

BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

February 2, 1999
PM

7:30

Mayor Wieczorek called the meeting to order.

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

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

Absent: Aldermen Rivard and Pariseau

Mayor Wieczorek welcomed Cub Scout Pack 135 noting they're here to earn their Citizenship badges. Dan Beliveau their Cub Master is here, Jim Tellier is the Den Leader and have the following Cub Scouts here: Brian Martineau, John Deere, Andrew Provencher, Drew Beliveau, Adam Robichaud, Robbie Bolser, Brendan McCormick, Nick Stelmach, Nathan Stelmach, Randy Bow, Cory Tellier, Shaun Lebel. We welcome all of you and hope you enjoy the meeting while you're here.

Mayor Wieczorek stated before we start on our Consent Agenda, I have a couple of items that I want to take care of. One, Lorraine Lamontagne has served on the School Board for eleven years and Lorraine has moved out of her district/ward and, therefore, had to resign her seat, but we wanted to recognize her eleven years of service here because that is a long time to be involved in public service and we wanted to present Lorraine with a

key symbolic of our recognition of her long service here and I'm going to ask the Alderman from Ward 11 which is the ward that Lorraine represented to do that for us, Alderman Thibault.

Alderman Thibault presented the key to the City to Lorraine Lamontagne congratulating her on her many years of service and read the inscription from the plaque: The City of Manchester, New Hampshire - Raymond J. Wieczorek, Mayor - Presented to Lorraine Lamontagne, Board of School Committee - In recognition of eleven years of dedicated service on behalf of the youth of Ward 11 as a member of Manchester's School Board you have truly been an advocate for our students - February 2, 1999.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I would like to recognize Lorraine's husband, Richard who is here. I've known Richard for over 40 years and, Dick, we're awful happy to have you here. Senator D'Allesandro who is here wanted to make a presentation also.

Senator D'Allesandro stated, your Honor and distinguished members of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, city officials, I had the privilege of sitting beside Lorraine Lamontagne for the last eight years and I indeed say it was a privilege. When you think of public service you think of Lorraine Lamontagne as the epitome of an individual who gives of herself for her community and as a result the Senate of the State of New Hampshire has a Resolution for you, Lorraine that says:

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE SENATE

A RESOLUTION

Be it known, the New Hampshire State Senate hereby extends congratulations to Lorraine Lamontagne in recognition of her six terms of dedicated service while on the Manchester School Board, and

Be it further known, that the New Hampshire State Senate extends its best wishes for continued success; and

that this Resolution be duly signed by the President of the State Senate and duly attested to by Clesson J. Blaisdell, President of the Senate, Lou D'Allesandro, State Senate and Gloria Randlett, Clerk of the Senate.

Ms. Lamontagne stated I'd like to thank all of you for the nice key. My dad got one years ago, I don't remember who gave it to him...now, I'm the second member of my family to get one and I'm very proud of that and thank you very much. It's been a great six terms. Sometimes, I got very frustrated...other times, I was really happy. But, I think the greatest pleasure was trying to make things better for the children of the City of Manchester and their schools and I enjoyed that very much. When I came on the Board I was really green and didn't know too much, but I would like to thank some former School Board members that were on the Board when I first came on and helped me a great deal and those were Vi Reardon, Mary Hussey, Carol Resch, and most of all Gene Boisvert and I still miss Gene on the Board, but I must say that this was a good learning experience for me and I enjoyed every minute of it. Thank you very much.

Mayor Wieczorek stated the next item I have that is not on the agenda is Walter A. Stiles who wants to present me with a check.

Mr. Stiles stated I bring you good tidings of great joy because tonight the City Hall Restoration Fund is pleased and proud to present and make another presentation from the City Hall Restoration Fund to the people of the City of Manchester for \$80,000. I just want to caution you that the drive is not over yet, so we are expecting to give a lot more money to the City of Manchester over the next several months, but the drive is still on and you can still send your contributions to the City Hall Restoration Fund, PO Box 3777, Manchester, NH 03105. And, one more thing before I go. As you know, we have a down on the main floor here, we have an Information Center and that info center is

manned by volunteers and if there are any people within the sound of my voice that would like to volunteer to serve say four hours one day a week in the Information Center, call the City Clerk's Office, leave your name and your number and we will be in touch with you. Thank you very much.

Mayor Wiczorek stated thank you very much, Walter, always the salesman isn't he, isn't he and he's a good one too and his drive isn't going to end until it's over. So, folks, I guess the thing to do is to ante up, we have to keep Walter happy. He hates to get to the mailbox and tell me that it's dry. So, we'd like to have him get a little something in that box everyday if we can. So, Walter, on behalf of the City I want to express our thanks to you again. We're forever indebted to you for the job that you've done thus far and you just don't stop. You just keep giving, you're just a wonderful volunteer. Thank you very much.

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.

Informational to be Received and Filed

- A. Communication from the City Clerk advising of the grand re-opening ceremonies of the newly renovated City Hall complex scheduled for March 6 & 7, 1999.
- B. Copies of minutes of Planning Board meetings held on July 9, 1998, August 13, 1998, September 10, 1998, September 24, 1998 and October 8, 1998.
- C. Communication from Thomas O'Rourke, MediaOne, informing the Board that beginning

on January 26, and continuing through April, they will be offering Manchester customers the opportunity to learn more about the new Broadband benefits and services.

Accept Funds and Remand for the Purpose Intended

- D.** Communication from the Health Officer advising of two donations of \$500 each from Smith, Kline, & Beecham and Merck Pharmaceutical Companies to support children's immunizations

REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION/INFORMATION SYSTEMS

- E.** Communication from Crystal Nadeau, MADD, seeking permission for the placement of a banner on Hanover Street between Elm and Chestnut Streets two weeks prior to April 24, 1999 announcing the 2nd Annual Candlelight Vigil of Remembrance & Hope.

COMMITTEE ON BILLS ON SECOND READING

- G.** Petition to rezone property located at 866 South Beech Street consisting of approximately 6.68 acres submitted by Attorney Fradette on behalf of Nancy Evans and Barbara Laventure.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

- H.** Bond Resolution:

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Two Hundred Eighty Five Thousand Dollars (\$285,000) for various water distribution improvements.”

- I.** Resolutions:

“Amending the 1999 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds for the 1999 CIP 250799D the Way Home-Operational Assistance.”

“Amending the 1999 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds for various School Department Projects.”

COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/PUBLIC SAFETY

J. Communication from Jon Erdahl, Director of Operations of WGIR AM/FM requesting

the use of Arms Park and the Bridge Street Bridge for their 8th Annual Memorial Day Weekend fireworks display scheduled for Sunday, May 30, 1999, with a rain date of Monday, May 31, 1999.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

K. Advising that it has approved Bond Resolution:

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Two Hundred eighty-five Thousand Dollars (\$285,000) for various water distribution projects.”

L. Recommending that requests for acceptance of funds for various projects be approved as follows:

“An amending resolution and budget authorization allowing for acceptance and expenditure of ESG funds of \$6,200 (decreasing 1999 CIP 250799A The Way Home-Essential Services by \$4,000 and 1999 CIP 250799C The Way Home-Homeless Prevention by \$2,200) for the 1999 CIP 250799D The Way Home-Operational Assistance.”

“An amending resolution allowing for the acceptance and expenditure of additional funds of \$10,000 (State) and \$17,928 (State Dept. of Education) for various School Department Projects.”

and for such purpose amending resolutions and budget authorizations have been submitted.

- M.** Recommending that a request from Alderman Rivard relative to the Pine Island Pond property be referred to the FY2000 CIP budget process.
- N.** Recommending that a request from the Director of Planning seeking authorization on behalf of Tom Seigle of EPD to apply to the State for grant funds towards the cost of the 1998 CIP 7.40204 Tougas Avenue Sewer Extension project be granted and approved.
- O.** Recommending that a request from the Public Works Director seeking authorization to formally enter into negotiations with Alliance Resources and the Pichette's for the acquisition of environmentally significant land (Hackett Hill) be granted and approved.
- P.** Recommending that a petition for discontinuance of a portion of Lake Avenue South Backstreet be denied and that the Board of Mayor and Aldermen find that same has been released from public servitude under the provisions of RSA 231:51.
- Q.** Recommending that a petition for discontinuance of a portion of New York Street be denied and that the Board of Mayor and Aldermen find that same has been released from public servitude under the provisions of RSA 231:51.

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

- F.** Communication from the Building Commissioner submitting a draft Building Code Ordinance.

Alderman O'Neil stated I had a brief discussion before with the Building Commissioner, maybe Leon could just comment briefly on why we're not fully enacting, for instance, on the electric portion 1999 Electric Code.

Mr. LaFreniere stated it is my intention to make a full presentation should the Board set this for public hearing and at that time, hopefully, we'll have an opportunity to respond to all the questions that you might have as well as to identify some of the points that have brought us to where we're at and contributed to the time that it has taken to get there. With regard to the issue of why we have identified the 1996 edition of the code that stems from the fact that the State of New Hampshire licensing law currently is in effect, the 1996 edition, and we have a concern about adopting a standard that would not be consistent with the State provisions and the State licensing provisions. We do anticipate, however, that the State will be following in the short term, sometime in the middle of this year with the adoption of the 1999 code, which we would then bring back to this Board for an update purpose. The construction of this proposal, however, is somewhat unique from previous proposals that we brought before the Board for adoption of these codes and I've structured the language so as to recognize the State provisions and specifically addressed the State of New Hampshire licensing law and the State of New Hampshire Electricians Licensing Board in our amendments so as to maintain consistency between the regulations that we enforce and the regulations that the State enforces. It has been a bit of a challenge for the trades people that work in the City to have to work under multiple standards when we are enforcing different editions of the code than the State is and that is something that we have tried specifically address in this update.

Alderman O'Neil stated, Leon, the language and you and I have talked about it briefly whether it be the Electrical or the National Plumbing Code is that the language allows us to bring it as up-to-date as soon as the State adopts that section.

Mr. LaFreniere stated within the parameters as we understand them to exist under our statutory authority the enabling legislation has been explained to us by the Municipal Association requires that an opportunity for public input exist any time the local municipality adopts an ordinance. We have, by reference, in construction of the code included reference to the State requirements so as to try to maintain that consistency, but it would still be our intent to afford an opportunity for public input for this Board to adopt those standards.

Mayor Wiczorek stated this should also be referred in addition to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading to the Committee on Administration and the Committee on Accounts.

Alderman O'Neil moved that Item F be referred to the Committees on Accounts, Enrollment and Revenue Administration, Administration/Information Systems, and Bills on Second Reading. Alderman Shea duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman Shea stated I have an additional question, your Honor. Leon, we had discussions at various times concerning the structures that had been boarded up and in terms of where they were located that they presented a nuisance or a problem for the residential areas. I noticed here there is no reference to that...will there be something that in time will be able to put some teeth into the coding so that if a building is boarded up for ten years or thereabouts.

Mr. LaFreniere replied what you have before you is, in terms of content, represents the amendments that we proposed to the code and although we did not specifically recommend any amendments to those sections, we felt the reason for that was because we felt that the 1996 edition came a long way to providing us with some additional leverage,

if you will, to address those types of situations. So, that language that we had talked about is contained within the body of the code text although it is not reflected in the amendments per se. I think that we felt that the national standards provided that.

Alderman Shea stated so you said it is included in this even though it is not directly stated.

Mr. LaFreniere replied that is correct. There is language specifically in the code text that addresses that situation.

Alderman Girard stated I have a procedural question, your Honor, regarding this referral. If I under the motion that just passed, it was referred to the Committees on Bills on Second Reading, Administration, and Revenue Administration. Typically, Bills on Second Reading does not receive ordinances until the policy committees with jurisdiction deal with them and Bills on Second Reading doesn't have jurisdiction in building code matters. Is it proper to refer it to Bills on Second Reading before the policy committees have had a chance to act.

Clerk Bernier replied no, but it is up to the Board as to whether or not they want to do so. But, it should be going to Committee on Administration as well as the Committee on Revenue first then the Committee on Bills on Second Reading will address the issue afterwards.

Alderman Girard moved to reverse the referral to Bills on Second Reading until Administration and Revenue have had a chance to look at it. Alderman Thibault duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman Clancy stated there's a building at 177 Spruce Street, they had a fire there previously, a lot of the neighbors down there are asking me if the building is going to be razed or not and what was the delay in getting the building down and was wondering what your answer was.

Mr. LaFreniere replied on that particular building we took steps to get the building secured after the fire.

Alderman Clancy stated what's happening is that the kids are going in there and playing.

Mr. LaFreniere stated we actually used City funds to pay the cost of securing it immediately after the fire. The building does not represent an imminent structural hazard, however, if it is remaining open we'll need to take additional steps which is one of several cases where we have an irresponsible owner interest and so we'll probably be very likely back to the Board and asking for permission to take the next step RSA 55-I(b) proceedings to take a more pro-active stance.

Alderman Clancy stated I wish to give it top priority, thank you.

R. Report of Committee on Human Resources

Recommending that a request of the Chief of Police to add an Accountant II Grade 17 (starting salary \$32,115.00) to the business office division be granted and approved.

Alderman Girard stated this item is recommending that the Police Chief's request to add an Accountant II to their business office be granted and approved. Was this position budgeted in Fiscal 1999 or are we creating a new position.

Mayor Wiczorek replied it is a new position.

Alderman Girard stated may I ask where the Chief is getting the funds to pay for this unbudgeted position.

Chief Driscoll replied we have met with the Mayor's Office, with Mark Hobson from Human Resources, as well as the Finance Department. It is the belief of all of those individuals, although I don't speak for them that this position is necessary. We've spoken about funding...there is no money in the Police Department budget at this moment. There is some money located by the Human Resources Department and I think that money is in the Yarger Decker money. In fact, that money has been earmarked for this position with the understanding that if the Police Department can cover that...it's about \$14,000 we're looking for between now and March 1st we hope to identify that position pending the approval of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen and we're about \$14,000 will be the cost and we hope we can find the money and if not we're told that the Human Resources Department can find that.

Alderman Shea moved to accept, receive and adopt the report of the Committee on Human Resources/Insurance. Alderman Wihby duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Girard stated I certainly have an appreciation for the work that the Administrative Division of the Police Department that I have worked with over the recent years, but I have a concern that this might set a precedent...there are several departments within the City that could equally justify positions in their departments...I just have a problem creating a position mid-year knowing now that you are probably now in the process of developing the budget for Fiscal 2000. I just have concerns, Chief, that this is going to set a precedent that other departments may deservedly follow.

