

BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

December 18, 2007

7:30 PM
Aldermanic Chambers
City Hall (3rd Floor)

Mayor Guinta called the meeting to order.

Mayor Guinta called for the Pledge of Allegiance, which was led by Alderman Thibault. A moment of silent prayer was observed.

The Clerk called the roll. Thirteen Aldermen were present.

Present: Aldermen Roy, Gatsas, Long, Osborne, Pinard, O'Neil, Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Garrity, Smith, Thibault, Forest

Absent: Alderman Duval

3. Presentation by members of Manchester Crimeline.

Mayor Guinta stated we've completed the Manchester Crimeline presentation. I do want to do a couple of quick presentations to members of our Board prior to getting into the Consent Agenda. First I will read a letter from Alderman Duval who is unable to be here this evening but asked that I read this letter to the Board and for the public's hearing.

December 17, 2007

Mayor Frank Guinta and fellow Aldermen,

It is with regret that I am unable to join you at the last regular meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen in 2007. A very important matter demands I be with one of my clients this evening. I want to take this opportunity, nonetheless, to express my sincerest appreciation to you, Mayor Guinta, and each and every member of this Board for working with me cooperatively as I strove to address concerns of Ward 4 residents for the past two years. Each of you at one time or another responded in a professional manner to the needs of my Ward 4 neighbors, and I thank you. I hope that I was able to meaningfully contribute to the operation of City government during this term. I attempted to be fair and responsible Alderman, looking first to the issues at hand. I now fully recognize the efforts and personal sacrifice required to be an effective Alderman. I applaud each of you for your dedication to Manchester. I personally would like to congratulate Alderman Thibault on his many years of service. Above everything else, our City should not forget his countless hours of service to others. Alderman Smith deserves praise for his unfailing support for those causes he feels so strongly about, in particular our City's youth. He is a true gentleman. I want to thank my closest Board neighbors, Alderman Long and Alderman Osborne. Thank you Pat for all your consideration and Ed for your genuine concern for the needs of our residents. No one can ever question your dedication to the needs, not only of your constituents but the residents of Ward 4 as well. I will never forget the significance of colors to this Board as they relate to our City's budget. Red paper, blue paper, white paper. Thank you, Alderman Gatsas. Despite my challenge to Alderman O'Neil and Chairman Lopez in this past election, please know that I respect each of these gentlemen for their long history of answering the call. I wish them every success as they look to begin yet another term of guiding our great City. I will not forget the professional manner in which they conducted themselves and how they treated me during the campaign and since the election. Mayor Guinta, I thank you for your confidence in me as reflected by your appointment of me as chairman of a very key committee. Now poised for a second term, it is my hope that you will experience success in leading the City through challenging days ahead. I have confidence that if each member of the BMA is dedicated to the vibrancy and goodness of Manchester, our future will be much brighter. It will require you, Mayor Guinta, to spend more time reaching out to every Alderman of this elected body, without hesitation or concern for past voting patterns. To effectively lead I believe you must personally connect with Board members, be accessible to them,

be responsive to them, and develop a trust with them, remembering they too have been duly elected to serve our neighbors and our community. I understand that there must be mutual respect to succeed, and I hope this will be realized over the next two years. I leave knowing that our relationship was a productive one because of our efforts made to communicate on issues and always be respectful of each other. I am proud of the fact that despite being affiliated with different political parties, we were able to put people above all else. I extend to you, Mayor, and each of the members of this Board the joys of holidays and abundant health in 2008.

With best wishes,
Jerome Duval

Mayor Guinta stated I do have a key for Jerome. I spoke with him this afternoon and I told him that we would get it to him, but I did acknowledge to him that I did want to read it to this Board and to the public, but we'll certainly make sure that he receives it. And it's presented this day to Alderman Jerome Duval, in appreciation for his service on behalf of the people of Ward 4. His vocal leadership on behalf of his constituents was admirable, and the tone of respect he set at City Hall was a great example to us all. Best wishes in your future endeavor. A key to the City presented this day by myself, Mayor Guinta. And I appreciate his willingness and effort to reach out during this last two years to work with me and every member of this Board. And we thank him for his service.

Mayor Guinta made a presentation to Alderman Long. He stated it has been a pleasure to serve with you. You've served the City very well. It's been a very interesting two years, but I think Ward 3 had a very good constituent Alderman in Ward 3, and I very much appreciate your service. As a former resident of Ward 3, I heard from many people who did convey their thanks and appreciation for your hard work on many issues. This day I wanted to present to you a key to the City and it reads, "In appreciation for your service on behalf of the people of Ward 3, your interest on behalf of working people of our City is truly commendable. Best wishes in your future endeavors. Frank Guinta." Thank you very much.

Alderman Long stated I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Board members for their help in my freshman year here. And I want to thank Ward 3 and I thank the City for their confidence that they had in me. And again, I thank you.

Mayor Guinta called forward Alderman Forest. He stated we started serving together when I was an Alderman from Ward 3, and there have been many times when you and I connected on Ward 3 issues, not only because of your dedication as an Alderman, but a former police officer in our City, and it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve with you. You've always been above board and I very much appreciate it. And I wanted to present you with a key to the City today, and it reads: "In appreciation for your years of service on behalf of the people of Ward 12, your steadfast support for improving the parks and playgrounds of West Manchester on behalf of the youth of our City, will have a positive impact for years to come. Best wishes in your future endeavors and good luck in your retirement." Congratulations.

Alderman Forest stated Mr. Mayor, although we disagreed on a few items in the past seven years, we always thought of our constituents first, and I know we worked together on a lot of things. I want to say Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to my constituents and everybody else. I want to thank this Board. We've had some heated discussions over the years, but we accomplished what we wanted to do. One thing I want this Board to remember: The most important thing you have as an Alderman is your constituents. Please, when they call you, return their calls. Thank you all.

Mayor Guinta asked Alderman Thibault to come forward. He stated when I first got on the Board, Alderman Thibault was one of the first members that I had an opportunity to meet. As a freshman Alderman, I was somewhat nervous and excited at the same time about serving as an Alderman. And I have served as a State Representative, and I can tell you, coming to this Board, while the experience was great up in Concord, that is nothing

like serving as an Alderman. It's a completely different world. I don't know if Hank remembers it or not, but at one point he took me aside, he shook my hand and he said, you're a young man but you'll be fine if you listen to your constituents. And I always took that advice to heart. Hank has many times made me laugh in public and in private because, while he takes his job seriously, he brings his heart with him everywhere he goes. You are certainly going to be missed, not just by me but so many people in this City. It's truly an honor to be the Mayor at this time and present you with a key to the City for your service. And it reads: "Alderman Hank Thibault, in appreciation for your long service on behalf of the people of Ward 11, your colorful style and sense of humor will be sorely missed by your colleagues, and best wishes to you in your future endeavors."

Alderman Thibault stated thank you very much. One thing I'd like to say before I leave is that in all the years I've been here and all of the department heads that I've had to work with throughout the City, I can say that every one of them has been above board one thousand percent. This City is very, very special, to see that they can get the type of people in department heads to do the work that we all need occasionally to call and ask them for help for our constituents. It's not always for ourselves; it's for our constituents, and like Alderman 12 just said, always remember that what you do here is very important, but what you do in your Ward is doubly important. Merry Christmas and thank you all for everything.

Mayor Guinta stated we have one other item before we get to Consent Agenda. I distributed a letter regarding the nomination for Director of Information Systems, and I'd like to read it into the record.

After due and careful consideration, I am pleased this evening to nominate Ms. Jennie Angell as the Director of the Information Services department. Ms. Angell has served diligently as a member of the department for the last 27 years and has most recently served with distinction as that department's acting director. Ms.

Angell brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in technology to this job, and I believe that all members of the Board are familiar with her excellent work ethic and communication skills. This evening I am asking for your immediate consideration of this nomination, as well as the suspension of Rule 20 of the Board. I hope that I have this Board's concurrence of that important nomination.

On motion of Alderman DeVries, duly seconded by Alderman Thibault, it was voted to suspend the rules and confirm the nomination of Ms. Angell as the Director of Information Systems.

Ms. Angell stated I just want to thank you. The department has worked very hard this year. I could not do it without all of the members of the staff. I appreciate your vote of confidence, and we will do our best to help you reach your goals and objectives for efficiencies and constituent services, and we'll do whatever we can.

Mayor Guinta stated thank you very much. Congratulations. You've certainly earned it.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Guinta 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.

Accept BMA Minutes

- A. Minutes of meetings held on July 10, 2007 (two meetings); August 6, 2007 (one meeting); August 7, 2007 (two meetings); September 4, 2007 (three meetings); September 24, 2007 (two meetings); October 2, 2007 (three meetings); and October 16, 2007 (four meetings).]

Pole Petitions - approve under supervision of the Department of Highways

- C. PSNH Pole Petition #11-1183 located on Sargent Road

Informational – to be Received and Filed

- D. Communication from Virginia Lamberton, Human Resources Director, submitting an actual utilization and costs of the compensation package that each Alderman receives.
- E. Minutes of the Mayor’s Utility Coordinating Committee meeting held on November 21, 2007.
- F. Minutes of the MTA Commission meeting held on October 30, 2007 and the Financial and Ridership Reports for October 2007.
- G. Communication from Pamela Goucher, Deputy Planning Director, regarding Planning Board review of Jac-Pac development plans.

REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

- H. Resolutions:

“Amending the FY2006 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) for the FY2006 CIP 214206 Manchester Health Care Access Review Program.”

“Amending the FY2007 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Seventeen Thousand Dollars (\$17,000) for the FY2007 CIP 210607 School Based Dental Services.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Six Dollars (\$14,376) for the FY2008 CIP 210208 Homeless Healthcare Program.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Seventy Nine Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$79,200) for the FY2008 CIP 214008 Cities Readiness Initiative.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000) for the FY2008 CIP 214108 NACCHO Accreditation Improvement Project.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Fifty Five Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Six Dollars (\$155,656) for the FY2008 CIP 214208 Primary Care for the Homeless Project.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Seven Thousand Four Hundred Forty One Dollars and Forty Four Cents (\$7,441.44) for the FY2008 CIP 411008 NH Sobriety Checkpoint Program.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Two Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$225,000) for the FY2008 CIP 713508 South Willow Street Area Improvements Project.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Two Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$290,000) for the FY2008 CIP 810808 Manchester VISTA Initiative Program.”

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION/INFORMATION SYSTEMS

- J.** Recommending that the Board accept the recommendation by the Mayor’s Office on behalf of the Arts Commission to amend Section 32.026 of the Code of Ordinances which would allow alternates to be added to the Arts Commission. The Committee further recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for technical review.

(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman DeVries who was absent.)

- K.** Advising that it has approved the recommendation of City staff to standardize the letterhead, stationery, and business cards used by all City departments.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman DeVries who was absent.)
- L.** Advising that it has approved the proposed relocation of MCTV from 530 South Porter Street to 801 Elm Street and recommends that MCTV continue to negotiate a lease agreement with the property owner subject to the review of the City Solicitor and report back to the Board at the next meeting on December 18, 2007.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman DeVries who was absent.)
- M.** Advising that it has approved Ordinance:
“Amending §97.34 Encumbrances Prohibited, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester, providing for exceptions by permit for intermittent placement of signage in the public right-of-way.”
and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for technical review.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman DeVries who was absent.)

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

- N.** Recommending that acceptance and expenditure of funds for various projects outlined below:

214206	Manchester Health Care Access Review Program	\$ 60,000.00
210607	School Based Dental Services	\$ 17,000.00
210208	Homeless Healthcare Program	\$ 14,376.00
214008	Cities Readiness Initiative	\$ 79,200.00
214108	NACCHO Accreditation Improvement Project	\$ 7,000.00
214208	Primary Care for the Homeless Project	\$155,656.00
411008	NH Sobriety Checkpoint Program – Revision #1	\$ 7,441.44
713508	South Willow Street Area Improvements Project	\$225,000.00
810808	Manchester VISTA Initiative Program	\$290,000.00

be granted and approved and for such purpose amending resolutions and budget authorizations have been submitted.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman Duval who was absent.)

- O.** Recommending that a petition for discontinuance of a portion of South Willow Street and a portion of Harvey Road be referred to a Road Hearing on Tuesday, January 22, 2008 at 5:00 PM in the Aldermanic Chambers of City Hall.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman Duval who was absent.)
- P.** Recommending that a petition for discontinuance of a portion of Second West Back Street be referred to a Road Hearing on Tuesday, January 22, 2008 at 5:00 PM in the Aldermanic Chambers of City Hall.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman Duval who was absent.)
- Q.** Recommending that a request for a sewer abatement at 870 Hayward Street be granted and approved in the amount of \$132.75 as recommended by EPD.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman Duval who was absent.)
- R.** Recommending that a request for a sewer abatement at 21 Renard Street be granted and approved in the amount of \$243.00 as recommended by EPD.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman Duval who was absent.)
- S.** Advising that it has approved transfers within FY2007 CIP #510907 Parks Improvement Project as follows:
 Weston Observatory from \$196,000 to \$246,000; and
 Valley Cemetery from \$250,000 to \$262,000.
The Committee notes that the transfers occurred prior to formal committee action having been taken. As a result, the Committee has requested of all departments that any variations of current or future CIP projects obtain prior authorization. The Committee further requests that any project anticipated to be over budget shall be report to the Committee immediately.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman Duval who was absent.)
- T.** Advising that it has asked CIP staff to review the Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Program and report any anticipated revenue shortfalls to the Board at the next meeting on December 18, 2007.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman Duval who was absent.)
- U.** Advising that a request by the Police Department to add two undercover vehicles to their vehicle fleet has been approved.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman Duval who was absent.)

COMMITTEE ON JOINT SCHOOL BUILDINGS

- V.** Advising that it has authorized the Department of Highways, Facilities Division to repair the clocks and intercom system at both the Beech Street School and Henry Wilson Elementary School utilizing contingency money for the repairs.
(School Committee Members Beaudry and Gelinas and Aldermen Thibault, Roy and Long voted yea; and School Committee Member Herbert was absent.)

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH AND TRAFFIC

- W.** Advising that it has approved a request of Marcel's Way for use of the Arms Lot in conjunction with their 5K Race/Walkathon on Saturday, May 3, 2008.
(Unanimous vote)
- X.** Advising that it has approved Ordinance:
"Amending §70.45 of the Code of Ordinances to clarify responsibility of the Parking Division."
and recommends same be referred to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for technical review.
(Unanimous vote)
- Z.** Recommending that regulations governing standing, stopping, parking and operations of vehicles be adopted and put into effect when duly advertised and posted.
(Unanimous vote)

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS/ YOUTH SERVICES

- AA.** Advising that it has requested department heads from CIP, EAP, Health, Library, Mayor's Office, OYS, Police and Schools designate individuals from their respective departments to participate in issues pertaining to this committee.
(Aldermen O'Neil, Pinard and Forest voted yea; Aldermen Duval and Garrity were absent.)

**HAVING READ THE CONSENT AGENDA, ON MOTION OF ALDERMAN O'NEIL,
DULY SECONDED BY ALDERMAN PINARD, IT WAS VOTED THAT THE CONSENT
AGENDA BE APPROVED.**

- B.** Communication from William Sanders, Finance Officer, advising of a bequest totaling \$765,667.53 from the Estate of Ms. Patricia Stips, a former teacher at Manchester Memorial High School.

Alderman Shea stated I would be remiss if I as a former teacher did not call the public's attention to the fact that a former teacher, Patricia Stips, has donated over \$765,000 to the City of Manchester. And I believe that she worked very hard as a teacher and lived very well, traveled a great deal, but certainly remembered where her roots were, which were where she had taught for several years at Memorial High School.

On motion of Alderman Shea, duly seconded by Alderman Smith, it was voted to accept the funds and remand for the purpose intended.

Report of Committee on Administration/Information Systems

- I. Advising that it has referred a proposed charter amendment making the School District a department of the City and enabling the Mayor to have control over the form and procedures for preparation and adoption of the School Department budget to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen for further consideration. *(Aldermen O'Neil, Lopez and Forest voted yea; Alderman Smith was opposed; and Alderman DeVries was absent.)*

Alderman Gatsas stated I'd like to move this to the Clerk's office for a public hearing as soon as possible. Alderman Osborne duly seconded the motion.

Mayor Guinta asked in accordance with state law, I assume is part of your motion?

Alderman Gatsas responded I would assume. We don't do anything in here to break state law do we?

Alderman Lopez stated we want to make sure.

There being no further discussion, **Mayor Guinta** called for a vote on the motion to refer the proposed amendment question to public hearing as soon as possible consistent with statutory requirements.

Report of Committee Public Safety, Health and Traffic

Y. Advising that it has approved Ordinance:

“Amending Chapter 70: Motor Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester; 70.54 by adding new lots, Lake Avenue and Rines Center Lot, eliminating Victory Garage Prepay Rate, establishing a range of event rates for the Pine Lot to allow the Parking Manager to set the rate at a lower level if warranted, and establishing a range of event rates for the Lake Avenue Lot.”

and recommends same be referred to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for technical review.

(Unanimous vote)

Alderman Gatsas stated Your Honor, I noticed that when I look at the summary of Item Y, there is discussion of the Lake Avenue parking lot and the fees and rates in there. My understanding is that being at the meeting the last time that was either tabled or...I'm not sure if it was tabled or if it was defeated. But I noticed that in here it says Lake Avenue lot, \$10 to \$15, prepay. It talks about in the ordinance, and I'm not too sure that it belongs in here.

Ms. Carol Johnson, Deputy City Clerk, stated the Clerk would just note that what is before you is the ordinance for referral to Bills on Second Reading. It does make reference to the Lake Avenue property which was tabled in Lands & Building as I understand it. My suggestion was to allow the ordinance to move to Bills on Second Reading because it won't be taken up till the end of January at the earliest anyway, and the Lake Avenue references could be removed at that time or the question could be split into two ordinances at that time and held there until the Board takes further action. Alternatively, you could remove the references to the Lake Avenue and have those referred back to the Committee on Lands & Building so that it's all together, but it would then still have to go through Bills on Second Reading afterwards.

Alderman Gatsas moved to amend the ordinance by removing references to Lake Avenue and refer those back to the Committee on Lands & Building at this time. **Alderman Long** duly seconded the motion.

Alderman DeVries stated I'm just wondering from Alderman 2, why he's asking to take that out now, as opposed to at Bills on Second Reading?

Alderman Gatsas responded I think it just makes it for a cleaner passage to move it to Bills on Second Reading where a committee has already put in on the table. There's no reason that we should think that this is going to Bills on Second Reading to have people to come in to debate something that's already on the table in another committee.

Alderman DeVries stated I guess the question would be, is there opposition to the lot from this Board? Is that what this vote is actually representing?

Alderman Gatsas responded I don't think this vote is representing that. I think the vote is representing that a committee has taken a position to table this item. And I don't think that we should move it forward to have public discussion about an item that's tabled in a committee.

There being no further discussion, **Mayor Guinta** called for a vote on the amendment to the ordinance and referring the section referring to Lake Avenue back to Lands and Buildings. *There being none opposed the motion carried.*

On motion of Alderman Gatsas, duly seconded by Alderman Roy, it was voted to accept the balance of the report and refer the ordinance as amended to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading.

5. Nominations to be presented by Mayor Guinta, if available.

Mayor Guinta stated pursuant to section 3.14(b) of the City Charter, please find below the following nominations:

Patrick J. Jordan to succeed Patricia Cornell (term limit) as the labor representative member of the Water Commission, term to expire January 2011;

Louis D'Allesandro to succeed himself as a member of the Water Commission, term to expire January 2011;

Jessica L. Leavey to fill a vacancy as an alternate member of the Heritage Commission, term to expire January 1, 2010;

Kim Barbee to succeed Peter Favreau (resignation) as a member of the Office Of Youth Services Advisory Board, term to expire January 1, 2010;

Richard Anagnost to succeed himself as a member of the Office of Youth Services Advisory Board, term to expire January 1, 2011;

James "Skip" Harris to succeed himself as a member of the Office of Youth Services Advisory Board, term to expire January 1, 2011;

Dan Leach to succeed himself as a member of the Office of Youth Services Advisory Board, term to expire January 1, 2011;

Kendall Snow to succeed himself as a member of the Office of Youth Services Advisory Board, term to expire January 1, 2011;

Susan McKeown to succeed herself as a member of the Office of Youth Services Advisory Board, term to expire January 1, 2011.

On motion of Alderman Forest, duly seconded by Alderman Roy, it was voted unanimously to suspend the rules and confirm the nominations of Louis D'Allesandro to the Water Commission; and Richard Anagnost, James "Skip" Harris, Dan Leach, Kendall Snow and Susan McKeown to the Office of Youth Services Advisory Board, all of whom are succeeding themselves on said Boards.

The balance of the nominations were to lay over to the next meeting pursuant to Rule 20 of the Board.

6. Confirmation of the nominations to the Heritage Commission as follows:

Stephanie McLaughlin, term to expire January 1, 2011; and
Kristy Stuart (alternate), term to expire January 1, 2010.

On motion of Alderman Osborne, duly seconded by Alderman Gatsas, it was voted to confirm the nominations of Ms. McLaughlin and Ms. Stuart as presented.

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

Mayor Guinta called the regular meeting back to order.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

“Amending the FY2006 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) for the FY2006 CIP 214206 Manchester Health Care Access Review Program.”

“Amending the FY2007 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Seventeen Thousand Dollars (\$17,000) for the FY2007 CIP 210607 School Based Dental Services.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Six Dollars (\$14,376) for the FY2008 CIP 210208 Homeless Healthcare Program.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Seventy Nine Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$79,200) for the FY2008 CIP 214008 Cities Readiness Initiative.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000) for the FY2008 CIP 214108 NACCHO Accreditation Improvement Project.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Fifty Five Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Six Dollars (\$155,656) for the FY2008 CIP 214208 Primary Care for the Homeless Project.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Seven Thousand Four Hundred Forty One Dollars and Forty Four Cents (\$7,441.44) for the FY2008 CIP 411008 NH Sobriety Checkpoint Program.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Two Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$225,000) for the FY2008 CIP 713508 South Willow Street Area Improvements Project.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Two Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$290,000) for the FY2008 CIP 810808 Manchester VISTA Initiative Program.”

ought to pass and be enrolled.

On motion of Alderman Shea, duly seconded by Alderman Osborne, it was voted to accept, receive and adopt the report as presented.

10. Ordinances:

“Amending Chapter 70: Motor Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester; 70.57 by revising Sections (1) and (5) to reflect current operating practices for hours of operation; and adding new Sections (7) and (8) to add the current daily maximum charge and a lost chip fee.”

“Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Manchester by revising the requirements for the Neighborhood Business District (B-1) to provide more flexibility in uses allowed, dimensional requirements and parking.”

*On motion of **Alderman Roy**, duly seconded by **Alderman O’Neil**, it was voted to dispense with readings of the ordinances by titles only.*

*These ordinances having had their second presentation, **Alderman Roy** moved on passing same to be Enrolled. **Alderman Pinard** duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with **Alderman Gatsas** duly recorded in opposition to the second ordinance presented.*

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

Mayor Guinta called the meeting back to order.

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

“Amending Chapter 70: Motor Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester; 70.57 by revising Sections (1) and (5) to reflect current operating practices for hours of operation; and adding new Sections (7) and (8) to add the current daily maximum charge and a lost chip fee.”

“Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Manchester by revising the requirements for the Neighborhood Business District (B-1) to provide more flexibility in uses allowed, dimensional requirements and parking.”

were properly enrolled.

*On motion of **Alderman Roy**, duly seconded by **Alderman DeVries**, it was voted to accept, receive and adopt this report.*

***Alderman Thibault** that all matters pending before the present Board of Mayor and Aldermen and its Committees as of January 1, 2008 be referred to the next Board of Mayor and Aldermen. The motion was duly seconded by **Alderman Forest**.*

Alderman Gatsas asked does that mean that the things that are on the table will remain on the table for the next Board?

Mayor Guinta responded yes.

Mayor Guinta called for a vote. *There being none opposed, the motion carried.*

15. Ordinances:

“Amending Chapter 70: Motor Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester; 70.57 by revising Sections (1) and (5) to reflect current operating practices for hours of operation; and adding new Sections (7) and (8) to add the current daily maximum charge and a lost chip fee.”

“Amending §70.78 to increase the penalty for parking within 15 feet of a fire hydrant.”

“Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Manchester by revising the requirements for the Neighborhood Business District (B-1) to provide more flexibility in uses allowed, dimensional requirements and parking.”

*On motion of **Alderman Roy**, duly seconded by **Alderman Pinard**, it was voted to waive reading of these ordinances by titles only.*

These Ordinances having had their final presentation, Alderman Osborne moved on passing same to be Ordained. Alderman Shea duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Gatsas duly recorded in opposition to the Zoning Ordinance revising the requirements for the Neighborhood Business District.

16. Resolutions:

“Amending the FY2006 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) for the FY2006 CIP 214206 Manchester Health Care Access Review Program.”

“Amending the FY2007 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Seventeen Thousand Dollars (\$17,000) for the FY2007 CIP 210607 School Based Dental Services.”

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“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000) for the FY2008 CIP 214108 NACCHO Accreditation Improvement Project.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Fifty Five Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Six Dollars (\$155,656) for the FY2008 CIP 214208 Primary Care for the Homeless Project.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Seven Thousand Four Hundred Forty One Dollars and Forty Four Cents (\$7,441.44) for the FY2008 CIP 411008 NH Sobriety Checkpoint Program.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Two Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$225,000) for the FY2008 CIP 713508 South Willow Street Area Improvements Project.”

“Amending the FY2008 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Two Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$290,000) for the FY2008 CIP 810808 Manchester VISTA Initiative Program.”

On motion of Alderman Roy, duly seconded by Alderman Pinard, it was voted to waive reading of the Resolutions by titles only.

On motion of Alderman Thibault, duly seconded by Alderman Forest, it was voted that these Resolutions pass and be Enrolled. None were recorded in opposition.

TABLED ITEMS

- 17.** Report of the Committee on Bills on Second Reading recommending that Ordinance:

“Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Manchester by extending the B-2 (General Business) zoning district to include property currently zoned IND (Industrial) located on the south side of Gold Street east of the former Lawrence Branch of the B&M Railroad and including the following three lots Tax Map 875-14, 875-15, 875-16.”

ought to pass.

(Aldermen Duval, Lopez, Garrity and Pinard recorded in favor; Alderman Gatsas opposed.)

(Tabled 09/05/2006)

This item remained on the table.

- 18.** Report of the Committee on Bills on Second Reading recommending that Ordinance:

“Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Manchester by extending the R-3 (Urban Multi-family) zoning district to include property currently zoned R-1B (Single-family) located on a portion of Tax Map 691 Lot 143-1

that will be on the north side of a proposed Gold Street Bypass and adjacent to Bradley Street and the New St. Augustin's Cemetery." ought to pass.

*(Aldermen Duval, Lopez, Garrity and Pinard recorded in favor; Alderman Gatsas opposed.)
(Tabled 09/05/2006)*

This item remained on the table.

- 19.** Report of the Committee on Community Improvement advising that it has requested staff to prepare documents to provide that the City agree to extend the term on the 2nd mortgage relating to Lowell Terrace Associates property located at the northwest corner of Lowell and Chestnut Streets to coincide with the expiration of the existing first mortgage in 2013.

(Unanimous vote)

(Tabled 05/15/2007. Additional materials provided by Finance enclosed.)

This item remained on the table.

- 20.** A Majority report of the Committee on Bills on Second Reading recommending that Ordinance:

“Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Manchester by extending the General Business District (B-2) into an area currently zoned Residential One Family District (R-1B), being a portion of Tax Map 381, Lot 47 with an address of 466 South Willow Street and abutting South Lincoln, South Willow and Parkview Streets. A majority of the property is currently zoned B-2 and the petition would extend the B-2 to include the entire lot.”

be denied at this time.

The Committee notes that the business owner should work with the neighborhood and may return with a petition after addressing issue as noted in a communication from Alderman Garrity enclosed herein.

(Aldermen Garrity, Pinard and Duval in favor. Aldermen Lopez and Gatsas opposed.)

(Tabled 06/05/2007)

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

“Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Manchester by extending the General Business District (B-2) into an area currently zoned Residential One Family District (R-1B), being a portion of Tax Map 381, Lot 47 with an address of 466 South Willow Street and abutting South Lincoln, South

Willow and Parkview Streets. A majority of the property is currently zoned B-2 and the petition would extend the B-2 to include the entire lot.”
ought to pass.

The minority advises that the proposed zoning, in its opinion, is consistent with the highest and best use of the property and that neighborhood concerns can be best addressed through the development process at the Planning Board level, therefore, that such rezoning should be considered subject to the Planning Board approving any plans for development of the property.

S/Alderman Lopez
(Tabled 06/05/2007)

(Note: additional communications from Alderman Garrity and petitions enclosed.)

This item remained on the table.

21. NEW BUSINESS

Alderman O’Neil stated thank you, Your Honor. I apologize to my colleagues that I didn’t spot this sooner because I would have pulled it on the Consent Agenda. But handed out tonight, stuck between some other papers, was a communication from Bob MacKenzie regarding the Fire Safe Intervention Program. And there’s been some real confusion that we’ve been trying to sort out, but I know Chief Campasano is here and retired Fire Inspector Daigle who is hands-on involved in the program is here. There’s a concern about a funding shortfall. It probably was not the intent of the Mayor’s office or the Board. It’s not a significant amount of money but it’s a very successful, ongoing program that Dan Daigle has been running with the help of Fire Captain Charley Pierson. I just would hate to see this not continue because of a funding issue. Bob MacKenzie can help clarify some of it. It’s confusing how this program works. It goes through OYS but it’s really a Fire Department program and that may have been where some of the miscommunication was.

Mr. Bob MacKenzie, Planning Director, stated if I may clarify one thing, Your Honor...I just wanted to make sure you knew it was not a funding issue from the City

side. This was a grant that came down from the state through the county, I believe. So that's where it was cut back. It was not this Board that intentionally cut it.

Alderman O'Neil stated my point was Bob, if we knew that at the time we would have made the correction, not the correction but the additional funding on our end to offset the cut from the state. I think that's a great point, but my guess would be that the Mayor and the Board would have taken care of this. I just would hate to see the program stop or not be able to see the amount of kids that they've been seeing, Your Honor, because of funding.

Mayor Guinta asked and the funding was reduced by \$6,000?

Alderman O'Neil made a motion to take \$6,000 from Contingency to fund this shortfall. The motion was duly seconded by Alderman Pinard.

Alderman Shea asked what do they do? I've never heard of the program.

Alderman O'Neil stated Your Honor, maybe Inspector Daigle who runs the program...I don't know if Chief Campasano would like to...I think Dan Daigle was involved during both his active time as a firefighter for the City and as a retired firefighter.

Alderman Shea asked could they come up and explain it? This is for the rest of the Board too.

Mr. Dan Daigle asked do you want a description of what we do?

Alderman Shea responded could you tell us something about the program please and why the funds are necessary and what the funds are used for?

Mr. Daigle stated we've been running a program in the City for approximately 15 years. We see approximately 30 to 35 children a year and their families. These are children that have been setting fires of all different kinds. Our success rate is about 95%, first time around. Second time around: 99%. The few that aren't are either in YDC or in some home. We've been running this program basically through the county funds, diversionary funds. The past few years we received \$16,000 a year from them. And we also had a contingency fund, and we've been using about \$4,000 a year out of that. So the program has been costing \$20,000 a year.

Alderman Shea stated Dan, when I was a principal you used to come in and talk to the kids too. Is this the same kind of program when kids that were prone to be that way...

Mr. Daigle responded these are for the kids that fall through the cracks of that program. We used to do a public education program in the schools. And this program is actually for the kids that are starting fires.

Alderman Shea stated right, so it's an extension of that program that you used to be involved with years back when you used to come into the schools and so forth, or is that the same program that has already been in existence? Has this been in existence...

Mr. Daigle responded no, this is an additional program.

Alderman Shea asked how long has it been in existence?

Mr. Daigle responded we've been doing this program now for over 15 years. We were doing it back then, yes, at the same time.

Alderman DeVries stated Dan, a lot of the individuals that you're working with...and thank God that's a very select group, but that's referrals from the courts and where else

do you get your referrals from? Because these are children who are known to have started fires.

Mr. Daigle responded that's correct. We get our referrals from the mental health industry, the schools, the Police Department, Fire Service, the parents. We get quite a few referrals from the parents bringing in their children before the Fire Department has had to respond to one of their fires.

Alderman DeVries stated I would just have to comment that absolutely it's a critical program. I'm glad to support the full funding to keep the program intact for this year. I'm all too intimately involved with the good work that you've done and continue to do after retirement. So, thank you. And not to be confused with the Fire Prevention program which goes into the schools to teach the Stop, Drop and Roll techniques and others. It's a little bit more of an advanced program. Thank you.

There being none opposed, the motion to fund the \$6,000 shortfall from Contingency carried.

Ms. Johnson stated Your Honor, the Clerk has an item of New Business. It's related to the public hearing that was held earlier this evening regarding the application for Community Revitalization Tax Relief. It is a motion to approve the Community Revitalization Tax Relief incentive application of Max Pruna and Andrea E. Pruna for property located at 30 Amherst Street, pursuant to RSA 79-E for a period of five years to begin upon completion of the substantial rehabilitation as evidenced by the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy and find that the subject property is a qualifying structure located in the Central Business District, the proposed rehabilitation qualifies as substantial rehabilitation, the proposed office use are consistent with the Master Plan and development regulations of the City and would enhance the economic vitality of the downtown, thereby providing a public benefit under RSA 79-E:7; subject to the recording

of a covenant at ensuring that the structure will be rehabilitated and maintained for office uses as proposed for the duration of the tax relief period, and providing that a casualty insurance policy sufficient to ensure the proper restoration or replacement of any damaged property be maintained by the building owner for the duration of the tax relief period. The covenant shall further provide the City of Manchester a lien against proceeds from a casualty claim to ensure that the process of restoration, rebuilding or demolition occurs in a timely manner (within one year) following a claim. This covenant shall be recorded at the Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds and shall be a burden upon the property and bind all transferees and assignees of said property. If renovation is not completed by July 1, 2008, this motion and vote shall be null and void.

Alderman Garrity made a motion to approve this application for Community Revitalization Tax Relief. Alderman Forest duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Lopez stated I just want to ask the City Solicitor if you had a chance to look at the document that Alderman Gatsas just put up in reference to whether the individual was totally qualified or not. If this is passed tonight and you haven't had an opportunity, maybe that stipulation should be put in there.

Mr. Tom Arnold, Deputy City Solicitor, stated obviously to qualify underneath the statute he has to do at least \$75,000 in renovation, which I believe is what you're referring to, Alderman?

Alderman Lopez responded no, I'm referring to that some of the work has already been done and if the renovation was taking place, maybe Alderman Gatsas did weigh in on this since he was the one that brought it up. Are you familiar with that?

Mr. Arnold responded if you were to look at the motion, Alderman, you would see that it specifically refers to the office renovation in the building, which would not include the restaurant that is presently there.

Alderman Lopez asked do you think they comply with the intent of the law?

Mr. Arnold responded yes I do. I would note that I did look for regulations in the interim. I could not find any, at least from the DRA, on the subject.

Alderman Roy stated I may have missed this earlier, but date of the renovation, complete by July 1st, is that something the applicant is comfortable with?

Ms. Johnson responded yes.

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

Alderman Shea stated Your Honor, going back to the Fire Safe Intervention program, did we indicate where the money was going to be coming from?

Mayor Guinta responded Contingency.

Alderman Lopez stated I want to thank Your Honor. At this time, since it's going to be the last official meeting that Leo Bernier as an officer of the City is going to be at, I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank him for all he's done for the Board of Mayor and Aldermen and everybody else in the City. The City Clerk is a very important position, and I know when I first became an Alderman, and I walked in his office, he said, sit down anywhere you want. This is your office. And that's the attitude he's taken with anybody coming into his office. I've seen him on many occasions, recognizing that

the taxpayers pay for that office, and he treats everybody equally, answers all the questions possible. I wanted to publicly acknowledge him, this being his last official meeting. Leo Bernier, I want to thank you for everything you've done.

Mr. Leo Bernier, City Clerk, stated I want to thank you all. It has been the greatest experience of my life, working with this Board and working with the Mayor. I have a unique position because I take care of the constituents as well as the elected officials, and that's one of the greatest positions to be in. You can work both sides and get things done. The City Clerk's office has done great things. The staff down there is unbelievable. You all work with them. I myself have worked with Carol Johnson for 22 years. Paula, who we just recognized a little while ago, I have worked with for 17 years. There are a lot of good things we've done. We're happy to do it. We know it's going to continue. I think we have a good staff and you people are very lucky. What the Chairman has said is very important: It's our office. It's not my office. I'm just a gatekeeper, just a facilitator. You people are the motive, and I want to thank you all. It has been a great, great 20 years as City Clerk. I have worked for the City for 26 years. It has been great. As all of you know, I was Welfare Commissioner for six years. That was a lot of fun. All elected officials...and I worked with 51 Aldermen, four Mayors...They've all been great, and the bottom line is they've always helped the City Clerk's office to do what needs to be done. I want to thank you, Mayor, and this current Board. I have two Aldermen I've recognized before, Alderman Thibault and Alderman O'Neil, who were with me in 1987. It has been great. These people have a lot of wisdom and a lot to share. I really appreciate that. They've helped me along. I want to thank this Board and the taxpayers. It has been a great experience and thank you again.

Mayor Guinta stated Leo, we would like to invite you back on January 15th of next year to serve for that evening as the honorary Clerk and we'd like to make some presentations to you at that time. With the consent of your bride, we'd love to have you back.

Mr. Bernier responded super.

Mayor Guinta stated she's got to be here, so you've got to drive her down.

Alderman Gatsas stated I noticed today when I was coming to City Hall that the people enforcing the tickets were out there working very hard. And the problem I see is that for people to get to the kiosks, to get the paid voucher and get back to their car sometimes is a long walk because the snow banks in front of the kiosks are pretty high. So it's not like there's a direct...I don't know if there's any consideration...I think that the department is here...

Mayor Guinta stated I did actually talk with Frank Thomas today, and there is significant snow clearing that's going to occur this evening, particularly in the areas that you're referencing, in the downtown area. This storm, I think, presented unique challenges. But I did talk to Frank about it. I believe he has conferred with Brandy Stanley as well, and that should be resolved if not by tomorrow within the next few days.

Alderman Gatsas asked has there been any...I think Brandy has got something to say. I'm just looking to see if there has been an accommodations made for people that can't get around those kiosks to get their vouchers.

Ms. Brandy Stanley, Parking Manager, stated thank you Alderman. I don't know if you noticed, but actually we have a contractor that comes in after every single storm and digs out a path from the sidewalk all the way to the street in front of every kiosk. It may not necessarily be apparent...maybe when you were driving down the street...but there is a path from the street and to the sidewalk and around each kiosk. And that's done the night of the storm every time there's a storm.

Alderman Gatsas stated the other thing, Your Honor, I notice that you've been advocating for a two-year budget, and certainly you know that I supported that in Concord to get the legislation changed. However, I don't think that this is the two years that we should be looking at a two-year budget only for two big reasons: One, we know that education funding is in place for the 2009 year. Right now in Concord they're talking about an adequacy commission and a definition and funding. That number, I'm sure, is not going to appear anywhere close to when we're out of here to put your budget, if it's a two-year budget, together. The other thing that I have a great fear about is the foreclosure rate that is appearing and what may happen to that tax rate in two years. When this perpetuated in 1990, the tax base eroded very quickly. I don't know when you read into a two-year budget that if there are numbers there the ability to open it and readjust...I certainly applaud you for the effort to go to a two-year budget. I just don't know if this is the right two years to do it, or maybe starting next year when we see what this sub-prime foreclosure rate is doing, because people out there are saying that it's categorically just the tip of the iceberg. So I just caution you when you go down that route to do all that hard work, not knowing what those two major factors in the game are.

Mayor Guinta stated a couple of points...First of all, I wouldn't want to do a two-year budget beginning next year because then you bind a future Board. The reason that I had waited for this year was so it could be one Board that establishes a budget. To both issues, I'm meeting with Governor Lynch on Thursday morning to discuss the very issue of education funding, certainly a legitimate issue and certainly one we also hope the Legislature is able to work across party lines to identify a worthy compromise. And secondly, I did speak with the Banking Commissioner a little bit about the sub-prime issues, and at least at this point it doesn't appear that it should be an issue anywhere near what occurred in the 90's. But I'm certainly going to have more information provided by him to me and to this Board in writing on that very subject.

Alderman Gatsas stated I would not talk to the Banking industry. I'd probably talk to the people that are running the foreclosures. In the conversations that I've had with them, they're telling me it's going to be worse than what is was in the 90's, and this is just the tip of the iceberg. So I look at them knowing what that forecasting was back in '90.

Alderman Shea stated much of what Alderman 2 has discussed with us was brought out last night at a meeting that was held with the Accounts committee. And I think that one of the important points that I'm stressing is, unless it makes sense as far as the taxpayers are concerned, I would not support it. And the way that it was structured last night, there was not going to be any benefit to the taxpayers. This is very significant because most of the people in Manchester are really concerned about their taxes, with the high rate of oil, when we get an oil delivery, and other types of quality of life factors. And I think, Your Honor, one of the more important factors as well is, how will it affect our rainy day fund. This is very, very significant for our bond rating. And we have to bear in mind that if it's a two-year budget, most of that funding that comes back to us, either through expenditures or revenues, goes into a rainy day fund after one year, and if it's a two-year budget then that cannot be put into a rainy day fund over one year. So I think these are considerations. I think the challenge of a two-year budget is certainly appropriate, but as I mentioned last night, I would like to see some comparative analysis. What does a one-year budget look like from you, and what does a two-year budget look like? And basically, all of us should be able to make a judgement concerning that. And certainly we should be open-minded about it. But unless it benefits the taxpayers, I will not support it personally because I think that I'm not only watching those that are watching the watchdogs, I'm watching the watchdogs as well. So basically, Your Honor, that would be my comment on that.

Mayor Guinta stated thank you for your openness.

Alderman Lopez stated thank you, Your Honor. Just very briefly, I think the Chief Finance Officer explained it. You're requesting your department...it's a good exercise to go through, putting together a two-year budget, first year and second year. And I think the bottom line that happened at the Accounts committee was that we've got plenty of time before you present your budget, and we'll have more information, and a lot of questions as to surpluses, deficits, and everything else that really can be answered somewhere down the line. So I don't really think there is any need to rush to judgement, but let's see what happens as we move along in the process.

Mayor Guinta stated I'm certainly willing to work with the Aldermen to work through some of these issues. It's an adjustment to something new. I think it's still worthy of our review and thoughtful and serious consideration. I will certainly sit down with each and every Alderman individually to work at it and go through it. I think that there are very many admirable reasons to do it, and I do believe that, contrary to what occurred last night, this would provide significant savings. I look forward to sitting down with each of you to talk about those specific savings.

Alderman Lopez stated I have another item. It's an important subject and I think that the public should know, and if Kevin Sheppard could come up, I think it's important, the issue about sidewalks. We do have a major problem and we have another six inches of snow coming. And I think if Kevin could come up and explain a little situation to the public, maybe the public can help in areas of helping with the sidewalks. I think the public should know what's going on because there's a misconception that we're not cleaning sidewalks and I think that's very obvious, but there's reasons and I think that we have to know those reasons.

Mr. Sheppard stated earlier tonight you had asked me some questions regarding sidewalks and what I explained, our policy for sidewalks, clearing of sidewalks, is don't start really clearing until the snowstorms are over and part of the reason is if we clear

sidewalks our plows are just going to push the snow back over the sidewalks. So we really didn't start clearing sidewalks until early Monday of this week. We had a lot of calls, concerns, Monday afternoon. Sidewalks aren't cleared. We had so much snow the only way to really clear the sidewalks is sidewalk blowers, versus a V-plow, which a lot of people are used to. With this amount of snow we don't have the ability to use a V-plow because the snow is just going to fall in behind our V-plow. The sidewalk blowers are a lot slower than our V-plow, and every time we get snow we have to start over. Our priorities are the downtown and the areas around the schools. So if we're half way through our plowing, our sidewalk plowing operations, we get some more snow, we've got to start over again. We don't continue on. We go back to the downtown; we go back to the schools, where those are our priorities. And part of the problem is a lot of people are starting to push their snow back out into the sidewalks where our sidewalk tractors can't get through. We are working with the Police Department on that. It is illegal to push snow into the right-of-way, into the streets. There is a City ordinance prohibiting that. The Police Department has been great. We've been working very closely with them recently regarding that. But people are continuing to do that. You'll see that throughout the City. People are pushing snow out to the right-of-way and we cannot get through that. But we continue to move through it. Tomorrow night we're predicting...we're seeing another potential five to six inches. The whole City may not get...all the sidewalks may not get done before we go back and start again with the downtown and schools.

Alderman Shea stated Your Honor and Kevin, I watched a Boston channel. And they fine people in Boston for not shoveling their sidewalks. I think they fine them either \$50 or \$150. Do we provide services for every sidewalk in Manchester?

Mr. Sheppard responded no, we've reviewed the ordinances and we feel homeowners are responsible for the sidewalks. We do plow sidewalks, like I say, school access routes, downtown areas and other through-sidewalks throughout the City. But we do not

guarantee that we will maintain every sidewalk in the City. We feel it is the homeowner's responsibility. I don't think we've got the ability to fine homeowners for not taking care of their sidewalks.

Alderman Shea stated when I was a kid I used to get money for cleaning the sidewalks where I lived on Merrow Street.

Alderman DeVries stated question about the school closures...with sidewalks not being cleared within a mandatory walk zone...I think I do recollect that in the past schools had coordinated with the Highway Department to know whether or not it was safe for the children. Are you still prioritizing in some way the mandatory walk routes of schools before you try to do other contiguous sidewalk pieces?

Mr. Sheppard responded definitely. Like I said, the school routes are one of our first priorities. When we get out there once the storm is over, we try to get those. But a lot of time, like I said, the sidewalk tractors are not out until the storm is complete or near complete. So we may not get those school walking routes done before school opens. We do work with the School District. Typically they will call us in the morning and ask us the status of the streets and the sidewalks. But there may be times such as this past storm that those sidewalks are not cleared before school is open.

Alderman DeVries stated part of the other issue that I heard from constituents is that the sidewalks had been cleared prior to the final plowing of the streets. When they pushed back to the curb, it was refilling the sidewalks after it had been previously cleared. And it just sounds like it's a coordination of effort somehow to assure that that doesn't happen. I realize you had a lot of snow to move, but it sounds like we had to go back and do double duty and when you're trying to do nothing overtime, it's making it almost impossible for things to get done in as timely a fashion as possible, and I think that's part of the problem, that you didn't elaborate on is the not paying overtime as you had in the past in your department. Is that correct?

Mr. Sheppard stated part of it is the overtime but the other part of it is our guys are actually getting tired. We're actually getting storm after storm. And it's getting more and more difficult to get the guys to work. They're very willing to work. They've been working 24 hours for a lot of these storms because they've been starting on a Sunday and running into a Monday. And the overtime is something we do watch. But as I said before, this Board has always supported us in our highway operations and plowing operations. So safety is our first priority. If money does become an issue, we've always come back to this Board and we've always gotten support.

Request for authorization to apply for Solar Cities grant from EPA submitted by Planning Director.

Alderman Garrity moved to approve this item. The motion was duly seconded by Alderman Shea.

Alderman O'Neil stated Bob, I didn't see in your letter, is there a need for any local match if successful?

Mr. MacKenzie responded there's a need for match for certain portions of the program but this would allow, for example, some demonstration solar panel installations, and we would expect that businesses or others would actually provide that match.

Mayor Guinta called for a vote. *There being none opposed, the motion carried*

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Alderman Smith, duly seconded by Alderman Thibault, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk