

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

**November 4, 1998**

**7:00 PM**

Mayor Wieczorek called the meeting to order.

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

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

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

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

Absent: Aldermen Wihby and Shea

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

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

Allan Dion, 180 Trolley Street, Manchester, NH, and on behalf of Albertine Morrissette, 34 Trolley Court, Manchester, NH, (Re: Pine Island Park), stated:

I'm actually here with Albertine Morrissette. We're here to discuss...we're co-founder and co-chair of the Committee to Save Pine Island Park. Essentially, what we're looking for right now is for a position to be put on the agenda on I believe the seventeenth, the CIP Committee is going to be there and we'd like to be put on the agenda.

Clerk Bernier stated send us a letter so that we may place it on the agenda so that we can start the process and maybe you could call me tomorrow in the City Clerk's Office and we'd be happy to work with you on that.

Mr. Dion stated if you have read the fact sheet we have provided for you it states our position and what we're working on right now is getting signatures of residents who essentially want to keep the area know as Pine Island Park on which the old 4-H building use to stand as a park and we're requesting that the City put in a playground, nothing more, nothing less. Just something very simply for the residents to have and to keep for the area of the Trolley Crossing and Hazelton Court. Right now, the citizens down there do not have very much in the way of facilities and I know I have a lot of neighbors and friends, I am Cub Master for a Cub Scout Pack down there and we use the facilities for fishing, for picnicking and also for doing crossovers. So, what we're looking for and we understand there has been a proposal to invite the YMCA to build facilities there. We have met with other citizens down in that area and are requesting that that proposal be denied and that any other proposal be denied and just to use a small portion of the money that is put aside for recreation to build a playground. Are there any questions.

Mayor Wiezorek stated no questions, send the letter and it will be referred to the appropriate Committee.

Elias Ashooh, 83 Gilhaven Road, Manchester, NH, (Re: Civic Center), stated:

I think you've seen me here before. I'd like to say that first of all I'm very happy to be here tonight to make this speech instead of one of the others we may have had prepared, but I'd like to take a couple of minutes in this public session to thank everybody on my Committee who worked on the Civic Center proposal and to thank this Board and the Mayor and the Aldermanic Committee for their guidance in helping us complete Phase I in the Feasibility Study. We've put before this Board a complete package, we've made a series of recommendations in there. We just wanted you to know at this point that that package is in tact and during the time leading up to the referendum certain charges that were made...there was a whisper campaign and I'd like to put the lie to some of the things that were asserted. First of all, unless this Board enacted it or talked about it the accusation that there's a head tax that's being considered is an absolute lie. I heard it reported on Channel 9 last night and it upset my greatly that someone can make an accusation that a head tax would be considered for a civic center; that's false. The only revenues that we talk about in the civic center, those contained in our report which are Rooms & Meals Tax and the revenues from the building. There was also a spurious accusation made that this Board was contemplating and it had already enacted a plan to take money from the schools to fund the civic center, that is also a lie. We heard this, the teachers heard this and that was very distressing. But, that being said, those things put aside, at this point with the majority that we got in the City referendum yesterday in what was a surprisingly large turnout, I think Manchester led the State as far as turnout and we were pleased to see that, we have made arrangements for tomorrow to assemble the entire team for the Civic Center project in order to fully develop a project schedule and budget for the next phase so that hopefully on November 17th we can present to you some sort of clear timeline on how we would hope to execute the plan that we put before you in August. You have the parameters of that plan now, we'd like to

have a timeline presented to you so that you know how we would proceed with this and you would have some oversight over that. I'm looking forward to meeting with the Aldermanic Committee on this and bring the budget and the timeline before this full Board and answer the questions you have at that time because you know I'm going to be very accessible to any of you for questions that you have in the interim, it's a real pleasure to be working on this very exciting project in Manchester at this time and I congratulate you all and I congratulate the City of Manchester. Thank you very much.

Mayor Wiczorek stated I was supposed to have the names of the people who were really involved in the effort, Sean has them and I see Sean is absent, so I really don't have all of the names, but there were a number of people that really were very involved and did a terrific job on it, led by you and, Skip, you did just a magnificent job in dealing with all of the situations that arise. As you know it's like any other campaign that you're in, people always have different ideas, things are said that are not true and this happens in political races too, they're all looking at me like who...to whose race...but, it does happen and I think it's better that we deal with all of the facts and I'm pleased that you were able to straighten out a couple of those issues.

Mr. Ashooh stated, Mayor, if I can add just one thing. This Board did something for this project that...not in an advocacy fashion, but the series of public hearings that we had enabled several hundred residents to voice their opinions on all phases of the project, that was a very valuable exercise and we appreciate it and I think the last night at Memorial High School hosted by Alderman Rivard in Ward 8, we had I believe 63 speakers that night and that was a great public exercise on a project that I think has great impact on the City and again I want to comment you for allowing us to have those public forums and bring this thing through the full exercise. Thank you very much.

On motion of Alderman Thibault, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to take all comments under advisement, and further to receive and file any written documentation presented.

This being a special meeting of the Board, no further business can be presented and on motion of Alderman Pinard, duly seconded by Alderman Reiniger, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk