

**SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN
(PUBLIC PARTICIPATION)**

November 5, 1997

**7:00 PM
School Administration Bldg.
196 Bridge Street**

In the absence of the Mayor, Chairman Wihby called the meeting to order.

Present: Aldermen Wihby, Elise, Reiniger, Soucy, Shea, Domaingue, Cashin,
Robert and Hirschmann. Aldermen Sysyn and Clancy arrived late.

Absent: Alderman Pariseau

Chairman Wihby advised that the purpose of the special meeting is to give residents of Manchester the opportunity to address the Board on items of concern affecting the community; that each person will be given only one opportunity to speak and any comments shall be limited to two minutes to allow all participants the opportunity to speak and any comments must be directed to the Chair.

Chairman Wihby asked that any resident wishing to speak come forward to the nearest microphone, clearly state their name and address when recognized, and give their comments.

JoAnn St. Pierre, 816 Elm Street, Suite 344, For Manchester stated:

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the coalition's most recent activities. Last week For Manchester's Celebrate Education Committee hosted a reception celebrating the educational endeavors of over 90 parents, community partners, teachers and staff members who have made outstanding contributions of their time and talent to their respective schools. I'm pleased to say there was 100 percent participation. All 31 public, private and parochial K-12 schools in Manchester joined in honoring these individuals. Tomorrow For Manchester and Public Service Company of New Hampshire will host the grand opening ceremony of the newly constructed Amoskeag Falls Scenic Overlook. This 30 foot by 40 foot deck is the result of the outstanding work and commitment of the Riverfront Development Committee and Public Service. The overlook will be open to the public for two weeks, close for the winter, and reopen in the spring in time we hope to see water rushing over the falls. We hope you will make every effort to join us at Noon. Finally, For Manchester will host a public forum next Monday the 10th at 7:00 PM at Central High School's Practical Arts Auditorium. At that time we will present a report to the community on the successes we have achieved in the last ten months. We will also take time to break out into the existing For Manchester action committees so citizens will have an opportunity to learn more about the initiatives. We welcome new members, new partnerships and new ideas that will help make Manchester a better place to visit, to work and to live. We hope you will join us next Monday evening. Thank you.

Linda Hatzibiros, Bedford, New Hampshire stated:

I am here tonight to request a four way stop sign on the corner of North and Russell Street. My reason for attending tonight's public hearing is to address my concerns as a parent. My son attends St. Catherine School and this morning while driving him into school we were involved in an auto accident at the corner of Russell and North Street. I stopped at the stop sign on Russell Street going north, looked both ways and proceeded to pull out to park my vehicle on North Street in front of St. Catherine's entrance for kindergarten students, and also where mothers, fathers and children were nearby on the sidewalks. As I was pulling to the sidewalk my vehicle was struck, spun around by a truck traveling down North Street which seemed to appear out of nowhere. The truck collided with my vehicle and landed somewhat on the sidewalk where the mothers, fathers and children were waiting for the doors to open to the school. When my husband arrived to pick me up we witnessed another vehicle traveling at a very unreasonable speed through a school zone. As a parent and a long time resident of Manchester, I feel very disappointed by the measures taken to make this school zone safe. I have recently learned that this particular issue of slowing down traffic on North Street was addressed four years ago, and the only measures for prevention were speed traps which I feel did not work on preventing accidents from occurring. The potential for a major tragedy is staring us in the face. A child could have been in my place this morning and nothing is posted to slow vehicles down through this area. I am requesting to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen your assistance to obtain a four way stop sign or slow down near the intersection of North and Russell Streets. I hope I can make a difference. My son and I and people on the sidewalks were very fortunate today to be alive, but there is always a next time and next time should not be affordable. Thank you.

Chairman Wihby stated he understood it was already in the Traffic Committee; they were looking at it.

Alderman Elise suggested that this lady's testimony be sent to the Traffic Committee.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated she would forward same to the Committee.

Alderman Robert stated that he had requested that the Traffic Committee develop a policy on four way stop signs every year since I've been here and I haven't gotten anywhere. We have to use them, there are times and places where they are beneficial, and we should really try to work at that. We can't just say no anymore, it's not working out saying no.

Alderman Cashin stated under the emergency provisions if it were the will of the Board you could instruct the Highway Department to put it in, it could be in as fast as tomorrow if you wanted to do it.

Chairman Wihby stated that they couldn't do it at this meeting, but could at the regular meeting, and asked if it were in the committee.

Deputy Clerk Johnson advised that it was on the agenda for the next Traffic meeting scheduled for 6 PM on November 18.

Omer Beaudoin, 835 River Road, Manchester, New Hampshire stated:

As you know I've leveled some very serious charges against one of the board members of the ZBA. I gave you another letter today, probably it would give you a little more clarification on the history of this member. He was sworn in March 4th of this year, and as he was sworn in he gave the address to the ZBA of 1000 Auburn Street. Now I went around and looked around at 1000 Auburn Street, it was vacant and boarded up. So I inquired from two abutters, found that he had never lived there, he bought the property turned it over four months later to the Elliot Hospital. On March 28, 1997 he turned the property over and then the warranty deed, you'll see a copy of it, he swore under oath that he lived on Fifth Avenue in Nashua. Also in April when he turned over the house with his daughter, he co-owned the house with his daughter, he also used the address Fifth Avenue in Nashua. In July of 1997 he was a litigant in action in Merrimack County Superior Court. There he listed the address of PO Box 86 Pittsfield, New Hampshire. In September, on or about September, he told the clerk of the ZBA that he was living at 124 Renard Street, so by the way I advised the Police, the AG, and the County Attorney of all of my doings, so I didn't go to Renard Street on a barring whim, they all knew what I was doing, in case they called and said there was a kook around, using his term. So I spoke to all the abutters and got the same story, he had never lived there, his brother and sister live there, they are nice people, they don't want to be bothered, they're fantastic neighbors. One of the abutters is Daniel O'Neil, Alderman-Elect at Large. He corroborated the same story. The state law as you know states that you must be a resident of the municipality to be a ZBA member, either elected or appointed. Now I'm not representing just myself in this endeavor, I am a member of 125 strong of the North End Association, the officers know that I am representing them. I went pro-se not et al because it would require signatures every time I made a motion. I'm going to be making all kinds of motions in court, and this way it eliminates all this dual having meetings and everybody sign. So that's why I'm alone on this but I am not alone. I'm alone in the litigation part of it. Before this goes to Superior Court and I start subpoenaing all these neighbors and that why don't we just end it here. You are the appointing authority. You can do something about this right now. Tonight. That's all I have to say.

Chairman Wihby stated he was a registered voter somewhere else but did he vote, do you know.

Mr. Beaudoin responded he was a registered voter in Laconia.

Chairman Wihby asked if he voted.

Mr. Beaudoin responded he did not know. He has property in Laconia and the tax bill is sent to South Porter Street. He also has a car registered in Litchfield.

Steve Vaillancourt, 161 Faith Lane, Manchester, New Hampshire stated:

I come to you tonight not as a voter or as a citizen but as one of your State reps and I wish to discuss briefly three issues of concern that converge at the city and state level. I think you

remember I spoke before you last summer and discussed that the airport access road final public hearing was pending. Well I believe we now have the final date, hasn't been released yet, but I was with Commissioner Kennison earlier and I believe it will be January 8, 1998, at the Manchester Armory. So we are finally making progress toward the Manchester access road and the final public hearing. I believe you will see that announced shortly. I also was called into Speaker Donna Sytek's office today after she received a letter from a constituent, actually the constituent was not in Manchester but in Litchfield, but this shows how airport concerns transcend city and town lines. The Speaker was concerned because she received this about the noise at the airport and I think now perhaps is a good time to address this since the election is over and we can't say that this is a political issue, but I think this is an issue that we are going to have to face especially now because it seems to be going beyond Manchester, but to the state level. I'll just quote a couple of lines from this writer "What most concerns us is the increase of flights between 11:00 PM And 6:00 AM in the morning, and the lack of concern that the industry shows for us, the citizens. I am concerned for my children and their ability to perform in school when they are awoken on a daily basis at 2, 3 or 4 in the morning." The writer goes on to assert something which I have to say I do not agree with, that the expansion of the airport will be of no benefit to the community. I disagree with that strongly, but I do agree with the final summation "we must have some type of regulations to monitor and restrict these types of flights." Perhaps in the not to distant future we could set up a meeting with airport officials, residents of Manchester and surrounding communities, as I say it's not just Manchester but surrounding communities, and try to at least get an explanation about the changing flight patterns that lead to the disruption of lives at these hours in the morning. Again I don't wish to make this a political think at all it's something that we should deal with in the common light, and the cold light of common sense the morning after. Finally, I sent members of the Board and will be giving new members of the Board information if they have not yet received it concerning my bill, that I introduced in Concord to investigate the merger of CMC and the Elliot Hospital to find out if any state laws were violated or misrepresentations made in the past and up to the current moment. This is a bill that will be going before committee. It has co-sponsors of state reps and state senators of both parties, and I mention this in light of yesterday's vote in the referendum question #1. Those who said it was a done deal are soon realizing that this deal is becoming undone. I listened to Channel 9 tonight and heard the comments from Peter Davis that the vote yesterday means nothing. But when you spend over a half a million dollars to defeat a question that you claim has no merit or will mean nothing it's simply amazing. When you spend \$152.00 per vote on something you say is meaningless to quote alderman at large elect Daniel O'Neil "This displays the ultimate in corporate arrogance." This is precisely the reason I introduced my bill, to find out if any laws were violated or misrepresentations made. Now Optima Health people are claiming that the two to one margin was smaller than expected. Well as publicly elected officials I'm sure all of you realize that a two to one margin any governor, president, or mayor would see as veto proof. I'm sure any of you would be envious of a two to one margin, Alderman Reiniger notwithstanding perhaps. Two to one margin is significant, and as politicians we all know there is such a thing as spin control. But I say to Optima Health you can spin it all you want spin it like a top, but this is just the top, the tip of an

iceberg of public opinion and there is no way you can spin this top. This cannot be spun. This is something that will spin out of control at the local and the state level. Thank you very much.

There being no one else wishing to speak, on motion of Alderman Soucy, seconded by Alderman Clancy, it was voted to take all comments under advisement and further to receive and file any written documentation presented.

This being a Special Meeting of the Board no further business was presented and on motion of Alderman Sysyn, duly seconded by Alderman Soucy, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk