

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

April 2, 2002

7:00 PM

Mayor Baines called the meeting to order.

Mayor Baines called for the Pledge of Allegiance, this function being led by Alderman Lopez.

A moment of silent prayer was observed.

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

Present: Aldermen Wihby, Gatsas, Guinta, Sysyn, Osborne, Pinard, O'Neil,
Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Garrity, Smith, Thibault, Forest

Mayor Baines advised that due to the number of people here about the responsible labor guidelines, he wished to note it would not be discussed this evening. It will be the subject of a meeting on April 9, 2002 at city hall at 5:30PM.

Mayor Baines advised that the purpose of the special meeting is to give residents of Manchester the opportunity to address the Board on items of concern affecting the community; that each person will be given only one opportunity to speak; 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 Baines 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.

Allen Grey, 20 Orange St, Apt 11, Manchester, NH, stated:

I came hear tonight for the contractors articles and I would like to talk if I may for a few minutes on that I think that it would be a win situation for the city of Manchester and I also believe that it makes an even playing field for any contractor that bids on any jobs. More importantly it is the employees that make any company and it's employees that do any type of work in succeeding getting a job done. I think it is fair and equitable the way it is written for employees for insurance for health and also having people that are responsible enough to do the job professionally so it reflects on the city of Manchester. Thank you.

Stephen Panagacos, 411 Prescott St. Manchester, NH, read from a statement as follows:

I support the responsible employer ordinance, also an ethic for economic life.

1. The economy exists for the person, not the person for the economy.
2. All economic life should be shaped by moral principal. Economic choices in institutions must be judged by how they protect or undermine the life and dignity of a human person, support the family and serve the common good.
3. A fundamental moral measure of any economy as how the poor are vulnerable is fairing.
4. All people have a right to life and secure the basic necessities of life, food, clothing shelter, education, healthcare, safe environment, and economic security.
5. All people have the right through economic initiative to productive work through just wages and benefits, to decent working conditions as well as to organize and join unions and other associations.
6. All people to the extent that they are able have the corresponding duty to work a responsibility to provide for the needs of their families and an obligation to contribute to the broad of socitey.
7. An economic life free market has both clear advantages and limits. Government has essential responsiblities and limitations. Voluntary groups have irreplaceable rolls. Substitute for proper working of the market and the just policy of the state.
8. Society has a moral obligation including governmental action where necessary to assure opportunity of basic human needs, through justice and economic life.
9. Workers, owners, managers, stockholders and consumers of moral agents and economic life, by our choice creativity and investment we enhance or diminish economic opportunity, community life and social justice.
10. The global economy has moral dimensions and human consequences. Decisions on investment, trade aids development should protect human life, and promote human rights, especially for those most in need, wherever they might live on this globe. Thank you.

Harold Hodgdon, 810 Union St, Manchester, NH, stated:

I am in support of this employee's ordinance. Thank you.

Dennis Robertson, 683 Howe St. Manchester, NH, stated:

I am down here to support this ordinance. I am a married man with two kids. Not only do I own a house, I own an apartment building. I pay taxes here. I have to go out of town to get decent wage and health benefits and all that good stuff. I am here to support this ordinance. Thank you.

Yeris Ruiz, 21 3rd St, Manchester, NH, stated:

I am in favor of the fair contractor ordinance. Thank you.

Allen Pratt, 70 Baily Ave, Manchester, NH, stated:

I have been living here for a while and I pay my taxes like a lot of us do and this is good for local work. It effects us here in the city. The benefits that we get and the training programs that this provides, you sum up the whole things, and it is nothing but good for us all.

Everyone who works in this city or anywhere in NH really needs these things. It would really help us all out especially us working class citizens. We would really appreciate it if you guys would vote yes on this for it is really important to us. Thank you and good evening.

Jeff Hall, 231 Belmont St, Manchester, NH, stated:

I just want to say that I am for this ordinance and I would like to work in this town, and have good benefits and wages. Thank you.

Joe Kelly Levassar, 866 Elm St, Manchester, NH, stated:

I just wanted to come and say I was glad to see that most of the alderman decided to change their minds on the feasibility study for the ballpark. I think it was a good idea. I don't think we need a \$20 million dollar stadium at Singer Park. I do agree that if we can suck somebody in to go into pay a million dollars to fix Gill Stadium I think it would be a good idea. They may be able to take care of the pigeon problem at the same time, Mr. Lopez. I would like to say that I am a little disturbed by the tax increase. I do agree with Alderman Wihby that you are solving the housing crises Mayor. A person came up to me the other day and they were about to purchase property in Manchester when they saw the front page of the Union Leader which stated a potential for a 10% tax increase. Now with a few little adjustments going upward looks like it will be around 11.4%. I know that it is not going to are there when it is all done and told, but it is still scaring people from purchasing right know. They are worried about the prices, which have gone up a lot and then they see tax increases of those kind of proportions, it really does slow down the economy and in general Manchester. I would like to also say that I am not in favor of the bag and tag obviously. I think that would really hurt a lot of businesses. I figured out how many bags of garbage that we put out in a year and it would be about 4000 worth of bags. That would cost \$4,000 for just a small restaurant never mind if you had other ones. We cannot get dumpsters downtown, so we cannot get that price that you would get from a Dumpster. We have to pay for it, and than have the bags picked up. So please keep that in mind. Also, I would like to ask the Alderman to please not go through with the \$70 million plan to build a high school yet. You need to study that a little more. I do not think that we can build all those places. I really think that tuition students from the surrounding towns need to be sent away. We need to stop increasing the operating cost, increasing the size of building. We will require more teachers in these tuition towns are not paying their fair share. Thank you very much Mayor and have a great meeting tonight.

Ken Harris, 4 Bridge St. Pembroke, NH, stated:

Just supporting you and want to go union. That is what I want to do and I hope everything works out. Hopefully we have, you guys realize we have families and have been in this for a lot of years, 18yrs now. We need your support. Thank you.

Kevin Chessman, 457 Merrimack St, Manchester, NH, stated:

I am here to support the ordinance Thank you.

Jim Martel, 49 High St. Manchester, NH, stated:

I just came down to support the proposition. Thank you sir.

Nick Ientille, 340 Phillip St, Manchester, NH, stated:

I am here to say that I support the employee awareness ordinance. Thank you.

Eric Stone, 80L English Village Rd, Manchester, NH, stated:

I came down here to support the ordinance, and to let people know that it not only people with families that need these insurance policies, and safety procedures. It is every individual that needs all these purposes in order for them to get through with life. To keep their families healthy and everyone else healthy. Thank you.

Peter Vinal, 730 Bodwell Rd, Manchester, NH, stated:

I was here a couple of weeks ago. I am here again supporting it and I will be here again on the 9th to see how you people support it. Hope you are in our favor. Thank you.

Darren Bell, 20 Orange St. Manchester, NH stated:

I am here to support the ordinance also. Thank you.

D.J. Murphy, PO Box 10143, Bedford, NH, stated:

I am going to postpone tonight. I am in ward 3, until you can direct wire a microphone. I will be back next month.

Bryan Pickford, 46 Brown Ave, Manchester, NH, stated:

I am just here to show my support. I will tell everybody else what is going on. I support this a lot. Thank you.

Tony Pecce, 121 Fox Hollow Way Manchester, NH, stated:

I am here tonight to support the responsible contractor language. I would like to point something out, that you are all very well aware of. You few are making decisions for many, many people will benefit from this. I really would like you to think about it and give it some really serious thought. These people need these; I am one of these people. I am an electrician by trade. This is a good thing this is a basis, this is not rocket science. This is good for the community. It is good for everybody involved. Thank you.

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

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

A True Record. Attest

City Clerk