Chief Driscoll stated I certainly understand that. I wouldn't come to the City and ask in the middle of a budget year unless it was extremely important. In this case, I believe it is and I think the consensus is. You won't see me here often, but I would not be a good manager of the Police Department if I didn't come to you and tell you my needs when, in fact, they are real.

Alderman Girard asked, Chief, what has taken place that has caused you to come mid-year. It's unusual for a department to do this.

Chief Driscoll replied I've tried to outline that on the documents.

Mr. Hobson interjected I wanted to help out Chief Driscoll if I could, but in a little bit. Would that be appropriate. I just wanted to assure Alderman Girard that we, Human Resources and the Finance Department have been meeting with the Police Department now for approximately three or four months. It began with the audit, we've been looking at payroll functions and we have numerous pieces of documentation from the Chief that justifies the position. I am in agreement, totally that he needs the position. I've talked to you about this on several occasions. What we have are a combination of items. First of all, we have the new software system HTE that's demanding more efforts on their part. Secondly, we have the Grants Administrator position that is bringing in more federal funding and that is creating more and different or a varied accounting need than what they previously had and finally, what we talked about at the committee level and I'm sure Chairman Sysyn can attest to this, we are working...Human Resources is working with Chief Driscoll at this moment to first look within his department budget to fund this position through any changes that we have to make and bring back to the Committee. Secondly, we'll look within the Yarger Decker funding so we won't be burdening the general fund and, thirdly, if on a very last resort we would come to the Finance

Committee for contingency funding. But, we're fairly sure that we can cover this position that we believe is necessary from the first two sources.

Alderman Girard asked, Chief, did you ask for this position in your Fiscal 1999 request.

Chief Driscoll replied no.

Alderman Girard stated so you're caught by surprise by the need for this.

Chief Driscoll stated I think as this year has unfolded, we've taken advantage of every opportunity to bring public safety on the law enforcement side to the community; that has been a very complicated task for the people doing our finance and our payroll. We have 34 different federal projects...that's a huge amount of work and to best spend those dollars we need people to manage them. We've come to the City and expressed that need and it's a real need and I was very pleased that it went through the Human Resources Committee and I would hope that the Board would understand our need.

Alderman Girard stated I just wanted to make sure that we're not setting a precedent.

Alderman Thibault stated, your Honor, if your office has looked at it and Human Resources I see no reason why we have to hold this up.

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

Mayor Wieczorek presented the following nomination:

Fire Commission:

William J. Desrosiers to succeed Paul Bolieau , term to expire May 1, 2000.

5. Nomination and confirmation of Jay E. Taylor as Economic Development Director.

Alderman Wihby moved to suspend the rules and confirm the nomination of Jay E. Taylor as Economic Development Director. Alderman Thibault duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

6. Confirmation of the nomination of Joanne McLaughlin to succeed Thomas Donovan as a member of the Conservation Commission, term to expire August 1, 1999.

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Klock, it was voted to confirm the nomination of Joanne McLaughlin to succeed Thomas Donovan as a member of the Conservation Commission, term to expire August 1, 1999.

7. Confirmation of the nomination of Victor Goulet to succeed Norma Champagne as a member of the Elderly Services Commission, term to expire January, 2002.

On motion of Alderman Girard, duly seconded by Alderman Klock, it was voted to confirm the nomination of Victor Goulet to succeed Norma Champagne as a member of the Elderly Services Commission, term to expire January, 2002.

8. Confirmation of the nomination of Maria Skaperdas to succeed herself as a member of the Heritage Commission, term to expire January 1, 2002.

On motion of Alderman Klock, duly seconded by Alderman Sysyn, it was voted to confirm the nomination of Maria Skaperdas to succeed herself as a member of the Heritage Commission, term to expire January 1, 2002.

9. Confirmation of the nomination of Linda Seabury to succeed Albert

Cappannelli as a member of the Heritage Commission, term to expire January 1, 2001.

On motion of Alderman Klock, duly seconded by Alderman Thibault, it was voted to confirm the nomination of Linda Seabury to succeed Albert Cappannelli as a member of the Heritage Commission, term to expire January 1, 2001.

- 10.** Confirmation of the nomination of David Boutin to succeed himself as an alternate member of the Heritage Commission, term to expire January 1, 2002.

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Sysyn, it was voted to confirm the nomination of David Boutin to succeed himself as an alternate member of the Heritage Commission, term to expire January 1, 2002.

- 11.** Update relative to FIRST.

Mr. Dia Stolnitz, Project Director of FIRST Place stated I'm very glad to give you an update in your very impressive new facility, congratulations, and I'm pleased to report on the activities and accomplishments of FIRST Place over our past six months. Thank you again for all of your support of FIRST Place and what it offers Manchester. FIRST has a new Executive Director, David Brown, who has an extensive background in non-profit administration from Fidelity Investments, he looks forward to meeting you at the next update or at FIRST Place. FIRST Place is on target with the City of Manchester. As you know, we opened on schedule with 28,000 square feet engaged as program and activity space exceeding the commitment of 25,000 square feet required. We have an additional 15,000 square feet now used as office space employing 29 individuals which also exceeds our forecast of employment presented to the City in '97. FIRST Place is a creative resource lab for piloting innovative science and technology programs with and

for students, teachers, families and professionals. We have a number of successful programs now underway. We have a Summer Science Camp that we did last summer and we will repeat again this upcoming summer. An afterschool Cool Science and Computer Wizard's Program on Wednesday, school group visits, school vacation camps, teacher development workshops, and an arts and science series. To give you a quick sense of what these programs are about I will just tell you about what's happened in January and what is happening in February...January 18-22 we had a Pembroke Montessori School group there for the entire week doing a Lego component Operation Mars Colony Program...January 21 we had the Londonderry Brownie troop. On the 28th we had the Merrimack Superintendent with 30 teachers and their technology coordinators that has resulted in additional field trips and programs...January 30 we had 150 scouts at FIRST Place doing programs from archeology to computer technology to physics. In February, we have the Cool Science and Computer Wizard's Program continuing...come tomorrow if you'd like to see it in action. This Friday, we are presenting The Sandwalk which is a theatrical presentation about Darwin's *Origin of Species* and it will be followed by a panel discussion and an evening performance. You should have already received, by mail, an invite we sent, it's important to note that this Friday at 10:00 AM a hundred eighth graders are coming from Rundlett to see the performance. Again, an evening performance will happen at 8:00 PM...after the performance we will have a panel discussion with a professor from Dartmouth College, a University of New Hampshire professor of Philosophy, a St. Anselm associate professor of Theology, and it will be moderated by representatives from the Kennebunk Unitarian Universalist Church. It promises to be a great program, please join us if you can. February 9th, we are hosting a For Manchester meeting and reception at FIRST Place, February 16th & 18th An Introduction to Personal Computers for adults, on the 17th another Montessori School grades 1,2, 3 will be visiting FIRST Place...February 22-26 we'll be offering a Missing Links Invention Camp over the school break and on the 27th Multimedia for Kids. There are details of all of the programs in the packages that I've handed out so you can see, in

full, what we're presenting. SEE (Science Enrichment Encounters) opened in the building...their attendance is up 70% in their new facility. Manchester Historic Association...our lease is signed...they'll have their official kick-off fund raising campaign this month. They have selected their architect and exhibit designer and anticipate a summer opening of the Orientation Exhibit in the building. FIRST Place has a number of new corporate partnerships in progress. We're working with United Technologies Corporation on a FIRST Teacher Pioneer Award Program. We'll be awarding teachers from the Robotics Competition to come to Manchester...brainstorm new curricula at FIRST Place, perfected and then we'll share it nationally at our regional event. Autodesk supports a Design Your Future Internship where a young woman from the competition is funded to come to FIRST Place and spend a week. We're also working on some 3-D Studio Animation Technology Workshops. We're in collaboration with the University of New Hampshire Continuing Education putting on some teacher workshops. We're working with Lego doing some pilots in camps and school challenges with their Mindstorms product. The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy contacted FIRST Place with a new initiative to place teachers in businesses, so teachers can learn what's important to business and business can learn what's important to schools. FIRST Place has been asked to be the champion of the Manchester, New Hampshire pilot and will also serve as the evaluator lead for all ten sites bringing people from around the country to FIRST Place. We're working with Fidelity Investments in our Woman and Science Forum planned for next fall and also with NASA to put an education resource center at FIRST Place which will be a great benefit to teachers and their students in the State of New Hampshire. On the Robotics Competition, it continues to grow. The 1999 Challenge has 274 teams, a 40% growth from last year. We held the competition kickoff in Manchester...it was attended by approximately 1,000 engineers, teachers, student representatives and parents...seven regional events are planned throughout the country with the national championships again at Walt Disney's Epcot Center and ESPN airs a special on the competition in December at the height of our

registration time. As I mentioned, FIRST has been doing work with the Lego Company as a new strong arm in a third component to FIRST programs. FIRST has joined officially with Lego to sponsor a new program...a Junior Robotics Competition for 9 to 14 year olds for middle and junior high schools across the country. As I mentioned at the last update there was a pilot in 1998 that included three Manchester Junior High Schools...1999 will be the full launch in the United States with a simultaneous pilot in Singapore and there's an anticipation of 25,000 children expected in the program. That's really my update and I want to thank you again for your support and we would welcome you to FIRST Place...to come to any events, call anytime if you haven't been to our facility and would like a tour.

Mayor Wieczorek asked are there any questions of Dia.

Alderman Shea stated thank you for the presentation. Certainly, we're very pleased with the award that Dean Kamen recently received. In posing my questions there are a couple of questions I have...the timetable for the Science Hall of Fame that is obviously the intent of the City expending \$2.3 million to at least turn over the building at 200 Bedford Street which is now being occupied by FIRST and I wondered is there any information you can give to us on that particular subject.

Ms. Stolnitz replied as we developed FIRST Place and we updated you throughout we really steered FIRST Place Phase I to create, not so much a ceremonial space as in a Hall of Fame, but more a dynamic/technology/educational resource center. So, out of FIRST Place now we have the tools, the pilot, and the program as I've just been describing. I would say that another important note with that is we are also now formulating our plans for the next phase of this building's development, so there are many possibilities in terms of how we might grow to recognize those people and efforts that have been important in science and technology. I don't know how many of you have been to the facility, but if

you were to come you would see there we have on-site one exhibit program...we call it The Walk of Fame rather than the Hall of Fame and right now we're exhibiting some of our champion robots from the competition. It's a visit display area with a company video. We hope to grow into new displays with that program and will certainly be highlighting nobel laureates and others who have been important to the process of science and technology. But, again, rather than make a place that has stable or static exhibits we tried to create a working facility out of which we could generate many new programs to experiment, test, refine them working with the resources of Manchester's great schools, students, teachers, and businesses and benefiting them in return through the program; that's really the direction we've moved into FIRST Place. I might note too, in terms of a Hall of Fame, as you've heard from the types of panelists that's were getting for an arts and science series we also have the next science series being planned in May where a nobel laureate will come and serve as a guest panelists. So, again, the real energy of it is not so much to come and see an exhibit component as much as to come and experience what a Hall of Fame can be through hands on activities, workbench related activities, computer facilities, new types of programming.

Alderman Shea stated may I ask now that you've mentioned several programs that are going on are there charges for these or do children pay to go to the summer camps, are there expenses involved.

Ms. Stolnitz replied yes. It depends on each program. We've had a number of open houses where there were no charges, summer camp...there is a registration fee for each week. We work with each school customizing their visit. In some cases there's a charge and in some cases there isn't, the same with Brownie troops and other groups that come to us.

Alderman Shea stated this is a very sensitive question and I don't mean it to be offensive, but when the building was turned over to FIRST...60% of the building is now occupied by FIRST, but the other 40% involves several companies that are paying rent. Is that rent going back into the FIRST Program to your knowledge.

Ms. Stolnitz replied no, the rent is not going back into the FIRST Program. Part of the rent is helping for the facility management of the building, the common areas, plowing, those kinds of things. But, that money is not going directly into the programming of FIRST Place. We function under our own budget and our own resources in terms of grants, corporate sponsorships, partnerships.

Alderman Shea stated so the money is going to support FIRST in terms of their staffing and things of that nature, is that correct.

Ms. Stolnitz replied no. The money is going into a facility account that helps maintain the building, but maybe I don't know the exact answer and maybe what would be better is for me to find out exactly the answer and respond to you because I'm not familiar exactly with how the facility account works.

Alderman Cashin stated you will get back to us on that.

Ms. Stolnitz replied absolutely.

Mayor Wiczorek stated thank you very much, Dia, for the update. You're making fantastic progress.

- 12.** Presentation by Leon LaFreniere, Building Commissioner, regarding the renewal of leases for the Office of Youth Services and the Welfare Department.

Mr. LaFreniere stated my involvement with this particular project has been since October and so the complete history of the project I'm not well-equipped to speak to, however, essentially where we're at is that I've been working with the Mayor's Office, Bob MacKenzie, Jay Taylor, and Fred Rusczek to try to develop a solution to the long-term needs of the Health Department, Welfare, and Office of Youth Services needs for space. We have a situation where each of these departments is located in space that is leased. In the case of the Health Department the space is woefully inadequate for their needs and so it seemed to be an opportune time to try to find a long-term solution for all of their space needs and determine in that investigation whether there would be opportunities that would exist to realize economies by consolidating these department geographically. We investigated several opportunities to solve these space needs and although several of these opportunities could possibly satisfy a long-term solution we haven't yet discovered a short-term solution that could accommodate the needs of these departments. The Office of Youth Services and Welfare Department leases expired in December of last year and have been tenants-at-will since that time and the owner of the property is very anxious to resolve the lease matter. Although there do exist potentially some other opportunities that could satisfy the short-term needs of the Office of Youth Services and the Welfare Department when you factor in the cost of relocation, rebuilding the infrastructure of the computer systems, addressing the security needs of the departments it does not seem to be cost effective to move them into another temporary quarters in anticipation of a long-term solution. So, as a result we did talk more directly with the property owners and at this point we're recommending that the Office of Youth Services and Welfare seek a lease extension...we've talked about terms with the property owner and would like the Board to authorize approval of a lease extension for a term of three years with a two-year buyout. We feel this might offer an opportunity to determine what would be best in the long-term to solve the needs of the collective departments. The lease terms that have been offered essentially provide for minimal cost escalators recognizing that some of the utility costs that have been added to the two departments in question located at 50 Bridge

Street, if I did not mention that, and so that's essentially where we're at and we would or I would recommend that the lease terms be approved subject to the review of the City Solicitor.

Alderman Wihby asked what does the Welfare Commissioner, Sue say about this.

Mr. LaFreniere replied I've talked with Susan and she is not adverse in my discussions with her to the options of looking at long-term solutions. I don't think she's anxious at all to consider relocating to a temporary quarters, to moving for example, now if the landlord where she is currently wants to market the space and tie it up in a lease and then perhaps move again in two years when another solution might be found. So, she has reported to me that her space needs are adequate save for some access ability issues that she has and the accessibility issues are intended to be structured into the leasehold agreement and would be provided by the property owner.

Alderman Wihby asked why aren't we looking for a one-year lease instead of two.

Mr. LaFreniere replied that originally was our target and the property is on the market and part of the marketing of the property has really generated an interest on the property owner to get as long a term leases as possible. They originally wanted a five-year term and this was the shortest term they were willing to entertain and that is basically where we're at, that they have other interest in the space, they are actively marketing the lease space as well as the building and they're just not interested in going along with the shorter term.

Alderman Wihby asked what is the buyout.

Mr. LaFreniere replied the buyout is essentially six-months worth of rental.

Alderman Hirschmann stated I would want to see financials...you're talking about electric bills now.

Mr. LaFreniere stated the electric bill has been, as I understand it, and that is part of that history that I wish I had a better handle on, but as I understand it it has been previously part of the lease agreement and when the property ownership interest changed about a year ago they started to break that out and once the lease terms expired they have actually assigned the electric costs to the individual tenancies. So, as I understand it now, as part of this agreement that the electricity costs borne by the tenants, by the City would be a direct pass through cost.

Alderman Hirschmann stated I would be more interested in referring this to your 2000 budget team rather than rushing into a building that's being sold so appease some future owner of the building. We have three departments that your budget team could look for a solution in the next few months and it might turn out that we might want to have a couple of years, but this is kind of hasty. This isn't even committee thing.

Mayor Wiczorek stated, Alderman, I don't think they're going to wait. I think there's a lot of pressure being brought by the owner of the building and if, let's say for example, they did get the space rented we would be very hard pressed to find an adequate location to really deal with the problems that we would have and I know that they've had to go to some extreme steps to make sure they had a protective device in there and you can't just take those and move them somewhere else. It's really more complicated than it seems on the surface.

Alderman Hirschmann stated we're at their mercy.

Mayor Wieczorek stated right now we are.

Alderman Thibault asked, Leon, is this an electrically heated building.

Mr. LaFreniere replied I don't believe so. There are electric costs associated with the heating system obviously, but I don't believe it's electrically heated.

Alderman Girard stated you said that you were in the process of looking for a long-term solution or a permanent solution. Are there any preliminary options under review that you can share with the Board at this time or do you have none and are hoping to find some.

Mr. LaFreniere stated the nature of those discussions are such that it would not necessarily be advisable to discuss in an open session. We have several options and I think that perhaps what I could do is list for you the types of solutions that we have discussed. Those range from building a new facility that could accommodate the needs of all three departments which would require obviously a site location to purchasing buildings that are already existing, we have looked at other opportunities along that vein and frankly have found limited opportunities that could satisfy our needs in the short term both from the standpoint of buildings that could be readily fit up as well as buildings that are not already leased to terms that exceed the period of time that we're looking at these lease extensions to be put in place for. And, there are obviously a number of factors to consider in this analysis where we are considering the fact that if at all possible we want to try not to take the property off the tax rolls. If at all possible, we want to try to locate these departments in a geographic location that would make sense for the population that they each serve and we also need to be cognizant of what the life cycle costs of the facility would be and do they make sense in a given time frame versus what we are currently doing with each of the departments in terms of our lease costs.

Alderman Girard stated so it doesn't sound like you've got anything eminent.

Mr. LaFreniere replied no.

Alderman Clancy stated a couple of questions for you...are we leasing it by the square foot.

Mr. LaFreniere replied that is correct.

Alderman Clancy asked what is the price to purchase the building, do you know roughly.

Mr. LaFreniere replied year one would be in the area of \$11.70 per square foot.

Alderman Clancy stated when Berube had it I think it was \$6.00 a square foot, right.

Mr. LaFreniere replied no. Actually, our lease that expired in 1998...our year one lease was \$14.5833 per month for 1,750 square feet; that went up to in year 5 which was 1998 to \$17.0602, so we're paying about \$10.00 a foot last year and that's what our current price is.

Alderman Clancy asked so what does it cost us for rent in that building roughly.

Mr. LaFreniere replied roughly we're paying \$17.0602 for the Youth Services side and they're (Welfare) paying \$3,250 per month which is what they were paying at the expiration of the lease.

Alderman Clancy asked the Health Department at 795 Elm Street, they're paying what.

Mr. LaFreniere replied I don't have their figures that they are currently paying.

Alderman Clancy stated they're around \$80,000 a year, from what I understand.

Mr. LaFreniere replied I believe that is accurate. The square footage that they are occupying, I believe, is in order of 9,000 square feet spread over three floors.

Alderman Cashin stated based on what I've heard tonight, I don't think we have too many choices and moved that the Board approve the lease with the understanding that we might look into something down the road to purchase. Alderman Pinard duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Shea, 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

15. A report of the Committee on Finance was presented, recommending that that Bond Resolution:

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Two Hundred Eighty Five Thousand Dollars (\$285,000) for various water distribution improvements.”

ought to pass and layover; and further that Resolutions:

“Amending the 1999 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds for the 1999 CIP 250799D the Way Home-Operational Assistance.”

“Amending the 1999 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds for various School Department Projects.”

ought to pass and be Enrolled

Alderman Clancy moved to accept, receive and adopt the report of the Committee.

Alderman Reiniger duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

16. Ordinance:

“Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Manchester by extending the R-SM (Residential Suburban Multifamily) zone to include property currently zoned I-2 (Industrial Park) and R-1B (Residential) located on Holt Avenue (Tax Map 478, Lot 3).”

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

This Ordinance having had its second reading by title only, Alderman Reiniger moved on passing same to be Enrolled. Alderman Sysyn duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Shea duly recorded in opposition.

Alderman Shea stated sometimes there are various questions that come up concerning the changing of the zoning map and also the zoning boundaries and I've noticed that we do charge a fee for variances, we do charge a fee for special exceptions and my thoughts are when the zoning map and the zoning districts have to be changed that requires additional work on the part of the Planning Board and, therefore, I am recommending for consideration, your Honor, that a fee be charged because of the type of work that has to

be done by the people in Planning in terms of changing zones and so forth, so my recommendation is that the Committee on Revenues discuss that and take it up, your Honor, so that the Planning Board would received some additional help and moved that his recommendation be referred to the Committee on Accounts, Enrollment and Revenue Administration.

Alderman Wihby duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

On motion of Alderman Hirschmann, duly seconded by Alderman Reiniger, it was voted to recess the regular meeting to allow the Committee on Accounts, Enrollment and Revenue Administration to meet.

Mayor Wiczorek called the meeting back to order.

19. A report of the Committee on Accounts, Enrollment and Revenue Administration was presented advising that Ordinance:

“Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Manchester by extending the R-SM (Residential Suburban Multifamily) zone to include property currently zoned I-2 (Industrial Park) and R-1B (Residential) located on Holt Avenue (Tax Map 478, Lot 3).”

is properly enrolled.

Alderman Thibault moved to accept, receive and adopt the report of the Committee.

Alderman Reiniger duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Shea duly recorded in opposition.

- 20.** Petition for demolition and removal of a hazardous building located at 398-400 Hanover Street submitted by Leon LaFreniere, Building Commissioner.

Alderman Wihby moved that the Board make a finding and issue an order requiring the City, Robert Gould, and Karen Kean Gould to correct the existing hazardous condition by demolishing and removing the above-referenced building located at 398-400 Hanover Street, Manchester, NH and filling any cellar hole.

Alderman Sysyn duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Girard stated the owner of the other half of this building came to the City and asked if the City would cover the costs of disposing of the demolished building and the City turned her down at that point, I'm wondering what the cost of taking this building down will be and how that would compare to her prior offer.

Mr. LaFreniere replied I would hesitate to put someone else on the spot, but Joan Porter is here and she might be better equipped to answer the specifics of the question and how this negotiation transpired. I was in a different situation here with the split ownership of the building.

Ms. Porter stated basically what happened, Alderman Girard, was they did come in...about two years ago and wanted to have us pay the tipping fees and they would pay the demolition and acquire the property. The tipping fees were about \$14,000 and the City was not in a position to wave them because according to Frank Thomas all of our debris had to be trucked out, so the other owners were under the impression that we could just put it in our dump and it wouldn't cost us anything. Once we determined that it was going to cost us about \$14,000 we said that we couldn't pay the tipping fees that we would bear half of the burden of demolition and whatever that cost and if the tipping fees were included we would do half. At that point, the two owners decided that they did not want to tear the building down, they wanted to keep it up and we have tried over the last

year or so to negotiate with them on some type of a deal where we would pay our half of the demolition where somehow they would pay us something for the part of the property...any kind of a deal we could come up...they've fluctuated back and forth so many times, in fact, once I knew this was on the agenda, I called both of them again and they haven't returned the call. So, I'm not really sure what their position is at the moment. The last time that I spoke to each of them...they're sister and brother-in-law, they each had a different view of what they wanted to do with the property.

Alderman Girard asked how much is it going to cost for the City...we're demolishing the entire structure now, both sides.

Ms. Porter replied if the City through the Building Department ends up demolishing the entire thing then they would be, I assume, billed for half of it and we would be billed for the other half. Unless, we come to some type of an agreement where they decide that they can do the demolition...there is a neighbor who would like to acquire the part that we own.

Alderman Girard asked, Commissioner, are we talking about taking the whole building down.

Mr. LaFreniere replied that is correct. We're still hopeful, of course, that through this process the owners of the property will come to terms and realize that the most effective way to dispense with this problem is to enjoin with the City and to collectively tear the building down. If that doesn't happen what we will do is go through a bid process and solicit costs to effect that demolition and as a result we would have some prices, would take the lowest bid from the qualified bidder, and then place a lien on the properties to recover those funds. In the case of the City side, obviously, we're not going to recover

from ourselves. But, in the case of the other owner we would look to recover whatever funds we could.

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

21. Ordinance:

“Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Manchester by extending the R-SM (Residential Suburban Multifamily) zone to include property currently zoned I-2 (Industrial Park) and R-1B (Residential) located on Holt Avenue (Tax Map 478, Lot 3).”

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

This Ordinance having had its third and final reading by title only, Alderman Thibault moved that the Ordinance pass and be Ordained. Alderman Sysyn duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Shea duly recorded in opposition.

22. Resolutions:

“Amending the 1999 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds for the 1999 CIP 250799D the Way Home-Operational Assistance.”

“Amending the 1999 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds for various School Department Projects.”

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Thibault stated, your Honor, I'm sure you've heard we've had another theft at West High School last night. Another full set of computers gone...that's another \$2,500. I really don't understand why we can't grab a hold of this and do something as far as security is concerned for some of these buildings, your Honor. This is about up to \$12,000 now for West High School alone that we've lost on thefts. I was made to understand that I'm not sure who told me this but somebody had said to me that, if in fact, we could prove that only the janitors were in the building that we should bill this to WFF and recover the cost of that computer. This is the second one at West High and they really need this computer. I was there today and they asked what are we going to do now, we don't have the tools that we need to work with. So, is there some money someplace in contingency or somehow that we can get these people a computer again.

Mayor Wiczorek replied I think that will be up to the School Department to see what they can do.

Alderman Thibault stated I think they've talked to School and they said they had no money and they had no computers.

Alderman Sysyn asked doesn't insurance cover that.

Alderman Thibault moved that that \$2,500 be taken out of contingency to purchase a new computer. Alderman Wihby duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Girard asked how much is left in contingency.

Mr. Clougherty replied \$99,000 is remaining in contingency.

Alderman Shea stated I don't want to be against the schools, your Honor, but are we considering too other needs...in other words, if other schools have problems...thefts are occurring all over the school system...I'm wondering if you've discussed this with the School Department first to see if, in fact, there is some way of either transferring a computer from one section or receiving some kind of help there initially without going into contingency because basically if we open up contingency and as I say I'm not opposed to it, I just say that we ought to take a little time to consider this because obviously we're rushing into this situation and I know that Henry is quite concerned about the custodial/maintenance services, but I do think that maybe some like the yourself could contact the Superintendent of Schools and say there is a problem at West, are there any computers that have been recently received by the School District that could replace that one that's direly needed.

Alderman Thibault stated the only thing I'd like to say is that this is the second one. They've made due with the fact that they lost one, but now they've lost two and this is why I made this motion, they're really in dire need of this computer.

Alderman Cashin asked is it possible that Diane Prew might be able to help them out, your Honor, could somebody talk to her. They have loaners and things like that, I know we do it at the hospital once-in-a-while.

Mayor Wiczorek stated we can talk to her.

Alderman Hirschmann stated this is really perturbing to me, but security is my business. Can we get the security issue addressed, just like the sprinklers that needed to be

checked, can this alarm system be checked and why is this happening. If there's a roomful of computers there should be a sensor of some kind watching over this room so it doesn't happen again. If you march over there with another computer it's going to disappear again, you've got to address the problem too.

Mayor Wiczorek stated I think the Police Chief, your department was certainly involved in it, Chief, wasn't it.

Chief Driscoll replied yes, they were.

Alderman Hirschmann asked it's been cured, Chief. Well, that's what we have to address, curing the problem.

Chief Driscoll stated I have a couple of thoughts and it would be very inappropriate to discuss and I'm sure you'd agree that the security of West High School at a meeting such as this could be handled in a better/different setting.

Alderman Hirschmann stated so, I'll have your assurance that it's going to be handled at this point.

Chief Driscoll replied I think it deserves serious discussion, those buildings are big, they're older with many, many entrances and I also have another comment... to suggest in any way and I'm sure that this wasn't the intent that WWF is in anyway responsible for this, there are so many people in and out of that building... there are all kinds of possibilities and we continue to look at those.

Alderman Hirschmann stated I was there Sunday morning supervising a weight lifting session and one of your officers responded to an alarm and he asked me who I was and I

was in the weight lifting room with the football team and there was an alarm going off in the building Sunday, so I don't know if this happened Sunday but I told him to check the halls, it's not where the football team was. There's a problem there, that security system has to be rectified before we put more computers in, that's the only point I'm making, your Honor.

Alderman Thibault stated the only thing is I want to make sure that something happens here. I made a motion which has been seconded and I just want to make sure that something happens quickly.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I can understand your anxiety for getting a computer back in there, but I think Alderman Cashin made a sensible suggestion and that is to check with our Info Systems Department and see if they have something.

Alderman Thibault stated as long as it happens.

Mayor Wieczorek stated that doesn't address the problem of what happens there over the longer term and that's something that we'll have to discuss. I think it is kind of dangerous to start in a situation where somebody has something missing and all of a sudden you vote for it and then somebody else says are you going to vote against it. I think it's a very dangerous precedent to set so I don't think that doesn't solve the problem, but we'll see if we can help them out. So, I would hope that you withdraw your motion and second.

Alderman Thibault withdrew his motion as did Alderman Wihby.

Alderman Pinard stated I had the experience over the weekend and got called out to Green Acres School for one and that was one experience...I walked through the front

door, looked at the damage, looked all over the first floor, couldn't find anybody and finally went up to the third floor and there they were. The doors were wide open, the principal's door was unlocked and nobody was around. I've been going around the schools the past few days and I will have a recommendation for you, Mayor, and the rest of the Board. We talk about security with the Chief. We've got to start instructing the principals...such as when they play basketball use one door. So, you talk about computers disappearing somebody could have walked out with a whole office and nobody would have known and my suggestion to the Chief is that maybe this new committee that you've formed perhaps we could sit down with the Chief or one of his Crime Prevention reps and come up with some kind of an idea for the principal to work with in the School Department because this is very, very serious and I will give you a complete report on what I find.

Alderman Girard asked why are these thefts not subject to insurance coverage.

Mayor Wiczorek replied because we're self-insured on these items...a \$100,000 deductible.

Alderman Wihby stated I got a letter from George Bruno with expressing some concerns about Webster School and would like to have the City Clerk forward it to PBS for their review and report back to the Board with their response. Another thing, your Honor, we heard from a speaker today about the pumping stations and the problems we're having over there. I know we can't something for one pumping station, but maybe we could have CIP and Frank Thomas work on some sort of a program to address it throughout the City.

Mayor Wieczorek asked the Clerk to note to forward the comments we had from the public hearing tonight, from Mr. Tremer I believe and see if we can get something going on that subject and also refer the item that Alderman Wihby has to PBS.

Alderman Reiniger stated the Chairman of the Planning Board was good enough to come tonight with a potential new program that could assist us in helping the building owners Downtown and fitting up the second stories of the building, reusing them and I would suggest that we forward that information he has to Jay Taylor to investigate it and see if it is a program we never investigated and see if it would apply to the City.

Mayor Wieczorek stated the Clerk will refer that to Jay Taylor.

Alderman Reiniger stated I received over the computer an e-mail message from a gentleman over at Cabletron about the Y2K issue and he was just asking if the City is aware of it, doing anything to prepare for it and a lot of the problems we could be facing and I would ask that we send this to Diane Prew.

Mayor Wieczorek stated we've received a lot of correspondence from people regarding the Y2K issue, as a matter of fact I got a beautiful box that came in with a pair of eyes that says "keep your eye on it" and the eyes keep looking at you all the time. So, I think perhaps, Kevin, you might address the situation with Y2K regarding the City and I'm assuming that HTE is going to be in shape.

Mr. Clougherty stated the Y2K problem goes well beyond the computer software for HTE and it gets into the mechanics of the operational equipment for the School Department, the Police Department, our fax machines, it's pervasive in virtually every department. There is a Y2K Committee in the City that has been working with the Solicitor's Office to make sure that when we have requests or inquiries from vendors

with respect to what we're doing with Y2K that we're disclosing that properly. So, if you'd like we could have the Y2K Committee provide you with an update on what their activities have been and have that for the next meeting.

Alderman O'Neil asked can anybody give me an update on if we've made any progress with the problems at the MTA, it seems every week we're getting letters and it seems to be not getting any better down there.

Mayor Wiczorek stated it's not getting any better down there, but you have people that are very active in that operation and I know that the Authority is working very hard, as a matter of fact I think Commissioner Vaal has spoken to somebody. I don't know which Alderman she has spoken to here.

Alderman Girard interjected its Alderman Pariseau.

Mayor Wiczorek stated they're working it, they're trying to get that situation resolved.

Alderman Wihby asked has the Committee met yet.

Clerk Bernier replied the Committee will meet February 22nd.

Alderman Shea stated we did receive very graciously from the Finance Office the Aggregate Administrator's Tina Parsons did give us a very thorough about the appropriation for 1998 and 1999. I wondered is there any other expenditures that we incurred in 1996 or 1997 or is this the full amount.

Ms. Parsons stated what I can do, Alderman, is direct you to something that you probably already have in your records. As you may recall, we gave two different presentations.

We gave a presentation in January and we also gave a presentation in April and at both of those presentations you were provided with a whole booklet of information for you and then at the April one we provided both the aggregation and Amoskeag Hydro issue and at that time there were expenses that were detailed in there for you, as well.

Alderman Shea stated my question is, did we incur any expenses in 1996 or 1997 towards the Aggregation program.

Ms. Parsons replied no. The State's Pilot Program was initiated in 1995 by a sub-committee of this Board of Mayor and Aldermen and at that time it was directed that the Industrial Agent, the Finance Officer and the City Solicitor's Office would look at that issue. We incurred staff expenses at that time and in 1997 it was a vote of this Board to hire consultants to help us put together an Aggregation Program that started out to address the State's Pilot Program.

Alderman Shea asked is this reflected, is their expense reflected in this.

Ms. Parsons replied no; that is strictly for the 1998 and 1999 budget for Aggregation only. The expenses that were incurred prior to that were actually covered under the Pilot Program by the savings in the different departments and it also addressed the restructuring issue and we had \$250,000 contributed from Nashua for that and another \$16,000 from the City of Keene contributed to that and the rest of it was absorbed through the general fund.

Alderman Shea stated this report here then does not indicate all of the money that has been spent toward the Aggregation Program from the time it was initiated until now.

Ms. Parson replied yes it does. What you have in front of you is what the Aggregation fee, when we have deregulation in New Hampshire; those expenses that you have in front of you will have a fee associated with them and the people who elect into this program and the small businesses that join the City in their program including the City of Nashua what you have in front of you for expenses that will be the basis for the fee calculation.

Alderman Shea stated I'm a little bit confused because I'm still not gaining the information possibly that I want. Namely, is there additional information or monies that we have spent toward this program regardless of who spent it. Either it came from the general fund or it came from other sources in 1996 and 1997 that you have recorded. So, that we can get the total amount of money regardless of where it has come from, that is what I am trying to say. In other words...

Ms. Parsons stated I caution you in so far as the statute is very specific as to what can be charged under an Aggregation Program. In other words, if it's related to aggregation then that will be...the revenues derived to pay back those expenses will come from the fee, from only those individuals and businesses that elect to participate in it. So, any monies spent by the City prior to the Board's adoption of aggregation are no...by law could not be collected in that aggregation fee. So, what you have in front of you is the expenses that have been incurred since the Board adopted the Aggregation plan. Now, the monies that were spent on studying the restructuring issue and our participation are now two and a half year participation in the New Hampshire Public Utilities Pilot Program have been absorbed through the general fund and by the savings that the various departments have achieved over those two and a half years.

Mr. Clougherty stated with everything that's going on on this subject matter in Concord it's easy to get caught up in some of the semantics. There has been expenses, I believe, since 1996 with respect to the broad issue to regulation and as Tina has mentioned we

have disclosed those dollars on a couple of occasions and reports and then there's this Aggregation which is a piece of the solution for deregulation. Certainly, if you're interested in our providing you with a start to finish timeline and breaking that out so that you can see...

Alderman Shea stated that is what I thought we were going to receive and I'm sorry that I didn't make that clear, but if you would provide that I would appreciate it.

Mr. Clougherty stated Tina asked what you wanted in terms of Aggregation, but I understand what you're asking for now and we'll provide you with the spreadsheet and we'll get you that.

Alderman Shea stated it's difficult to ask the right questions in order to get the right answers, so sometimes in terms of asking the question, I may not make myself clear but I'm glad you clarified that and will provide either myself or others, if they are interested, with the final figures.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I have a suggestion for you. When you want to get some clarification, it's a good idea to go to the department and talk to them.

Alderman Shea stated I tried calling you on it three or four times, the line was busy and I couldn't reach you, I'm sorry.

Mayor Wieczorek stated come over and see them if you have any questions you want to get answered.

Alderman Shea stated I don't like to hang around City Hall, your Honor, but I will make it a point to do that.

Alderman Cashin stated I had several questions but I talked to Kevin earlier and he's going to talk to his staff and get back to us and I don't feel this is the forum to ask the questions, so we'll wait.

Alderman Girard stated your Special Committee on the School Deficit meeting tomorrow, will we be getting any kind of report, an update. I know you've been meeting right along but will we be getting some sort of status report.

Mayor Wieczorek replied as long as everything is moving along and everything is under control that is the purpose of the Committee meeting...if there is going to be a problem...

Alderman Girard stated so no news is good news then. One other question, I spoke with Dr. Sullivan from Channel 16 about the fact that we have these cameras around the Aldermanic Chamber but we still have the camera on a tripod to record the meetings. Is there any progress being made toward finding a solution to making these cameras active.

Mayor Wieczorek asked, Alderman, have you been at these other meetings we've had because we've been talking about that .

Alderman Girard asked what meetings are you talking about, your Honor, I've been to every meeting I'm on.

Mayor Wieczorek reiterated we have been talking about this, as a matter of fact Alderman Cashin asked us about this. I talked to Bob MacKenzie back a couple of meetings ago to see what we could do with coming up with some money either from MediaOne or some money from the City. We're going to be doing something and Mr. MacKenzie is right here to try and get it into the CIP Program early this year. As you

know, we've moved that program up, we've advanced it so that we can take some action on that before the year is up. Mr. MacKenzie, maybe you could address that because we've talked about that at some length.

Mr. MacKenzie stated there was an amount that's been identified, approximately \$25,000, perhaps as much as \$27,000 to finish what's called the rack equipment, the actual production equipment which will be up in the audio visual room that would be under the control of Channel 16. The best that we can come up with at this point...it does take some time to go out to bid, to process those bids and ultimately buy that equipment. We will be suggesting to the Mayor and to the Board that they include that as an item in the expedited project list for next fiscal year 2000 which we are hoping that the Board will approve in April, perhaps April 20th and I have talked to Grace Sullivan about that, she understands that and does not see that as a problem. She is looking for a letter from me indicating that they could go out to bid and I see no problem with that going out to a bid in advance of getting the final funding.

Alderman Hirschmann stated I'm Chairman of the Accounts Committee and I've scheduled a meeting for next Monday, the 8th to see the year's closeout for '98 because we still haven't gone over that due to moves and other circumstances, but your Committee that's meeting about the School deficit, are you going to forward to our Committee what's going on with the deficit as that impacts the closeout on '98.

Mayor Wieczorek stated we don't have the closeout on '98, as a matter of fact the auditors are here now and Kevin perhaps you can give them something on that.

Mr. Clougherty stated we expect that the conversations with the auditors will be able to report next month on a final report to Committee on Accounts, which is what we had talked about the other day. The Deficit Committee is moving forward and looking at this

current year's budget as opposed to the prior year and we can provide you with information on that, as well.

Alderman Hirschmann stated every year I've had the schools come in and report to my Committee, but I read in the newspaper that the School District has gone to court, are they not going to come to my Committee and report to us what's being spent anymore, your Honor.

Mayor Wiczorek replied no they are going to do what they normally do unless the court is going to rule something different. So, nothing has changed.

Alderman Hirschmann stated so I can ask them to appear thank you. I was a guest last night at a ward meeting and they asked me a lot about the school deficit and, of course, I didn't have those answers, but I was courteous and tried to answer all of the questions and there was quite a sentiment going around the room was the raise given to the Superintendent and I assured everybody that the Aldermen had nothing to do with an \$8,000 raise for the Superintendent and the crowd was dismayed about it. They were kind of shocked that there could be a \$2 million deficit and someone gets an \$8,000 raise. So, I just wanted to say that in front of the group here.

Mayor Wiczorek stated the one thing for certain is that that is not an Aldermanic responsibility, that is a School Board responsibility and as you know the Aldermanic Board only has the authority to give a bottom line to School and then it's up to School to decide how they want to spend it.

Alderman Hirschmann stated I will ask them to come in and tell us how they're revenues are forecasting and I will ask them to come in and tell us how they're not having a deficit this year.

Mayor Wieczorek stated we're watching it very closely this year. We're meeting at least monthly and it could be twice-a-month if things are a little slow.

Mr. Hobson stated I just want to comment back on the audit that Mr. Clougherty brought up and that is we're also conducting a separate audit or study that the Deficit Committee asked us to do regarding the health and dental insurance adjustments for the previous fiscal term and we are working with William Mercer Company of Boston and they are doing a claims audit with Blue Cross Blue Shield, Matthew Thornton Health Plan and Northeast Delta Dental and that is still in process and I don't know...this is my point...I'm not sure if that will be available by March 1st, but I just want to assure everyone that it's in process and we're being directed by the Deficit Committee.

Mayor Wieczorek stated the meeting on February 22nd that Alderman Pariseau will be conducting regarding the MTA is at 6:30 PM.

Clerk Bernier stated it had originally been scheduled for 5:15 PM, however, it was changed to 6:30 PM.

Mayor Wieczorek stated the Legislative Delegation is going to have a meeting with the Aldermen for anyone who wants to attend on February 10th which is a week from tomorrow at 7:00 PM here in the Chamber and will be discussing various legislative items that are going to impact on the City and they would like to get some idea of how the Aldermen feel about some of these pieces of legislation.

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Alderman Pinard, duly seconded by Alderman O'Neil, it was voted to adjourn.

2/2/99 Board of Mayor and Aldermen
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A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk