

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

April 7, 1998

7:00 PM

Mayor Wieczorek called the meeting to order.

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

A moment of silent prayer was observed with special thoughts of Mrs. Shea, Sean Thomas' mother who passed away yesterday.

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

Present: Aldermen Wihby, Klock, Reiniger, Sysyn, Clancy, Pinard, Shea,
O'Neil, Girard, Rivard, Pariseau, Cashin, Thibault, Hirschmann

Mayor Wieczorek advised that the purpose of the special meeting was to give residents of Manchester the opportunity to address the Board on items of concern affecting the community; that each person would 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.

Mayor Wieczorek requested that any resident wishing to speak come forward to the nearest microphone, clearly state their name and address when recognized, and give their comments.

Tyler Shaff, Amherst, NH, stated:

There are three things I'd like to propose to the City. The first issue is the City Seal and its representation, I'd like to ask if you'd consider using the "M" seal making the seals and their shields and their representations as correct as they can be. The second issue I'd like to bring up is the cruisers for the Manchester Police Department. I'd like to ask the City consider buying Chevy Lumina police cars. There is an issue with these cars and some people say they are too small for a cruiser, perhaps Chevrolet could modify the drivers seat and the third issue is very much outside of the City, but I'd like to ask your support on this is the issue of the prison in the City of Berlin be moved to another town outside of Berlin and that is all I have to say. Thank you very much.

Mayor Wieczorek stated, Mr. Shaff, if I could ask you, you live in Amherst, how is it you have an interest in all these things here around the State and Manchester.

Mr. Shaff replied I have a strong interest in the City, Sir.

Rev. Vera Wingate, Bethany Chapel, Manchester, NH, stated:

I'm Pastor of Bethany Chapel and Community Church United of Christ which on Newbury Road. I come before the City Board of Aldermen this evening because our church received a letter from the Chamber of Commerce from the Greater Manchester area the week of March 23rd stating that our church was in an area that would possibly fall into a proposed boundary expansion of the Foreign Trade Zone. This concerns us as a church we have compiled a letter which will be sent, which was mailed today and will be delivered tomorrow to all the parties concerned and I would like to read into the record the church's response to this proposed expansion of the Foreign Trade Zone.

Dear Ms. McLintock:

In reference to your letter of March 23, 1998, in which you cited that the City of Manchester and the Town of Londonderry intends to submit FTZ (Foreign Trade Zone) Expansion regarding property owned by Bethany Chapel, please be advised that the Division of Historical Resources informs us the church (Map and Parcel 28-2) and the property next door (Map and Parcel 28-3) have been identified as worthy of consideration for the National Register. If the church or the vacant house next door (owned by the airport, according to Mr. Alfred Testa), should be affected by a Federally funded, assisted, or licensed undertaking, then additional research should be done and eligibility should be completed.

The church would like a map of the proposed expansion of the FTZ 81. We look forward to hearing from you.

Most sincerely,

s/Malcolm Morgrage, Moderator
s/The Rev. Vera M. Wingate, Pastor

Rev. Wingate stated I would like to share with you briefly just a little bit about the history of this area. The church was founded in 1891, for 107 years this church has been standing in this place, it has had its doors open to the public serving the people of the Goffs Falls and the greater community we still serve that community today. We have numerous scattered groups that meet in our church, a number of brownie troops that meet in our church, our church doors are open to other groups from the City of Manchester and church groups that meet there. We have numerous weddings at the chapel, as well. And, furthermore, this area our church overlooks Pine Island Pond which was originally the Cohas Brook area. Cohas Brook area was settled in 1720 by the first white man to come to this area, Colonel John Roth. Colonel Roth built a house in 1734 at the Cohas Brook site. In fact, he moved in 1738 to Bedford, but this area was settled before Derryfield which is a predecessor of Manchester, so this area is the genesis of Manchester itself. In 1907, the Cohas Brook was dammed up by the Manchester Traction and Light Company which bought the properties surrounding the area to form Pine Island Park and Pine Island Pond. The Park was closed in 1965, so you see the property as it stands today has developed. This is the only area in what was Goffs Falls that had a rich and wonderful history

valuable to the City of Manchester. So, I ask your consideration to look closely at what the expansion of a Foreign Trade Zone might do to this community. Thank you.

Jackie Domaingue, 102 Donahue Drive, Manchester, NH, stated:

I'm here this evening in support of the Bethany Chapel Community Church's request to give additional information on the expansion of the Foreign Trade Zone and I'm also here tonight to read into the record a letter from Greg Weeden who is a scout master for Boy Scout Troop 113, he was unable to attend this evening's forum.

Mr. Mayor, Members of the Alderman Board:

My name is Gregory Weeden. I live at 130 Westwood Drive, Manchester, NH 03103. I am the Scoutmaster for the local Boy Scout Troop, the Committee chairman for the local Cub Scout Pack, a member of the Bethany Chapel and the Chairman of our minister's Doctorate Site Team. Because of a previously scheduled 4-H Committee meeting, I am unable to attend tonight's forum. I have asked Jackie Domaingue to read this for the record. I am addressing a situation in South Manchester that has recently been brought to my attention.

The Bethany Chapel and Scout units are interested in our community's history and welfare. Speaking for many parishioners, leaders, Scouts and families, I was dismayed when it was learned that a valuable historic building is slated to be razed by the airport. The building in question sits at the top of Newbury Road and is in no obvious way an impediment to the airport expansion, either physical or commercial.

There is no Community Center or other gathering place south of the 293 overpass that citizens and groups may utilize for community purposes. The only facility that was available burned three years ago when the 4-H at Pine Island Park burned. It has not been replaced nor has there been any obvious activity to get it replaced. This building would be a fitting repository for local history as well as a community meeting place; both of which are sorely needed in our community.

I have gone back over the maps and other documentation received from the FAA, as submitted by Mr. Testa and the Airport Commission, and have found that this building lies outside the expansion zone. The closest the expansion zone comes to this building is through the circle further up the hill from the church itself. It would be a shame to raze a building that has historical value to Goffe's Falls and the City of Manchester. It would be a further mark against this community if this or any other property were to be taken for inclusion in the Foreign Trade Zone proposed for the airport. Progress is good, but communities need to be thought of as well.

Respectfully submitted,

s/Gregory J. Weeden

Ms. Domaingue stated if I may add a couple of comments. If, in fact, the Foreign Trade Zone would be expanded we hope that the Chamber of Commerce as well as the business community and the Board of Mayor and Aldermen would see fit to hold a public hearing so that the community at-large in the general area could also add input. The Board should be requesting and I would hope that you would an update on the boundaries for the Foreign Trade Zone as well as the current status of a lease that was referred to by former Congressman Louis Wyman in a letter to Bethany Chapel dated August 14, 1970 where he acknowledges that the City leases the property that abuts Bethany Chapel to the U. S. government and the lease is a 40-year lease running from July 1996 to June 2007. It behooves the community to at least get the facts before any further expansion of a Foreign Trade Zone is discussed. The tiny church that comes before

you tonight has roots all throughout the foundation of this community and you owe it to these people. Thank you.

Alderman Rivard stated I have been in touch with Gregory Weeden, he contacted me two days ago. I have been in touch with Mr. Testa who is aware of his concern...it's interesting and I share your concerns, Jackie, about the church, but he never mentioned the church to me. He was concerned about Pine Island Pond and he was wondering if there was going to be some activities in Pine Island Pond that this expansion was going to create. Mr. Testa gave me the name of an individual, I was in touch with Mr. Weeden, I left a message with him, I gave him the individual who to talk to and I told him that I would be talking to the Board about this. So, there is information available to him, he will be getting it, but I didn't realize the church was involved, so we will expand our research on this and I'm sure we'll be able to try to assist him in his efforts to resolve this matter. So, we're working together.

Alderman Hirschmann stated she brought up a building that was razed, didn't we get a check to rebuild that building.

Ms. Domaigne replied the City got a check for \$107,000 that was supposed to be in a fund, Alderman Hirschmann, which was supposed to be reserved for the purpose of rebuilding on that site.

Alderman Hirschmann asked is that building going to be rebuilt, can anyone answer that.

Ms. Domaigne stated if I may, your Honor, we're talking about two different places, Alderman Hirschmann, this is a different building.

Mayor Wiczorek stated you are talking about the church and the building immediately east of the church which is on Newbury Road, the site that the money is being held in reserve for should be is the former Pine Island 4-H site on Brown Avenue.

State Rep. Don Welch, 147 Boutwell Street, Manchester, NH, stated:

I want to thank the eleven Board members that voted two sessions ago relative to maintaining two acute care facilities in the City of Manchester. With that said, the Attorney General's office three and a half weeks ago issued a report and is evident in today's newspaper, I don't know if any of you got a chance to see it..."Optima Still Doesn't Get It"...tomorrow evening, the Mayor's Task Force is meeting and I ask each and every one of you to come down to that meeting to show support for the people in the City of Manchester that have voted for two acute care facilities in the City of Manchester. Thank you.

Alderman Pariseau asked where is the meeting.

The Clerk replied it was scheduled for 7:00 PM in the Public Service Company of NH auditorium, located at 1000 Elm Street in the lower level.

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

There being no further business to come before the special meeting, on motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Reiniger, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk