

BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

April 5, 2011

7:30 PM

Mayor Gatsas called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

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

CONSENT AGENDA (ITEMS 3-21)

Mayor Gatsas 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

4. Minutes of meetings held January 31, 2011 (one meeting), February 15, 2011 (two meeting) and March 7, 2011 (one meeting).

Ratify and Confirm Phone Poll Conducted

5. Ratify and confirm phone poll of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen conducted March 23, 2011, accepting a grant from the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management of \$120,000 for the purchase and installation of emergency equipment and systems for the new fire station on Hackett Hill Road and authorizing the Mayor to sign and execute all related grant agreements.
(Unanimous vote)

Accept and Remand funds for the purpose intended

6. Accept funds in the amount of \$2,500 from the Watson Insurance Agency to be used toward the purchase of a dog for the Police Department's Canine Unit.

Approve under supervision of the Department of Highways, subject to funding availability

7. Sidewalk Petitions:

306 Phillip Street
360 Joseph Street Extension
121 St. Marie Street

REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

8. Resolutions:

"Authorizing the Finance Officer to increase the Health Insurance Reserve Account for the Fiscal Year 2012."

"Authorizing the Finance Officer to utilize surplus funds from the Fiscal Year 2011 budget to fund a prepayment of \$400,000 for Fiscal Year 2012 City pension costs."

"Continuation of the Central Business Service District."

"Authorizing the Finance Officer to apply a credit of \$208,899 from the City's Fiscal Year 2011 City Retirement System contribution against the City's Fiscal Year 2012 City pension costs."

"Authorizing the Finance Officer to transfer \$130,877 from the Special Revenue Reserve Account to the Parking Division in Fiscal Year 2012 to reimburse the Parking Division for Fiscal Year 2012 debt service associated with the Hampshire Plaza parking garage."

9. Appropriating Resolutions:

“Appropriating to the Parking Fund the sum of \$4,929,771 from parking revenues for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Appropriating the sum of \$13,779,048 from Sewer User Rental Charges to the Environmental Protection Division for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Appropriating the sum of \$2,257,354 from Recreation User Charges to the Recreation Division for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Appropriating to the Manchester Transit Authority the sum of \$982,825 for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Appropriating to the Manchester School District the sum of \$150,200,000 for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Appropriating all Incremental Meals and Rooms Tax Revenue Received by the City in the Fiscal Year 2012 and held in the Civic Center Fund, for the payment of the City’s Obligations in Said Fiscal Year under the Financing Agreement.”

“Appropriating to the Manchester Airport Authority the sum of \$46,309,448 from Special Airport Revenue Funds for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Appropriating to the Manchester School Food and Nutrition Services Program the sum of \$5,796,000 from School Food and Nutrition Services Revenues for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Raising Monies and Making Appropriations of \$133,615,233 for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Appropriating to the Central Business Service District the sum of \$258,000 from Central Business Service District Funds for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

**COMMITTEE ON BILLS ON SECOND READING
AND
PUBLIC HEARING TO BE SET BY CITY CLERK**

- 10.** Rezoning Petition for Map 712 Lots 1 and 2, Hazelton Avenue and Brown Avenue.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

**COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS, ENROLLMENT AND REVENUE
ADMINISTRATION**

- 11.** Advising that travel summary reports from the Airport have been received and filed.
(Unanimous vote)
- 12.** Advising that it has accepted the report on the current status of the Revolving Loan Fund presented by the Finance Officer and the Economic Development Director, and has requested that they provide additional information about the Fund and the status of existing loans at the next meeting.
(Unanimous vote)
- 13.** Advising that it has accepted the following Finance Department reports:
- a) Department Legend
 - b) Accounts Receivable summary
 - c) Open Invoice report over 90 days

and is forwarding same to the Board for informational purposes.
(Unanimous vote)

- 14.** Advising that it has accepted the City’s Monthly Financial Statements (unaudited) for the eight months that ended February 28, 2011, and is forwarding same to the Board for informational purposes.
(Unanimous vote)

- 15.** Recommending approval of the request of the Economic Development Director to establish a fund to accept contributions from private sponsors and to expend those funds for costs associated with Manchester Small Business Week, the third week of May.
(Unanimous vote)

- 16.** Recommending that Ordinances:

“Amending Section 70.54 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester by establishing a Line Drive Parking Lot and Permit Rates.”

“Amending Section 70.54 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester by establishing a Library Parking Lot with a time limit.”

“Amending Chapter 70: Motor Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester by amending Section 70.54 Permit Parking in Lieu of Coin Deposit establishing a monthly rate for downtown post secondary schools.”

“Amending Chapter 71.13 Overnight Winter Parking of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester revising the times for overnight winter parking from 12:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.”

are properly enrolled.
(Unanimous vote)

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION/INFORMATION SYSTEMS

- 18.** Recommending that the proposed lease agreement between the City and the Manchester Artist's Association for the McIninch Family Gallery located at 1528 Elm Street be approved.
(Unanimous vote)
- 19.** Advising that the communication from Mayor Gatsas regarding policy changes for non-payments of Environmental Protection Division fees and property taxes has been received and filed.
(Unanimous vote)
- 20.** Advising that the communication from the Public Health Director requesting revisions to Ordinance Chapter 53 On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems has been received and filed.
(Unanimous vote)
- 21.** Advising that a Taxicab Driver's License has been granted with the conditions stipulated in non-public session.
(Unanimous vote)

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

- 17.** Recommending that the banner application submitted by Families in Transition for both the Elm Street and Kelley Street locations for April 11, 2011, through April 25, 2011, for their Cinco De Mayo Celebration be approved.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman O'Neil who was absent)

Alderman Long stated I have a couple of questions. The requested banner exposure is April 11th through April 25th and the binder has April 21st to May 5th. I don't know if that is an issue. The binders have the exposure from the 21st of April to the 5th of May and the exposure is actually April 11th through April 25th.

City Clerk Matthew Normand stated we can make sure we correct that before we grant them the permit.

Alderman Long asked should the binder specify the location because they look like duplicate binders? On the bottom they both say one of two and they don't specify Kelley Street or Elm Street and I'm wondering if they should specify.

Mayor Gatsas stated I think they probably should so there is proper identification of where it is going to be.

City Clerk Normand stated we'll take care of that.

Alderman Ouellette stated this is the first time the Kelley Street banner poles will be used so hopefully people will see that the banner poles are there and other organizations that may want to utilize that on the West Side will be able to do so.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Ludwig**, it was voted to approve this item.*

REGULAR BUSINESS

- 22.** Nominations to be presented by Mayor Gatsas.

Mayor Gatsas stated pursuant to Section 3.14 (b) of the City Charter, please find the following nominations: Paul Harrington to succeed himself as a member of the Fire Commission, term to expire May 1, 2014; James Triantafillou to succeed himself as a member of the Fire Commission, term to expire May 1, 2014; Adam Schmidt to succeed James C. Hood as a member of the Manchester Development Corporation term to expire March 1, 2014; Joshua B. Wright to succeed John J. Brady as a member of the Manchester Development Corporation term to expire March 1, 2014; Joseph Wichert to succeed Joan Bennett as a member of the Manchester Development Corporation term to expire March 1, 2014; John Brady to succeed himself as a member of the Planning Board term to expire May 1, 2014. These nominations will layover to the next meeting of the Board pursuant to Rule 20 of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

***Alderman Roy** moved to suspend the rules for Paul Harrington, James Triantafillou and John Brady. The motion was duly seconded by **Alderman Shea**.*

***Mayor Gatsas** called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed with **Alderman O'Neil** voting in opposition to suspending the rules for Paul Harrington.*

- 23.** FY2011 budget projections submitted by William Sanders, Finance Officer, if available.

Mr. William Sanders, Finance Officer, stated you have the letter on the current forecast submitted based on department head estimates. The current projected general fund surplus for 2011 is \$786,000. This is comprised of a revenue surplus

of \$33,000 and an expenditure surplus of \$753,000. The forecasted expenditure surplus is \$173,000 higher than the previous forecast due to the inclusion in this forecast of a \$200,000 credit from the City retirement system, resulting from the finalization of the December 31, 2010, actuarial valuation. I should note that this \$200,000 in the Mayor's budget has been utilized towards next year's contribution, but until that is voted by the Aldermen, it is a surplus item for this year. Two quick items that I would point out, the Police Department forecast now assumes that they will have 17 sworn vacant positions for the balance of the year and three civilian positions vacant for the balance of the year. Through Friday, we had paid severance of about \$626,000. We expect to pay an additional \$141,000 based on what we know now of retirements and we have a reserve of \$242,976 for additional retirements. You would note on the second page that our retirement severance line item has increased from the last forecast by \$56,000. The total severance that we are now anticipating is \$1,010,000 for the total year, but our overall forecast is in good shape. We have a revenue surplus. Even excluding the \$200,000 pension credit, we have an expenditure surplus of about \$550,000. With about three months to go, we are in pretty good shape to make it.

*On motion of **Alderman O'Neil**, duly seconded by **Alderman Shea**, it was voted to accept the budget projections.*

*On motion of **Alderman Ludwig**, duly seconded by **Alderman Long**, it was voted to adjourn to allow the Committee on Finance to meet.*

***Mayor Gatsas** called the meeting back to order.*

26. Reports of the Committee on Finance.

The Committee on Finance respectfully recommends, after due and careful consideration, that Resolutions:

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to increase the Health Insurance Reserve Account for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to utilize surplus funds from the Fiscal Year 2011 budget to fund a prepayment of \$400,000 for Fiscal Year 2012 City pension costs.”

ought to pass and be Enrolled

Alderman Osborne moved to accept the report of the Committee and adopt its recommendations. The motion was duly seconded by Alderman Roy.

Mayor Gatsas called for a vote on the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Greazzo voting in opposition.

The Committee on Finance respectfully recommends, after due and careful consideration, that Budget Resolutions:

“Continuation of the Central Business Service District.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to apply a credit of \$208,899 from the City’s Fiscal Year 2011 City Retirement System contribution against the City’s Fiscal Year 2012 City pension costs.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to transfer \$130,877 from the Special Revenue Reserve Account to the Parking Division in Fiscal Year 2012 to reimburse the Parking Division for Fiscal Year 2012 debt service associated with the Hampshire Plaza parking garage.”

ought to pass and be Enrolled

City Clerk Normand stated I would note again that the Board could table this until after the public hearing if they so choose.

Alderman Shea moved to accept the report of the Committee and adopt its recommendations. The motion was duly seconded by Alderman Osborne.

Alderman Arnold stated I have a parliamentary inquiry. Can Your Honor offer any reason why we might table it or whether it has been tabled in the past pending the public hearing?

City Clerk Normand replied they are not technically appropriating resolutions so they don't have to layover like the appropriating resolutions do. However, these have been referred, because they are part of the budget process, to the public hearing. The Board could do either. If they wanted to pass and enroll them tonight they certainly could or if you want to table them and allow the public hearing to be held you could.

Mayor Gatsas stated I would suggest that we table everything and hold them until after the public hearing because the clock starts ticking even though it is in here. It doesn't stop us from doing anything, but I would ask that you table it until after the public hearing.

Alderman Shea withdrew his motion to accept the report of Committee.

Alderman Osborne withdrew his second.

On motion of Alderman Arnold, duly seconded by Alderman Osborne, it was voted to table the budget resolutions.

Alderman DeVries asked did you feel the same way about item three that has already passed?

City Clerk Normand replied that is not related. That has not been sent to the public hearing. That was the only reason for the distinction. That is why I separated them.

Mayor Gatsas asked it is still in Finance and it has not gone anywhere?

City Clerk Normand asked are you taking about item three on Finance? I am going to read that report if that is what you are referring to or are you taking about number three, the two resolutions that were just passed?

Alderman DeVries replied I'm talking about number three, the two resolutions that have already passed.

City Clerk Normand stated the reason I made the distinction, as I said, is because item four, those resolutions were sent to the public hearing. The first two resolutions in item three were not. Those have been enrolled. We have one more report of the Committee.

The Committee on Finance respectfully recommends, after due and careful consideration, that Appropriating Resolutions:

“Appropriating to the Parking Fund the sum of \$4,929,771 from parking revenues for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

"Appropriating the sum of \$13,779,048 from Sewer User Rental Charges to the Environmental Protection Division for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

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“Raising Monies and Making Appropriations of \$133,615,233 for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Appropriating to the Central Business Service District the sum of \$258,000 from Central Business Service District Funds for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

ought to pass and layover.

On motion of Alderman Long, duly seconded by Alderman Roy, it was voted to waive reading of the Appropriating Resolutions.

Alderman DeVries moved to table this item. The motion was duly seconded by Alderman Greazzo.

City Clerk Normand stated the clock does not start ticking on a tabling motion. You need to accept the report that it ought to pass and layover if you want the clock to start on the five day layover period.

Mayor Gatsas stated let's just get them to start ticking. They are going to be in the process. Everyone is going to have their opportunity. We are not going anywhere.

Alderman Lopez stated let's clarify what we are doing.

Mayor Gatsas stated we should start the clock ticking. These motions should not be on the table, but we should pass them and leave them at the full Board so the clock starts ticking on them.

Alderman Lopez asked those are the resolutions?

Mayor Gatsas replied those are the resolutions instead of tabling. I would ask the makers of the motion to reconsider so we can get them into Finance where the rest of them are.

Alderman Greazzo stated I believe that already passed, Your Honor, and you just need another motion to take them off the table.

City Clerk Normand stated I don't believe you ever took a vote on the motion to table.

Mayor Gatsas stated can we get the tabling motion removed?

Alderman DeVries withdrew her motion to table. Alderman Greazzo withdrew his second.

Mayor Gatsas stated we are back where we were on the first resolution so if we expect the clock to start ticking my understanding from the City Solicitor is that we can't table the motion. It has to go into the full Board so the clock starts ticking as we did with two others. At that point we have an opportunity to do whatever we want with those at the full Board as we have done with the others.

Alderman O'Neil stated Your Honor, I think there maybe a little bit of confusion with this phrase clock ticking. All it is doing is starting the five day layover process, but the timeline is still the last Tuesday in June to approve. All it is is starting the layover process. There seems to be some confusion with doing something that is going to force us to vote on a budget in five days. All it is doing is starting the layover process, but we still have until the second Tuesday in June to approve a budget.

Mayor Gatsas stated that is correct.

Alderman Lopez stated one other point, Your Honor, in the next meeting or at a special meeting we can take some of the resolutions and pass them because they are in layover.

Mayor Gatsas stated correct.

Alderman Lopez stated those resolutions, Alderman O'Neil is right, we can wait until the second Tuesday in June if we wanted to. It accomplishes the same thing. That is the point that I wanted to bring up.

Alderman DeVries stated Your Honor, the number of votes required to pass this are changing this evening. Is that correct? They are appropriating resolutions. Passing tonight?

City Clerk Normand replied this is just accepting the report of the Committee on Finance that they ought to pass and layover.

Alderman DeVries asked how many votes will be required?

City Clerk Normand replied just a majority vote to accept the report of Committee.

Alderman DeVries asked how many votes will be required or would have been required while they were in the Committee on Finance.

City Clerk Normand replied it is the same.

Alderman DeVries stated I'm just asking the question because typically, appropriating resolutions...I'm just making sure that we know what we are voting for when we are voting. It is one of the more complicated processes that we go through with the budget. Your Honor, one other comment that I would feel more comfortable having a personal guarantee from you...Once the five days have ticked off, a special meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen can be called and the budget can be voted on, do we have your commitment that you will not have that meeting if some of us cannot be present? You will make sure that all 14 Aldermen can make a meeting before you would call a special meeting?

Mayor Gatsas replied Alderman, I would love to say that I would make you that commitment, but if we are at the second Tuesday in June and for some reason you are out ill, I am certainly not going to stand behind that. I think that we have worked with a lot of trust in here for the last 14 months. If you think that I am going to find eight people who are going to support my budget, bring them in here and have a vote, that is not something that I have ever done before and I don't plan to start doing it now. I think that certainly I extend the courtesy to every Alderman in here that if we are going to debate something, let's debate it and let's find out where we are at and let's bring it forward and when the vote is up or done let's walk out of here as friends and get to the next issue. I will...

Alderman DeVries interjected I take that as close to a commitment as I will get and I thank you.

Mayor Gatsas stated you can take it for whatever you want to take it for.

Alderman Lopez stated if you take it in the same token so there will be fairness, eight Aldermen could pass any resolution.

Mayor Gatsas stated and three Aldermen can call a meeting. I guess even if I am out of town they could call a meeting.

***Alderman O'Neil** moved to accept the report of Finance and adopt its recommendations. The motion was duly seconded by **Alderman Roy**.*

***Mayor Gatsas** called for a vote on the motion. The motion carried with Aldermen DeVries and Greazzo voting in opposition.*

27. Reports of the Committee on Community Improvement.

The Committee on Community Improvement respectfully advises, after due and careful consideration that the attached request for a \$20,000 loan under the First Time Homebuyers – Down Payment Assistance program through NeighborWorks Greater Manchester has been approved.

(Unanimous vote)

Mayor Gatsas stated I know that there is money in the CIP budget. I would ask us to take a look at it because the foreclosure rate is going up. I'm not too sure that I feel comfortable...I would ask that we take a harder look at it because there have been some foreclosures that have been happening and I know there was money that was asked for to help fund the foreclosures and work with people in the foreclosure area. I'm not too sure that that is someplace that we ought to go. I don't think that anyone can judge where we are with foreclosures today and my fear is that this is going to step up and get worse as it moves forward.

Alderman O'Neil asked are you suggesting that we don't move forward on this one or going forward? This is the only one we have.

Mayor Gatsas replied I would say that you ought to take a long hard look in that Committee, Alderman, because it is starting to build, it is not going away. We have not seen...

Alderman O'Neil stated I'll work with Leon on that, Your Honor.

Alderman Lopez stated I think there was a letter from NeighborWorks in reference to education on foreclosures so they wouldn't have foreclosures. I think every Alderman received a copy of that letter. I wish the CIP Committee would take a look at that because if you educate these people, and they have a very good

source at NeighborWorks...by the way, Patrick Arnold is the new representative for NeighborWorks. I spent six and a half years on there. He has accepted the position and I'm sure he is going to do a good job at it. They have a good educational program and it has saved a lot of people from foreclosures.

Alderman O'Neil asked didn't their letter indicate a request for funding as well?

Alderman Lopez replied that's correct.

Alderman O'Neil stated if I may, we referred it to the budget process of CIP.

Mayor Gatsas stated it was not in the Mayor's Budget, correct.

Alderman O'Neil stated I don't disagree with you. To be honest with you, I'm not sure how we would come up with the money for it, but it was the Committee's recommendation to refer it to the CIP budget process. Alderman Shea moved to bring it to the CIP budget process.

Alderman Greazzo stated we had some indication during our Committee meeting from NeighborWorks that they are allowed to do background checks regarding this program and I would like to see us install that, but they need some direction from the City to do so. I think that if we are going to be giving money to people to move into the City we should at least know who we are giving the money to. I would like to see the City Solicitor or someone in Planning come up with some language to direct them to do that.

Mayor Gatsas replied should we refer it to CIP so they can look at it there?

Alderman O'Neil replied I thought that we had already asked staff to try to come up with a plan. We have not heard anything back. There was some question whether or not it was legal to do. There were indications last night that it is legal and we could require it if we wanted to adopt a policy.

Mayor Gatsas stated Alderman Greazzo, how about if I get a motion from you to send it back to Committee and have staff work on something to get it back to the Committee?

Alderman O'Neil replied they are supposed to be working on it now.

Mayor Gatsas stated let's get a formal motion so they understand that we want it.

Alderman Greazzo moved to instruct staff to create policy guidelines for background checks for loan payments from the City. The motion was duly seconded by Alderman O'Neil.

Alderman Shea stated I think that HUD is not governed by the same type of restrictions as far as the City might be able to implement. In other words, it is up to the City to tell the NeighborWorks representatives that we would like to have some sort of indication as to whom we are selling property to and therefore, whatever we adopt they will then follow, but they can't initiate any kind of situation because they are governed by HUD regulations. That is what the representative has mentioned.

Mayor Gatsas called for a vote on the motion. The motion carried with none voting in opposition.

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Long, it was voted to accept the report of the Committee and adopt its recommendations.

The Committee on Community Improvement respectfully recommends, after due and careful consideration, that CIP Staff be authorized to submit an application to the Community Development Finance Authority for NSPIII funding in the amount of \$3,560,000, and further that the Board support a collaborative effort between the City and Families in Transition, NeighborWorks of Greater Manchester, The Way Home and Harbor Homes for funding of their respective projects as funding may be available.

(Unanimous vote)

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Ouellette, it was voted to accept the report of the Committee and adopt its recommendations.

Alderman O'Neil stated last night we did have a discussion with staff and they did provide a handout which summarized our discussion. That should be part of that CIP report. The Clerk handed it out. It has some pretty good info.

28. Report of the Committee on Public Safety, Health and Traffic.

The Committee on Public Safety, Health and Traffic respectfully recommends, after due and careful consideration, that the request for three free parking spaces on Pleasant Street, from April 1, 2011, through May 1, 2011, for the contractor constructing the Gold Star Mothers Statue in Stanton Plaza, be approved.

(Unanimous vote)

On motion of Alderman Roy, duly seconded by Alderman Long, it was voted to accept the report of the Committee and adopt its recommendations.

Mayor Gatsas asked did we ever get a report about the bricks?

City Clerk Normand replied I believe Solicitor Arnold looked into it and the contract was silent on their ability to sell bricks or not.

Mayor Gatsas stated I think that is a little bit of a concern because that was never part of any agreement that we had here. I know that if I was buying a brick and all of a sudden that monument got moved because something was going to be built there, I would be a little disappointed.

Alderman Roy asked they don't own the property do they?

Mayor Gatsas replied no, they don't. The question was do they own the property?

Alderman Roy asked if they don't own the property how are they selling the rights to the property?

Mr. Thomas Clark, City Solicitor, replied I don't think they are selling any rights. They plan to place bricks around it because they were responsible under the contract for placing the foundations and pavement around this statue and they were going to have names on the pavement. They are not selling any rights to the property.

Mayor Gatsas asked Tom, can you call the people or get a hold of someone and get a clarification of exactly what they are proposing to do and get it back to this Board so we know?

Mr. Clark replied my deputy has talked to them. I will make sure we get a report back to the Board.

29. Reports of the Committee on Joint School Buildings.

There were no reports.

30. Reports of the Committee on Bills on Second Reading.

There were no reports.

31. Reports of the Committee on Human Resources/Insurance.

There were no reports.

32. Ordinances:

“Amending Section 70.54 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester by establishing a Line Drive Parking Lot and Permit Rates.”

“Amending Section 70.54 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester by establishing a Library Parking Lot with a time limit.”

“Amending Chapter 70: Motor Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester by amending Section 70.54 Permit Parking in Lieu of Coin Deposit establishing a monthly rate for downtown post secondary schools.”

“Amending Chapter 71.13 Overnight Winter Parking of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester revising the times for overnight winter parking from 12:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.”

On motion of Alderman Roy, duly seconded by Alderman Long, it was voted to waive reading of the Ordinances.

On motion of Alderman Ouellette, duly seconded by Alderman Shea, it was voted that the Ordinances be Ordained.

33. Resolutions:

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to increase the Health Insurance Reserve Account for the Fiscal Year 2012.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to utilize surplus funds from the Fiscal Year 2011 budget to fund a prepayment of \$400,000 for Fiscal Year 2012 City pension costs.”

On motion of Alderman O’Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Osborne, it was voted to waive reading of the Resolutions.

Alderman O’Neil moved that the Resolutions ought to pass and be enrolled. The motion was duly seconded by Alderman Shaw.

Alderman DeVries asked Your Honor, you are working on item 33, correct?

Mayor Gatsas replied correct.

Alderman DeVries stated I need a clarification from the Finance Officer. We are dealing with a prepayment and an estimation of year end surplus with the \$400,000. If that surplus does not materialize how is that dealt with?

Mr. Sanders replied I haven't had that situation occur yet. In prior years we did not have it occur. I would come back to the Board and request an adjustment if we don't have sufficient surplus to do the prepayment. I don't expect that to be the case at the moment.

Mayor Gatsas stated we would amend the resolution.

Alderman DeVries stated the concern that I would have, because this is a prepayment of City pension costs for next year based upon the surplus that we have this year and the discussion is around whether, because of what is going on in Concord, having a lot more people choosing to retire to avoid a penalty that they may see become effective July 1st, the \$400,000 surplus might not materialize. Would you agree?

Mr. Sanders replied I would agree, yes, with the fact situation.

Alderman DeVries asked am I understanding, before any other action is taken that might put additional manpower out of service, we would have this back before our Board to reduce this resolution? Would there be an authorization? Are you going to work hard to find other ways to make sure that the surplus is materialized?

Mayor Gatsas stated you will have this \$400,000 until the second Tuesday in June. If it doesn't materialize then it goes away.

Mr. Sanders stated we will rescind the resolution and if there is a lower amount of surplus available a resolution would be submitted for approval from the Board to authorize that lower amount. I'm not going to make a contribution to the City Retirement System if there is not surplus to do it because that would be

overspending the City's appropriation which I'm not permitted to do legally. I would not do it. We would not make this contribution until the 29th of June.

Mayor Gatsas stated and I'm sure, Alderman, that you would be all in favor of voting for this if there was more surplus.

Alderman DeVries stated Your Honor, the problem here is not the surplus. The problem is what ends will be taken in order to accomplish the surplus. Potentially how many stations might be closed?

Mayor Gatsas replied we have heard from the Chief and I think the Chief has been very clear. A 44 man minimum doesn't close any stations. He has been clear about it. Let's not invoke fear because he has been very clear with his position.

Alderman Arnold asked if we want to modify the resolution as it is currently written we simply have to do it before the second Tuesday in June?

Mayor Gatsas replied that's correct.

Alderman Long stated just to be more clear, the way I look at this is we are putting \$400,000 into the pension costs so that money is already allocated, but you are saying that it is not allocated and you could still move this money around in the budget process.

Mayor Gatsas stated I think the question was that if all of a sudden we have 20 firefighters who walk out the door tomorrow we don't have severance so could we use this to account for severance. Yes, we can.

Mayor Gatsas called for a vote on the motion to accept the report and adopt its recommendations. The motion carried with Alderman DeVries voting in opposition.

34. Budget Resolutions:

“Continuation of the Central Business Service District.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to apply a credit of \$208,899 from the City’s Fiscal Year 2011 City Retirement System contribution against the City’s Fiscal Year 2012 City pension costs.”

“Authorizing the Finance Officer to transfer \$130,877 from the Special Revenue Reserve Account to the Parking Division in Fiscal Year 2012 to reimburse the Parking Division for Fiscal Year 2012 debt service associated with the Hampshire Plaza parking garage.”

(Note: These Resolutions have been referred to a public hearing to be held on April 6, 2011; the CBSD, at a meeting held on March 28, 2011, has approved the boundaries of the district.)

City Clerk Normand stated the resolutions related to item 34 were tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Roy stated after 30 years of service, I retired from the Manchester Fire Department as a captain where I commanded operations and personnel at emergency scenes while protecting the citizens of Manchester. Believe me, the last thing I want to do is layoff any workers knowing the affect that it will have on their lives. However, the economic times ahead of us are, in a word, challenging. We are looking at a budget that is going to force very difficult decisions, decisions that will not be easy and decisions that will undoubtedly affect the lives of

constituents, friends and neighbors. I look at the present budget situation and my main concern is safety. Therefore, after much thought and consideration, I present the following proposal for the Manchester Fire Department for consideration within the FY 2012 budget process. FY 2012 begins July 1, 2011. It is my belief that the proposal before you this evening will help to alleviate the budgetary pressure and provide a long term sustainable solution for the Manchester Fire Department moving forward. This proposal averts 15 of the 22 proposed layoffs in the Mayor's budget proposal by generating \$1 million in savings. Based on the present budgetary outlook, I feel that working within the level funded budget guidelines set forth by the Mayor was reasonable. My number one priority when considering this proposal was safety. To do this addressing the following issues and concerns were and continue to be paramount: maintain and/or restore as many frontline firefighter positions as possible, increase the minimum staffing level from 44 to 48 and maintain the use of all ladder and pumper trucks for every shift. The previous objectives of the Manchester Fire Department can be achieved through this proposal by implementing the following: eliminate the district chief level of management. Currently there are six positions. This change would go into effect for FY 2012, July 1, 2011. Eliminate a deputy fire chief. Currently there are two positions. This change would go into effect upon the retirement of one of the current deputy chiefs. Decrease the complement of captains. Currently there are 13 captains. The proposal would provide for ten captains. Captains would be moved to the Central Fire Station. This change would go into effect for FY 2012, July 1, 2011. Increase the complement of lieutenants. Currently there are 43 lieutenants. This proposal would provide for 46 lieutenants. There would be one lieutenant for each of the four shifts to cover each of the firehouses. This change would go into effect for FY 2012, July 1, 2011. Attachment A provides an estimate of firefighter positions being restored as a result of this proposal. In FY 2012, July 1, 2011, 15 firefighter positions will be restored. This assumes an average cost per firefighter of \$70,436. Presently, the five district chiefs are

located at the Central Fire Station. When a call is made, the DC is dispatched to the location and assumes control of the situation. There is lag time between the first responders and the arrival of the DC where the company officer is in control of the fire. Currently the 13 captains are assigned to and report to a firehouse. Under the proposed structure, the captains will be located at the Central Fire Station. Currently there is a minimum of three lieutenants assigned to each fire house. This proposal would require a minimum of four lieutenants per firehouse. That is one lieutenant per shift. Under the Mayor's proposed FY 2012 budget, 22 firefighters will be laid off July 1, 2011. The ones who are affected by the layoff are usually the youngest and most physically able to perform the arduous duties of firefighting. They are the most physically capable of carrying out the duties and functions. Our firefighters are where the rubber hits the road. They are the individuals who put out our fires and administer emergency medical services. The job descriptions are attached. Attachment B is a side by side comparison of the two positions, district chief and captain. Attachment C is the proposed job description for a captain. It is my belief that this proposal is a starting point to restoring the front line firefighter positions of the Manchester Fire Department. Further, if we are successful in negotiating healthcare savings, there is real potential to restore all of the frontline layoffs. This proposal in FY 2012, July 1, 2011, restores 15 firefighter positions, increases minimum staffing levels from 44 to 48 and all ladder and pumper trucks will remain in use during all shifts. I look forward to alternatives under the current financial condition of the City as presented by the Mayor's proposed budget. I believe that the proposal I have laid out has merit and saves frontline firefighter positions which are vital to the safety of the City of Manchester. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this proposal.

***Alderman Roy** moved that the proposal for the Manchester Fire Department be sent to the Committee on Human Resources/Insurance for review. The motion was duly seconded by **Alderman Greazzo**.*

*A roll call vote was requested by **Alderman O'Neil**. Aldermen O'Neil, DeVries, Shaw, Ouellette, Craig, Ludwig and Corriveau voted nay. Aldermen Lopez, Shea, Greazzo, Arnold, Long, Roy and Osborne voted yea. The motion tied. The motion passed with the Mayor voting yea.*

Mayor Gatsas stated we will send it to Committee because that is the process of this Board. I'm shocked that people don't want the process to continue. The discussion should be at the Committee level and then it will come back out to the full Board level and we can have the discussion there. It should at least go to the Committee level for discussion.

Alderman Shaw stated someone brought to my attention that it would perhaps be nice to have bus service continued for an extra hour or so the night of the Public Hearing to allow some people who don't have transportation to go. Is it something that you could look into?

Mayor Gatsas replied I can certainly ask the question, but that is tomorrow night. I don't know how we would get that message out to everybody. That means that the entire City would have to stay in operation. I certainly will ask MTA to see if we can get to it and certainly we will get it out to everybody if we can.

TABLED ITEM

- 36.** Petition for discontinuance of a portion of Hayward Street.
(Note: Tabled 10/5/10; pending project completion)

This item remained on the table.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion of Alderman Shea, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.



City Clerk