

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

April 6, 1999

Upon Recess of BMA

Mayor Wieczorek called the meeting to order.

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

Present: Aldermen Wihby, Klock, Reiniger, Sysyn, Clancy, Pinard, O'Neil, Girard, Shea, Rivard, Pariseau, Cashin, Thibault, Hirschmann

Messrs.: Kevin Clougherty, Robert MacKenzie

Mayor Wieczorek addressed item 3 of the agenda:

Communication from Bradford E. Cook, Chairman of the Board of School Committee Finance Committee submitting the proposed FY2000 Manchester School Department budget.

Alderman Wihby stated a date has been set for the School Department to make a presentation to the Board on April 19th.

Alderman Wihby moved to refer the communication to the Committee on Finance.

Alderman Hirschmann asked because his expenditures are less than yours are we going to discuss this or just accept his report.

Mayor Wieczorek replied I think we'll be discussing it at the regular meeting. They in their budget did not put any raises in for anybody. What I did was to include this depending on what happens with Claremont.

Alderman Wihby to clarify his motion indicated that it would be taken up in Finance.

Alderman Sysyn duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Mayor Wieczorek addressed item 4 of the agenda:

1995 CIP Budget Authorization:
6.50216 Business Revolving Loan Fund – Revision #2

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted that the budget authorization be approved, subject to final adoption of related resolutions.

Mayor Wieczorek addressed item 5 of the agenda:

1996 CIP Budget Authorization:
610403 Dilapidated Building Demolition - Revision #1-Closeout

Mayor Wieczorek asked on all of the CIP items where do you want to make your statement, Kevin. Did you talk to Bob.

Mr. Clougherty replied I've talked to Bob and Carol and I think we've resolved it and we can go ahead with the agenda and Carol will make the necessary changes.

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy, it was voted that the budget authorization be approved, subject to final adoption of related resolutions.

Mayor Wieczorek addressed item 6 of the agenda:

1997 CIP Budget Authorizations:
250627 Accessibility Program – Revision #1 Closeout
420108 Violence Against Women – Revision #1
610403 Dilapidated Building Demolition- Revision #1-Closeout

On motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Shea, it was voted that the budget authorizations be approved, subject to final adoption of related resolutions.

Mayor Wieczorek addressed item 7 of the agenda:

1999 CIP Budget Authorizations:

211299	PAL Center Acquisition
410399	Cops More 98
420699	STOP Violence Against Women
420699	Local Law Enforcement Block Grant – Revision #1
511899	JFK Coliseum Rehab.-Phase III
512099	Pine Island Improvement Project
610699	Acquisition of Distressed Real Estate – Revision #1
610899	Webster House Renovations
650799	Architectural for 1037 Elm

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Hirschmann, it was voted that the budget authorizations be approved as amended, subject to final adoption of related resolutions.

Mayor Wieczorek addressed item 8 of the agenda:

Appropriating Resolution:

“A Resolution Approving the Community Improvement Program for 2000, Raising and Appropriating Monies Therefor and Authorizing Implementation of Said Program.”

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Reiniger, it was voted that the Appropriating Resolution be read by title only, and it was so done.

Deputy Clerk Johnson noted there would be several changes and suggested the Board proceed slowly with the reports as there were changes that would come up.

Mayor Wieczorek addressed item 8A of the agenda:

- A. Report of Committee on Community Improvement recommending that the Board of Mayor and Aldermen endorse the concept of construction of a new police station and the use of the existing station for Human Services Departments and certain other functions.

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Sysyn, it was voted to accept the report and recommend that the Board make such endorsement.

Mayor Wieczorek addressed item 8B of the agenda:

- B.** Report of Committee on Community Improvement recommending that the FY2000 CIP resolution be amended as follows:

Adding new project to Table 1-1 Federal, State, Other Funds

- 830900 Replacement of Vehicle Lifts (MTA) \$140,000
Manchester Transit Authority Federal Funds

Changing amount on page 2, paragraph 3, from \$13,208,904 to \$13,348,904.

Adding new projects to Table 1-3 City Cash as follows:

- 251200 Elder Nutrition Program \$30,000
St. Joseph's Community Services, Inc.
- 8303900 Replacement of Vehicle Lifts (MTA) \$35,000
Manchester Transit Authority
(Subject to matching federal funds in amount of \$140,000)

Changing the amount on page 3, paragraph 2 from \$2,476,000 to \$2,541,000.

By reducing amounts in projects in Table 1-4 General Obligation Bonds as follows:

- 830100 Phase III Building Expansion -\$1,000,000
And renaming the project Police Station and Human Services Building
(*New appropriation for this project to be \$2,350,000*).

By adding amounts to projects in Table 1-4 General Obligation Bonds as follows:

- 510100 Park Improvement Program +\$650,000
Subject added funds to be earmarked as follows:
Precourt Park \$100,000
Prout Park \$150,000
Livingston Park \$400,000
(New appropriation for this project to be \$1,850,000)

- 510200 School Recreation/Parking Lot +\$75,000
Earmarking approximately \$75,000 for playground improvements at Green Acres School.
(New appropriation for this project to be \$550,000)

- 510500 Riverfront Development +\$700,000
Earmarking approximately \$700,000 for parking improvements including:

Reconfiguration of the Seal Tanning Lot
Maximizing existing parking on-street (e.g. Commercial Street, Bedford Street, Arms Street, etc.)
Development (including planning, acquisition, design and possible construction) of a possible parking facility in the southern portion of the Millyard
Planning & preliminary design for possible parking decks and a garage
Earmarking approximately \$1,200,000 for riverwalk and related improvements in the Millyard.
(New appropriation total to be \$1,900,000)

- 710200 Intersection Improvement Program +75,000
Earmarking approximately \$75,000 for improvements to West Road/Jewett Street intersection.
(New appropriation total to be \$325,000)

- 830200 School Capital Improvement Program +\$400,000
Earmarking approximate amounts as follows:
Improvements to West High Auditorium \$150,000
Improvements to Central High Auditorium \$100,000
Adding funds for reconstruction of Northwest School roof \$150,000
(New appropriation total to be \$3,375,000)

- 830400 Somerville Street Fire Station +100,000
Change name to Fire Facilities Improvement Program
Earmarking funds appropriated to this account as follows:
Approximately \$100,000 for planning, design & acquisition of Southeast area fire station.
Approximately \$800,000 for the Somerville Fire Station.
(New appropriation total to be \$900,000)

Adding new project to Table 1-4 General Obligation Bonds as follows:

- 810300 Revaluation Project \$600,000
Board of Assessors

Changing the amount of page 3, paragraph 3 of the resolution from \$12,950,000 to \$14,550,000.

Alderman Girard stated what we're adopting here includes City Cash portion.

Deputy Clerk Johnson replied you are amending the resolution and adding...

Alderman Girard stated we're not adopting anything final here, we're just making the amendments.

Deputy Clerk Johnson replied the Board is making the amendments outlined in the first report of the Committee which would include the MTA program, Elderly Nutrition, Replacement of MTA lifts.

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin, it was voted to accept the report and so amend the Resolutions as outlined in the report.

Mayor Wieczorek addressed item 8C of the agenda:

- C. Report of Committee on Community Improvement recommending that the Finance Committee provide for expediting of certain bond projects currently proposed in the FY2000 CIP budget by amending the FY2000 CIP appropriating resolution as follows:

Deleting projects from Table 1-4 General Obligation Bonds as follows:

• 510100 Park Improvement Program	\$1,850,000
• 510200 School Recreation/Parking Lot	550,000
• 510500 Riverfront Development	1,900,000
• 750100 Sidewalk Improvement Program	300,000
• 810200 City Space Improvements	250,000
• 820100 Y2K Contingency & Computer Upgrades	500,000
• 830200 School Capital Improvement Program	3,375,000
• 820300 Motorized Equipment Replacement	850,000
• 830300 Parking Facilities Improvements	175,000
• 830400 Somerville Fire Station	900,000

and changing the amount on page 3, paragraph 3 of the resolution from \$14,550,000 to \$3,900,000.

And by Amending the 1999 CIP Program:

by increasing amounts in projects as follows:

- 710999 Annual Parking Facilities Improvements +\$175,000 Bond
(from \$200,000 Bond to \$375,000 Bond)
- 750299 Sidewalk Construction program +\$300,000 Bond
(From \$75,000 CDBG to
\$75,000 CDBG, \$300,000 Bond for total of \$375,000)
- 820999 Motorized Equipment Replacement +850,000 Bond
(from \$665,000 Bond to \$1,515,000 Bond)

by adding new projects as follows:

- 510199 Riverfront Development \$1,900,000 Bond
Earmarking approximately \$700,000 for parking improvements including:
Reconfiguration of the Seal Tanning Lot
Maximizing existing parking on-street (e.g. Commercial Street, Bedford Street, Arms Street, etc.)
Development (including planning, acquisition, design and possible construction) of a possible parking facility in the southern portion of the Millyard

Planning & preliminary design for possible parking decks and a garage
Earmarking approximately \$1,200,000 for riverwalk and related
improvements in the Millyard.

- 511099 School Recreation Facilities/
Parking Lot Resurfacing \$550,000 Bond
Earmarking approximately \$75,000 for playground improvements at
Green Acres School.

- 511299 Parks Capital Improvement Program \$1,850,000 Bond
\$650,000 of funds to be earmarked as follows:
Precourt Park \$100,000
Prout Park \$150,000
Livingston Park \$400,000

- 821099 Y2K Contingency & Computer Upgrades \$500,000 Bond

- 830199 School Capital Improvements \$3,375,000 Bond
Approximately \$250,000 to be earmarked as follows:
Improvements to West High Auditorium \$150,000
Improvements to Central High Auditorium \$100,000
Earmarking \$150,000 as follows:
Reconstruction of Northwest School roof \$150,000

- 831499 City Space Improvements \$250,000 Bond

- Fire Facilities Improvement Program \$900,000 Bond
Earmarking funds appropriated to this account as follows:
Approximately \$100,000 for planning, design & acquisition of
Southeast area fire station.
Approximately \$800,000 for the Somerville Fire Station.

The Committee notes that for such purpose, a 1999 CIP amending
resolution and bond resolutions were submitted to the Board of Mayor and
Aldermen for referral to the Finance Committee.

On motion of Alderman Shea, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted
to accept the report and so amend the FY2000 Appropriating Resolution as
outlined in the report.

Alderman Shea moved that the Appropriating Resolution ought to pass and layover as amended. Alderman Pariseau duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Girard in referenced to the Child Care Coordinator in Table 1-3 number 250200. As you know, your Honor, for some time the validity of this program has been under scrutiny and after reviewing the material that was forwarded by the Planning Department as requested by the CIP Committee, I really don't believe that the City should be funding the Child Care Coordinator. It was interesting to note that every report for the entire year that they were being tracked got filed on January 20th. I don't know why they weren't on-going, but after reading over the reports, your Honor, most of which were remarkable because they didn't say a whole lot different about the activities that had been on-going I came to the conclusion that the Child Care Coordinator was working to help placement with private child care facilities and it seemed to me that since the private child care facilities are the primary beneficiaries of the services provided they ought to be paying for it and I guess if I could make an analogy it's sort of like the State of New Hampshire funding the New Hampshire Municipal Association so the cities and towns could go to the Legislature and lobby the General Court. It seems to me that what we're doing here is we are paying for a position that places people in private day care facilities and I really believe the private providers of day care ought to be paying for it and I oppose funding that item. The other item that I have concerns with is directly above that which is the children Health Services teen Clinic. Back at the CIP Committee meeting in March I raised a question with the Planning Department staff of the Committee and I guess the response to that question was left on our desks tonight. The concern was that I had been told by some constituents that Child Health Services made abortion referrals to Planned Parenthood and others that pregnant teens who came to them for services were referred either at their request or as part of Child Health Services advising the children of all of their legally available options as it was told to me in a conversation with people at Child Health Services yesterday...for abortion services. And, here in the letter to quote it says: "for teenagers who are pregnant it is our policy to inform our clients of the options available to them." While the Teen Health Clinic and Child Health Services itself do not perform these procedures, they certainly make referrals to institutions that do and in speaking with people at Child Health Services yesterday there was even a question lingering in my mind as to whether or not they pay for those abortion services. If the child in question does not have the ability to pay for it and while I don't want to get into a debate here about the issue of abortion, I have real strong objections to taxpayer funds being used by any organization to in any way support that activity and moved that funding for Child Health Services for the Teen Health Clinic in the CIP be removed on the basis that those taxpayer dollars should not be provided for that and, incidentally, I also learned while I was taking a look at Child Health

Services that it's a practice of giving birth control to sexually active teens free-of-charge. I guess the idea is that they're going to do it anyway, so they might as well do it safely and I just have a real problem with taxpayer funds supporting either one of those activities. I don't know if there will be a second, but reiterated his motion that that item and the Child Care Coordinator be removed.

Mayor Wieczorek stated with reference to the Child Care Coordinator, I understand what you're talking about that the private sector is the one who is going to benefit, but the reason that they even started with a Child Care Coordinator was because there was such difficulty in trying to get child care in the community and my understanding is that they just had a meeting last week, if I remember correctly, over at Elmwood Gardens along with some of the private providers and the Child Care Coordinator. Now, I was not at that meeting and I haven't seen a report of that meeting, but I think it indicates that they're still active.

Alderman Girard stated I took at the Yellow Pages to see what's out there for child care and while I am sure there is a demand that exceeds the ability to satisfy the demand anyone who is trying to find child care needs to open up a phonebook, I don't believe the City should be paying for this and I believe the private providers who benefit by the referrals ought to be the ones footing the bill. Government doesn't belong in this role.

Alderman Hirschmann stated on behalf of single-parent families moved that the Child Care Coordinator position remain in the CIP. Alderman Wihby duly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Girard duly recorded in opposition.

Alderman Shea stated some of us are also very much opposed to abortion, the point is in talking to Thelma Deitch today she assured me that there were no abortions and that they're primary concern is the health and welfare of the people and the youngsters of Manchester, so even though there may be strong feelings in that regard let's have no misconception there are people on this Board that are opposed to abortion and my understanding is that the agency in question here does not perform abortions and does not, in any way, condone abortions.

Alderman Girard stated just in case I wasn't clear, I did not say that Child Health Services provided those services. What I said and what I read from the letter is that they will make referrals to providers that will perform those services and while I agree that Child Health Services does a whole lot of good in this community, I do not believe that taxpayer funding should provide for those referrals and I don't believe that taxpayer funding should provide for those services in those cases where children are unable to afford them and there are, very definite

ties with Planned Parenthood. As a matter of fact, the Teen Options Walk-In Clinic...I got a little card here today, I went to Planned Parenthood to get it because they had run out of brochures at Child Health Services on Elm Street, I just have some concerns I want to make sure we're not stepping over lines here that we shouldn't be stepping over.

Mayor Wieczorek addressed item 9 of the agenda:

Appropriating Resolution and Bond Resolutions presented pursuant to a report of CIP Committee on expedited projects; if referred by Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

“Amending the 1999 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Ten Million, Six Hundred Fifty thousand Dollars (\$10,650,000) for various 1999 CIP Projects.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of One Million, Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,900,000) for the 1999 CIP 510199, Riverfront Development.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$550,000) for the 1999 CIP 511099, School Recreation Facilities/Parking Lot Improvements.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of One Million, Eight Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,850,000) for the 1999 CIP 511299, Park Capital Improvement Program.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of One Hundred Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$175,000) for the 1999 CIP 710999, Annual Parking Facilities Improvements.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) for the 1999 CIP 750299, Sidewalk Construction Program.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Eight Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$850,000) for the 1999 CIP 820999, Motorized Equipment Replacement.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) for the 1999 CIP 821099, Y2K Contingency & Computer Upgrades.”

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Three Million, Three Hundred Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$3,375,000) for 1999 CIP 830199, School Capital Improvement Program.”

"Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Two Hundred fifty Thousand dollars (\$250,000) for the 1999 CIP 831499, City Space Improvements."

“Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$900,000) for the 1999 CIP 831599, Fire Facility Improvement Program.”

Alderman Wihby moved to dispense with the reading of the Resolutions by titles only. Alderman Clancy duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman O'Neil moved that the Appropriating Resolution and Bond Resolutions ought to pass and layover. Alderman Reiniger duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Mayor Wieczorek addressed item 10 of the agenda:

Resolutions:

“Amending the 1997 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Three Hundred Forty Thousand, Four Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$340,412) for the 1997 CIP Project 420108, Violence Against Women Project.”

“Amending the 1999 Community Improvement Program, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) for the 1999 CIP 211299 PAL Center Acquisition Project.”

“Amending the 1999 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Seventy Three Thousand, Two Hundred, Twenty Dollars (\$173,220) for the 1999 CIP 410399, Cops More 98 Project.”

“Amending the 1999 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) for the 1999 CIP 420699, STOP Violence Against Women Project.”

“Amending the 1999 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Eleven Thousand, Seven Hundred Dollars (\$111,700) – for the 1999 CIP 512099, Pine Island Improvement Project.”

“Amending the 1999 Community Improvement Program, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of One Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$120,000) for the 1999 CIP Project 610899, Webster House Renovations.”

“Amending the 1995 and 1999 Community Improvement Programs, transferring, authorizing and appropriating One Hundred and Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$120,000) for the 1999 CIP Project 650799, Architectural for 1037 Elm Street.”

“Amending the 1999 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds for various School Department Projects.”

Alderman Hirschmann moved to dispense with the reading of the Resolutions by titles only. Alderman Rivard duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman Wihby moved that the Resolutions ought to pass as amended and be enrolled. Alderman O'Neil duly seconded the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman Thibault stated I would like to encumber in the CIP Program some money to take care of the west side bleachers in the auditorium that have been deemed unsafe and unreliable and I would like to encumber money in the budget.

Mayor Wieczorek stated I think we already have that taken care of. Haven't we, Bob.

Mr. MacKenzie stated it has been discussed that it could be taken out of the \$1 million of the middle-range capital improvements that were proposed and we did discuss that with the Superintendent and that would seem like a logical location. We haven't finalized that, but we would intend to.

Alderman Thibault asked is there a way that I can be made sure that this will happen.

Mayor Wieczorek replied we'll sign it in blood for you.

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

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee