Alderman Elise stated I'd just like to make the Board aware that Jason Biondi will be finishing his internship and I did want to present him with a momento of the internship courtesy of Pat Sheeran from *The Union Leader*, he usually sends me the photograph of my intern and myself that's featured in *The Union Leader* and I wanted to present him with this tonight and I hope that this experience has been good for him. I know this experience is always good for me and I learn quite a lot from it. So, I do want to thank his teacher and the Chamber of Commerce for participating this year.

Mr. Biondi stated I would like to thank all of you for being so kind to me, helping me along and most of all I would like to thank Alderman Elise for giving me the opportunity to do this and her helping me through the whole thing. I think this is a very good program and I would hope that more of the Aldermen will decide to utilize it and it shows the City that there are some good kids out there, in with the bad ones who really do want to make a difference and plan on doing something with their lives. Thank you.

On motion of Alderman Elise, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy, it was voted to receive and file the communication from Alderman Elise.

Confirmation of the nominations to the Conservation Commission as follows:

Thomas Donovan to succeed himself, term to expire August 1, 1999;
Jack Rice to succeed himself, term to expire August 1, 1999; and
Brett Gifford to succeed himself, term to expire August 1, 1999.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Robert, it was voted to confirm the nominations to the Conservation Commission as submitted.

Presentation to be made on the Livingston Park Master Plan and the West Memorial Plan by representatives of the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Department.

Mr. Ludwig stated the Livingston Park project and the West Memorial project that we've been asked here to address tonight to us as recreators are extremely important and they really represent some of the larger projects that we've undertaken in the last several years. Stepping back a little bit, I would like to apologize for maybe not having been here sooner and we did hold several public sessions as it relates to the Livingston project, I can't say that's the case to this point with the West project only because there are some issues that are still on the table as it relates to some land acquisitions, etc., but we will be involving the community and it's a good idea that we cover them both this evening and hopefully we can do that briefly. When I finish Ron will walk through each project as quickly as he can and then at the end we would like to address any questions that anyone might have. Just a couple of brief comments to open up with

and those being that these are extremely large projects that impact neighborhoods and schools and I think it's important for all of the Aldermen to realize that these really aren't territorial projects either to a particular ward. These two projects affect more than one ward, they affect several wards and they really are neighborhood projects. Yes, they do have some ties to high schools - Central in one case and West in another, but I think that we all need to keep in mind and keep focused that these are neighborhood projects that are used by several different wards and I think that it extends throughout. I think that we can see how the Memorial Track facility how it is used by people to come and just walk out of several neighborhoods and I'm sure that they just don't all come from south Manchester. So, I think we try to stay out of the territorial arguments here and try to just direct through our best efforts how we think money can be spent. These projects are initiated by different interest groups. In the case of the Central project there was a definite need up there for a track facility and we wanted to see that happen; that was identified in the Master Plan, a city-wide Master Plan that was done back in 1993 for the City that identified the need for four tracks. So, we're very excited about going possibly from a one track City to a three track City. Track is something you can do lifelong whether it's walking or whatever, but it's exciting to us. One thing that I want to bring up as we go through with these projects and the Aldermen decide on future funding and phases it's a difficult process to work in phases. Certain projects...most of the time when we deal with phased-in projects we try to bring that project to some kind of end, completion in the event that future funding doesn't come along. So, we always have to be kind of careful that if additional funding doesn't come forward have we brought that portion to some kind of closure. So, it's difficult when you're working and I know it's difficult for the Aldermen to deal with trying to find dollars to do these projects. So, I'm not saying that phased-in isn't the way to go, but sometimes it costs us a few dollars here and there and I think that everyone needs to understand that. The other thing I want to speak to is when we create these projects, the Parks & Recreation and been trying to address maintenance issues at facilities and not necessarily trying to build. We do get several requests to expand soccer fields and all kinds of fields throughout the City and hopefully those organizations come forward with dollars to accomplish that. But, it does create more maintenance and I think that we're not doing our due diligence here if we don't address maintenance issues and when I look at a proposed tax-funded budget that could possibly face additional cuts, it doesn't lend itself to maintaining these facilities that we built and the answer to Alderman Wihby's one, two and three percent cut, I think, my brief presentation basically lent itself to the cycle we seem to be into additional capital outlays and not to maintenance issues. I see it happening in the enterprise side of our account where if we are able to actually plan for maintenance and put things on a schedule that would allow us to accomplish maintenance when we do, we're not in the high-ended items that we seem to be caught up in sometimes. These tracks are in themselves expensive. We can be assured that Memorial is in need of resurfacing right now, a synthetic type surface, a urethane surface and it's a \$50,000 item. Those kinds of items are the items that really fall through the black holes as far as I am concerned. We can't get them from CIP, we can't get them from our operating budget, so where do we get them from. I think that if you are going to look the other way and we're not going to find methods to try and do this...the Oval Society says that they'll raise funds and maintain some kind of maintenance fund; that is what I

am going to suggest they do for that, but we really do have to look at maintenance issues. Some people like construction, some people like maintenance, but we have to find a balance in where we are going with maintaining our facilities. Whether we do it in-house or whether we do it by contract and basically with what we have in our department we're looking more towards contracting a lot of these cases and I think we have to look back at maintenance. If we don't do it, we are going to be back into big dollars for the long haul over and over and over, it doesn't go away, it's not going to go away. I think these are wonderful opportunities for both Central and West High Schools. I think they're deserving. I went to West a long time ago and that field has never been in very good condition. What's exciting about West Memorial Field is if we are able to acquire the Naval Reserve property, right now there is a little way lay of about three weeks. I guess there was additional information needed from the School Department is that we can fit a quarter mile track in there. We can do some redesign and we think we can make better use of the land that would effectively get us out of that let's do it over every seven years methodology. Again, there has to be maintenance dollars allocated either for contract work or for in-house and that's important. So, we're excited about West because it's really a wonderful opportunity to have a shot at the Naval Reserve property and be able to redesign that. It will help solve the neighborhood parking over there, it will help out with some faculty parking for West High School and it's going to be a wonderful thing. I think that in conjunction with the Principal being agreeable to making some adjustments as to who can bring their cars to school is going to go a long way as to how parking impacts the neighborhood over there. I listened a little bit earlier about parking over at Memorial and one of the things I learned from the architect on the job was build more parking and more cars will come and I think that's true, so that might be something you want to look at. But, the Livingston project is going into the second phase shortly. We did do very well in the first phase of the project. The contractor left considerable dollars on the table that allowed us go a little bit further in Phase I than we anticipated and we'll probably give it all back in Phase II given the fact that construction is probably a little bit on the upswing and that's the give-and-take of the phased-in approach. But, we're excited about it and we're trying to put back and balance the equation over there as it relates to the pond and the athletic facilities. There are several people that utilize the pond and it is a place for them to go, it might not be Lake Sunapee and it might not be a lot of things, but it is a location in Manchester that people can relate to and I go around the pond with my own children on Saturdays and Sundays and it's a nice ride. It needs some improvement, but it is a nice place. My kids get excited about it, they really don't know where they are or what the condition of the pond is, they just know that they are near the woods and the outdoors. So, the long and the short of it is our job has been trying to balance all of the people that are involved in seeing the Livingston project move forward as well as West and again, we'll be holding several more public sessions for West once we can give the architect the heads up on whether we'll be working with the Naval Reserve property or whether we won't. We're hopeful at this point. Ron Johnson who's probably been more involved with the overall projects than I have in all cases and the day-to-day and hands-on involvement will walk you through the two projects starting with Livingston.

Mr. Johnson stated I think the Clerk has passed out the color renderings, I have a larger scale of the Livingston Park rendering and maybe what I'll do is kind of go through. As Ron mentioned, last year we hired the Landscape Architectural Firm of Moriece & Gary who specialize in park master planning and they have worked with us on this project also on the West Memorial Field project. But, essentially we did have a series of public meetings and always the issue has been to balance the passive area of the park. Livingston Park is a community-wide park, it's 134 acres and what you actually see colored in green on the map is all existing wooded land. People really don't realize that the only thing they see is when they are driving down D. W. Highway, the area right along, right in front of The Puritan Restaurant. It is 134 acres, the project that we've done looked at trying to balance active recreation and passive recreation and the idea of the plan was to again, the new development concentrated on the southern end of the park where there were existing tennis courts, ballfields, North Little League and North Junior Soccer are all located down in that area. Probably, the highlight of the new active recreation is the new 400 meter track which is right along the D. W. Highway on the upper plateau which used to be...there used to be a playground that straddled over rock outcropping and some athletic fields up there. There is a new 90-car parking lot that will be associated with that and then also a new park entry drive. One of the recommendations we worked with the consultants who also had a traffic engineer...one of the big problems is down at the intersection of Beech, Webster and Hooksett Road. If any of you have been up there on a Saturday and have tried to get into North Little League, trying to get through the Dunkin Donuts issue of the driveup window, it is a real difficult situation there. The recommendation from the consultants...we had three driveways off the D. W. Highway coming into the Park. A lot of them were really not up to engineering standards and the recommendation was to close all of those driveways and put a new main entrance at Red Coat Lane. This entrance will also have a traffic light and improved intersection. The consultants have come up with a schematic as to what this would look like and we've run it by the Planning Department, the Traffic and the Highway people. This would be Red Coat Lane right here, the entry drive coming into the Park, there would be a traffic light and crosswalks at all four corners, there would be a deceleration lane coming down if you were traveling south on the D. W. Highway where parents could get in the deceleration lane and turn right into the Park. We've also proposed a bike path along the highway which would take traffic right along the D. W. Highway to connect Campbell Street and then also the neighborhoods from Red Coat Lane. One of the comments that we got from the public were a lot of parents had their parents over in the Little League or Soccer League, but everyone had to drive their kids to the Park because of the unsafe conditions on the D. W. Highway. So, the installation of the traffic light will be pedestrian activated. Kids on bikes can get up to this point, push the button, activate and get across and up on Campbell Street they can use the proposed bikeway to do that. As Ron mentioned we've done the first phase of the project which was the rough grading, the site clearing and the rough grading of the entry drive and the parking lots; that has all been done, the contract is complete and now we are working on the second phase, the design engineering of the second phase which would be the intersection, paving of the interior park road to this point and also the construction of the track would be in the second phase along with some landscaping and construction of the recreational fields right along the D.

W. Highway. So, everything that was disturbed in this first phase will essentially be put back through the course of the summer and next fall and we expect the track to be ready for the Spring of '98. Other improvements that the Master Plan has identified is to reconstruct a new playground there. We had to take out the old playground through the reconstruction as it was in pretty bad shape, to take a look at the swimming pool and the bathhouse. This is now the City's oldest pool and it's kind of in a deteriorated state. There is a lack of filtration in the swimming pool and there are some problems associated with the plumbing and the water situation there. So, we'd like to in future phases to reconstruct the pool facility. Another recommendation is to bring back the ice skating rink which was for years up across from the warming hut and to have a refrigerated outdoor rink to be used for either recreational skating or for hockey use and that would be situated to compliment the recreational skating that takes place on the pond. Right now, we do have flood lights and a new warming hut on the pond. The northern end of the park would remain in its natural state. We have series of nature trails that surround the pond. Over the last couple of years we have done improvements to the bridges and some of the trails and we would like to continue on that and essentially to keep the northern end of the park in its natural state. So, those are the improvements to Livingston and maybe I'll jump over to West Memorial Field and then we can just open it up to any other questions that you might have. Again, the West Memorial Field project at this point, we've pretty much been meeting in-house with representatives from the School Department, the Aldermen from the west side have been involved. Also, the Planning Department and the Police Department have been involved because of the issue of parking and some of those items. Over at West Memorial Field the existing track is only a 1/5th of a mile track, it's a cinder track, so the schools no longer use it for practice or competition. They do use it for general physical education from the school, but they do not use it for the Track Team. Everyone goes over to Memorial High School because that is an official track and they want to train on those standards. The new project where the current Naval Reserve Center is located the recommendation is to put in a bank of six courts. We found out working through the School Department that six courts are required by the New Hampshire School Athletics for tournament and team play. Right now, when they have team play in Manchester they have to drop off kids at various sites throughout the City and it becomes a complex issue. We now have three courts, but with the expansion of the track they would be taken out so there would be a bank of six courts in the top corner and then a lower parking lot which would serve essentially faculty and staff during the school day and then it would also be open for public parking after hours to service the neighborhood need for parking in that area. The new track would be a 400 meter and we would also try to do some improvements to the bleachers and then also in the interior part of the track would be an improved recreational field for football and again for general use of the physical education classes. We felt that the parking lot also provides a drop off and access for emergency vehicles for ambulances during games down at the lower part. It could also serve in conjunction with the new lot that's been constructed right next to the St. Raphael Club would provide about 200 parking spaces for when they have athletic events at the field. So, again, this one is in its preliminary stages and we're waiting to hear of the acquisition of the Naval Reserve Center, the City Planning Department and the School Department are working on that issue along with the

Mayor's Office and getting back. So, once that gets acquired we'd start the project on these improvements. So, I think right now we could just open it up to if you have any specific questions about either project. Attached with the renderings that you have are the cost estimates that have been prepared. As I mentioned, this year the current CIP that's proposed for Livingston Park is \$500,000 and it's a little bit less. We were wanting to do a little bit more there, but we will have to cut the project back. Over at West Memorial Field we had an allocation of \$100,000 proposed for this year and \$150,000 was proposed last year or was allocated last year. So, we have \$250,000 waiting to start on this project. But, you can see with the construction of the tracks in the future years, additional dollars will be needed.

Alderman Reiniger in reference to Livingston Park stated I have a lot of residents on Walnut and Clarke Streets who have contacted me. They have heard that there is going to be an access road put in in the area of Clarke Street so that people can go in and out of the Park on that side and I looked at the map and I didn't see any access road, is this true or not or is this just a false rumor.

Mr. Johnson replied through the public meetings, we have two public meetings and they were probably the best attended public meetings we've ever had. We've had over a hundred people at each of the public meetings up at the Derryfield Country Club; that issue was brought up and again I mention the problem up at the Dunkin Donuts, the Beech/Webster intersection...fails right now for traffic. The consultant said that if you could alleviate that would be a great idea. But, we heard from the public saying that it goes right into a residential neighborhood. They come out, there is no traffic light at the end of Walnut Street so it would be a problem. So, it wasn't proposed in the plan. There has been some interest lately of the vacant lot adjacent to Dunkin Donuts where there is a proposal...we have been in contact with the developers and they're looking to possibly do some off-site improvements and they would also like us to alleviate some of the traffic coming out of the park. The plan as it was proposed was to have the main park drive come into this parking lot and try to get more people to use this new main entrance to come in and out at one main point that would have a traffic light and that would eliminate the congestion down here and also the problems right along the D. W. Highway.

Alderman Reiniger asked what kind of development is being looked at.

Mr. Johnson replied commercial development.

Alderman Reiniger stated that the residents in the area are opposed to any type of access to the Park as they feel it would ruin their neighborhood.

Mr. Ludwig stated these people already do receive some parking, they park down there and walk up through the wooded area and we really did feel that that was something that we could look at. There could be some involvement as it relates to development of that lot that Ron was speaking to. The BackRoom had some interest in getting involved in redoing tennis courts, I

don't want to speak for them, but we had been contacted by them and there was interest there and there was also some interest from a developer.

Alderman Reiniger stated there had been a lot of letters and concerns about the trees that have been lost and I've had some people calling me alleging that there have been permit violations with Environmental Protection, is that true.

Mr. Ludwig replied there was one site specific permit that was overlooked when you go over cutting...

Mr. Johnson stated it's when you go over a certain square feet.

Mr. Ludwig stated it had no relation to how close we were to the pond, we did meet with people from the State. There were no fines or anything but they did say that they'd like to be kept/made aware and it also makes them a few dollars as well, but we were able to solve the problem there without much difficulty.

Alderman Reiniger asked is this the final plan or will there be any other public hearings, any discussions about potential changes.

Mr. Ludwig replied if the developer comes forward with additional suggestions that would affect either North Little League or the road going through we may have to go back to some kind of public hearing or involvement to say that we are taking another look at changing this and this isn't really ending up the way it was originally presented, we're not really there yet and we've given it back to them and told them come back and tell us what, how much you want to spend.

Mr. Johnson stated the Master Plan is kind of a general guide to direct you for the five or six or seven years that you're going to be doing this. But, as new projects come along they're going to affect the plan and we might have to augment it to reflect those new changes.

Alderman Reiniger stated there will then be subsequent discussions if there are such proposals.

Mr. Ludwig replied I think we need to have that happen.

Alderman Pariseau stated my questions deal with the bike path. References made using Campbell Street to enter the Park, are we going to create a problem for those people that live on Campbell, where they are going to park their vehicles and take their bikes and ride from Campbell Street.

Mr. Johnson replied the idea was to...Campbell Street was reconstructed a few years ago by the City Highway Department and it has a sidewalk along Campbell Street which is kind of at the

north border of the Park. The idea of the bike path would not have a trail head for people to bring their cars to bike, it's more for neighborhood use that the residents that live all up in these neighborhoods would be able to get on their bikes and have access to the Park or it could also be used just for walking and jogging. Right now, there is no sidewalk along the D. W. Highway at all and there is a little section as you get up toward the Northside Plaza, there is some sidewalk there, but along the Park and across the street there is no sidewalk.

Alderman Pariseau stated I picture those people that don't live on Campbell Street will be taking their vehicles to Campbell Street, unloading their bicycles on that narrow and heavily-traveled roadway and creating problems for the people that live there as well as themselves.

Mr. Johnson stated there would be parking, the bike path would come all the way down, it's more look at as a neighborhood connector rather than a destination point where you would come with the bicycle. I think if you were looking for that you could come into the Park and park in one of the parking lots and then get on the bike path to get up here and circle the area. But, in a City we are really not a destination point for bike riders at that point. I think you would be more attracting the neighborhoods up in the area and we'd probably see it more for walking and jogging and probably roller blading.

Alderman Pariseau stated I understand that, but the emphasis that you gave us is that the bike path will be from Campbell Street to the Park entrance and my concern is for those people that live on Campbell Street.

Mr. Ludwig stated I don't think that you're going to attract much parking on Campbell Street but that's a guess too, Alderman. If I was going to park on Campbell Street I guess I'd park at Shop 'N Save before I would leave my car out on Campbell Street, I guess. The other side is you can bike around a portion of the pond and out up by Kentucky Fried Chicken and go back into the woods at a certain point it becomes extremely difficult because of steep slopes and a lot of roots that stick out. My 7 year old, for instance, would prefer not to even try to make it through, yet someone older on a mountain bike loves it. So, the other side of that is if you park and go around the pond you can actually make your way out and go around and it's a much nicer route, but I don't see this as a point of origin as it relates to where you would want to start.

Alderman Cashin stated, Ron, I think you've done a great job on the west side in very limited space. But, my one concern here is I don't want to see West Memorial Field lose its identity and in anything that you are referring to here I don't see on your estimate of construction, it just says Memorial Field Complex. Would you refer to it...

Mr. Ludwig replied that is our out-of-town architect.

Alderman Cashin stated I would prefer, if you would that when you refer to this as West Memorial Field, it doesn't want to lose its identity.

Alderman Domaingue stated I heard you reference that it is going to be...that park improvements are going to benefit City-wide and I don't find crow with that at all, I think it's an excellent project in terms of Livingston Park. What I'm hearing back from people that I represent and other people in the southern area of the City, particularly those living around St. Anthony's Park, Crystal Lake area is the single amount of investment in this particular project which over time is \$3.3 million and the question that is coming back at me as the Alderman for that area is, is the Parks & Rec Department going to be as sensitive through the years to these other park areas that have not received adequate attention as they appear to be at this one area and I think it's a legitimate question and they're looking for a comfort level or a response from the Parks Department that is going to tell them yes, over time, all of these area are going to be addressed, we are not focusing only on one park or on one section of the City, I think that is a legitimate question.

Mr. Johnson stated we have addressed that in our CIP request. In 1993, the City Planning Department completed the City Master Plan and in there they had a component for Parks & Recreation which identified southeast Manchester as needing a community-wide park which would be on the scale of a Livingston...probably not as large in acreage, but providing those types of facilities. We've put it in our CIP plan this year and projected it out for in future years to start looking at that portion of the City. We get calls at our office from the development, residents that live along Bodwell Road where all of the new construction has taken place and there really hasn't been much park activity. We've identified it, it's identified in the City Master Plan and I think it's an issue of funding and getting it into the CIP Program.

Alderman Domaingue stated it is something that the Parks has plans for for the future to bring forward.

Mr. Johnson replied yes.

Alderman Soucy stated I had a question about the Livingston Park plan once again. Earlier you mentioned that the Oval Society was going to be raising more money. It was my understanding initially that when the Oval Society talked about becoming involved and doing some fund raising, it was to help pay for the costs from the renovations to Livingston Park, has that changed. What is the status of the fund of money that the Oval Society has raised, what is its purpose. Is it for maintenance following the completion, is it limited to just the track.

Mr. Ludwig replied at what level they are at at this point, I'm not one hundred percent sure. I know they're out there attempting to fund raise and I think given the nucleus of that group they'll probably do fairly well. Right now, we're in discussions about what kind of track surface are we going to have at this facility - there are different levels. They would like the Cadillac as opposed to the Chevrolet and that may be an area...which also stands up better than the Memorial Track which lends itself to future maintenance as well. We're in a position right now to say spend your money...we're trying to direct them to spend their money wisely where we think you should. To go to a different level track could be in the vicinity of thirty, forty thousand dollars and they're prepared to go forward to do that. We're prepared to say we're offering you the same as what we have in other locations, if you want to use some of that cash. But, we're also prepared to say that you did make a commitment to future maintenance and we would encourage them to keep on fund-raising because as I indicated these things when you're running around with spikes on these tracks as we allow them to do in Manchester...not all communities do, they wear out and the inside lanes wear out in a period of five to seven years and we're looking at that at Memorial right now. Hopefully, this will balance out a little bit but you're still going to see wear and tear because you're going to see interest go up in track as long as it is available to run on and that's wonderful, so I would encourage them that if they want to keep their track in tip top condition that they continue to fund raise so that in five years when that condition starts to deteriorate they can step up to the plate and do that.

Alderman Soucy stated along those lines has there been any discussion at any point about establishing a trust fund, maybe using some of those funds to establish like we do with cemeteries for perpetual maintenance so that you always have at least a little bit of an income stream.

Mr. Ludwig stated I think yes, I've been involved in a couple of small projects as it relates to trust funds but I think that there are levels yes and there are also levels that need to be established. I think Finance could help me out here as it relates to how much you have to have before they want to go forward with the establishment of a trust, but I think it's definitely worth looking at, it's a good tool.

Alderman Clancy stated both of these projects are both well and good. Now, with all of the interest with baseball teams coming to Manchester at Gill Stadium what is the prospect of somebody coming here and I'm sure they're not going to put all kinds of money into Gill Stadium and that is in dire need of repair, so both Ron's, are we going to put money into Gill Stadium if we get a double A team or an independent team or what. I know that we're going to need more than 2,800 people that fit in the stands over there for a double A team, we're going to need a grandstand and some renovations and stuff like that. The only thing I can see right now that's adequate over there is the new lighting system.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I think that was the purpose of appointing a Committee since we had interest on the part of perhaps four different organizations was to shift through that stuff and find out really what it is people want and what we can do and can we accommodate them and do we want it and if the answers to all of those things are yes then I guess you can go to the next steps and say well, what is it that has to be done to accommodate them. What improvements have to be made and do we want to do it, is it going to be worth it to us. Am I right or what.

Mr. Ludwig replied yes you are. I'd also like to say that in 1985, we did put considerable dollars into Gill Stadium, but we didn't do it with a focus on a minor league baseball team which involved rugs in locker rooms and things like that. We did it based on the venue that utilizes Gill right now which is our high school athletic teams. I would be more than comfortable to take anybody here this evening. In fact, I'm kind of proud because it goes back to a maintenance issue even though we hadn't been an enterprise except for the last couple of years. We have made an effort...the \$480,000 I believe if my memory serves me correctly that went into Gill is not really seed. There is a new roof on Gill Stadium that is in pretty good shape. The undercarriage of the complete structure was sandblasted and repainted. There was all new electricity put into Gill Stadium, all of the brick was repointed so a lot of things that as you ride by the ballpark a lot of those dollars aren't really visible to what you see. Things that were eliminated that we now have were lights in that portion, but Gill Stadium all-in-all as we use it now is really not in that bad of a condition. Could I find places to spend more dollars, absolutely. But, it's not as bad as we would think.

Alderman Shea stated I represent a constituency that has two parks and I have spoken to both Ron and Ron concerning the disposition of these two parks and with other things having been involved with Hallsville School for several years and seeing its neglect and I use that word very pointedly and also a fire station in Ward 7 that needs upgrading I hope and I pray that they will give consideration to the needs of the people who have lived in this City for several years and have now in their minds taken a back seat to all these improvements. So, I know that I've spoken to Ron about trying to upgrade Prout's Park which is used extensively for baseball, football and also the Howe Street Park. So, my pleading with them is that they will keep an open mind and continue to work with me in those areas because the people there are just as much entitled to benefits of the park, their children and their families use of parks as other

people in the City. I certainly approve of the improvements at Livingston and at West Memorial, but at the same time there should be quality in the City regarding the constituents that do pay taxes and are entitled to the same type of quality of life as others.

Alderman Hirschmann stated I want to commend the Mayor's Office for addressing money in your budget in '97 to West Memorial. It was a focus which was long overdue and on behalf of the athletes at West High what I would ask the Parks Department is just a time table and phases. I noticed that Livingston has phases and probably we're not there yet and to just keep up the good work. This is a very nice plan.

Alderman Elise stated I know I'm concerned about parks in my ward as everybody else is and in terms of money being allocated to different parks in the past, I have talked to Bob MacKenzie and Bob has shown me a plan whereby money would be invested in parks on a planned basis, not that a lot of money would be invested all at once in one park, but it's most a phased-in process and that eased my feelings about what was going to be happening with parks in my ward and I know that priorities do change but it might be beneficial for the full Board to have a presentation by Bob on the priorities and the plans for investing in the parks. I know I would...I have the privilege of sitting with him and going over it with him park-by-park and it might be beneficial for the full Board to see that.

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

Mayor Wiczorek called the meeting back to order.

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

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Ten Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$10,600) from Contingency to the Personnel Department.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Fourteen Thousand Dollars (\$14,000) from Contingency to the Health Department.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) from Contingency to Public Building Services.”

ought to pass and be Enrolled.

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

Communication from Mayor Wieczorek recommending that the Board appropriate \$1,070 in order that the Chief Negotiator be able to attend the Woodstock Institute for Negotiation's Certificate Program for Negotiating and Collaborating in Today's World.

Mayor Wieczorek stated before I ask for a motion it is a program that I think would be very beneficial to our Chief Negotiator. It is a person who we have had the opportunity of working with and the institute that he conducts, I think, would be very beneficial to him and his future negotiations.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy, it was voted to appropriate \$1,070 to allow the Chief Negotiator to attend the Certification Program; and further that such funds be taken from the Contingency account.

Mayor Wieczorek stated he would address items (a) and (b) separately.

Communication from the Director of Planning outlining actions required by the Board in order to proceed with the Middle School and heating/ventilation improvements at Central and West High Schools as follows:

(a) that the Board of Mayor and Aldermen approve the contract amendment with Meridian Construction Company in the amount of \$1,095,900 for Phase II of heating and ventilation improvements to Central and West High Schools and direct that a notice to proceed be issued.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Sysyn, it was voted approved item 11(a) as requested by the Director of Planning.

(b) that the Board of Mayor and Aldermen approve the contract with Bonnet, Page & Stone for the construction of the Middle School and direct that a notice to proceed be issued.

Mayor Wieczorek stated you did receive a handout with the amount being \$8,143,300.

Alderman Domaingue moved to approved item 11(b) as requested by the Director of Planning in the amount of \$8,148,300. Alderman Shea duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Reiniger duly recorded in opposition.

Alderman Elise stated I am going to support this this evening. I have been looking in the Millyard for placing a Middle School and other educational facilities. I don't think that we have explored that enough, but at this particular time I do realize that there is a need for a Middle School and I will support this at this time, but I certainly will encourage exploring of using property in the Millyard in the future.

Resolutions:

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Ten Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$10,600) from Contingency to the Personnel Department.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Fourteen Thousand Dollars (\$14,000) from Contingency to the Health Department.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) from Contingency to Public Building Services.”

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

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

Mayor Wieczorek presented the following nominations:

Conservation Commission:

Todd D. Connors to fill a vacant position, term to expire September 1, 1997.

As per the rules of the Board, the nomination will layover until the next meeting of the Board.

Ratification of agreement with the Manchester Educational Support Personnel Association in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented on May 6, 1997.

(Note: available for viewing at the City Clerk's Office and forwarded under separate cover to the Mayor and Aldermen.)

Alderman Shea moved to ratify the agreement with MESPA in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented on May 6, 1997. Alderman Soucy duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Robert stated just a question for Finance if I could. Hopefully, Randy can answer my question. Randy, we've got six contracts that we are going to ratify. How much money is this going to add to our expense this year.

Mr. Sherman replied all totaled we've put in about \$1.2 million to cover these contracts for this year, for '98.

Alderman Robert stated we're talking multi-year contracts. What could I assume a \$1.2 million for the year after and \$1.2 million the year after that roughly.

Mr. Sherman replied yes and it adds on top of each other, it's \$1.2 million and then it's \$1.2 million and it's going to wratch it on top of each other, so if you're comparing it to the '97 budget you're \$2 million over your '97 budget.

Alderman Robert stated so what we're looking at is pretty much 3.6 just for rough numbers for the life of these contracts.

Mr. Sherman replied do they all go out the three-year period. I don't believe they all do, I think most of them are only two.

Alderman Robert stated I guess this is the point I want to make. I don't usually make a point that often but we are looking at six different contracts and we've got a few more on the way. We just got done speaking to people at Parks & Recreation and they told us about the type of money they want to spend, how we would like to have it spent in our own wards. We've had different department heads come in and say we need \$10 million to fix our buildings, we need \$12 million to fix up our parks other than the parks we're just speaking of tonight. Highway Department...people have come in and said we need \$50 million to fix the roads the way they're suppose to be. I cannot and will not support pay raises simply because this is where all of our money has been going and I think we've got to spend more money in these areas and I'm willing to say no to these people to achieve that goal.

Mayor Wieczorek called for a vote on the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Robert duly recorded in opposition.

Ratification of agreement with AFSCME, Local 298 (Educational Assistants) in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented on May 6, 1997.

Alderman Pariseau moved to ratify the agreement with AFSCME, Local 298 (Educational Assistants) in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented on May 6, 1997. Alderman Clancy duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Robert duly recorded in opposition.

Ratification of agreement with the Police Department Support Staff in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented on May 6, 1997.

Alderman Pariseau moved to ratify the agreement with the Police Department Support Staff in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented on May 6, 1997. Alderman Sysyn duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Robert duly recorded in opposition.

Ratification of agreement with Local 298, AFSCME, AFL-CIO (PBS) in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented on May 6, 1997.

Alderman Clancy moved to ratify the agreement with Local 298, AFSCME, AFL-CIO (PBS) in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented on May 6, 1997. Alderman Sysyn duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Robert duly recorded in opposition.

Ratify actions taken May 6, 1997 regarding approval of a salary and benefit improvements package for Non-Affiliated employees.
(Note: memorandum from City Clerk requests clarification within final actions.)

Mayor Wieczorek stated there was a question on this item which had to do with the steps and I think the misunderstanding was that some people are under the impression that steps will take effect when the contract is ratified which will be today and I think our intention was that it be approved effective July 1, 1997. Is that the understanding.

Alderman Pariseau moved to approve a salary and benefit improvements package for Non-Affiliated employees presented on May 6, 1997 with clarification that the 12-month step delay reinstatement to former periods be effective July 1, 1997. Alderman Sysyn duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Domaingue asked is this the contract that includes the two-and-a-half percent for the 21 department heads, then I regret that I have to vote against it.

Mayor Wieczorek called for a vote on the motion. The motion carried with Aldermen Elise, Domaingue, Robert and Hirschmann duly recorded in opposition.

Ratification of agreement with the Manchester Police Patrolman's Association in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented on May 6, 1997.

Alderman Sysyn moved to ratify the agreement with the Manchester Police Patrolman's Association in accordance with the memorandum of agreement and cost calculations presented on May 6, 1997. Alderman Domaingue duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Pariseau and Robert duly recorded in opposition.

TABLED ITEM

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

Confirmation of nominations to the Heritage Commission as follows:

Gregory Goucher to serve as an Alternate, term to expire
January 1, 1998.

David Boutin to serve as an Alternate, term to expire
January 1, 1999.

(Tabled 4/1/97)

Alderman Robert stated I remember when this first came off the table, the idea was that Alderman Elise was going to speak with you and you could talk about your differences of opinion, has that happened yet.

Mayor Wieczorek replied no.

Alderman Robert asked what are we waiting for.

Mayor Wieczorek stated a lot of things have happened here. As a matter of fact, at the last meeting, there was an ordinance that was put in that really is to take away my authority to make the appointment and that's to have the Board made five appointments.

Alderman Robert stated I realize that we might have differences from time-to-time, but the idea was that we were going to try to work something out about a month ago and it hasn't happened. I just feel that the ordinance is the way it is now, you made your nominations, you've done it within your right and your purview. If something doesn't go right with what these people are trying to do you're the guy that is going to get blamed. I don't see why we have to hold this up just because some people don't like some things. I'd like to get the nomination done, have that Commission have that group of people get on with their work and we can settle this or talk about it after-the-fact.

Alderman Elise stated these are alternate position nominations, they're not holding up any business. When the Historic District was in place there were no alternate positions and many conflicts did occur and business was not carried on and that is why those alternate positions were made available. The Mayor has said that he has not talked to me in the past month. I have requested two meetings with him and he has not given me a time at this point. At the last meeting, if you will all recall, it's taped on Channel 40 that the Mayor did say he would talk to Bernie Cowette and before that meeting started I said, Mayor, that is definitely an agreement. When you talk to Bernie and get things...have some communication with Bernie, we can go on. He also said that there were no promises to that and I said I understood that. So, to my knowledge Bernie Cowette has not had a conversation with the Mayor. These are the Mayor's appointments, but the full Board did sign a petition encouraging the Mayor to nominate Bernie

to the Heritage Commission. Bernie was a key factor in having the Heritage Commission come to fruition, he will be recognized this Thursday at the Historic Preservation Awards Dinner and be given an award for leadership in the community. I don't know why the Mayor is reluctant to consider a person with such drive and passion for the history of our City, but the full Board has asked him to nominate him. The amendment to the ordinance which is going to Bills on Second Reading does not take away the power of the Mayor to appoint any position to the Heritage Commission. It does give the option to the Aldermen to appoint alternates if they so chose to do so. The Mayor can appoint every alternate if he so chooses to do that. Presently, I think there are two more alternate positions to be appointed, maybe three I'm not quite sure. I am not opposed to these two positions at all. Maybe, we can come to a compromise, maybe if and I'm not going to tell the Mayor what to do at this particular time, but if the Mayor should choose to appoint Bernie Cowette to one of the other alternate positions, I have no problems with these two positions, but it will be a very sad situation to have these two positions go through and then have the Mayor not even look at Bernie as one of the appointments. I would encourage the Aldermen to look at this as a serious matter. Yes, it's a serious communication breakdown issue also, but I have requested discussions with the Mayor and the Mayor has said he will talk to Bernie and those things haven't happened and I'm sure that there is a compromise that can be made and I'm willing to sit down and compromise.

Mayor Wieczorek stated, Alderman, for the record you never called me.

Alderman Elise stated no, I spoke to you in person twice.

Mayor Wieczorek stated you never asked for a meeting, you didn't call me to set a date for a meeting.

Alderman Elise stated I specifically did at the meeting before last and at one other meeting.

Mayor Wieczorek stated well, we still have a difference of opinion then.

Alderman Elise stated I would say that we do have differences of opinions and viewpoints sometimes but we also can agree on a lot of things and I think if we both sat down and talked about this we can come to a compromise that would benefit everybody.

Mayor Wieczorek stated, Alderman, it is my appointment and I can nominate anybody I want and you have a right to vote for or against that person. What you're trying to do is usurp the authority that I have as the Mayor to make the appointment, that's what you're trying to do and now you're going to send in some watered down version to the Bills on Second Reading saying that the Aldermen and the Mayor can make the nominations.

Alderman Elise interjected on just the alternate positions. If the Aldermen would care to nominate somebody they can, it doesn't take your power away at all.

Mayor Wieczorek stated what you've done is just merely designed it to suit yourself to try to get your way; that basically is what it is.

Alderman Elise stated somebody people have to stand up for things that they believe in and I believe that Bernie has contributed a lot to this community. He initially was the locomotive behind this ordinance and I feel strongly that he should play some role in carrying out this ordinance and I'm not trying to usurp your power, I feel strongly about that and no, Bernie is not a rich man, he does not have a big stature in the community and he does not contribute a lot to people's campaigns, but he has played...

Mayor Wieczorek asked what has that got to do with the campaign. Are you suggesting in some way that we sell commissions or appointments here, is that your suggestion.

Alderman Elise stated I won't get into that at this time.

Alderman Cashin stated all the Alderman has asked is that you set up an appointment to speak to you. Maybe, we could set up an appointment tonight, if your schedule allows.

Mayor Wieczorek replied my schedule does. Come it at eleven o'clock on Friday morning.

Alderman Elise replied I can't make it at eleven o'clock Friday morning.

Alderman Cashin asked when could you make it, Alderman Elise.

Alderman Elise replied I could make it...

Mayor Wieczorek stated I don't have my schedule here.

Alderman Cashin stated you knew this was going to come up, your Honor.

Mayor Wieczorek stated every meeting it comes up.

Alderman Cashin stated so let's try and put it to bed tonight, so it doesn't come up again, please. You're both acting like a couple of kids as far as I'm concerned.

Alderman Elise stated the reason I can't come in at eleven o'clock on Friday is because I have to be at work at that time.

Alderman Cashin asked can't somehow you and she get together and work this thing out, this is the third or fourth time...

Mayor Wiczorek stated okay sometime when you're not working or when you are working would you call Cappy and set up a time for an appointment.

Alderman Elise stated okay, I'll do that.

Alderman Hirschmann asked didn't we do that at the last meeting and we're doing it again.

Alderman Pariseau stated the purpose of it being tabled had nothing to do with Alderman Elise. It had something to do with me wanting to get to Mr. Boutin a personal vendetta. So, this whole fuss about Alderman Elise getting involved because she wants you to nominate a person is kind of embarrassing and I think that Mr. Boutin got the message that was aimed at his direction and we ought to proceed and approve the nomination as an alternate to the Heritage Commission. There is no big deal about the appointment. It had nothing to do with Alderman Elise's concern at all. It was on behalf of Alderman Cashin relative to Juniper Lane or whatever it was.

Alderman Cashin stated something happened in the Planning Board between Alderman Pariseau and Mr. Boutin, I wasn't even there and I don't want to be there. The reason that I think it ought to stay on the table is because there is a difference of opinion between your office and Alderman Elise. It seems to me that it is a very, it should be a very simple thing to straighten out if you just sit down and communicate and try not to communicate here on the Board level. Just go into your office, work it out and come out with some kind of understanding, that's all.

Alderman Soucy stated I have no problem with Mr. Boutin or Mr. Goucher and I have no vendettas against anyone and didn't vote to table this the last time because of anything like that and if you and Alderman Elise haven't met that doesn't even bother me that much. The thing that bothers me is that I did hear you say and it was on Channel 40 that you would speak to Mr. Cowette, not that you would appoint him, but that you would speak to him and it is my understanding this evening that you haven't done so.

Mayor Wiczorek interjected I have not done so, that is correct.

Alderman Soucy stated that was my reason for voting to table it and that's my reason for wanting to keep it on the table again this evening until that conversation out of courtesy to this gentlemen who has put so much effort into getting this ordinance off the ground and getting the Heritage Committee established. Until that courtesy is extended, I won't vote to appoint anyone.

Alderman Clancy stated I echo the same sentiments, your Honor.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin, it was voted that this item remain on the table.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Wieczorek stated I did get a statement made to me from a couple of departments regarding Info Systems and the wonderful job that they did at Hampshire Plaza in getting everything going with the equipment, the telephones and everything else which has been a tremendous job. It's had a few complications, yes it's hard but they went far and above what they really had to do to get the job done. So, I wanted to make sure that they get the recognition that they deserve for really doing an outstanding job over at Hampshire Plaza.

Alderman Pariseau stated we received a memo from the City Clerk relative to a communication from Messrs. French, Lyons and Martel that you requested that the item be removed from the agenda and I'd like to bring it up and make the motion that we do place the question on the 1997 Municipal Election stating

“Are you in favoring of maintaining two acute care hospitals in Manchester. One at Catholic Medical Center on the west side and one at the Elliot Hospital on the east side providing acute diagnostic, clinical, radiological, laboratory and full emergency services.”

Alderman Shea duly seconded the motion.

Mayor Wieczorek stated that deal is done. We took a vote on it, it passed, I vetoed it and sustained the veto. It's over. There was something in the media here just recently about having the maternity ward go back to CMC or to bring it in.

Alderman Pariseau stated that was false, it's not going to happen.

Mayor Wieczorek stated no, it's not going to happen. Nothing is going to happen, it's done, it's finished and you see there was a letter that written to the media...

Alderman Pariseau asked why couldn't we as a Board send to Optima a message and the people of Manchester should be able to send them that message as well. Especially in light of the fact that they moved their corporate headquarters to Bedford, what does Manchester owe them now.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I don't think they're moving the hospital, Alderman.

Alderman Pariseau stated there is no harm in putting it on the ballot, your Honor.

Mayor Wieczorek stated there's a letter that went to the media regarding the maternity ward and I think it's a very lengthy letter and anybody that wants a copy, I will be very happy to give you a copy of it, but it's dated May 8th and basically what they are saying is let's leave things where they are.

Alderman Pariseau stated we're talking about providing a full hospital venue over on the west side as well as the east side. I still dream of an occurrence happening in the City of Manchester that would devastate everyone and it could happen. The Floods of '36, for example. What are we going to do. No hospital over on the west side.

Mayor Wieczorek stated there are not going to be any floods like '36 anymore, they have flood control dams now.

Alderman Pariseau stated don't say that, your Honor, that is what the people of North Dakota thought too, your Honor. But, floods do happen and other emergencies and I think it would behoove us to at least let the people of Manchester have an opportunity to officially recognize and complain to Optima through the ballot box.

Alderman Hirschmann asked didn't Councilor Normand take care of this.

Mayor Wiecezrek replied he had a hearing on it, but it had to do with the refunding of bonds, it had nothing to do with the hospital or the two locations, that was a different deal, that's a political deal.

A member of the audience interjected into the discussion but was not recognized.

Alderman Domaingue stated I understand what you said about the issue having been discussed before but forever in my political life it will bother me when any elected body decides it doesn't want to hear from the people and it wouldn't do this body any harm at all to allow a referendum question on the ballot and if you're correct and the issue has been decided then you shouldn't be afraid of the outcome. So, what is it that we are afraid of by simply allowing the people who elected us to serve them to have their say on an issue that affects their health, their safety, what's the problem here. I don't understand, I don't have a problem with allowing for a referendum question. It isn't going to cost the City any more money. What's the problem. Your Honor, these people just want the opportunity to hear from all of the City regarding the future of health care in the City of Manchester. I don't see a problem with it.

Alderman Robert stated I also have no objection to putting it on the ballot. It affects my district really head on and a lot of people feel very strongly about it. But, I just want to say this and it might lead toward your way of thinking. The last election, this whole issue was molded and it turned into a political weapon and it really corrupted what we were trying to do and it took the

focus out of trying to save the hospital and it put it on getting certain people elected and certain people thrown out. I just want to say I resent that and I want to say that I'd like to refocus the effort, if it's possible at all on taking care of the needs of the people on that side of town, the cultural identify of the people on that side of town. We've got to refocus it on the good. Even though it may be a done deal, these people made up their minds and there's no turning back. I don't see any harm in putting it on a ballot and I think if we resisted it will be used as a political weapon against whoever they decide to use it against for whatever reason. I think it would negate the thrust of what was done last election.

Mayor Wieczorek called for a vote on the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Cashin duly recorded as abstaining.

Alderman Reiniger stated I was gone for a couple of weeks and when I came back the last few weeks in the center city of Manchester there have been a number of organizations that have been applying and receiving liquor licenses of various types including the building that was known as The Zoo. To refresh the Board's memory back in the Spring of '94 we went through this. Month's prior to that The Zoo's liquor license had been revoked by the State Liquor Commission. The Board upon learning that others were reapplying for liquor licenses asked the State Liquor Commission, this Board voted to impose a moratorium and asked the State Liquor Commission to, in the future, notify us of every application for a liquor license and to give us time to review it in the Traffic/Public Safety Committee and if necessary to ask for a hearing in Concord and the State Liquor Commission responded in an approving manner and recognized our requests and in 1994/95 did send us copies of all applications for liquor licenses in the City and we did hold a hearing specifically on The Zoo, the Traffic/Public Safety Committee voted to recommend not allowing this and we asked for a hearing in Concord and they granted the hearing and the Liquor Commission denied the request. As you all know there has been a legal battle over an ordinance the Board passed to regulate the sale of liquor and regulate the bars and is now in the State Supreme Court, it is pending. Carol Johnson of the City Clerk's Office in late '95 while this legal battle was going on when it had started we again requested that the Liquor Commission honor our prior requests to notify us about every liquor license application. But, unfortunately, the State Liquor Commission apparently has shifted its policy and is now in the last few months been accepting applications without notifying the City and has gone ahead without giving us any chance to oppose these applications through a hearing in Concord and has been granting licenses and this is very bad for the City potentially and I would ask that this Board send another communication to the State Liquor Commission asking that they notify us of all applications for liquor licenses of any type including beer, wine in the City and to give us at least thirty (30) days to review each of these in our Public Safety Committee and then give us a chance to ask for a hearing in Concord.

Alderman Pariseau duly seconded the motion.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I think we did get into that with the Citizens Club and the Liquor Commission issued that license and we were wondering why we never heard about it and the response we got was I guess they don't have to tell us about it. So, Tom, do you have any feelings on that from a legal standpoint what happens. Because I know there are a lot of applications going in now.

Solicitor Clark replied I believe the way the statutes are situated right now they do not have a legal obligation to send us a notice. I know that a few years ago when the Board did ask them to, they said they would and they started doing it. I don't know why they changed their position, but you have the right to ask them to do it again.

Alderman Reiniger stated I have a letter February 22, 1994 signed by the three Liquor Commissioners at the time and they specifically said "an alternative cities and towns have is to request the Liquor Commission to hold a hearing on a case-by-case basis prior to the issuance of the particular license" and they also said "the Liquor Commission in a good faith effort to keep the City of Manchester fully informed with regard to pending applicants has agreed to send copies of all pending requests for licensure to the Office of the City Clerk." I don't know why they stopped doing that over the last few months, but it's been bad for the City and I think we should ask them again and bring to their attention that this is a serious problem for Manchester.

Mayor Wieczorek asked, Carol, do you remember getting any or have there not been any for a long time.

Clerk Johnson replied the State Liquor Commission was forwarding all applications but in recent months has not done so. I believe that they stopped at the time that the bar license came up and because they had to get bar licenses they weren't forwarding the applications and then when that all went into the court process they just stopped sending them. We can certainly send a letter on behalf of the Board to request that they do so again, if that is the Board's desire.

Mayor Wieczorek called for a vote on the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman Cashin stated I have a meeting at two o'clock on Friday afternoon with the Liquor Enforcement Officer, if you'd care for me to convey this letter, I'd be more than happy to.

OTHER BUSINESS

Communication from the Chief Negotiator requesting to meet with the Board for a negotiation strategy session.

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

Mayor Wieczorek called the meeting back to order.

The clerk noted that Aldermen Wihby and Robert had left the meeting.

Mr. Hodgen addressed the Board advising that if the Board so desired a motion was in order to approve the School Principals contract in accordance with the memorandum of agreement May 16, 1997 subject to Rule 26 of the Board. Mr. Hodgen noted the contract included a wage increase of 3% on July 1, 1997, 3% July 1, 1998, and 3% July 1, 1999; added an additional work day commencing on July 1, 1997; and that there was no change in the Blue Choice, this group already being on it. There were no steps involved.

On motion of Alderman Shea, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to approve the contract as outlined in the memorandum of understanding dated May 16, 1997, subject to Rule 26 of the Board. Alderman Reiniger, and Alderman Domaingue were duly recorded in opposition.

Alderman Domaingue requested that a copy of all of the contracts be forwarded to her in complete form. Mr. Hodgen advised he would do so.

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

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk