

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

December 7, 2010

7:00 PM

Mayor Gatsas called the meeting to order.

Mayor Gatsas called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Alderman Ouellette stated it is my pleasure to introduce Ward 11 residents from Northwest Elementary School, Ashley Brown and Zoe Whitman, to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was observed.

Mayor Gatsas stated I handed out a proclamation that was read by President Obama and I would like to read at least the first paragraph. “Nearly 70 years ago, on December 7, 1941, our service members and civilians awoke on a quiet Sunday to a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor by Japanese forces. Employing whatever weapons were at hand, those who defended Hawaii that fateful morning stand as examples of the selfless heroism that always characterized the armed forces of the United States. More than 3,500 Americans were killed or wounded and the images of burning battleships and the grief for lives lost were forever seared into our national memory”.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Craig, Ludwig, Long, Roy, Osborne, Corriveau, O’Neil,
Lopez, Shea, DeVries, Shaw, Greazzo, Ouellette, Arnold

Mayor Gatsas 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 three minutes to allow all participants the opportunity to speak; that any comments must be directed to the Chair; and that any resident wishing to speak should come forward to the nearest microphone, clearly state their name and address when recognized, and give their comments.

Mr. Glenn Ouellette, 112 Auburn Street, stated:

This is the holiday edition of the *Queen City Examiner*. To get down to business, last October we had a big issue on Spruce Street. It is winter, we are in December, a few months later, and there are still people living in that abandoned building. It was condemned by the City Building Department. Supposedly there is no electricity in there, but there is and now there must be heat so I hope, I can only hope, that they are heating safely and that somehow the City will remove these people from this abandoned building, which is not safe to begin with. I still cannot understand how a City can condemn a building and put on their doorstep that no one is to enter this building and people still live there. There has to be a way for us to enforce the Ordinance. If it means that we have to go to Concord to do it then by all means we need to do that. Issue two is MCAM. It will make five months December 30th that MCAM has been closed as a station itself. Still, to this date, the merger is not complete. What is the problem? Issue three: 248 Green Street. For years it has been inspected. For years it has not passed inspection because it is in violation, but it continues to get a certificate for renting. That seems to be a problem. Is it because a doctor owns that building? We are supposed to treat all landlords alike. We are supposed to make sure that our citizens who live in these tenements and pay their rents get decent homes. Forty-five days after the last inspection...we have pictures. Let me tell you that the three

major fire alarms are still unplugged, just wires hanging. It shouldn't take 45 days to tell that landlord to plug in those fire alarms. Again, if this city cannot enforce its own Ordinance there is something wrong. The last thing I want to say is about the sweeper. Two days ago it was 22 degrees. I was awakened at 5:30 with the swish-swash. It was the broom. It was the sweeper putting water in the street and sweeping the streets. We took it out in March and we are in December. It is time to put it to bed. It is slippery outside when you put water down.

Mr. Howard McCarthy, 52 Valentine Drive, stated:

Three minutes is not very long so you have to talk fast and I don't talk fast. I just want to say one thing. I had a physical the other day and the doctor says I'm in pretty good shape for the shape I'm in. He said my heart is pretty good and I should be around for a while and I have the heart of a 53 year old man. That's pretty good. He said I could live another 23 years. I said oh boy, that's good news for me, but bad news for you, Your Honor and the Aldermen, because I have 23 years more. Back to the luncheon, I was on the street giving away coffee during the parade. It was successful. One of the Aldermen gave me \$20 and I thought that was really good. The donations are coming and we are going to have a luncheon. These are the pens that people will get if they donate. These are Christmas pens. I have a song to sing for you. The song is about two minutes. I think this song is very appropriate for this occasion. The song is called Stand By Me by Mickey Gilley. *When the night has come / And the land is dark / And the moon is the only light we'll see / No I won't be afraid, no I won't be afraid / Just as long as you stand, stand by me / And darling, darling, stand by me, oh now stand by me / Stand by me, stand by me / If the sky that we look upon / Should tumble and fall / And the mountains should fall to the sea / I won't cry, I won't cry, no I won't shed a tear / Just as long as you stand, stand by me / And darling, darling, stand by me, oh stand by me / Stand by me, stand by me, stand by me / Whenever you're in trouble won't you stand by me, oh now stand by me / Oh stand by me,*

stand by me, stand by me / Darling, darling, stand by me, stand by me / Oh stand by me, stand by me, stand by me.

Ms. Pat Howard, 2264 Elm Street, stated:

I'm the Chair of the Friends of Stark Park and we have little gifts for you this evening, just a token of our appreciation for your support, but also to advise you that we are going to start the gravesite restoration fundraising. We have met with the archeologist from the State and she is well aware of what we are doing. We are not disturbing the gravesite in anyway. It is surrounding the fence and the curbing. We are going to be raising funds for that, but also we want to raise the consciousness of the people in the State. So many people in Manchester and throughout the State do not know that General Stark is buried in that park and that's really a shame. We are going to work on that and we are going to try to get it into the curriculum of the schools if we can and lead tours into Stark Park so people are well aware of who is buried there and the importance of this Revolutionary War hero. I thank you for your time and I hope you have a good holiday season.

Mayor Gatsas stated continue the great work that you are doing at Stark Park. You are doing a wonderful job.

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

Alderman Shea asked Barbara Miles and Debbie Miller, would you come up please?

The City of Manchester, a Resolution:

Be it known that the Office of the Mayor extends its gratitude to Debra Miller in recognition of outstanding work in the Ward 7 Neighborhood Watch Program and contributions to the interest of Ward 7 matters and activities and;

Be it further known that the City of Manchester extends its best wishes for the future.

Duly signed by the Mayor of Manchester, Theodore L. Gatsas,
Alderman William Shea and Matthew Normand, the City Clerk

The City of Manchester, a Resolution:

Be it known that the Office of the Mayor extends its gratitude to Barbara Miles in recognition of outstanding work in the Ward 7 Neighborhood Watch Program and contributions to the interest of Ward 7 matters and activities and;

Be it further known that the City of Manchester extends its best wishes for the future.

Duly signed by the Mayor of Manchester, Theodore L. Gatsas,
Alderman William Shea and Matthew Normand, the City Clerk

Alderman Shea stated I would like it to be known that in addition to their work in Ward 7, both of these women are very active in other pursuits. Barbara was involved over in New Boston with the program to help disabled and autistic children. Debbie is involved at Central High School in a very important program there. They are really tremendous people and I find it a privilege to have them in Ward 7 as part of our constituency.

Mayor Gatsas stated Mary Garrity and Sarah Normand, please come up. I was honored to be at the marathon and see Mary cross the finish line first and then I learned that she is the daughter of a City employee. I certainly congratulate you for your honor. I would rather see a runner give you this proclamation and a check rather than someone who is a non-runner.

Alderman Craig stated I also saw Mary finish and it was very strong and it was great to see.

The City of Manchester, New Hampshire, a Resolution.

Be it known that the Office of the Mayor extends its gratitude to Mary Garrity in recognition of placing first in the fourth annual Manchester City Marathon.

Duly signed by the Mayor of Manchester, Theodore L. Gatsas, and Matthew Normand, December 7, 2010.

Ms. Sarah Normand, Race Director, stated on behalf of the Manchester Marathon Association, thank you for running our race and congratulations.

7. Presentation by Mayor Gatsas to Police Department retirees.

Mayor Gatsas stated Chief Mara is coming up because we have a couple of retirements for some people who have dedicated an awful lot of years to the Police Department, but they weren't at the dedication we had at the Palace so I suggested to the Chief that they come to City Hall and we would give them to them here.

Mr. David Mara, Police Chief, stated I would like to call Bob Freitas and Robbie Leathers up. Officer Bob Freitas started in 1985. He gave 24 years of dedicated service to the Manchester Police Department. Just to let you know, Bob is still in law enforcement. He works for the AG's office in the cold case squad. Next I would like to award Robbie Leathers his retirement plaque. Each plaque has the badge and badge number they wore for all those years. He gave 24 years of service as a police officer.

Mayor Gatsas stated while we have a couple of minutes I would like to thank the City Clerk's Office because they have done a great job decorating the Chamber. Everybody was up here during the course of the week to make sure it looked like we were in the festive season and I want to thank them for that.

*There being no further business, on motion of **Alderman Arnold**, duly seconded by **Alderman Ouellette**, it was voted to adjourn.*

A True Record. Attest.

City Clerk