

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

February 17, 1998

6:15 PM

Chairman Reiniger called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Reiniger, Wihby, Clancy, Pariseau, Girard

Chairman Reiniger addressed Item 3 of the Agenda:

Communication from Aldermen Clancy and Shea requesting that signalization at the Jewett/Valley Streets intersection be installed.

Alderman Pariseau made a motion to move this item to the FY99 CIP budget.

Alderman Clancy asked 99.

Alderman Pariseau answered FY99 which starts July 1.

Alderman Clancy stated I tell you what, when you have 31 accidents at that scene at that intersection within about...

Alderman Pariseau interjected, but Jimmy the request came in last month. Where are we going to get the money unless we go to the FY99 budget unless there is a place where we can steal it out of for this year?

Alderman Girard duly seconded Alderman Pariseau's motion for discussion.

Alderman Girard stated if memory serves, the process for budgeting signalization requests is one where the Traffic Committee makes recommendations to the Board of Aldermen which are referred to CIP and considered as a whole. I have spoken to Alderman Clancy and I don't have a problem with this intersection, but to say we approve this tonight does nothing to advance the process. We can't make it move anymore quickly because we have to wait for FY99 to take effect before we can do this and I would really like to see what the Committee on Traffic is going to send as a priority listing of these projects.

Chairman Reiniger asked isn't this the number one recommendation from the committee.

Alderman Clancy answered yes, it is the number one recommendation from Traffic.

Alderman Girard suggested that given that it is the number one recommendation and Alderman Clancy has schooled us all very thoroughly on the difficulty at the intersection we would like to perhaps ask this Committee to send a letter to the Mayor to ask him to consider funding it as part of his CIP recommendation to the Board.

Alderman Pariseau asked Mr. MacKenzie about the process for the CIP budget.

Mr. MacKenzie answered we hope to expedite the CIP process this year, hopefully by April so we can get going on a lot of these projects. I know we have started reviewing these projects with the Mayor and the Mayor is aware of that intersection.

Alderman Pariseau stated I don't know if it is necessary to send another letter.

Alderman Girard stated if the money were available to do the project in this fiscal year, I would have no problem supporting it but in as much as we don't I would just as soon have it follow the regular process so that other Aldermen with other difficulties don't try to jump the process.

On motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to move this item to the FY99 CIP budget.

Chairman Reiniger addressed Item 6 of the Agenda:

Communication from the Health Officer advising of the receipt of a State Tobacco Prevention grant in the amount of \$12,000, requesting that it be accepted and expended in a manner consistent with its intent.

Mr. MacKenzie of the Planning Department distributed an amending resolution which has to be approved along with this request.

Alderman Girard made a motion to accept and expend the grant funds. Alderman Pariseau seconded the motion.

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Alderman Girard asked how much funding is available from the State for this project.

Ms. Cooney from the Health Department answered this is all from the State.

Alderman Girard asked but how large is the pool that it comes from. Are we satisfied that Manchester is getting what it should be getting?

Ms. Cooney replied that is a debatable issue. If it were per capita, I mean we have the majority of the students in the State and we probably do not get our just allocation in my opinion.

Alderman Girard asked is there anything that this Committee or the Board could do to assist the department in securing those funds. I mean if the department feels that we are not obtaining what we should be getting, perhaps a letter from the Board would serve a purpose or would it?

Ms. Cooney stated the monies are allocated to the coalitions throughout the State and there may be 11 or 12 coalitions and Manchester is just one of them. It is a competitive grant and it is based on the proposal. I feel fortunate that we received \$2,000 more than we requested.

Chairman Reiniger called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Reiniger addressed Item 7 of the Agenda:

Communication from the Industrial Agent seeking approval to loan \$30,000 in Manchester Development Corporation funds to Intown Manchester Management, Inc. to allow for the continuance of a Downtown Facade Improvement Program.

On motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Girard, this item was approved.

Chairman Reiniger addressed Item 8 of the Agenda:

Communication from the Deputy Director of Parks & Recreation and the Chairman of the Conservation Commission regarding the proposal to plant the American Liberty Elm Tree in Downtown Manchester.

Alderman Pariseau asked, Mr. Davis, are you all set know because you had them all up in arms over there at Parks & Recreation.

Mr. Davis answered I brought a package of information for each of you about the Elm Tree if you would like to see it and take it home. It is mostly scientific in nature, but we were encouraged to work out our differences with the Parks & Recreation Department. We felt that we owed it to you and to the Board to do that. We certainly appreciated the communications we received from Ron Johnson and Mr. Thibault and we believe that we have resolved our differences with them. Basically I think the disagreement had to do with the type of tree. Some people felt that the Liberty Elm, which is grown here in New Hampshire, is perhaps not the best tree for the use that we were putting it to. It has been superseded by some more disease resistant trees that have come along and we have been encouraged to find those new trees and to find places for them on the street which we believe we have done. The second issue, not to be too technical, but was simply about the size of the hole we have to plant them in was that adequate for the Elm tree. We walked the street with the engineers, as well as with Ron Johnson and we believe we have found the appropriate sites that these trees should do well in. We also told the City that with an idea like this, it would be unfair to ask the City to support this idea unless we were willing to support it with maintenance. Any new trees, regardless of their species, are going to need proper care and maintenance and we are willing to do that and get involved in that program. I just wanted to make those assurances. If you would like some different information on the Elm trees it is here and you can take it with you.

Alderman Clancy stated, Rich, I don't care what kind of tree it is as long as they are all uniform in size when they grow up. You know there are some trees that are uniform in size. In other words we don't want one 40 feet and the other one 18 feet. It would be nice if we could do that. Maybe like a Red Maple or something like that. Those are nice.

Mr. Davis answered the consistency in size is one of the things we talked about. What they are trying to do, Jim, is do it on a block by block basis so that each block kind of has its appropriate height. Some of the blocks, as you know, are small scale because they have mostly retail store fronts and some are big blocks. That is one of the things we have looked at and I think you will be pleased with the results once the trees start to come along.

On motion of Alderman Girard, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to receive and file this item.

Chairman Reiniger addressed Item 9 of the Agenda:

Communication from the Director of the Manchester Water Works seeking authorization to proceed with the public sale of a 60-acre parcel of land in Auburn determined surplus to watershed and protection needs.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Girard, it was voted to approve this request.

Alderman Clancy asked that 60-acres they are going to sell off here in Auburn, is that money going to come back into the City or is it Water Works money. Where is that money going to go?

Mr. Beurivarge of the Water Works Department replied what we intend to do is to purchase some more property. We would like to, in the next few years, buy two or three tank sites to increase our storage capacity so what our intention is, is to utilize those funds and then purchase these additional tank sites. So essentially we will be taking revenue from land and buying other land with it.

Chairman Reiniger addressed Item 10 of the Agenda:

Communication from the Director of Planning requesting \$6,000 from the 1997 CIP Central Business District Improvement Project to be used by Intown Manchester to purchase additional banners for the Central Business Service District.

Alderman Clancy made a motion to approve the request. Alderman Pariseau duly seconded the motion for discussion.

Alderman Pariseau stated I noticed on those things that they have up there now that they are advertising different businesses. Does that money come back to the City's general fund or is it going to the Intown people?

Mr. Davis replied that is basically the fruits of a sponsorship that each one of those sponsoring corporations has for that set of banners. It costs us about \$900 for a complete three piece set, in other words a three season set of those banners that go out there every year and that additional \$1,000 represents the sponsorship on the part of the corporation. It comes back to Intown. This year it helped to support some of the basic operations of Intown but next year we hope to plug that in to support the skating rink every year. So it is a sponsorship opportunity and we

wanted to give each one of the corporations that did that some kind of a token of appreciation.

Alderman Pariseau asked so that \$6,000 will be coming back through advertising and you do with it as you wish.

Mr. Davis answered this wouldn't. Actually, Alderman, there are another 16 or so banners. We have sold 10 of them at this point that are sponsored completely by corporations and that money would come back. This money that the City would put in is simply at cost. Basically it allows us the cost of putting up those banners. If we sold 10 and we actually have 36 spaces to fill, that allows the street to look like it has more banners than it otherwise would have.

Alderman Girard stated now that Intown is doing the Winter season banners and decorations or what not, it leads me to ask what exactly is happening with the City's inventory of decorations. I know we had a large one which a couple of years ago we spent \$3,000 or \$5,000 rehabilitating. Perhaps if we are not going to use those we could sell those off and put the proceeds either towards replacing that \$6,000 or turn them over to Intown so they can use them for the appropriate purpose. But it seems to me that there is some missed opportunity by not disposing of those decorations.

Chairman Reiniger asked where are those.

Alderman Girard replied some of the City's decorations are in the old restroom underneath Veteran's Park, but Tom Kennedy, who was the last independent contractor to put them up for the City, is warehousing them and the City does have a contract with him for storage. He houses them in a facility over at East Industrial Park Drive.

Chairman Reiniger asked would we have to check that with Parks & Recreation or something.

Alderman Girard responded probably the Mayor's Office since the Mayor's Office is the administrator of the contract.

Mr. Thomas replied actually we are working on this. We have been working the last few months and will be talking with Intown on that. We will get a report back to the Committee on where we stand on that.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Girard, it was voted to refer the issue of the old decorations to the Mayor's Office.

On motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to approve the request for \$6,000 from Intown Manchester for additional banners for the Central Business Service District.

Chairman Reiniger addressed Item 4 of the Agenda:

Communication from Fire Chief Kane requesting that surplus radio equipment be declared surplus and released for disposition to the State of NH auction to be held on Saturday, May 16, 1998.

On motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Girard, it was voted to approve this request.

Chairman Reiniger addressed Item 5 of the Agenda:

Communication from Fire Chief Kane requesting to meet with the Committee to present a status report relative to the 800 Mhz Radio System.

Chief Kane stated when we were talking with Bob earlier this year, he suggested that I update the Committee in regards to the 800 Mhz Radio System for the new members on the Committee. Basically, a quick history, in 1993 the City looked at the radio system that we had at that point in time and decided to go out for what is known as an 800 Mhz system. Since then, we have over the years been installing the radio system into the Police Department, Traffic, Highway Department and the latest in Parks & Recreation. The current phase that we are in right now is that we are installing a console to oversee the entire system. The final phase, which we hope to complete in this calendar year, will be the installation of the system in the Fire Department. We are not currently asking for any money as money has already been budgeted for this. We just thought that we would give you an update as to where we are with the system.

Alderman Clancy asked how is it working out so far in all of the departments, the radio system itself.

Chief Kane answered the basic radio system itself and the way it operates is working very well for the City. We have had some problems with some components in the Police Department and some tweaking in other departments, but we are basically through with most of that. The system is a computer and as

we install computers and we find this as we go along with other systems, they need to be tweaked and fine-tuned and that is exactly what is going on.

Alderman Clancy asked have we had any blackouts since it has been in service in the Police Department.

Chief Kane answered we have had two system failures. Not this past Summer, but the Summer before the UPS system which is a back-up system for the radios was not the correct one so when we had a power outage the back-up system for the power outage did not kick in correctly. That has been since corrected.

Alderman Clancy asked so in other words if we do have another blackout or power outage it should work for the whole City now.

Chief Kane answered correct. One of the things that we are going to be doing is installing a system at a secondary site just in case this site has some sort of major catastrophe we can transfer to another site.

Alderman Clancy asked have you had any complaints by any of the departments you have installed this system in yet.

Chief Kane answered the only problems we have had really are with the Police Department and it is not with the system, the basic system, we have had some system problems with the portable radios themselves, the batteries. We had a contact problem with the batteries. They have since been fixed. The company has identified that. We had another problem where in the cars there are two mini computers and the two mini computers needed to talk and they were talking on different frequencies. That was identified. There was also a speaker mic problem. It was a design problem with the speaker mic. That has been identified and we are currently waiting for new parts to replace the whole system.

Alderman Clancy asked and this is all under warranty.

Chief Kane answered yes, it is all under warranty. We did have a lot of discussions with the company over the Summer and they have taken care of all of the problems under warranty.

Alderman Girard asked, Chief, how much money has been budgeted for this project and what was the original budget for the project.

Chief Kane replied the original budget for the project back when it was first proposed in 1993 was I believe in the ballpark of about \$2 million. The final expenditure for the project is going to be somewhere under \$3 million. So there were some changes that occurred from 1993 to 1998.

Alderman Girard asked so we overran the projection by about 1/3 on the budget.

Chief Kane answered as I look at the historical data, the original concept there are some things that have changed. That number again was put out there before we put the bid process out so a lot has changed from the original this is what we want to do and maybe this is how much it is going to cost before we went to bid. We had RFP's I believe in 1993 or 1994.

Alderman Pariseau asked how many departments are on the 800 Mhz and how many more do we have to go.

Chief Kane answered all of the City departments are on the 800 Mhz except the Fire Department. There are enterprise departments, the Airport, Water Works, and MTA who are not on it. The concept with those is that when they got on it they were going to have to buy into the system and fund their own.

Mr. MacKenzie stated I would add that originally the City had 14 different communication systems. So having one communication system does a number of things. You have interchangeability of equipment in an emergency and better ability to talk to each other in an emergency. So overall it has helped out a lot of the different departments.

Alderman Clancy asked did you put it into the Housing Code at the Building Department yet.

Chief Kane replied yes. Housing Code, Building Department, Health Department all have radio systems. As Bob said there were 14 different departments that had radio systems and now we have one radio system.

Alderman Clancy stated I was in one of the local City cars today and the guy had a radio. Man, it looked like a Mickey Mouse thing to me. I am being truthful.

Chief Kane replied there are different levels of equipment that we are buying.

Alderman Clancy stated I asked him what is that and he said that is my radio. I said my God that is your radio. I thought that a City of this size could have a better radio system than that.

Chief Kane replied they all work on the same radio frequencies. They all operate the same big system. In the smaller departments we get them very simple, small radios, not complicated, no bells and whistles. The more bells and whistles we have the more problems we are going to have. These are basic, straight forward radios. They are more than adequate for what they need. If we want to, we or the administrators of the radio system, can program that radio system from the power site. We can do a lot of things with that radio.

Chairman Reiniger addressed Item 11 of the Agenda:

Verbal update of current CIP projects to be presented by the Planning Director.

Mr. MacKenzie stated I thought it would be useful to offer the Committee an update on 10 of the projects that we are working on now just so you are aware of what is going on. This is just a quick summary of the list (passed out). If you have questions that I can't answer tonight or if there are other projects that the Committee would like an update on, I would be happy to provide that. On the list of the 10 items, Middle School is well underway. The Middle School is about 2/3 of the way complete, the construction. It is still on schedule and scheduled for a substantial completion on August 10 of this year. It is also on budget. The total project cost is a little bit over \$9 million. That includes both hard construction and soft costs.

Alderman Pariseau asked would that be available for September use.

Mr. MacKenzie answered that is what we are shooting for, yes.

Alderman Girard asked, Bob, the School Department as I read in the newspaper, has requested additions to Hillside and Southside Junior High Schools. Do we know why they are asking for that given that we are spending \$9 million to create all this middle school space?

Mr. MacKenzie answered I haven't seen their request yet. I understand it is coming. As I have talked to some of the Board members before, there is a bubble in enrollment coming up so what is happening is that they will be bringing the sixth graders into the Junior High system so whereas the new middle school will add a capacity of 800 students, they will probably be bringing roughly 850 students into the middle school level so they believe it is going to be tight.

Alderman Girard replied well if I am not mistaken, Mr. MacKenzie, the middle school was built precisely to handle this bubble on the east side. Are you saying, somewhat discretely, that it was built too small and as a result we now have to put additions on to existing buildings that were supposed to see their populations decrease as a result of this school being built?

Mr. MacKenzie responded again, I have not seen that request and I have not seen the data. I know that when this was designed that it was the intent to build the middle school on the east side and put an addition on Parkside on the west side. That has not occurred yet. When that addition is done, I think that we will be close to meeting the level of the school enrollments. Again, we did not envision building capacity to meet the actual peak of the bubble as it moves through. I mean you, in essence, don't build a church for Easter Sunday attendance. You build it for just cutting under the cap.

Alderman Girard stated I won't argue that point but I would be somewhat distressed to find out that we had to put capacity additions onto two existing buildings when we just built a third building to handle the capacity problems we were told we were going to have.

Mr. MacKenzie replied in essence the new middle school handled the capacity problem of all of the elementary schools. We have been overburdened at the elementary school level, especially on the east side. That will relieve capacity problems at some 12 schools. So, we are relieving a great deal of the capacity problems in the City with this project.

Alderman Girard stated but on the flip side it was not built to alleviate the capacity problem at the middle school level by adding the sixth grade into Hillside and Southside.

Mr. MacKenzie replied it was not the intent to hit the peak of the enrollment, that is correct.

Alderman Girard stated, for the record, these capacity problems at the junior high schools when they were turned into middle schools were never, ever raised as part of the middle school project and if the School Department's request is to handle that capacity, we just built a \$9 million school to do that. I think that someone dropped the ball somewhere.

Alderman Clancy asked where do we stand with the Chandler School.

Mr. MacKenzie stated the Chandler School as I understand it is still under negotiations between the School Administration and the owner.

Alderman Pariseau asked about Item 3.

Mr. MacKenzie stated I will just lightly hit the junior high improvements. We had also intended to make improvements to the existing junior highs. We have made locker improvements to all three junior high schools, Hillside, Southside, and Parkside. We are also looking at providing new tech ed facilities and equipment in those schools. We are currently ready for the design of that. We are waiting for the School Administration and the School Board to come up with a curriculum and educational specs for that. Memorial High School Improvement Design. We have funding for design of major improvements to Memorial High School. This has been discussed for quite awhile. Memorial High School, as you may remember, has been not on probation but on warning for accreditation. The improvements that have been agreed upon are fairly significant improvements. The primary part is the Science Lab, but there are not improvements as well. We have been reviewing, with the architect, whether that could proceed within one year or whether it has to be two years. We have such a small construction window during the Summer and our fiscal year splits that construction season, that it looks like it is going to be tough to accomplish in one year. So we plan to go out to bid sometime this Spring for the project, perhaps with a couple of combinations and then this is a project we would like to expedite and get underway and hopefully get approval in April so we can get bids, order equipment and casework and everything else.

Alderman Pariseau asked about Item 8, Status of the Somerville Fire Station.

Mr. MacKenzie stated sure and the Chief is here tonight. We have been going through a planning process that started last year.

Alderman Clancy asked are we going to tear it down.

Mr. MacKenzie answered we have looked at a number of alternatives and the Chief is here. I think there is an agreement on an appropriate route to take.

Chief Kane stated to give you an update of where we are, last fiscal year we budgeted some money to do some architectural studies and determine a location of the building to see if that location of the current building is in the proper place. We have done that study and we came up with some cost estimates of doing some alternative things. There were seven different sites looked at or seven different alternatives. Clearly two alternatives that we came up with were to keep the

station at its present location. It seemed to suit the needs of the City the best. There are two options, one is to rebuild the station there, a new station and the other is to rehab the station. I am not sure if I am with Bob in saying that we have a good, set plan that this is what we are going to do. I think we have these two alternatives. We have had several meetings with the Special Building Committee and the Fire Commission and some other people and currently what we are looking to do is get an architect on board so that he can finalize some plans. The two options are to tear down the station and build a new one and there are a lot of people who seem to be in favor of that. The second option is to rehab the station that is there. The cost figures are fairly close in regards to dollars and that is why a lot of people say well for a little bit more money we can build a brand new station and some people look at the historic perspective. At this point in time, we have requested funding for building a new station there but we haven't really nailed that down as a positive this is what we are going to do. I think we would like to hire an architect to make sure that all of the things we are looking at are feasible.

Alderman Clancy stated but now you have got that extra lot in the corner, so you could maybe tear the other thing down and maybe put it kitty corner so you can drive in and out, go out back and come in the front like you do at the Amory Street Station.

Chief Kane replied that is one of the alternatives that we are looking at and to do that we would have to tear the existing structure down.

Alderman Pariseau stated it just frosts me at times that we have to go out and spend money on an architect where we got the plans for say Engine 5. Why can't we do that and hire an engineer from the Highway Department to see about putting in all that other stuff? I can't see spending \$200,000 or \$300,000 for an architect.

Chief Kane replied an architect doesn't cost that kind of money. I think, you know I have seen projects go with architects and without architects and I think that a project of this scale certainly would require an architect. There are a lot of things that go on...

Alderman Pariseau stated but, Joe, we had an architect for Engine 6 and that thing has leaked since the day it opened.

Chief Kane answered no we didn't have an architect for that. That was one of the problems. That was one of the things that we said well we can do without an architect and we really can't.

Alderman Wihby stated the problem we had on Webster Street regarding taking down the building versus a new building and all that stuff. There was a big delay in just trying to decide which way to go.

Chief Kane replied I would anticipate that the building does have some historical significance but not as much as Station 5.

Alderman Pariseau asked about the status of southeast Manchester, i.e. the Megan Meadow area.

Chief Kane answered we do have a plan. We have a master plan that goes over a number of years and that plan evolves and turns and moves. As the years go by, priorities shift. Currently, the Somerville station is the station that we need to focus on. I am not sure which one is up in that area.

Alderman Pariseau stated we are charging those developers money for each residence for the purpose of providing fire safety. Are you supposing to take the money out of this reserve fund to help with the construction of Engine 7?

Chief Kane answered no. I am not exactly sure how that is set-up, but as I understand it that money comes from the Bodwell Road area or Hackett Hill area is specifically designed for a station in those areas.

Mr. MacKenzie stated I would not that under the impact of the Ordinance and under State Law you have seven years to actually commit to and start to construct a facility. Again, I know that they have looked at this for a number of years. It is primarily a problem with the response time down to the end of Bodwell Road. So they do recognize the long-term need of some small facility out there. I know Alderman Girard was involved in the discussions last year in a different capacity as to whether you could build one station to serve both the Somerville and down to the Bodwell Road area. That was evaluated, a site was selected, a concept design put together and response times and other issues evaluated. I think the biggest issue that came out was yes you potentially could do that and improve the service time to Bodwell Road area, but the existing Somerville station is the third busiest in the City. It also has some of the most densely developed parts of the City, some of the tough areas in the central part of the City and you would be increasing the response time and making it worse to that critical area. That was the concern about building a facility to serve both areas.

Alderman Girard asked how much were those response times slowed in looking to relocate a station to service both areas.

Chief Kane answered the response times were almost doubled.

Alderman Girard asked what are they currently.

Chief Kane answered about 3 to 4 minutes and they were increased to between 5 and 7 1/2 minutes.

Alderman Girard asked what is the average city-wide.

Chief Kane replied about 3 1/2 minutes other than the areas outside, like Bodwell Road.

Chairman Reiniger addressed Item 12 of the Agenda:

Verbal report on the expected timeline for review and adoption of the FY '99 CIP budget process to be provided by the Planning Director.

I think I have discussed this issue before in terms of us hoping to get a jump on CIP projects because there are a number of construction projects that would really benefit from an early leap of getting into the construction season early and save the City some money so we have developed this adoption process. I do have a revised version that actually sets the public hearing date and the location for the CIP public hearing. There would be a separate hearing on CIP at Memorial High School auditorium on March 23 at 7 p.m.

Chairman Reiniger addressed Item 13 of the Agenda:

Communication from Mike Pelletier requesting that a special committee be established to investigate the Combined Sewer Overflow Unfunded Federal Mandate.

On motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to receive and file this item.

Alderman Girard stated perhaps instead of forming a special committee we could have the relevant departments come to this Committee and give us an update on where things stand. I know some time ago Mr. Pelletier, I think it was through Concerned Taxpayers, was part of the CSO Committee that they had look into this

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and I know they did do some work that was not insubstantial on it so perhaps he could be invited to a meeting where we would all be updated.

On motion of Alderman Girard, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau it was voted to have Mr. MacKenzie send a letter to Mr. Pelletier informing him of when the Committee will be updated next.

Chairman Reiniger addressed Item 14 of the Agenda:

Communication from Thomas Seigle requesting the Committee review the current ordinance relating to the cost for treatment of septage, and suggesting it be amended to increase the cost from \$65 per 1,000 gallons to \$70 per 1,000 gallons.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy, it was voted to approve this request for an increase.

Alderman Clancy asked how many guys does that affect, Tom.

Mr. Seigle answered well we take not only from Manchester, but Candia, Auburn, Bedford, Londonderry, and Goffstown so it affects quite a few.

Alderman Pariseau asked would it affect those in Manchester that have septic tanks.

Mr. Seigle answered yes.

Chairman Reiniger addressed Item 15 of the Agenda:

Communication from Mr. Raymond Lambert requesting a sewer abatement for property located at 144 Cypress Street.

(Note: The E.P.D. has recommended an adjustment and abatement of \$99.36.)

On motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to approve an abatement for 144 Cypress Street in the amount of \$99.36.

Chairman Reiniger addressed Item 16 of the Agenda:

Communication from Michael Robichaud requesting to meet with the Committee on Community Improvement Program regarding the RFP submitted for 1037 Elm Street which was recently rejected.

Alderman Clancy made a motion to receive and file this item. Alderman Wihby duly seconded this motion.

Alderman Girard stated I would like to have him come before the Committee and express whatever he needs to express. If the Committee does not feel that his bid was appropriate or that he was an inappropriate person to handle this project, we ought to hear from him and make a decision as a Committee. From what I understand, the process by which he was denied caught everybody, including the City's industrial agent, off guard and gave him no opportunity to respond to any of the charges that were raised against him which may be legitimate but I think that in as much as he was one of the only people if not the only one to respond to the Request for Proposal we owe him some sort of opportunity to come and answer the charges and we can give him an explanation if we still decide that he is not worthy of the project.

Alderman Clancy stated, Rich, I have met with him three or four times. That is enough.

Alderman Girard replied well, Alderman Clancy, with all due respect it is a decision for the Committee to make and not for an individual Alderman to make.

Alderman Wihby stated I think we gave him his chance and we made our decision already. This Committee already voted to go ahead and back out and look into different proposals. So he can put in his proposal again and we will be reviewing all of the proposals and if he is one of them and he is the best one we will take it. If he is not, it is over with but we are already in the process of undertaking this.

Alderman Girard stated from what I understand the process that he was denied by was hardly regular and I don't think that it is appropriate for a governmental body to conduct itself that way.

Alderman Wihby asked, Alderman, what process was not regular and what did we do wrong. We voted in public session not to go ahead and do what we had said to do the time before. I had talked to the industrial agent about it during the day before that motion was made. I checked it over with him. He knew how we felt about it and I think that if an individual is going to come into this City and have zoning problems in other places we should know about those things. We didn't

know about it at the time and he pays the price. We go back out to bid and if he is one of the bidders we get it. If he is not...

Alderman Girard replied I don't question that, Alderman Wihby. The problem I have here is that a vote was taken which he said he didn't know was coming. If I believe what I read in the newspaper, the industrial agent didn't know it was coming and he should...

Alderman Wihby interjected are you calling me a liar. Are you calling me a liar Alderman Girard? I just told you that I talked to the industrial agent before the meeting started.

Alderman Girard responded I said if I believe what I read in the paper Alderman Wihby. I believe I have the floor at this moment too. But Mr. Robichaud has asked for an opportunity to answer the charges that were brought against him and I think that any developer in the City should be granted that opportunity and I think if we want to send the message to the business community that we want to work with them as a City, this is the wrong way to go about it.

Alderman Wihby stated and if you want to send a message to bad building managers to come in the City this is a way to go about it.

Chairman Reiniger called for a vote. Alderman Girard was opposed. The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. An amending resolution allowing acceptance of grant funds for the Manchester Developmental Preschool Special Gifts Program in the amount Of \$1,500 from the NH Department of Education.
- B. An amending resolution and budget authorization increasing the 1997 CIP 2.20706 Tuberculosis Control by \$3,972 and the 1998 CIP 2.20706 Tuberculosis Control by \$7,242.
- C. An amending resolution and budget authorization allowing for acceptance and expenditure of a \$60,000 Robert Wood Johnson & W.K. Kellogg Foundation Grant for the 1998 CIP 2.20506 Turning Point Initiative Project.

- D. An amending resolution and budget authorization increasing the 1995 CIP 7.30263 Flight One Land Acquisition by \$29,439.00 and adding the 1998 CIP 7.30268 Ledge Removal in Runway 6/24 Approach in the amount of \$1,969,690.

Having been read, on motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Wihby, it was voted to approve the Consent Agenda.

TABLED ITEM

Communication from the Director of Planning seeking the Committee's acceptance of the assignment of promissory notes and mortgages from the Manchester Housing and Redevelopment Authority of various Housing Rehabilitation Programs.

(Note: Re-tabled 1/20/98, pending Planning recommendation)

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy, it was voted to remove this item from the table.

Alderman Pariseau stated the way I understand it, we can't handle the problem so we might as well let it stay right where it is at with the Housing Department.

Alderman Pariseau made a motion to receive and file this item. Alderman Clancy duly seconded this motion.

Alderman Girard asked, Mr. MacKenzie, what happens if we receive and file this.

Mr. MacKenzie answered I guess I am afraid that these mortgages may go into a state of limbo. I mean there are a couple of hundred of these people who have been paying them to the MHRA and would be paying them to the City. We have been trying to reach some conclusion on it and perhaps hire a Housing Administrator using HUD monies. Also I think there is an option to actually sell some of these mortgages. NHS has been perhaps interested in taking some of those and actually buying them. The money would come back then and could be used for other purposes.

Alderman Clancy asked is there any outstanding ones.

Mr. MacKenzie answered yes there are a few. I mean there are close to a couple of hundred projects on that list.

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Alderman Clancy stated I don't want to wash it. I don't want to say forget it. I want to get that money back.

Mr. MacKenzie answered we were hoping to bring back a proposal hopefully next month. I know it has been hanging a long time. We don't have the staff to look into it right now.

Alderman Pariseau asked that the City Clerk's Office not copy the pages of the tabled item. Just put the item on the agenda.

Alderman Pariseau and Alderman Clancy rescinded their previous motion to receive and file.

On motion of Alderman Girard, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to put the item back on the table.

NEW BUSINESS

An amending resolution allowing for the acceptance of grant funds for the Gang Interdiction Program in the amount of \$73,121.52 from the State of New Hampshire.

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to accept the grant.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Girard, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee