

BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

June 2, 1998

7:30 PM

Mayor Wieczorek called the meeting to order.

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 recessed the meeting to allow individuals wishing to leave to do so.

Mayor Wieczorek called the meeting back to order.

Presentation to the June recipient(s) of the "Spirit of Manchester" Award.

Mayor Wieczorek stated the Spirit of Manchester Award Committee recently convened and selected an individual to be honored in the month of June for outstanding service to the City of Manchester. The parameters of the award state that the recipient should "have contributed to the improvement of the quality of life in Manchester," performing acts that are "clearly above and beyond the call of duty." This month's winner is Jane Beaulieu, known city-wide as a leader in the field of conservation and beautification. She founded the Pine Street Community Garden, where families living in the center-city can come to cultivate vegetables and plants. She currently works on a Merrimack River restoration project with the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission. She advises local chapters of Students for Environmental action, coordinates Eagle Scout projects, chairs the Manchester Conservation Commission, and is a Tree Steward with the New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. Perhaps the most recognizable of her many achievements have occurred while serving as Chairwoman of the FOR MANCHESTER Beautification Committee. Each spring and summer, she spearheads efforts to place flower barrels around the Queen City, including the Downtown area. From roadsides, to median strips, to sidewalks, Beaulieu's work has been enjoyed by thousands of passers-by. In the first year of the program, 33 flower-filled barrels graced the byways of Manchester. This year, that number should reach 100. Jane Beaulieu has worked tirelessly on behalf of local conservationists and supporters of City beautification. She has dedicated herself to these causes, making improvements in the nature and environment that the whole community shares. Her actions are generous and far-reaching, as generations to come will reap the benefits of her selfless sacrifice. So, Jane, I want to extend our congratulations to you on behalf of the City and Alderman Cashin who is your Alderman will present the award.

Ms. Beaulieu stated I am only going to speak for a few minutes. Thank you very much for the honor. I'd like to really recognize a few people who have been working with me on the

Beautification Committee and one outstanding volunteer is Dr. Eugene Rheault, I don't know if he's here but he has put in hundreds of hours planting flowers around town, gardens, and helping me out whenever I need help. Sue Heydock, Cassie Dionne, Sharon Pinard, I do work with the residents at The Stark House often whenever I have a project where we need volunteers, they are always ready to work with me -- Brenda Pekowitz, Tom Houghton, and I'd like to really thank the Conservation Commission members for doing outstanding work and the work we do is very important. We are here protecting natural resources and there are very few of us that are active in the community doing this and I'd like to recognize Kathleen Brown, Todd Connors, and I would like to recognize at this time Ron Johnson who is Deputy Director of Parks & Rec who is always, always there for me to help me out in whatever I do and also local businesses have donated money to help place planters around town and what I'm doing is I'm trying to increase community pride, bring a lot of life and color into the City and just bring...I've been serving on the Conservation Commission for ten years and it's been a pleasure to be on the Commission and hope to be on the Commission for another ten years because I'm very much needed. So, anyway, thank you. I'm just joking, but anyway, thanks a lot, I appreciate it.

Mayor Wieczorek stated Alderman Thibault has brought to my attention that we have four Scouts here, Deven Martin, Stephen Martin, Eric Laurendeau, and Travis Boyd who are working toward their Citizenship in the Community from their Scout Troop, so we want to welcome them also.

Presentation by Robert J. Stanton, Executive Director of the Contributory Retirement System and Ms. Stephanie Cowley of William M. Mercer (the System's Actuary) of proposed benefit provisions regarding pre and post 1974 employees.

Mr. Stanton stated thank you for the opportunity to appear before you tonight with respect to some benefit improvements for the Retirement System. I'm going to give a brief presentation as to how we got before you this evening. Late 1997, the Board of Trustees moved to solicit plan participant recommendations with respect to the Retirement System and how the System could be improved in their view. As a result of that in January and February of this year, we received those solicitations and those solicitations were primarily through the employee groups of the City of Manchester, they weren't individual solicitations but through the union representations that they do have. As a result of those proposals, we met with the various groups in March of this year, as well, to discuss the proposals that they put forth to us. As a result of those proposals, the Board moved to conduct an actuarial study by William N. Mercer regarding the proposals that the Board felt could benefit those employees. As a result of the study, you have that before you this evening, the Board further reviewed that with the Systems Actuary, Miss Stephanie Cowley of William M. Mercer. As a result of that discussion and meeting with her the Board's consensus was to bring before you a couple of proposals this evening, as I said of which you do have. Now, those proposals Miss Cowley will go over with you this evening and certainly if there are any questions with respect to the funding levels, they are certainly

proposals that do certainly cost money. There are additional proposals that the Board did look at as well that are not before you tonight because the Board felt that they were in excess of what we, the City could certainly afford to move forward with and again I'm not sure if this is the best evening to come forward to you people with respect to benefit improvements. But, nonetheless, we're here before you tonight. I would like Miss Cowley now, if you would turn to that particular section of your agenda to review those numbers with you, I'm sure if there are any questions and before I get into that I do apologize about introducing the other members that are here this evening. First, is Stephanie Cowley from William M. Mercer who is the System's Actuary, Michael Roche who is Chairman of the Retirement Board, and Kerry Herlihy who is a Trustee on the Board as well and we're here to certainly answer any questions you may have in addition to what you may have for Stephanie, thank you.

Ms. Cowley stated the first change we will talk about is the exhibit labeled Exhibit I and both of the changes that we are going to speak about tonight impact active participants of the City only, employees currently working. The first improvement is with regard to the benefit formula. The improvement is to increase the formula from 1.5% of final average earnings for all years of service to 2% of final average earnings for service after the effective date of this change. There is no increase for service prior to the date of the change. At the same time, there would be an increase to the employee contribution rate from 2.5% of pay to 3.75% of pay. So, what is happening here is there is cost-sharing, the employer cost is going up and the employee cost is going up. The annual cost to the City is approximately \$395,000 and the increase to the employee's is \$348,000; that's the first benefit improvement being considered. The second benefit improvement being considered is attached in the May 26, 1998 letter in the letter that Bob Stanton sent out. This change impacts only pre-1974 hires that are participants in the City's plan. The improvement is to allow participants who have 20 years of service to be able to retire with unreduced benefits immediately once they have achieved the 20 years of service. This is a small population of individuals impacted because it's pre-74 hires and of the individuals impacted approximately half are not currently eligible for unreduced benefits. Can I answer any questions regarding these two questions.

Alderman Girard asked are these pre-74 employees, are they currently members of the Retirement System now or are they pensioners under the old system.

Ms. Cowley replied they are current members of the City...active participants of the City plan right now.

Mr. Stanton stated I'd like to make another point if I may, Mayor. Currently, with what Stephanie just said there are approximately 63 members currently of the System who are pre-1974 employees, of those 63, 31 currently meet either the normal retirement age of 62 and have the minimum of 20 years of service or their age plus years of service total 80 again with a minimum of 20 years of service. So, those individuals currently could leave the City of

Manchester right now at a minimum of half pay and certainly could be upwards of that depending on the years of service they do have. The other group of people and also pre-74 who don't quite meet the Rule of 80 at this particular point, they certainly and time will certainly achieve that 80 point rule, but this amendment if approved would allow those individuals to retire after the 20 years of service. Now, Alderman Girard mentioned whether or not these were people who were in the Old Retirement System. From my understanding there are somewhere between and I don't have an exact number...60 to 75 people that are currently still working for the City who remained in the Old Retirement System. I guess it would behoove the City from a liability standpoint for those people to join the System because currently as you are all well aware the City does fund the Old System as a pay as you go system and I know that there is somewhere between a \$20 - \$25 million unfunded liability out there that the City has to certainly carry on its books because of the fact that you have people currently on the Old Retirement System receiving benefits and those people who will receive benefits out into the future and there is no monies that have been put aside to fund those benefits. So, if we could, it would behoove the City if we could get those individuals who are currently into the Old Plan into the Retirement System now and that certainly would wipe out that unfunded liability on the City's side. In addition to that, those members who work for the City would certainly stand to gain substantially by joining the New Retirement System because basically they're benefit is 50% of what they earn and that's on their base pay. In the Contributory System it's 50% of your base earnings which includes vacation, severance, and sick leave severance as well and overtime certainly that is included in a person's gross salary, so that person who could go from the Old System to the New System certainly would benefit quite a bit. In addition to that, which I think is a great selling point for the City is that all of those members who haven't joined the system who are in the Old Plan certainly have their 20 years of service now. Now, if they were to pass away today or tomorrow on the job, they're family would not be entitled to any benefits whatsoever. If they were to move over to the Contributory System then if something were to happen to them while they were employed their spouse would be entitled to a pension for their lifetime and if they had dependent children upon the death of the spouse they would be covered up to age 25. So, there are certainly a lot of reasons why this City should try to get those people in the Old System into the New System and in addition to that the Retirement System provides COLA's pretty much on an annual basis and under the Old System there are no COLA's provided as well.

Mayor Wiczorek asked are there any questions from the members of the Board.

Alderman Shea asked are there members under the Old System who are reluctant to join the other retirement system.

Mr. Stanton replied, Alderman Shea, I'm not sure if they're reluctant, I think the reason why they don't join is that they have to come up in cash with the amount of contributions plus

interest they would have paid in since 1974 through the date that they join the plan and with some people you're looking with coming up to twenty or thirty thousand dollars in cash.

Alderman Shea stated so what you're saying is if it were open to them they would willing come in, is that correct, that's your assumption.

Mr. Stanton replied I would assume that some people would join if the proposed amendment we have tonight were to happen, certainly.

Alderman Shea stated I happen to know a woman whose husband worked for the Highway Department who was one of the unfortunate people, her husband passed away about a month or so after he retired and obviously she's left without any compensation, I think that we should try to be as helpful for them as we can.

Mr. Stanton stated the Retirement System, we are more than happy, if the City would like, we'd be more than happy to sit down with those people who are still in the Old Retirement System and show them the advantages of joining the system. Certainly, one that their final benefit at retirement is certainly going to be greater than what they're receiving or would receive at retirement. In addition, they're going to have benefits that would continue on to a spouse and certainly to me that is the overriding issue that the spouse is going to be taken care of in case something does occur.

Ms. Cowley stated for the record I had discussed the cost-impact of the first benefit change. I do believe that I did not discuss the cost-impact of the second change for the pre-74 employees who might be eligible for unreduced benefits if this were passed and that cost-impact to the City is \$42,000 annually.

Alderman Sysyn moved that this item be referred to the Committee on Human Resources/Insurance. Alderman Pariseau duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approve Under the Supervision of the Department of Highways

- A. Bell Atlantic Pole Petition #697948.
- B. Communication from Stephen Tierney, Utility Coordinating, requesting

approval of sidewalk and curb petitions under the 50/50 Program subject to the availability of funds.

Informational to be Received and Filed

- C.** Communication from Mayor Wieczorek advising that a vacancy exists on the Manchester Conservation Commission to replace Brett Gifford who has resigned, term to expire August 1, 1999.
- D.** Copy of a communication from Grace Sullivan to Alderman Pariseau and members of the Committee on Administration inviting them to a tour of the Lowell Telecommunications Corporation public access studio and production facility on Tuesday, June 23, 1998.
- E.** Copies of minutes of a meeting held on May 6, 1998 of the Task Force on the Future of Health Care in Manchester.
- F.** Communication from Executive Councilor Normand submitting a copy of the May 27, 1998 Governor and Executive Council agenda.
- H.** Communication from The Elks Lodge inviting Board members to participate in ceremonies honoring the Flag of our country on Sunday, June 14, 1998 at 2:00 PM at Veterans Park.

REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON BILLS ON SECOND READING

I. Ordinances:

“Amending Sections 33.024, 33.025 and 33.026 (Second Deputy Finance Directory/Treasury Manager) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester.”

“Amending Sections 33.024 and 33.025 (Urban Forester) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester.”

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

- K.** Communication from John Mark expressing an interest in purchasing City-owned property located at the corner of Lake Avenue and Unions Streets.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

L. Bond Resolutions:

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) for the 1999 CIP 221799 Dental Van.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Six Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$625,000) for the 1999 CIP 420299 Somerville Street Station Renovations.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of One Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$125,000) for the 1999 CIP 420399 Fire Station Generators.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Two Million Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,900,000) for the 1999 CIP 650599 UNH Land Acquisition.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$450,000) for the 1999 CIP 710199 Bridge Rehabilitation Project.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of One Hundred Five Thousand Dollars (\$105,000) for the 1999 CIP 710299 TIP Improvement Project.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) for the 1999 CIP 710899 Annual Right of Way Reconstruction.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for the 1999 CIP 710999 Annual Parking Facilities Improvement Program.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Thirty Five Million Dollars (\$35,000,000) for the 1999 CIP 730499 Airport Parking Garage.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) for the 1999 CIP 730799 Site Acquisition & Stead Aviation Relocation.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000) for the 1999 CIP 730899 Relocate Kelley Ave.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000) for the 1999 CIP 731199 Program/ Construction Management.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Fifteen Million Dollars (\$15,000,000) for the 1999 CIP 731299 Property Acquisition.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Three Million Two Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$3,215,000) for the 1999 CIP 740299 Manchester Water Works.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Four Million Dollars (\$4,000,000) for the 1999 CIP 760199 CSO Projects.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) for the 1999 CIP 760299 Design Crystal Lake/Mammoth Road Sewers.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) for the 1999 CIP 760399 Sewer Infrastructure Rehab.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) for the 1999 CIP 820799 Computer Upgrade.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Four Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars (\$440,000) for the 1999 CIP 820899 Land Management/Mapping/GIS System.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Six Hundred Sixty Five Thousand Dollars (\$665,000) for the 1999 CIP 820999 Motorized Equipment Replacement.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for the 1999 CIP 830999 Special Needs Educational Facility.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of One Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$190,000) for the 1999 CIP 831099 Police Building Expansion Design - Phase III.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) for the 1999 CIP 831199 Pine Grove Cemetery Improvements.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) for the 1999 CIP 831299 School Energy Efficiency and Other Improvements.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Two Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,200,000) for the 1999 CIP 831399 Parkside Middle School Improvements.”

“Making Technical Adjustments in Certain Resolutions of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in Connection with the Manchester Airport.”

M. Bond Refinancing Resolution:

“Authorizing Bonds in the amount of Fifty Million dollars (\$50,000,000) for refunding certain Outstanding Obligations of the City.”

N. Resolutions:

“Amending the 1994 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Twenty Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$123,500.00) for the 1994 Community Improvement Program 7.10227 South Willow Street Area Improvements Project.”

“Amending the 1998 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of (\$70,000.00) Seventy Thousand Dollars for the Summer Youth Program - Cast.”

“Amending the 1998 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) for the 1998 Community Improvement Program 7.40204 Tougas Avenue Sewer Extension Project.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to Make Certain Budgetary Closings for the Year 1998.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Seven Thousand Five Hundred (\$7,500) Dollars from Contingency to the City Hall Annex, Tax Collector’s bathroom facility.”

COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/PUBLIC SAFETY

- O. Communication from Kim Moore, OGBE Communications, requesting the closure of Merrimack Street, from Elm to Chestnut Streets beginning at 12:00 PM on Thursday, August 13, 1998, in conjunction with the 6th Annual Healthsource Corporate Road Race.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION/INFORMATION SYSTEMS

- P. Recommending that a request by the Director of Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Department to waive the fair license fee for the Fourth of July celebration be granted and approved.

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

- Q. Recommending that a request allowing for the acceptance and expenditure of private developer funds totaling \$123,500.00 for the 1994 CIP 7.10227 South Willow Street Area Improvements Project be granted and approved; and for such purpose an amending resolution and budget authorization has been submitted.
- R. Recommending that a request allowing for the acceptance and expenditure of additional grant funds for the Summer Youth Program - Cast in the amount of \$70,000.00 from the NH Job Training Council be granted and approved; and for such purpose an amending resolution has been submitted.
- S. Recommending that the 1998 CIP be amended by adding the 1998 CIP 7.40204 Tougas Avenue Sewer Extension - \$100,000.00 Sewer Fees; and for such purpose an amending resolution and budget authorization has been submitted.
- T. Recommending that a petition for discontinuance of a portion of Kelley Avenue be referred to a Road Hearing on Wednesday, June 17, 1998 at the School Administration Building, 196 Bridge Street.
- U. Recommending that a request for a sewer abatement for property located at 207 Hall Street be granted and approved in the amount of \$316.20. The Committee notes that such abatement was recommended by the Environmental Protection Division.

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES/INSURANCE

- V. Advising that one Senior Public Health Specialist position has been deleted from the Health Department complement due to a lack of grant funding.
- W. Recommending that the EPD Maintenance Supervisor be authorized to receive overtime as needed for the duration of the current budget year.

COMMITTEE ON JOINT SCHOOL BUILDINGS

- X. Advising that it has accepted the enclosed project summary and contractor's report relative to the Henry J. McLaughlin, Jr. Middle School and is submitting same to the Board for informational purposes.
- Y. Advising that it has accepted the project summary reports relative to the Central/West Heat & Ventilation Improvements; the Central High School/Locker Room Improvements; the West High School/Special Ed Room 104 w/toilet rooms; the Memorial High School Science Lab and Other improvements; the ADA

Accessibility/School Elevators; and the Junior High School-Tech Ed and are submitting same to the Board for informational purposes.

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

- G.** Copy of a press release from State Representatives Raymond Buckley and Steve Vaillancourt criticizing the recent Airport entrance changes on Brown Avenue.

Alderman Rivard stated we received a letter from State Representative Vaillancourt regarding the problems we have on Brown Avenue with the left-turn situation noting it's a very serious problem that everybody who lives in that area of Manchester has to deal with every day and moved that it be referred to the Committee on Traffic/Public Safety. Alderman Pariseau duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

- J.** Communication from Li-Hsueh Chang expressing an interest in purchasing a 7,500 square foot lot of City-owned property located at 218 Lake Avenue

Alderman Clancy stated Mr. Chang called him regarding this item noting he would like to buy the lot at the corner of Lake Avenue and Union Street which was currently vacant after the fire indicating he wished to purchase it because there was no parking on either Union Street or Lake Avenue and asked for the Board's support.

Mayor Wieczorek noted it was being referred to Committee on CIP.

Alderman Clancy moved that the communication from Mr. Chang be referred to the Committee on CIP. Alderman Wihby duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

- 6.** Confirmation of the nomination of Rita Pepino to succeed herself as a member of the Board of Registrars, term to expire May 1, 2001.

Alderman Sysyn moved to confirm the nomination of Rita Pepino to succeed herself as a member of the Board of Registrars, term to expire May 1, 2001. Alderman Pariseau duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

- 7.** Confirmation of the nomination of Donald Pomeroy to fill the vacancy of Edward J. Mendoza as a Commissioner of the Manchester Transit Authority, term to expire May, 2001.

Alderman Wihby nominated Cindy Vaal as a Commissioner of the Manchester Transit Authority. Alderman Klock duly seconded the nomination. The motion carried with Alderman Hirschmann duly recorded in opposition.

A brief discussion ensued relative to suspending the Rules in order to confirm nominations.

Alderman Cashin stated he did not feel it was fair to Cindy Vaal indicating he did not know her, did not have a resume on her and thought if it laid on the table she could then forward a resume to the full Board.

Alderman Pariseau moved that both nominations layover until the next meeting. Alderman Klock duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Mayor Wieczorek presented the following nomination:

Board of Registrars:

Brian McHugh to succeed himself as a member of the Board of Registrars, term to expire May 1, 2001.

Mayor Wieczorek stated as per Rules of the Board the nomination will layover until the next meeting of the Board.

9. Discussion relative to FY1998 High School Athletics payments to Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Department Enterprise Fund.

Mayor Wieczorek advised that Item 9 would not be addressed.

Alderman Girard commented whether it's been resolved by the School Department or not, it seemed to be an annual ritual that we go through as to whether or not the School Department feels justified in paying Parks & Rec the money that is given to them to support the fields and knowing that the Enterprise or that the School Athletic budget is given this money specifically to pass through to the Enterprise, I don't understand why the School Board needs to vote on it, I don't understand why the School Administration even puts it before the School Board to vote on and I really think that this is just another game that's being played. We went through this last year, we went through this the year before and I think the point needs to be made to the School Board that this money is put in the Athletic budget specifically to be passed through to Parks & Rec, so to hold it up or to not pay it or to consider it, or discuss it, or force Parks & Rec to come to the School Board to justify the services provided to see whether or not they want to give them the money they've been given to give them, I think is silly and it ought to stop.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I think we're going to do something about that, but as I said my understanding is the accountant told them that they should pay Parks & Rec, the Athletic's

Committee did vote to make that payment, and it's coming to the full School Board on Monday and hopefully we'll have it straightened out.

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

Mayor Wieczorek called the meeting back to order.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) for the 1999 CIP 221799 Dental Van.”

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“Authorizing Bonds in the amount of Fifty Million dollars (\$50,000,000) for refunding certain Outstanding Obligations of the City.”

ought to pass and layover, and further that Resolutions:

“Amending the 1994 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Twenty Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$123,500.00) for the 1994 Community Improvement Program 7.10227 South Willow Street Area Improvements Project.”

“Amending the 1998 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of (\$70,000.00) Seventy Thousand Dollars for the Summer Youth Program - Cast.”

“Amending the 1998 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) for the 1998 Community Improvement Program 7.40204 Tougas Avenue Sewer Extension Project.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to Make Certain Budgetary Closings for the Year 1998.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Seven Thousand Five Hundred (\$7,500) Dollars from Contingency to the City Hall Annex, Tax Collector’s bathroom facility.”

ought to pass and be Enrolled.

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

A report of the Committee on Bills on Second Reading was presented recommending that Ordinance:

“Amending the Zoning Ordinances of the City of Manchester by extending the B-2 (General Business) zoning district into an area currently zoned I-3 (General Industrial) on portions of two lots on the east side of South Willow Street and south of Huse Road (Map 852 - Lots 28 28-1). The expansion would bring the B-2 zone southerly along South Willow Street up to Dexter Shoe and easterly up to the I-2 (Industrial Park) zoning district located approximately 900 feet from South Willow Street.”

ought to pass.

Alderman Wihby moved to accept, received, and adopt the report of the Committee on Bills on Second Reading. Alderman Girard duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Pariseau duly recorded in opposition and Alderman Reiniger abstaining.

Alderman Pariseau stated there had been concern addressed by the Planning Director of taking industrial land and converting it over to Business 2.

Alderman Wihby stated the Planning Board’s recommendation was to pass it.

Alderman Pariseau reiterated that the Planning Director had reservations about doing it.

Alderman Wihby stated the Planning Director’s stance was nothing south of Cohas Brook noting this was north of Cohas Brook.

Alderman Pariseau stated he wished to remain recorded as being in opposition.

A report of the Committee on Traffic/Public Safety was presented recommending that:

A request of the Black Brimmer for closure of streets on June 27th from 12:00 to 8:00 PM for a block party/outdoor concert; and

a request for New Hampshire Pride for closure of streets for a parade on June 20th; and

a request for St. Anne’s Parish for closure of streets for a block party on June 27th; and

a request of the Manchester Urban Ministry for closure of streets and notice and removal of vehicles for a block party on June 21st

be granted and approved.

Alderman Clancy moved to accept, receive, and adopt the report of the Committee on Traffic/Public Safety. Alderman Sysyn duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Aldermen Shea, Pariseau, and Hirschmann duly recorded in opposition to the request of New Hampshire Pride for a parade on June 20th.

Alderman Hirschmann stated he was in opposition to the parade on June 20th on behalf of families in his ward and wished to be recorded as such.

Alderman Pariseau stated his concern was that people in Manchester were definitely opposed to having the Gay Pride Parade down our streets noting that the two names on the application weren't even residents of Manchester and asked where did they get off coming into Manchester and taking it over with their choice of sexual orientation as he could not understand...Manchester was not the place and suggested send them back to Concord. If Concord got rid of them, why come to Manchester. Deering was one name on the application and the other was Goffstown, have them go to Goffstown.

Mayor Wieczorek stated the Traffic Division of the Police Department first grants permission then has to go to the Committee on Traffic/Public Safety noting it did go to the Committee and the Committee was recommending that it be passed and you have every right to vote against it.

Alderman Hirschmann stated Manchester doesn't typically have a parade on a Saturday when stores like McQuade's are open and Downtown is open on a Saturday with a lot of business being conducted and I said if this thing had to go forward should at least be moved noting the City should not carte blanche give people a parade they have requested, it should fit in with the City's needs and did not think it was appropriate on a Saturday noting it was not appropriate on any day.

Mayor Wieczorek stated that was the reason it went before the Committee noting the route was different.

- 15.** Communication from the Deputy Finance Officer relative to an electric supply contract in conjunction with the extension of the NHPUC Pilot Program and the City's Plan for Aggregation seeking the Board's approval of contract, if available.

Mr. Sherman stated hopefully everyone got a copy of the contract yesterday. I do apologize, I know how the Board does not like to get things at such a late date, but we actually didn't sign the contract until about noon yesterday. With the exception of two items that I'll point out the contract is very similar to the one that the Board approved in 1996 with Green Mountain Energy Partners. If you recall, they had bid on the initial round of the Pilot Program. The Pilot Program was extended, the initial term ended May 28th and it is now extended until competition

comes. We did not get notice of this extension until May 14th, so we are really working under a very short window here to make sure that our participants don't lose a reduced rate. Just for the record, for the new Aldermen, we have within the Pilot Program there are 31 municipal accounts and we have 218 residential and small commercial accounts and two large commercial accounts. The changes from the Green Mountain contract that I'd like to point out, the first one is on page 6, Section 402 -- we've had a change in the market. If you recall back in April when we came in we talked about the temporary rate case and we talked about the fuel and purchase adjustment. There is currently a very small margin between the price of power that is in PSNH's rates and the market price of power. There is a very small margin in there for the companies to make any profit on. When we did the initial round under the Pilot Program the power was selling about three nine and if you recall our bid was around two one five, two one six. So, it was a large margin to save a lot of dollars there. Right now, the bundled rate for a residential account is currently around 3.25 cents. So, that margin has come down from 3.9 to 3.25. So, what we have done in this contract because there is very little margin to move that price is we have gotten Select Energy to offer up to the City a \$10,000 grant to do an Energy Conservation Program. Now, what you pay for power is a result of two things. Obviously, it's the cost of what you're paying for that power and it's the amount that you're using for that power. So what Select Energy is offering the City is up to \$10,000 to come in and do a demonstration project to show that coming in and replacing maybe some type of motors or some heat units or some lights that the City can save dollars in that regard as well. Once you factor this \$10,000 in the average...the equivalent savings over the program is about 3.5 percent of what we are paying now. The other item that I would like to point out is the very last page of the contract that we have which is the rate sheet. Unlike the Green Mountain Energy Partners contract they had offered us one price for all types of consumers. What we actually have with Select Energy is a different rate structure for each rate class. But, again, overall it's averaging about 3.5 percent when you take in that \$10,000 item.

Alderman Pariseau stated there was a big brouhaha here recently about the Amoskeag Hydro Power. Concern was that people from out-of-state was going to come in and dictate our rates for electricity and I just want to point out that this proposed company is from out-of-state from the State of Connecticut and the other issue, your Honor, is that it appears and I only had a chance to read four or five pages of this, but on page one under the agreement, the third from the bottom "whereas on May 13" did the City issue a request for proposals directly to Supply Electric, was that the only company. The way it's worded is misleading.

Mr. Sherman replied no, we issued a request for proposals to supply electric power for the extended term. Supply Electric is not a company, it's to supply electric power. And, to address your first item, Select Energy is a subsidiary of Northeast Utilities as is Public Service and they are...they are working out of their Manchester office.

Alderman Pariseau asked where are they located in Manchester.

Mr. Sherman replied in Hampshire Plaza on the 14th floor.

Alderman Thibault asked how much longer is this Pilot Program going to continue before there's a final decision as to what is happening here.

Mr. Sherman replied what the Commission did is they extended the Pilot Program until competition comes.

Alderman Thibault asked how long is that going to be.

Mr. Sherman replied the Federal Court case has been scheduled for November, so once those federal issues are resolved we would expect shortly after that...now, what the company has asked for is once you've resolved the issue we obviously need some transition period to take care of some issues. So, depending on how fast the Federal Court moves and makes a decision it will follow shortly after that.

Alderman Pariseau asked were requests for proposals sent to others.

Mr. Sherman replied yes, it was noticed in *The Boston Globe* and *The Union Leader* and we sent it directly to about 15 companies that had expressed an interest in the EIQ that we had sent out in January.

Alderman O'Neil asked, Randy, do we have to take action tonight or can we table this for two weeks.

Mr. Sherman replied the Green Mountain Energy Partners no longer wants to provide service to the participants and what they have said is that they will carry our current participants to their first meter reading date after June 10th. Realizing that we would need some time to get a new contract in place they gave us a two-week extension under their current rates. So, if we have some participants that have a meter reading date on June 12th they will fall off the system if we don't have a contract in place.

Alderman O'Neil asked question of the Clerk, are we scheduled to meet next week.

Clerk Bernier replied not at this time, we will be going to monthly sessions beginning with this evening's meeting noting that in June, July, August, and September the Board meets once-a-month.

Alderman O'Neil stated this is another example of getting things a day, the day of again.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I believe he said it was not possible...

Alderman O'Neil stated I understand that, but we seem to get a lot of that lately and I think all of our attention has been on trying to solve the budget. I know I haven't had a chance to review this as early as I'd wished.

Alderman Cashin stated we may not be scheduled to meet, but if there's enough concern about this we could schedule a meeting.

Alderman Wihby moved to approve the extension of the NHPUC Pilot Program and the City's Plan for Aggregation. Alderman Pinard duly seconded the motion.

Alderman O'Neil stated table it, if we set up a meeting next week or something, just give us a chance to review it, I haven't had a chance to review it.

Mayor Wieczorek stated June 10th is the date, Randy.

Mr. Sherman stated we'll have customers fall off June 10th. But, you need to also keep in mind and I'm not opposed to pushing it off a week and maybe representatives from Select can address this issue, but we're going to need some time to take people from Green Mountain and get them onto the Select Energy System. Now, when we went the other way from Public Service to Green Mountain, Public Service had asked for five (5) days and I don't know, Mayor, if it's appropriate to have John Burns maybe address that issue and see if that causes him any concern.

Mayor Wieczorek asked is he here.

Mr. Sherman replied yes, he's here.

Mayor Wieczorek asked Mr. Burns to come up to the podium to address the Board and identify yourself for the record, please.

Mr. Burns stated, my name is John Burns, I am an account executive for Select Energy, a subsidiary of Northeast Utilities and I work in Manchester on the 14th floor of the Plaza. I apologize for the fact that this is coming in as late as it is. As you may know the Pilot Program was only extended May 23rd, there was a lot of controversy about it, the staff of the Public Utilities Commission actually recommended that the Pilot Program be terminated. The fifteen request for proposals did go out to different companies, Select Energy responded. We wanted to see the Pilot Program continue, the Aggregation Program continue, and so we did we got a bid in really in the eleventh hour and that is the reason for this tight timeframe. The problem is that the participants do start to fall off the system June 10th.

Mayor Wieczorek asked how much time do you need, Randy was just telling us that Public Service Company required five (5) days or Green Mountain.

Mr. Sherman stated Public Service asked that we give them five (5) days notice before switching off the system.

Mayor Wieczorek asked what kind of notice are you looking for.

Mr. Burns replied similar.

Mayor Wieczorek asked so what happens to the people in the interim.

Mr. Sherman replied if they fall off the system what they do is they actually return to Public Service and then they would have to come back in.

Mayor Wieczorek asked, Alderman, do you have enough concern about this to...

Alderman O'Neil interjected, your Honor, we've kind of...two or three times in the past month have had some pretty good discussions with regards to the Pilot Program and Aggregation and I thought this would have been brought to us with some appropriate time knowing that we're in the middle of the budget process. I'm not prepared and will vote against it tonight if we take a vote.

Alderman Cashin asked, Randy, if we wait and talk about this next week, what are the odds of anybody being knocked off and going back to Public Service, what are you talking about five days, six days.

Mr. Sherman replied I'm not sure, Alderman, how many...if we were voting on this on the 9th or the 8th, how many actually have their meter reading done that week and actually would fall off and go back, I really can't tell you what the impact of that is. But, I think it's legitimate turning them off after a certain day and on that day Public Service says we will pick them up if they lose their current supplier.

Alderman Cashin stated as I understand it, if Green Mountain drops them, Public Service picks them up. Once this is formalized these people would go from Public Service back to this new...

Mr. Sherman replied yes on their next meter reading date, right.

Alderman Rivard stated I am going to assume that this is similar to a low-bid process and the people have submitted their proposals and you folks are recommending to us the lowest provider of electric service, is that correct.

Mr. Sherman replied that is correct.

Alderman Rivard asked so what seems to be the issue, I'm kind of confused that if, in fact, we are looking to get someone to provide these people with an on-going program at the lowest possible cost per kilowatt hour then we don't approve the low bidder, isn't this the concept we're looking at, the low-bidder, is that correct.

Mr. Sherman stated that is the best contract...

Alderman Rivard stated if we don't provide the service it goes back to square one, back to Public Service.

Mr. Sherman stated the folks will fall off to Public Service and then if we sign this contract later we'll go back and try and get them back into the Program.

Alderman Rivard stated after reviewing all of the RFP's these people provided the lowest bid, is that correct.

Mr. Sherman stated this is the best contract we have to bring you.

Alderman Girard asked how long is the Pilot Program been operating.

Mr. Sherman replied two years.

Alderman Girard stated it's been operating two years now and actually what you're coming to this Board and asking us to do is to extend this program but under different management.

Mr. Sherman stated we have a different supplier.

Alderman Girard stated a different supplies, different management, so there are no fundamental changes to the program and there is no change to policy that this Board has adopted and stayed with over the last two years.

Mr. Sherman stated I think I pointed out the two major items that have changed from the prior contract.

Alderman Girard stated, your Honor, I can understand Alderman O'Neil's concern regarding the amount of time that the Board has had to review this, but given that we aren't making any serious changes in the Program and given that we jeopardize participants in the Program if we don't act to continue it I don't see where tabling this gets us any additional thing. The

Alderman is correct, we have had several discussions at this Board about the electric power rate thing, whether it's the Amoskeag Hydro, the Aggregation Plan, I'm not sure there's been much about the Pilot Program, but I think everyone's position on these electric issues are well-known and we should just take a vote on it tonight.

Alderman Shea asked why did Green Mountain drop out.

Mr. Sherman replied as I mentioned before or maybe I didn't tonight, but I think we had at earlier meetings, Green Mountain came in and they actually budgeted a loss. They came in and took quite a wrap with the rate that they were giving us, well below market rates. Since that period of time they have made some forays out in California and if not done very well and then back in Vermont their Public Utilities Commission has whacked on some cost reimbursement issues, so financially they're hurting and they want out of the Program, they just want to go back to Vermont and get back to their base business and regroup.

Alderman Shea stated my understanding then is that Select Energy would come in at a lower rate for the people involved in the Pilot Program than Green Mountain.

Mr. Sherman replied no, Select Energy's rate is actually higher than what we were paying under Green Mountain, but it is lower than what you would pay under the Public Service rates.

Alderman Shea stated so basically it's a little bit between the two.

Mr. Sherman replied yes.

At the request of Alderman Wihby, a roll call vote was taken on the motion to approve extension of the NHPUC Pilot Program and the City's Plan for Aggregation. Aldermen Wihby, Klock, Reiniger, Sysyn, Clancy, Pinard, Shea, Girard, Rivard, Cashin and Thibault voted yea. Alderman O'Neil, Pariseau and Hirschmann voted nay. The motion carried.

16. Resolutions:

“Amending the 1994 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Twenty Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$123,500.00) for the 1994 Community Improvement Program 7.10227 South Willow Street Area Improvements Project.”

“Amending the 1998 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of (\$70,000.00) Seventy Thousand Dollars for the Summer Youth Program - Cast.”

“Amending the 1998 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) for the 1998 Community Improvement Program 7.40204 Tougas Avenue Sewer Extension Project.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to Make Certain Budgetary Closings for the Year 1998.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to effect a transfer of Seven Thousand Five Hundred (\$7,500) Dollars from Contingency to the City Hall Annex, Tax Collector’s bathroom facility.”

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

Alderman Shea moved that the Resolutions pass and be Enrolled. Alderman Klock duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

17. Resolution:

“Establishing a local option fee to fund local transportation improvements.”

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

Deputy Clerk Johnson distributed a handout from the Tax Collector.

Mayor Wieczorek asked, Joan, would you like to speak to these issues, I thought they were good points you brought up.

Ms. Gardner stated similar to the Parking Trust Fee when we initiated it, we need to know if you’re going to exempt the Disabled Vets. Currently, they do not pay to register a vehicle, they pay no permit fee. They do pay the Waste Reclamation Fee, the Board voted that they would be paying that one and the Military Exempt...the same situation there they don’t pay a permit fee to register a car, these are not people who are residents of Manchester, they are people who are

stationed here and they're home of record is elsewhere, they don't pay a City fee to register the car. So, we need to know if you want to charge this five dollar fee.

Mayor Wieczorek asked how many do we have, Joan, how many are we talking about.

Ms. Gardner replied combined we have about 170 max, but more than likely we have less than that.

Alderman Wihby asked what would your suggestion be...to do the same thing and exempt them.

Ms. Gardner replied I think thinking would probably be the same as Waste Reclamation, the thinking with Waste Reclamation was that they're using tires, motor vehicle oil, and batteries and contributing that and that is what the fee was for and in this case these people are here and they're using the roads, so I guess the thinking would be the same that they would pay the fee.

Alderman Wihby stated when we did the Parking Trust Fee we said that they were exempt, we actually voted on that.

Ms. Gardner replied yes and that one was based on value which is similar to the permit fee which is based on value which I assume which is why the vote was different from Waste Reclamation.

Alderman Pariseau moved to amend the resolution by adding that the Disabled Veterans and Military who are stationed here but not residents not be exempt from the option fee to fund local transportation improvements. Alderman Klock duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Thibault asked, Joan, can you tell me if there is going to be any increase in labor for your in your department to collect this five dollar fee.

Ms. Gardner replied not that we anticipate.

At the request of Alderman Pariseau, a roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Pariseau, Wihby, Klock, Reiniger, Sysyn, Pinard, Girard and Rivard voted yea. Alderman Cashin, Thibault, Hirschmann, Clancy, Shea and O'Neil voted nay. The motion carried.

Alderman Wihby moved to amend the resolution to begin collecting this fee with July registrations.

Alderman O'Neil stated the monies to be collected will be for next fiscal year and not this fiscal year, correct.

Mayor Wieczorek replied yes.

Alderman Reiniger duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Thibault stated I have been asked by a lot of my constituents that in 1997, I believe that the Board that was here then asked for a twenty dollar fee and many people have asked me if I could find out what happened to that money.

Ms. Gardner replied that was a fee that we collected for the Traffic Department for improvements to the garages.

Alderman Girard stated most of that money was spent on the rehabilitation of the Center of New Hampshire Garage and other related projects.

Alderman Thibault stated “most”, I want to know...

Alderman Girard stated let me clarify, all of that money was spent on the rehabilitation of the Center of New Hampshire Garage and related projects.

Mayor Wieczorek stated plus we had to add money from the tax rate to bond.

At the request of Alderman Pariseau, a roll call vote was taken on the motion to amend the resolution. Aldermen Pariseau, Hirschmann, Wihby, Klock, Reiniger, Sysyn, Pinard, Girard and Rivard voted yea. Aldermen Cashin, Thibault, Clancy, Shea and O’Neil voted nay. The motion carried.

Alderman Wihby moved that the Resolution pass as amended and be adopted. Alderman Girard duly seconded the motion.

At the request of Alderman Cashin, a roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Cashin, Thibault, Clancy, Shea and O’Neil voted nay. Aldermen Hirschmann, Wihby, Klock, Reiniger, Sysyn, Pinard, Girard, Rivard and Pariseau voted yea. The motion carried.

18. Appropriating Resolution:

“Appropriating to the Manchester Aggregation Program the sum of \$748,445.00 from Aggregation Fees for the Fiscal Year 1999.”

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Pinard, it was voted that the appropriating resolution be read by title only, and it was so done.

Alderman Wihby moved that the appropriating resolution pass and be enrolled. Alderman Reiniger duly seconded the motion.

Alderman O’Neil stated we’ve had a lot of discussion about this and I think we have to charge some Committee with watching this thing because we spent more time on this than we probably need to, maybe the Committee on Accounts is the right Committee to oversee this and watch it, but we’ve got to monitor this, if new personnel are going to come on board it has to come to us, we have to keep an eye on this thing.

Alderman Hirschmann stated he’s already agreed to report to me, so that would be appropriate.

Mayor Wieczorek called for a vote on the motion to Enroll the Resolution. The motion carried with Aldermen Pariseau, Cashin, and Hirschmann duly recorded in opposition.

19. Appropriating Resolution:

“A Resolution appropriating to the Manchester Airport Authority the sum of \$16,645,500.00 from Special Airport Revenue Funds for Fiscal Year 1999.”

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Pinard, it was voted that the appropriating resolution be read by title only, and it was so done.

Alderman Pinard moved that the appropriating resolution pass and be enrolled. Alderman Girard duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

20. Appropriating Resolution:

“Appropriating to the Central Business Service District the sum of \$230,000.00 from Central Business Service District Funds for Fiscal Year 1999.”

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

Alderman Reiniger moved that the appropriating resolution pass and be enrolled.

Alderman Shea duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Hirschmann stated on the resolution it says “subject to the approval of the City Coordinator”, that should be deleted because there really isn’t a Coordinator and I don’t anticipate one happening noting he hasn’t existed for about three or four years now.

Deputy Clerk Johnson noted that the Planning Department is the one that has been monitoring those, so perhaps the resolution could be changed to reflect the Planning Director.

Alderman Hirschmann moved to amend the appropriating resolution to reflect the Planning Director. Alderman Thibault duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman Reiniger moved that the appropriating resolution, as amended, pass and be enrolled. Alderman Shea duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

21. Appropriating Resolution:

“A Resolution appropriating the sum of \$3,056,609.00 from Recreation User Charges to the Recreation Division for Fiscal Year 1999.”

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

Alderman Clancy moved that the appropriating resolution pass and be enrolled. Alderman Pinard duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

22. Appropriating Resolution:

“A Resolution appropriating to the Manchester Transit Authority the sum of \$900,000 for the Fiscal Year 1999.”

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

Alderman Sysyn moved that the appropriating resolution pass and be enrolled. Alderman Pariseau duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Girard duly recorded in opposition.

23. Appropriating Resolution:

“Amending a Resolution ‘Appropriating the sum of \$9,288,448.00 from Sewer User Rental Charges to the Environmental Protection Division for Fiscal Year 1999’ to \$9,575,834.00.”

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

Alderman Rivard moved that the appropriating resolution pass and be enrolled. Alderman Shea duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman Cashin stated this is a perfect example of a fee that’s out-of-control, this thing is ridiculous the way it’s been escalated.

Mayor Wiczorek asked, Alderman, where would you expect to get the money to do this.

Alderman Cashin stated, your Honor, certain things belong in the tax rate, you and I have discussed this before, it’s a different philosophy between you and I, but it’s a perfect example of why I oppose fees.

24. Appropriating Resolution:

“Amending a Resolution ‘Raising Monies and Making Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 1999’ to \$164,814,062.”

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

Alderman Sysyn moved that the appropriating resolution pass and be enrolled. Alderman Klock duly seconded the motion.

Deputy Clerk Johnson noted there was a handout distributed from Alderman Girard, a couple of pages and a single-page handout from Alderman Wihby.

Alderman Wihby stated what’s on the table is the one page from the last meeting, there was additional money found that was given to the Schools of a couple of hundred thousand, so the new number is the one-pager and should be amended noting the other two pages were from Alderman Girard. The new School number was \$61,000,971 noting two hundred thousand plus was given to them.

Alderman O’Neil asked, Dave, you had in an adjusted column 1.3 on last week’s and now it’s 1.5, that \$200,000 is added to that.

Alderman Wihby stated the 1.535 that number, right; that's the adjustment, that's the extra money.

Alderman O'Neil stated that is included in the sixty-one million though, correct.

Alderman Wihby stated the first column (Alderman Tax Rate Expenditures) would be the budget, the second column would be the budget's revenues, the third column would be any adjustments, the fourth column is the percentage cuts that some of the department's took, then the payroll deductions that everybody agreed on, and then the adjusted revenues is the last column. So, this would be the one. If we were going to vote on a budget, this would be the one...

Alderman O'Neil stated the only changes were the School numbers on this.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated the appropriating resolution number would be \$165,044,062.

Alderman Pariseau moved to amend the appropriating resolution to \$165,044,062. Alderman Rivard duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Girard stated if I could take a moment to speak to the information that I sent out to the Aldermen last night and I believe most of them received in the Courier today, the handout that the Clerk passed out tonight was just another sheet, it was designed to compare what Alderman Wihby brought in at the last meeting with your proposal, your Honor, and some revisions on the proposal that I did. The narrative that I did will explain in detail where the changes are, but in short what I wanted to point out is that with the assumption that Alderman Wihby had made for the proposal that's been brought out tonight three point seven two five billion for the tax rate. If you were to take that 3.725 billion and apply it to the budget that I have proposed the proposed increase in the tax rate would drop from the 2.6 percent that I currently have it projected at to 2.47. I did not adjust the tax base revenues up. After discussion with the Assessors they felt that the 3.725 number was the right number and if that's changed then so be it. But, what I wanted to point out while we're all concerned about putting additional money to School is in the proposal this 2.6 which is now 2.47 if we use the added tax base would provide the Board with an additional, approximately between \$650,000 that it could put toward the School Department's budget and still have the same tax rate as the budget that is currently on the table. Now, I realize that some of the proposals that I've made and amended and changed do not have universal agreement, but it's something for this Board to consider where we're worried about funding the Schools, where we're worried about whether or not we should tap economic development revenues and create a problem for ourselves next year operationally, I think this Board given that we don't have to lay a budget over till the ninth should take a look at the proposal that has been put before them and consider it and perhaps we should go through an exercise where we discuss some of the differences in the two proposals that are on the table.

You can have the same tax rate but instead of only giving School and additional \$200,000, we can give them an additional \$650,000 to \$700,000 and I would have to run these numbers with the projected tax base that Alderman Wihby's using to know exactly what that number is. In this revised proposal several of the revenues that Alderman Wihby proposed and that we had some differences on were accommodated and incorporated. I did try to get it out to the Board yesterday and today so that they would have some time to look at it and consider it, but I think there's a better option on the table and I realize that might sound self-serving, but right now the proposal that I have on the table is under two-and-a-half percent which gives us more than enough money, not more than enough but it gives us a lot more leeway and adding money to School without affecting the overall tax rate which is on the table now.

Alderman Wihby stated I read over this proposal, your Honor, and I guess this is a bunch of grandstanding as far as I'm concerned. The first thing that says number one spends more money on public safety. If you look at my numbers compared to the numbers that Alderman Girard passed out this Aldermanic budget is \$30,000 for public safety than his numbers. The second one on economic development making it sound like we're going to devastate economic development, if you take out a City Coordinator it's a matter of \$6,000 difference. On maintenance and repairs I don't know what the exact number was but again it's not that big. On the Info Systems it's under \$10,000 on a million-and-a-half budget, so to come up and say that my budget's better because I achieve a lot more things in it and here's the things that I achieved when you're talking a minuscule amount of money and in some cases it's not even the truth, I guess I get offended by this budget, your Honor, and also again the biggest number in here that we could give to Schools if the revenue number was right is \$325,000. If I could have had that verified we could have given that to Schools but the department's are saying that the money is not there, the Schools are saying the money is not there and we're going to have a presentation from them, so they're going to try and meet the Mayor's number, never mind adding another \$250,000 or whatever number was added from Alderman Girard. So, we could go ahead and say let's add a million dollars in revenues, give it to Schools, and everybody's going to walk away here happy today but we are not going to achieve that and halfway through the year we are going to have to ask for a directive to ask the department's to cut, most School because they're not going to have the number. So, what I tried to do in these numbers, your Honor, is try to put a budget together that is fair and we're going to discuss Schools now, but I think that as far as all the other departments went to say that we are going to devastate economic development or one person has more than public safety and all these other things, it's just a matter of grandstanding, your Honor.

Alderman O'Neil stated I plan on making a further amendment, but would it be appropriate to have Schools meet before we do anything else.

Alderman Shea stated I was going to add more to his amendment.

Alderman Girard stated in response, I don't know what numbers Alderman Wihby is looking at as far as public safety, but the numbers on his sheet have lower figures although marginally so for Police and Fire the budget that I proposed does have more in Severance unless there has been a change to that number in what he's proposed and I guess about the only difference, real difference where I don't know where he comes up saying there's more money in the budget on the table it might be because I removed the funding for the Deputy Fire Chief's new car at the Fire Department; that could be about the only thing that I could think of and as far as grandstanding, Alderman, this is one of the reasons why I put things in writing. I never said that it would be devastating to economic development. What I tried to do in the proposal that I set forward was clearly define some priorities within the budget parameters that we have to deal with and there isn't anything that's written in this letter that isn't true and furthermore as far as where the lion's share of the cuts that I make are, they're in new positions, and they're in new equipment. So, clearly you can say that it's \$35,000 out of Public Buildings Services so we're not affecting maintenance that much but the first thing that the Public Buildings Services Director says is well, gee, I'm not going to be able to hire a plumber now and that doesn't mean that plumbing is not going to stop or that we're not going to need to do plumbing, it means we're going to end up spending contract dollars to hire plumbers, so it's really a double hit. There is really nothing in here that's untrue. I'm willing stand by the numbers, I've just set different priorities rather than setting across-the-board cuts and candidly with the budget's being as tight as they are I think it makes a difference when your Information Systems Director tells you that any reduction in her budget is going to have an impact on her ability to do the computer conversions. I think it makes a difference when the Parks & Rec Director says that if you take any money from his budget he's going to end up not doing weed control and other maintenance areas in the Downtown. I think those things make a difference. So, while the dollars in some cases are marginal the priorities are clearly different.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I don't want to be going back-and-forth here.

Alderman Girard interjected I'm not afraid of a debate, your Honor.

Mayor Wieczorek stated the Chairman of the Board has made his presentation, you have made your presentation. I think the Board will weigh out and they will vote accordingly.

Mayor Wieczorek asked School Committee Member Cook to address the Board.

School Committee Member Cook stated Mr. Tanguay and I and Mr. Sullivan and members of the Administration are here and we appreciate your taking time to have us back as you promised to talk about the School budget and I will try to be brief as several of you have urged me to do. The budget currently on the table which we understand has been increased by \$200,000 tonight as you know is the Mayor's recommendation plus adding the Severance and Salary Adjustment accounts to the School budget including benefits attributable to salaries where that money is for

Salaries. The budget we submitted as voted by the School Board was \$64.5 million and contained what we believed were the needs of the Manchester Schools for fiscal year 1999, the trouble with the budget is that a lot of these things are inter-dependent and to meet certain needs you can't just vote certain things in and out. As presently on the table, I think we have been discussing and you are aware the budget does not allow and does not contain funds which will allow opening the McLaughlin School, implementing the middle schools, purchasing new Language Arts curriculum for the elementary schools, have adequate funds for Special Education and English as a Second Language at current levels much less plan for the inevitable growth, budget already negotiated raises for employees other than teachers, higher six new teachers we believe will be needed over those staff members for the McLaughlin School or budget electricity up to the amount that we actually had to spend this year. I know the hour is late tonight and in the budget process. While we believe as a Board that our requests were justified we will present to you tonight items which we think are mandatory for operating the schools, if we all believe which I think we do that we need to open the McLaughlin School, implement the middle schools, start the implementation of the Language Arts curriculum, and as mandated by law keep present levels of Special Education funding, hire those six new teachers, and be able to pay the legally mandated previously negotiated and approved non-teacher raises. Funding at this reduced level and this is several million dollars less than we requested you should understand will require and this may be good news or bad news that we go into the budget and cut everything else in the budget by significant amounts because there are a lot of things that you heard about in the public session, I understand, I only heard some of it although I'm delighted to have caught former Alderman Domaingue's attention, but some of the things that were discussed there are not on that list that I just mentioned and we to do those would have to cut other things. We are continuously reviewing the budget. Not adding funds to do these things, I believe, and the Board believe will set back plans to move the Manchester education forward, plans which your Board has agreed to in the past by building a new school and by approving an addition to another school to accommodate some of these programs. Special Education and English as a Second Language Programs are legally mandated, we have folks visit us and tell us what the law means all the time, but they are not just legally mandated, they're morally required for these people, these are the people that come to Manchester and go to school. The curriculum for Language Arts has been studied for several years, has been recommended, and has created a great deal of enthusiasm in the schools and is long overdue. As I said before one of the problems we have is if we don't adequately address the question of funding Special Education and English as a Second Language at least at the level that we go out of this fiscal year from we will be required by law to come up with the funds to do so and, therefore, will not have the money to do some of the things no matter what you appropriate and so as Mr. Sullivan I believe has stated to our Board and I believe stated to you when we were here before, we had to spend this year \$990,000 more on Special Education Tutors and Educational Assistants than we had expected in the budget to provide those services are not in the budget and we need to start out with the capacity to provide those services because those services never and it would be delightful if we had a year when we were the first one in history,

but never go down. If we can't do that, we can't add these other things. We have to deal with that issue somehow. We have specific numbers...these add up to \$2.9 million unfortunately, we wish it were not so and this will still result in our having to go into our existing budget and cut and cut and cut and with that I'll be glad to address specific things and provide you with the specific figures that we have pegged to those particular items, but the danger in that and the reason that we are reluctant to do that is just adding one of those numbers doesn't mean we have the capacity within the budget when we have certain required things to say we won't do this over here because we've been given "X" number of dollars over here to do something and, therefore, we can just go do it. This is a systemic situation and I could go on and on, but that's the frustration we face.

Alderman Wihby stated I'm just waiting for the numbers, your Honor.

School Committee Member Cook stated I think the School Superintendent wants to add something before we do the numbers.

Superintendent Tanguay stated I just want to reiterate what I mentioned before at the previous meeting that the budget request came from the School Principals and Administration, they total over \$15 million above this year's current level of funding. Realizing that that was not an amount that the City would fund, we thought we'd use that for long-range planning. The \$15 million request are all valid and are definite needs identified by the schools. We reduced that number to about \$4.9 million and \$4.2 million and more recently to \$3.79 million. We are conceivably asking for \$3 million above the Mayor's proposed budget and I realize this evening that a new recomputation of the Mayor's budget has added about \$200,000 to that number, so we'd be asking for about \$2.8 based on the numbers this evening. Realizing also that we feel it's a minimal budget and looking at the Mayor's budget \$60.792 which was the original number we ran numbers on our own in terms of \$60 million we were looking for in adding the Salary Adjustment as well as the Severance and the difference came to about \$4.9 million more than the Mayor's budget based on the old number. We would have to cut about \$1.9 million to reach our \$3 million number. In that \$3 million number, we are looking at the opening of the McLaughlin School which you've heard about \$900,000, implementation of the middle schools which is about \$250,000...the original number was closer to half-a-million. We went back and recomputed the numbers based on factors that the sixth grade students at Parker Varney would not be going to Parkside and looking at possibly reducing the costs on these relocatables. We don't know what it will be but we will reduce it by \$250,000. Again, the Foreign Language Arts Curriculum which we've been working on now for sometime which is about \$390,000, a curriculum that will bring consistency to our public school system in the area of curriculum that has not existed for the past 14 years and the lack of that inconsistency affects student's achievement. We feel strongly about that area of our budget. We also had the increased level of spending in Special Education about \$1 million and that will be to keep at the same level as this current year's budget where we did suspend those line items both in Tutors and Educational

Assistants. Again, six new teachers based on our growth pattern. We budgeted about 300 students, we have now reduced that to about 180 students. Somehow, we'll have to find space for those students but that also affects the teachers that we will be asking for. The negotiated increase that the Board of Aldermen and School Committee approved in terms of the MESPA contracts and the Principals contracts is also factored in at about \$200,000; that those are the items basically, the major items that contribute to the \$3 million increase and to be accurate the \$3 million or \$2.9 plus that the Mayor has already put in about \$1.465 so about \$1.8 million; that number by the way would come to about \$4.8 million; that last year's budget increased from '97 to '98 with about \$4.5 million. We're asking for \$4.8 or 2.8 more than the Mayor's showing on his budget tonight. Realizing that we have a new cost in the opening of the McLaughlin School and the portables for the Middle School concept will be exceeding over \$1 million. I guess you could look at it in terms of with those numbers out we would be in a budget that is regressive and negative, a negative budget deficit would be approved this evening and we approve a budget less than that, can we live with a budget less than that, we can live with any budget that is given to us, but we have to...once we have a number we can tell you what the impact will be in the education of our students, education of your children, your grandchildren, and those that will follow. We want and feel that a three million dollar increase above the Mayor's number or 2.8 based on the numbers here this evening is a number that we can affect positive change in the School District, if you will kick start it into the 21st Century. It's going to be a very critical year for us. Absent that, we would have to come back to our School Committee on Monday, the absence of three million dollars with recommendations and I will repeat some of those recommendations: not open the McLaughlin School for one year; not implement the Middle School concept; the purpose of Language Arts Curriculum would be postponed; would also look at Special Education; not hire six new teachers; and would look at the Chandler population (Easter Seals), the students at Easter Seals would be looked at in terms of returning those students to Chandler; and the walking distance would be looked at going from 1.4 miles which is presently the policy to 2 miles which is a State maximum. Could we do all of those things probably not, but we have to seriously explore the possibility of doing all of these things and then come in with a recommendation to the School Committee on Monday evening. We realize you are in a tough situation in terms of the tax rate and I can appreciate that, but I can also appreciate the fact that if we're going to increase educational funding in Manchester this is probably one of your better years as you know with the economy that we have. So, on behalf of the School District and the School Board, the teachers and administrators and the students I respectfully request that this Board consider this \$3 million increase above the Mayor's numbers.

Alderman Wihby stated, Norm, a couple of questions. To keep increased levels of Special Education what are you adding with that \$990,755.

Superintendent Tanguay replied that would be the Tutors and the Educational Assistants, to keep them at the same level they are now.

Alderman Wihby asked with the six new teachers that would be additional over this year.

Superintendent Tanguay replied that is correct.

Alderman Wihby stated I guess where I'm lost because I still don't know what you need as we haven't known in this whole budget process what the School Department really needs and I've got to say this up front, this is the worse that I've seen this budget come to the Aldermen, I still don't know where you are. I want to go back to where you are this year and what that number is this year and then I think we shouldn't go over the Mayor's number because that doesn't tell me anything. We should be going by what you have this year and if you go by what you have this year and you add the \$897,099 and the \$250,000 and the \$391,400 and the \$185,484, and the \$202,953 and you assume that this year you had those teacher assistants and aides you've got plenty of money. So, tell me where you are this year, what number are you at this year and why are you going by the Mayor's number and why aren't you going by what you have this year, what happened to that increase from this year's to the Mayor's number, where did that go.

Mr. John Sullivan from Melanson Health, auditors for the City and consultants for the School District stated the fiscal year 1998 budget resolution for the School was \$56,992,462; that above and beyond that \$1.4 million was added as a result of contract negotiations and settlements. In addition to that there is \$450,000 budgeted separately in the Severance account that gets transferred to the School at the end of the year making that a total adjusted budget of \$58,842,462. Above and beyond that in fiscal 1998 there was an additional 27th pay that was added. I don't think this comparison would be fair because that's not required in the '99 budget. So, the number to start from, I believe, would be \$58,842,462.

Alderman Wihby stated so, if we start at that and we add \$897,099 for opening the McLaughlin School; \$250,000 for the Middle Schools; \$391,400 for Language texts; I had put in an additional \$620,000 for Contingency but say we used it for \$185,484 for six new teachers and \$202,953 for the negotiated raises which totals \$390,000 instead of \$620,000, so there's an additional \$210,000 in this number that we gave you extra, why doesn't it work with the number that we gave you.

What I've done with these sheets, I agree with the numbers that you've used...\$58,842,462 is this year's budget. \$56,992,462, \$1.2 million was the extra week, the \$1.4 million was the raises, \$450,000 was Severance, so the total was \$60,042,462...you have to take out of that though the \$1.2 million because there is no 53rd week this year, so that's deducted in the bottom. But, if you take it out of that the total this year used by Schools is \$58,842,462. Now, if you subtract that now from what we have in the budget of \$61,000,971 you're getting an increase over last year or this year of \$2,158,509 and if that's used to fund...your total is \$2,917,691 that you're looking for, but you'd have to take out the \$990,000 because it's already

in this year's budget. So, you're looking for under \$2 million and this funds \$2.1 million. So, tell me where I'm adding wrong.

Mr. Sullivan stated the raises.

Alderman Wihby asked what raises.

Mr. Sullivan stated my understanding is that there was \$1,327,971 set aside for raises.

Alderman Wihby stated that's set aside to go into the budget to be used by the School Department for whatever reason they want to use it and if they have a tight budget they might use it not to fund raises. So, are we saying that you want to be able to fund raises next year, is that what you're saying that you want extra money to fund raises, is that why you're short. Again, these numbers should have come out months ago and I've been asking for them for the last week and I asked specifically to have Norm...you to be here today starting with a base number so we would all know from the same page where we're at and it still hasn't come. Now, I agree with the number that was used. Tell me why a \$2.158 million over this year's budget doesn't work for you other than the raises.

Superintendent Tanguay stated I haven't had an opportunity to study the numbers but I can tell you that the Salary Adjustment in terms of the salary increases to teachers was more than \$1.4. I realize you funded \$1.4 but the two costs were closer to \$1.7 and actually with new staff closer to \$1.9; that changes the numbers too.

Alderman Wihby asked are we having a deficit this year, I was told it's minute. Because if it's minute it doesn't matter what the number was, you were able to absorb it this year in your budget.

Superintendent Tanguay stated we have not determined if we have a deficit yet. I think John can speak to it better than I can but basically that number we're looking at in terms of a deficit is still undetermined.

School Committee Member Cook stated I think it's accurate to say that it will be minimal and I think what Alderman Wihby said is true. But, I think there are two things that have to be said to your question. One of them is we put in a spending freeze about three months ago and when we put in the spending freeze and cut the level of supplies that are going to be sent to the schools, the 70 percent of the appropriate level, we did so largely because of the \$990,000 is the question that I think you initially asked, Alderman Wihby, which was and I think a legitimate question because we've been talking about it ourselves. If we're going to eliminate or eliminate the vast majority of any deficit problem, why isn't last year's budget enough. I think there are a couple of reasons. One of them is we had to go into the budget and find \$990,000 when \$990,000 more

in Special Education spending had to be done that came out of other required things. So, that money resulted in things that we couldn't do that we have to do and some of them we have to do because they were suspended last year and had to be made up (i.e., supplies, what we're spending, how we're doing it, things we froze). We have a lot of open positions that we froze when we froze the budget that have not been filled and those jobs aren't getting done they are just being deferred and suspended. So, the \$990,000 which was more than we budgeted yeah, you make up when you cut the living daylight out of other things and this Board instructed us to solve the deficit problem if there was indeed a deficit problem which if I've said it once I'll say it a zillion times, you don't know if you have a deficit until the year's up and I think these guys have done a very good job in figuring that one out, but with the help of Finance I would add. But, the fact of the matter is when you have \$990,000 more of Special Education and you accommodated in a budget that wasn't just sitting around with all kinds of extra stuff you took it out of other things that you need. We need to get that level into the budget and do those things that we couldn't do. When they're done a thousand dollars at a time it's tough to come up with a list of how they were done, but I believe, Mr. Sullivan, when you analyze that for the School Board that was in essence a little more specificity your answer to us, wasn't that right.

Alderman Wihby asked would you agree then that the \$2.9 million...part of that is already in your budget.

Superintendent Tanguay replied if I'm understanding your numbers, Dave, you've got \$60 million is your number, correct.

Alderman Wihby replied \$61,000,971.

Superintendent Tanguay stated that is for the FY99 beginning point, is that correct.

Alderman Wihby replied that is correct.

Superintendent Tanguay replied I have \$60,792,971. Basically, I think some of this is in that negotiated increase of picking up four to five thousand dollars, but there's a difference between a couple hundred thousand dollars, I don't think we're that far apart but what we have is the Mayor's budget of \$60.792 which we agree with in terms of the Salary Adjustment and Severance to which we took our proposed budget of \$63.911 added the same numbers as the Mayor one billion three twenty-seven and the four sixty-five seven in this year's proposed budget comes out to a number of \$65.703 compared to \$60.792 that the Mayor has which is a difference of \$4.9 million. We've said what we need is \$60.792 for a difference of about \$3 million.

Alderman Wihby stated it might be \$3 million but you're asking for additional money over '98, you're looking at the Mayor's number and with the extra addition of a couple hundred thousand you're already getting \$2.158 over '98.

Superintendent Tanguay stated we're getting \$1.327 plus \$465,000 the salary increase. So, that number comes out to \$1.7 million more than this year's budget.

Alderman Wihby stated but this year's budget is already an increase over last year.

Superintendent Tanguay stated I don't believe that. We're starting off with the increase in Salary Adjustment of \$1.7 or \$1.8 million added on which represents the Mayor's number of \$60.792 and again to follow the same scenario taking our budget increase of \$63.300 and adding the same Salary Adjustment and Severance we come up to a number of \$65.7 which is a difference of \$4.9 million. We have reduced that number to about \$3 million.

Alderman Wihby stated okay, just to make me happy, can't we start at '98's budget, the amount you have this year and you tell me what items that you're looking for above that, isn't that easy enough.

Superintendent Tanguay stated that was one scenario...

Alderman Wihby asked isn't it basically the \$2.9 million on top of this year's number.

Superintendent Tanguay stated it was saying \$1.327 million in Salary Adjustment which by the way represents about a two percent increase to teachers and \$465,000 for the Severance which gives us about \$1.8 million to which if you look at the opening of the McLaughlin School and the other items that we'd like to do that comes to \$2.9 million which is the number we're looking for above what the Mayor has here.

Alderman Klock asked are most of the raises in your budget due to teachers.

Superintendent Tanguay replied no teacher raises.

Alderman Klock stated you're looking at the millions of dollars that you need are for improvements in the schools as opposed to teacher's raises and severance packages.

Superintendent Tanguay stated to clarify the Mayor's number has the raises in there, at least that's what indicated for. We have not included that number at this point.

Alderman Klock stated the number is in there.

Superintendent Tanguay replied no, not in our budget, it's in the Mayor's budget.

Alderman Klock stated if you take that money you have money.

School Committee Member Cook stated there are \$202,000 of raises that were already approved in contracts that flow over into the next budget. You all know that when we had that discussion about the \$1.1, \$1.4, \$1.7 thing and when we came to you with the budget we said we would like to have the Salary Adjustment account in our budget so that we control that so that when the salary thing comes up we will know what we have and we can spend it so we don't get into that situation again. In the budget that we have for raises with the exception of a few non-unionized employees we have some adjustments but they are not large. The Salary Adjustment account is put aside for contracts that are not yet settled. Traditionally, it goes to the City side and when the contract has been settled they get sent over to the School side; that amount which is \$1.3 million which contains the benefits of \$200,000 as I understand it would allow, if the negotiations with teachers resulted in a raise to be about a two percent raise starting on October 15th which isn't a two percent raise, but a one point something percent raise. When it was shifted over we didn't say give it to us so that we can spend it on something other than personnel, we said we would like to have it shifted over so we can be in charge of our own fate in that regard; that's what's in there but there are no teachers raises contemplated, that is the line item that is there if that's what the negotiations go to.

Alderman Klock stated you have the money there, you're earmarking it for teachers raises, Salary Adjustments.

School Committee Member Cook stated we have it there and we believe when we negotiate with teachers there are often raises involved and they are often more than one percent and we don't think it would be terribly prudent to spend it on something else when we are in the process of negotiations which by law have to be in good faith. Now, it means we're reserving it, not earmarking it because if we don't I'm not quite sure how we can be negotiating in good faith and I'm not sure you folks would want us to come back and say oh, by the way, we spent all of the money you gave us for Salary Adjustments, we've negotiated in good faith, give us another million bucks; that is not what we have in mind.

Alderman Klock stated say, we gave you money from the Rooms & Meals Tax, say we gave you a million dollars, we even emptied the bank account, now next year where's the money going to come from...if we would give you a million dollars to say open the Middle School, next year you're going to need that million dollars where are you going to get it. I'm not sure...

School Committee Member Cook stated the School Board has not asked you to give us any money from the Rooms & Meals Tax.

Alderman Klock stated I'm just saying that if that happens where are you going to get the money next year.

School Committee Member Cook stated the way our system works, I found out with great vigor in the Charter discussions recently, is that we propose and you fund. In a lot of School District meetings with the people, in the City it's the Aldermen. We come to you with what we believe the requirements of the School District are and we ask you to fund those. Where you find the money...if we were the Concord School Board we would bring you a tax increase number and you would have to include it in your budget and I don't think any of you regardless of your point of view would like that because it's very frustrating and that's the only City/School District that does that; that every other City the City Council or the Board of Aldermen funds that and I think you have to weigh what revenue sources are available to you and figure out how to do it. I have a personal opinion, the School Board has not taken a position.

Alderman Hirschmann stated I just want to understand Alderman Wihby's handout shows, I believe that's an extra payroll period a million two. Now, you deducted that \$1.2 million coming in already on your proposal, so that's already gone, but I'm seeing a deduction, Dave, on your...you're deducting that 53rd week (\$1.2) because you went off of last year's number.

Alderman Wihby stated right, the top number has it in it and I just deducted it in the bottom.

Alderman Hirschmann stated he's saying that his number already had it out of it.

Alderman Wihby stated I think we agree with 98's number to the dollar (\$58,842,462) is 98's number.

Alderman Hirschmann stated that payroll period was still in there.

Alderman Wihby stated not in the \$58,842,462. It's still in there for the \$60.042 which is the top number.

Alderman Hirschmann stated if we just went flat there's \$1.2 million that could have been for the McLaughlin School and for the junior high programs.

Alderman Wihby stated they would argue that comment because what School Board Member Cook is saying is that \$58,842,462 would put them at the same number as last year, but it doesn't necessarily make them whole because they've been making some cuts in the meantime.

School Committee Member Cook stated if I could try one more time for Alderman Hirschmann on that, what I said was and I agree with what Alderman Wihby said, but what I said was we had to knock out of our budget a lot of necessary things in order to fund the legally required

things which were also necessary that came down the pike that hit us like \$990,000 more of Tutors and Educational Assistants to perform the Special Education we had and the large number which we gave you in our budget presentation which is not sitting in my head this second on English as a Second Language. To do that, to absorb that in our budget I think the point that has to be made is if you're comparing what we spent out of the checkbook this year as opposed to what we needed to spend out of the checkbook this year to do the job, you would come to a number that was a lot higher than what we were appropriated. You and we on the School Board said we can't have that if we can at all avoid it, that is what all of this discussion about extra spending was about.

Alderman Hirschmann stated I know all about that because I was here and I remember the School Board asking for \$57.2 and I remember this Board appropriating the money exactly to give you to run the District this year, exactly, to a tee, to a number. So, you can debate that all you want and I can go to the School Board records and pull all that out and we can argue all night. I was just asking a simple point, did you deduct that 53rd week of payroll coming into this new budget, that is the only answer I wanted, let's go on to something else.

Alderman Thibault stated I was really upset a few minutes ago when a few teachers from the west side talked about how far back the west side seems to be as compared to the east side schools. I would like to ask the School Department if in fact they can tell me why is it that everytime there is a shortfall the west side seems to absorb it. Right now, I hear that the west side is behind on books, on foreign language, and computers. How come when there's a cut it's not cut throughout the City rather than just the west side; that's terrible to hear that our schools on the west side are not doing as good as the schools on the east side and that is not the way it is supposed to be. When there are cuts to be made they should be made so they affect every area.

Superintendent Tanguay stated we totally agree with that. Those are things that have occurred over time in the past several years. For example, we talked about the inconsistency in our curriculum going back 14 years and that is a district-wide problem, it doesn't only affect the west side. Our administration, our School Board at this point is treating all schools with the same equity which is our purpose and our mission. What has happened in the past we hope to rectify that, but we have not been involved in that kind of decision-making.

Alderman Thibault stated that really surprises me and I'm sure all of us are going to hear about it on the west side. It's an awful situation and I hope that this year you take steps to correct that because it's going to be hell to pay for somebody.

Superintendent Tanguay stated I think the Aldermen from the west side and School Board Members work very diligently pursuing, for example, the addition to Parkside for that same reason.

Alderman Girard stated, Superintendent Tanguay, if you will bear with me for a minute I am going to try to reconstruct the numbers, I think I know where Alderman Wihby was going and I think I've figured it out. Your operating budget just to use round numbers, if you'll bear with me, I'm going to do a set of numbers for fiscal '98 and a set of numbers for fiscal '99, okay. Your operating budget, what was appropriated to the School Department was \$57 million and again I am just going to keep the numbers round for simplicity sake. So, to that \$57 million we need to add \$450,000 for Severance and we need to add \$1.1 million from Salary Adjustment because although there was \$1.4 reserved for the raises, \$300,000 of that was reserved on the City side for benefits. So, really the operating budget then if you add those three for fiscal '98 was \$58.550 million. Are you with me, Norm. Okay, if we take fiscal '99 and again using round numbers take the \$59.5 million that the Mayor proposed for your operating budget, we add the \$1.3 million from Salary Adjustment, we come up with a budget of \$60.8 million for your operations and if we take the \$200,000 which could be more that Alderman Wihby has put on the table we come up to a total operating budget of \$61 million, correct, okay. So, if we take the fiscal '98 operating budget of \$58.550 and subject it from fiscal 99's budget of \$61 million, we come up with roughly a \$1.450 million increase in the operating budget, correct. Okay, now if we subtract \$900,000 for the Middle School and I do that because operationally I don't think it's fair to hold the School Department responsible for a building that was built, so if we subject that \$900,000 from the \$1.450 million, we come up with a \$550,000 increase over fiscal 98's budget and if we take out the \$250,000 needed to put the Middle School concept into place we actually come up with an operating increase of \$300,000 for the School Department's budget. Do those numbers follow with you, Mr. Tanguay

Mayor Wieczorek stated, Norm, you had something you wanted to say.

Superintendent Tanguay stated the bottom line is that the salary increase and severance which will come to about \$1.8 million plus, the \$3 million is the number we are looking for, whatever the beginning point is we can arrive at, but that is basically what we are looking for about \$4.8 million which includes Salary Adjustments, Severance, and these other items listed.

Alderman Shea stated Dan and I have been talking here and what we've come up with is probably something different...your total here is \$2,917,691 and Dave Wihby's total here is \$2,158,509 for a difference of about \$759,182, is that the difference.

Alderman Wihby stated I think that is what we want to talk about. I think that's as far as we are seven hundred thousand dollars.

Alderman Shea asked if we came up with that amount of money would that be able to handle all of your needs or are we talking bout something else here that isn't included.

School Committee Member Cook stated I think I agree that things have been flying past us pretty fast when everybody comes up with a sheet, maybe we came up with a sheet they haven't seen, but they've come up with sheets we haven't seen and we'd like to talk about what's in those, but I think the bottom line here is the items on the sheet that I passed out are items that are not presently in this School budget, they are not things we were doing with the exception and I think Alderman Wihby understood what I was saying about the \$990,000. The \$990,000 came directly out of things we should have been doing and couldn't do because we had to fund the \$990,000. Regardless of those and I think the reason why we need to talk about this at the recess is how did those couple of things, large items though they be add up because these are things that we don't think are in the budget, I think we'd all be happy if we solved these problems but we don't think these things are in the budget and they add up to \$2.9 million. If you took the \$990,000 out of there you still have \$2 million, but you can't take the \$990,000 out of there, I don't think because that knocks out \$990,000 worth of things we should have been doing and weren't able to do because we had to solve the \$990,000. So, I think what we have to do is do a little work here.

Alderman Shea stated he has \$897,099 the same as you, he has \$250,000 the same as you, he has \$391,400 the same as you, and then he's left out the \$990,000 which I guess is for your Special Needs, is that correct. So, that would be the difference between...but then he's added \$620,000 which would make up for the \$185,000 and the \$204,000 plus with the difference of \$795,000.

School Committee Member Cook stated if he's put in \$620,000 to replace \$990,000...

Alderman Shea stated no, no. What I'm say is you'd have to add to it, I'm adding to that.

School Committee Member Cook stated we have the difference between those...

Alderman Shea stated it would be \$760,000 to round it off which would account for all of your needs there, wouldn't it, the \$990,000.

Mr. Sullivan stated except for the teacher's raises, it's not in this calculation.

Alderman Shea stated that would be the \$1.4 million, so that would account for the two point whatever.

Mayor Wiczorek recessed the meeting.

Mayor Wiczorek called the meeting back to order.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I've got a request for an amendment to the budget and then I had the original appropriating resolution that we had a motion on, so I will ask Aldermen Rivard and Pariseau to withdraw their motions for an amendment and Aldermen Sysyn and Klock to withdraw their motions for the budget and we'll start all over again with a different appropriating resolution.

The motions were so withdrawn.

Mayor Wieczorek acknowledged Alderman Shea.

Alderman Shea stated I defer to Alderman Rivard, your Honor.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I'm going to make a decision of what the order is, do you want to make a motion or not.

Alderman Shea replied I am not going to make a motion. Is there anybody here who wishes to make a motion.

Alderman Klock moved that \$300,000 be taken out of Rooms & Meals Tax and \$300,000 added to the tax rate. I think it's even, I think it's fair, it's something that we can live with.

Mayor Wieczorek asked any caveats on there, are you going to use that as a spigot for next year because next year that comes out of the tax rate.

Alderman Klock stated this is a one time shot, I don't know...I know there are other proposals on the floor, but I'm not sure where the money would come from next year...people say the ABC but you don't know if that's actually coming or not, so it's gambling whether or not it's coming, so I'm making the motion that it's a three and three.

Alderman Cashin interjected, your Honor, point of order, if you're going to debate you shouldn't...

Mayor Wieczorek stated I'm not debating, I'm clarifying the motion.

Alderman Klock stated with the caveat that it's a one time shot, it's this year or next year...\$300,000 from Rooms & Meals and \$300,000 from the tax base.

Alderman Pinard duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Wihby stated usually we take \$200,000 every year from the Rooms & Meals with the intention that the following year we don't take the \$200,000.

Alderman Klock reiterated my motion is for \$300,000 for next year.

Alderman Wihby stated but out the \$200,000 we would usually take the following year would not be able to be used again, we wouldn't touch it the following year.

Alderman Klock stated that's my motion.

Alderman Girard stated just a point of order it sounds like part of the motion is to bind the action of a future Board and I know we have several times had discussion on that. Well, we're going to say we're going to do this now but we're going to prevent ourselves from doing it next year, so I don't know if we can do that, first of all.

Mayor Wieczorek stated you're still going to be here, it's going to be the same Board.

Alderman Girard stated it's still a future year, your Honor. The second point I wanted to make is when we first took, when prior Board's first took the \$200,000 out of Rooms & Meals for road resurfacing that too was supposed to be a one shot deal. I don't support using Rooms & Meals money and there's a budget on the table that could give them money without having to tap anything or raise the taxes more than the rate on the table and I will not support the motion.

Mayor Wieczorek stated to get that motion clear, give me the right number because the number that we had originally was \$164,814,062.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated the motion as the Clerk understands it reads a motion by Alderman Klock, seconded by Alderman Pinard to amend the resolution by adding \$600,000 to the School Department's budget - \$300,000 projected from Rooms & Meals Taxes, \$300,000 coming from the General Fund tax base with the caveat that it's not intended to be used again next year for a new total of \$165,644,062.

Mayor Wieczorek asked is there any further discussion.

Alderman Wihby stated I think that means a dollar or a dollar one on the tax rate.

Alderman Clancy stated I'll make a motion. We're going to use, we've got almost \$800,000 in the Rooms & Meals Tax left, is that right.

Mayor Wieczorek replied no.

Alderman Clancy asked how much do we have.

Mayor Wiczorek replied we took \$200,000 for road resurfacing and now you're taking another \$300,000.

Alderman Clancy stated we didn't vote on that motion yet, your Honor.

Mayor Wiczorek stated that is the motion that is on the floor.

Alderman Clancy stated I want to make a motion myself.

Mayor Wiczorek stated let me first get this motion voted up or down here.

Alderman Clancy stated he wanted to amend it by taking \$500,000 out of the Rooms & Meals Tax and \$300,000 out of the General Fund and give them \$800,000. Alderman O'Neil duly seconded the motion to amend.

Mayor Wiczorek called for a vote on the motion to amend the appropriating resolution to \$165,644,062.

Alderman Hirschmann asked what's the tax rate.

Mr. Sherman stated by adding that \$300,000; that under Alderman Klock's proposal you're adding \$300,000 to the tax rate which gets you to \$32.18 which is an increase of \$1.02 or 3.27%. If you take Alderman Clancy's proposal it gets you to \$32.23 or \$1.07 over current year which makes it 3.43%.

Mayor Wiczorek stated you'd then have \$500,000 that you'd have to figure out where you're going to get next year because it would have to come out of the tax rate.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated I don't think Mr. Sherman understood the amendment.

Mayor Wiczorek asked did you take any more out of the General Fund.

Mr. Sherman replied it leaves it the same, it leaves it at \$32.18.

Mayor Wiczorek stated there is a motion on the floor for the amendment to take \$300,000 out of the General Fund and \$500,000 out of the Rooms & Meals Tax which is to amend the appropriating resolution.

Alderman Girard requested a roll call vote be conducted.

Deputy Clerk Johnson noted the total of the resolution would be \$165,844,062.

A roll call vote was taken. Alderman Girard, Pariseau, Hirschmann, Wihby, Klock, Reiniger, Sysyn, and Pinard voted nay. Aldermen Rivard, Cashin, Thibault, Clancy, Shea, and O'Neil voted yea. The motion failed.

Mayor Wieczorek stated the motion on the floor was to amend the appropriating resolution 'Raising Monies Making Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 1999' to \$165,644,062" moved by Alderman Klock, and seconded by Alderman Pinard.

At the request of Alderman Girard, a roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Girard, Pariseau, Hirschmann, Wihby, and Reiniger voted nay. Aldermen Rivard, Cashin, Thibault, Klock, Sysyn, Clancy, Pinard, Shea, and O'Neil voted yea. The motion carried.

Alderman Thibault moved that the appropriating resolution be enrolled as amended. Alderman Clancy duly seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was requested by Alderman Girard.

Alderman O'Neil asked this is on the entire budget we're voting on.

Mayor Wieczorek replied yes.

Alderman Hirschmann stated the tax rate is higher than Alderman Wihby's.

Alderman Wihby stated I just want to add one more piece to that. In the numbers that we used, we had used a million forty for Medicaid money and \$778,000 for the tuition money and I think it's probably fair to say that if they do a better job managing that they get more money from that and if so the additional money above those two numbers, as long as they reach their \$19 million revenue number should go back to the School Department in order to use that too, so I'd like to include that in the motion that anything for a million forty in Medicaid and \$778,000 in tuition. Alderman Pariseau duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Girard asked are you going to vote on that amendment, your Honor.

Deputy Clerk Johnson replied this would not be an amendment to the resolution, but there is a motion to allow School to keep revenues beyond that amount.

Mayor Wieczorek called for a vote to allow the School Department to keep those two sources of revenue. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated we now have a motion on the floor, Alderman Thibault, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy to enroll the resolution as amended to \$165,644,062, with Alderman Girard having requested a roll call.

Alderman Rivard asked we're just confirming the last vote.

Deputy Clerk Johnson replied you're enrolling the resolution as amended, this would be your final vote on the City's operating budget, School's included for the total amount of \$165,644,062 which includes the \$600,000 just added to the School Department.

A roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Girard, Cashin, Hirschmann, Wihby, Reiniger, Shea, and O'Neil voted nay. Aldermen Rivard, Pariseau, Thibault, Klock, Sysyn, Clancy, and Pinard voted yea.

Mayor Wiczorek stated the motion passed.

Solicitor Clark stated it requires eight votes with the new Charter.

The appropriating resolution was not enrolled for lack of meeting the eight vote requirement.

Alderman Hirschmann stated I would like to make an amendment.

Mayor Wiczorek stated this was just voted down.

Alderman Hirschmann stated let's start over.

Deputy Clerk Johnson noted that the resolution at this point in time has been amended to \$165,644,062...that is currently what is on the floor, any amendments you're amending that number, just so that everybody understands where they're beginning from because it's not the same. The motion to amend the resolution did pass.

Mayor Wiczorek asked did you want to reconsider.

Alderman Rivard stated I'm confused. I thought we were voting on Alderman Wihby's budget and he voted against it, did I miss something.

Alderman Wihby stated we added an additional \$600,000 to the number and I felt that \$500,000 was the number that I was willing to go to.

Mayor Wiczorek asked what is your pleasure, ladies and gentlemen.

Alderman Hirschmann stated from a technical standpoint we took \$300,000 out of the Rooms & Meals Tax and \$300,000 on the tax rate, so what I would like to do, I know you don't like to do this, your Honor, but what I would like to do and I think would be fair is that \$500,000 total come out of Rooms & Meals for books and another \$500,000 came out of Rooms & Meals to reduce the tax rate, so the taxpayers are going to win and the schools are going to win. We're going to get a lower tax rate and we're going to keep the schools happy. So, let's figure out what that comes out to.

Mayor Wieczorek asked what do you do next year when you have to make up that money in the operating budget.

Alderman Hirschmann stated the \$500,000 I'm giving the schools would go to books and books is a one-time expense, textbooks.

Mayor Wieczorek asked have you ever seen the budget go down.

Alderman Hirschmann replied not since I've been here, your Honor.

Mayor Wieczorek stated you're right, and I've been here nine years.

Alderman Hirschmann stated I don't see any other amendments passing, so I'd like to try that and give me a tax rate with that amendment.

Alderman Clancy stated we don't have that much money in the Rooms & Meals Tax.

Alderman Hirschmann stated there's a million dollars sitting there.

Mayor Wieczorek stated no there isn't, you took \$200,000 out for road resurfacing, so what's in there now.

Mr. Sherman replied \$950,000.

Alderman Hirschmann stated I can make that amendment because in December we're going to get \$1.1 million, which is in that fiscal year, so I can do that.

Mayor Wieczorek asked do you have a second to your motion.

Alderman Clancy duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Hirschmann reiterated his motion of \$500,000 to textbooks and \$500,000 to reduce the tax rate.

Mayor Wieczorek stated you can't tell them what to spend it on, Alderman.

Alderman Hirschmann stated we're trying.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated I just want to clarify the motion. As I understand it Alderman Hirschmann is saying to take \$500,000 from Rooms & Meals for school books, is that then to reduce the School budget by \$100,000 from what it just was amended to.

Alderman Hirschmann stated I want to take the tax rate of \$32.09, the Aldermen's budget, I want to take \$500,000 from Rooms & Meals and apply it to schools and I want to apply \$500,000 to reduce that tax rate of \$32.09.

Alderman Wihby stated your answer would be yes, Carol.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated you would then be reducing your School budget by \$100,000 from where it is at now, I just want to make sure that everybody understands and I understand.

Alderman Klock asked how are you going to make sure that they spend it on textbooks.

Alderman Hirschmann replied I'm not, it's my recommendation at this point with all the testimony in the audience that it would go to textbooks. We've heard testimony from Spanish teachers and French teachers that need textbooks, so \$500,000 would be a good appropriation to take care of all the City schools.

Alderman Sysyn stated they are not administration, it's up to administration.

Alderman Hirschmann stated well, it sure it.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated I want to clarify for the record that the bottom line of the resolution would be \$165,544,062.

Mr. Sherman stated that gets your tax rate to \$31.96.

Alderman Cashin stated you've cut the School Department budget by \$100,000.

Mayor Wieczorek called for a vote on the motion. The motion failed.

Alderman Shea asked how much do we have in the Rooms & Meals Tax.

Alderman Clancy replied \$950,000.

Alderman Shea moved that the \$950,000 be put into the School budget. Alderman O'Neil duly seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was requested by Alderman Shea.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated I need to clarify something. Your motion, as I understand it is to place the \$950,000 towards the School budget.

Alderman Shea replied that is correct. Put the Rooms & Meals Tax money towards the School budget.

Deputy Clerk Johnson asked are you still including the \$300,000 that is in there now from the tax base, you're taking that out, am I understanding that.

Alderman Shea stated keep that in there too.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated the motion then would be to add \$350,000 more to the School Department's budget utilizing a total in the budget of \$950,000 from Rooms & Meals and taking out \$300,000.

Alderman Shea stated no. What I would like to do is take the Rooms & Meals Tax money and apply it to the School Department, there's \$975,000...wipe that out completely, wipe it out so that the people who pay the taxes can benefit from it.

Alderman Wihby stated the tax rate would be the same as the original number \$32.09.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated let me clarify the amount first of all because you just stated a different amount, it's \$950,000.

Alderman Shea stated never mind the \$300,000, just the \$950,000.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated we're adding \$350,000 to the School budget and we're taking out minus \$300,000 from the tax rate revenues because he's saying all \$950,000 is coming from Rooms & Meals. The motion was made by Alderman Shea and seconded by Alderman O'Neil.

Mayor Wiczorek called for a vote on the motion. The motion failed.

Alderman Klock moved to resubmit her motion of \$300,000 and \$300,000.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated it is already in there.

Alderman Klock asked can we vote on it again, I want to reconsider it.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated she is looking to enroll it, not to amend it.

Alderman Girard stated just a point of clarification. I believe the motion that Alderman Klock made passed and that number is what's on the table at \$165,644,062. I put my hand up just to make a point of information, your Honor, and at the risk of alienating my colleagues at this late hour, I just would say that the budget I put on the table could have \$660,000 added to the School budget and still come up with a lower tax rate than what's on the table right now. So, if anyone wants to take a look at that, I'll be happy to make it a motion if you've got a second...but, point of information for people to consider.

Alderman Klock moved to reconsider the motion to enroll the resolution as amended. Alderman Pariseau duly seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Wihby, Klock, Reiniger, Sysyn, Pinard, Rivard and Pariseau voted yea. Aldermen Clancy, Shea, O'Neil, Girard, Cashin, Thibault and Hirschmann voted nay. The motion carried.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated the motion on the floor now would be to enroll the resolution as amended to \$165,644,062. The motion originally having been made by Alderman Thibault, seconded by Alderman Clancy.

Alderman Shea asked can I amend it, your Honor and moved to add \$200,000 more from the Rooms & Meals Tax to make the budget up to \$61.884 million. Alderman O'Neil duly seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was requested by Alderman Girard.

Alderman Hirschmann stated we don't even know what we're voting on, your Honor.

Mayor Wieczorek replied he wants to add another \$200,000, we've already gone through this.

Alderman Shea stated from the Rooms & Meals Tax to bring it up to \$500,000 and \$300,000 from the...

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated you are reconsidering a motion that was already on the floor, I don't believe that you can amend it at this point.

Alderman Wihby stated it's not the right number that you gave.

Mayor Wieczorek stated the number was \$165,644,062.

Alderman Girard asked are we considering the amendment offered by Alderman Shea.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated the motion was to reconsider the motion to enroll the resolution as amended. You are reconsidering that motion that was on the floor, that amendment has not been accepted because you're reconsidering a former motion; that is the way the Chair has ruled.

A roll call vote was taken. Alderman Wihby, Reiniger, Clancy, Shea, O'Neil, Girard, Rivard, Pariseau, Cashin, Thibault, and Hirschmann voted nay. Aldermen Klock, Sysyn, and Pinard voted yea. The motion failed.

Alderman Cashin asked would you consider recessing this meeting, setting up a sub-committee of this group like I asked you to do two weeks ago, sit down with these people and see...if they have to stay there all day tomorrow and I'm perfectly willing to be there and do whatever I can do to help this along...to come back and try to agree on a number, this is ridiculous what's happening here, it's embarrassing for everyone. If you'll entertain that, I'd appreciate it, if you don't want it...I mentioned it to you two weeks ago and it fell on deaf ears, but I'm asking you again tonight.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I really resent your kind of remarks of "falling on deaf ears". We had people meeting...they were meeting with the Finance Department, they've been meeting with me, they've had meetings for the last two weeks. You're insinuating that everybody was in a hole somewhere and nobody was listening to anybody.

Alderman Cashin stated I'm not insinuating that, I'm not insinuating anything. I'm saying what I told you two weeks ago, I asked if you'd set up a sub-committee of this group to meet with this group to solve some of these problems. You're not going to solve them here this evening, that's obvious, and if you would have just listened to me and given it some thought I don't think we would have gone through this charade we've had here this evening; that's all I'm asking you to do. Now, if you want to take my recommendation, fine, if you don't that's okay too.

Alderman Girard stated I think the School officials here have made clear exactly what it is they're looking for from this Board for funding. The question now is whether or not we support that request and if not what we will or won't support. I'm not sure what a committee is going to accomplish. I agree with the sentiments expressed by the Alderman from Ward 10, it would be nice. But, I don't see School coming down any lower than they are and there are several members of this Board who don't appear to be going any higher than they've already gone, so we're at an impasse and we're going to have to make a decision one way or the other. I don't think another working is going to accomplish anything.

Alderman Cashin stated it certainly wouldn't hurt, your Honor.

Alderman Girard stated, Alderman Cashin, if you'd like to make a proposal I'm willing to listen.

Alderman Cashin moved that a sub-committee be set up to discuss it tomorrow with this group and to recess this meeting. Alderman O'Neil duly seconded the motion.

Mayor Wieczorek asked how many.

Alderman Cashin replied three.

Mayor Wieczorek called for a vote on the motion to set up a sub-committee of three members of the Board. The motion failed.

Alderman Hirschmann stated I'll try one more time, your Honor, I had Alderman Clancy's ear with that \$500,000, but apparently I was \$100,000 off. So, if I start over again with a tax rate of \$31.96 and give the schools \$600,000 so that they're happy and make that a motion.

Mayor Wieczorek asked \$600,000 coming from where.

Alderman Hirschmann replied from the Rooms & Meals Tax.

Mayor Wieczorek asked a straight \$600,000.

Alderman Hirschmann stated it took \$500,000 to get the rate down to \$31.96, so it's one point one out of Rooms & Meals, but it makes everybody happy the taxpayers and the schools.

Alderman Clancy stated that's a one time deal now.

Mayor Wieczorek stated his motion is to take \$600,000 from the Rooms & Meals Tax, so then...

Alderman Wihby stated the bottom line then is still \$32.09.

Alderman Hirschmann stated my original motion was \$500,000 for books and \$500,000 to give back to the taxpayers.

Mayor Wieczorek stated that motion failed.

Alderman Hirschmann stated now I'm asking for \$1.1, so that School gets \$600,000 and the tax rate gets \$500,000 applied to it.

Mayor Wieczorek stated you're back on the \$500,000 be applied to the tax base.

Alderman Hirschmann stated that's how it gets down to \$31.96, your Honor.

Mayor Wieczorek asked do we have that much money, no.

Alderman Hirschmann stated yes, we do. In the fiscal year which is December we get that money.

Mayor Wieczorek asked, Tom, can he spend money that we don't have it, appropriate money we don't have.

Alderman Hirschmann stated in December the revenue's coming in in the fiscal year of the budget.

Solicitor Clark replied I think you have the right to spend that money if it's coming in this year.

Mayor Wieczorek stated okay, let's have your motion again.

Alderman Hirschmann stated the motion is a total of \$1.1 million from Rooms & Meals Tax money...\$600,000 goes to the School District for books, \$500,000 goes to the taxpayers to reduce the tax rate down to \$31.96. Alderman Shea duly seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was requested by Alderman Girard.

Deputy Clerk Johnson clarified that the bottom line is not changing at this point, it would stay at \$165,644,062. What you're doing in essence is applying more of your Rooms & Meals towards your taxes and instead of the three hundred, three hundred in essence you're doing six hundred out of the Rooms & Meals.

Alderman Hirschmann stated you'll have happy taxpayers and happy schools.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated the motion was made by Alderman Hirschmann, duly seconded by Alderman Shea for \$165,644,062 with \$1.1 from Rooms & Meals Tax.

A roll call vote was taken. Alderman Shea, O'Neil, Cashin, Thibault, Hirschmann, and Clancy voted yea. Aldermen Girard, Rivard, Pariseau, Wihby, Klock, Reiniger, Sysyn, and Pinard voted nay. The motion failed.

Alderman Wihby stated, your Honor, I think what you've seen is that everybody on the Board feels that School definitely needs more money and it's somewhere between \$500,000 and \$800,000 to \$900,000, I don't know where the number really lies but, I still believe it's \$500,000 and I think when we took this break I think we discussed that amount and moved to take \$200,000 out of the Rooms & Meals Tax with the stipulation that we don't take it out the following year and also \$300,000 be added, so the total of \$500,000 to the School budget of which that would make the tax rate the \$1.02, with the stipulation that they get to spend that extra money and hopefully there's money there. Alderman Pariseau duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Pariseau asked how much would the tax rate be, Randy.

Mr. Sherman replied \$32.18.

A roll call vote was requested by Alderman Girard.

Deputy Clerk Johnson clarified that for the record, the motion would be to amend it to \$165,544,062, so you'd be reducing School down by \$100,000.

A roll call voted was taken. Aldermen Girard, Hirschmann, Reiniger, Clancy, Shea, and O'Neil voted nay. Aldermen Rivard, Pariseau, Cashin, Thibault,, Wihby, Klock, Sysyn, and Pinard voted yea. The motion carried.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated as the resolution now stands you would now need a motion to enroll as amended to \$165,544,062.

Alderman Wihby moved to enroll the resolution as amended to \$165,544,062. Alderman Pariseau duly seconded the motion.

At the request of Alderman Girard, a roll call vote was taken. Alderman Girard, Cashin, Hirschmann, Reiniger, Clancy, Shea, and O'Neil voted nay. Aldermen Rivard, Pariseau, Thibault, Wihby, Klock, Sysyn, and Pinard voted yea. The motion failed.

Mayor Wiczorek stated I don't think we're going to finish this tonight, so I'm going to accept a motion to table this and we'll have to get back to it.

Alderman Pariseau moved that the appropriating resolution be tabled. Alderman Klock duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Girard duly recorded in opposition.

TABLED ITEM

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Thibault, it was voted to remove the following item from the table for discussion.

- 25.** Communication from Alderman O'Neil seeking the Board's support of Governor Shaheen's ABC Plan.
(Tabled 5/5/98)

Alderman O'Neil stated based on what's going on tonight we need help from the State of New Hampshire and I think we've got to go on record as supporting the compromise bill with the Governor and the Speaker and we should let the Senate know that and moved to that effect. Alderman Cashin duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Girard stated I don't fault my colleague-at-large for wanting to take this issue up, but given that it is pending before the Supreme Court, I think it's premature to do anything in its support or in opposition and the other thing I'd like to point out is that there are several other plans in Concord some of which meddle with Rooms & Meals money, I don't know all of the different plans that are out there, I don't think we should take a position for or against anything. I still don't know enough about this Plan other than what I've read in the papers and I'm sure there's far more to know than what's been out there. I think we should wait for the court to rule, I think it's premature to take any action on this. We could always look for more money, but...

Alderman Wihby stated as you know I never agree with Alderman Girard, but I think he's right on this one.

At the request of Alderman Cashin, a roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Cashin, Thibault, Sysyn, Clancy, Pinard, Shea, O'Neil, Rivard, and Pariseau voted yea. Alderman Hirschmann, Klock, Reiniger, and Girard voted nay. Alderman Wihby abstained.

Mayor Wiczorek vetoed the action stating because I don't think it's appropriate for us to be taking an action on this at this time for a lot of reasons. One, I think that the State has a fundamental opportunity here to really take a good look at how we deliver education. The problem that I see all the time is that we're throwing more money at a situation and if that were really the case, then Washington, DC would have the best schools in the country and the schools in this country would have the best schools, but yet we're number 14 and we spend the most money. So, I don't think that's the answer to the problem we have and I think there's an awful lot of work that has to be done with this.

Alderman O'Neil moved to override the Mayor's veto. Alderman Cashin duly seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Aldermen O'Neil, Rivard, Cashin, Thibault, Sysyn, Clancy, and Shea voted yea. Alderman Girard, Pariseau, Hirschmann, Wihby, Klock, Reiniger, and Pinard voted nay. The motion failed.

26. NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Reiniger stated ALPHA (The Alliance for the Progress of Hispanic Americans, Inc.) suffered a pinch between the City funding and also United Way which is out-of-the-hand of the City, but are coming back...they're really struggling and serve a lot of underprivileged kids and have come back to us looking for some more funding and moved to refer their communication to the Committee on CIP. They had originally made a request of \$16,200 and received \$10,500. Alderman Wihby duly seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Alderman Sysyn moved to nominate Christopher Herbert to fill the unexpired term of Vanessa Johnson as a member of the Board of School Committee from Ward 4. Alderman Clancy duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Wihby asked how does that work.

Solicitor Clark replied it's an election by the Aldermen to fill the vacancy.

Alderman Wihby asked does this have to layover.

Solicitor Clark replied it does not need to layover and can be voted on it tonight.

Alderman Girard stated, your Honor, with all due respect to the Alderman from Ward 4, I do not know this individual. Is there some information she could give us tonight.

Alderman Sysyn replied I couldn't get the resume today, but I can provide it for you. He's very well qualified.

Alderman Girard asked is there any way that a poll of this Board could be conducted in order to vote on this nomination, I just don't know the person.

Alderman O'Neil asked did anybody else have the opportunity to contact you about the vacancy.

Alderman Sysyn replied nobody else contacted me and this was sprung on me at the end of last week.

Alderman Cashin stated the problem with this is that most people don't realize how a vacancy of this type is made to an Alderman which is probably why nobody has contacted you because they

really don't know how to go about it. There may be other people in your Ward who might be interested.

The City Clerk noted that no formal resignation had been presented to him as the Election Officer.

Following conference with the Mayor and School Administration, the City Clerk advised a letter of resignation had been received from School Committee Member Vanessa L.M. Johnson, leaving a vacancy in Ward 4 to the Board of School Committee.

Mayor Wieczorek read the following letter into the record:

Dear Mayor, Vice Chairperson Healy, & Members of the Board:

It is with regret that I must tender my resignation from my position on the Manchester School Board, effective May 29, 1998.

It has been an honor to be elected to represent the constituents of Ward 4 for 6 terms. Making the decision to bring this service to an end was not easy, especially in the middle of a term. However, a wonderful opportunity has been presented to me. I have accepted the offer to be Resource Development Director for the United Way of Franklin and Benton Counties in Kennewick, WA, the 7th most successful United Way in the country.

It has been a pleasure serving with all of you, ranging from Vice Chairperson Dan Healy, John Gatsas, and Lorraine Lamontagne, with whom I've served ten and a half years, to those of you whom I was just getting a chance to know during your first term this year. I wish you the very best in dealing with the continuing challenge to provide the best education affordable for the students in the Manchester School District.

Sincerely,

s/Vanessa L. M. Johnson
BOSC, Ward 4

On motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Pinard, it was voted to accept with regrets the resignation of School Committee Member Johnson, and a vacancy was declared.

On motion of Alderman Sysyn, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy it was voted to elect and confirm Christopher Herbert to fill the unexpired term of Vanessa Johnson as a member of the Board of School Committee representing Ward 4. Aldermen Shea, Cashin, and Thibault were duly recorded in opposition. Aldermen Hirschmann and O'Neil were duly recorded as abstaining.

Alderman Rivard stated the nomination is from that particular Ward, right.

Mayor Wiczorek replied no, it's from the Aldermanic Board, it doesn't say specifically that Ward, but the person has to live in that ward.

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

Alderman Pariseau moved to ratify the Ironworker's Union Contract; that pursuant to Rule 26 would layover until the next meeting. Alderman Wihby duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Thibault asked are we talking, David, about that .5%.

Mr. Hodgen replied yes.

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

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Klock, it was voted to recess the meeting.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk