

A regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Tuesday, June 28, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

President Brian S. McCarthy presided; City Clerk Patricia D. Piecuch recorded.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Patricia D. Piecuch; Alderman Siegel led in the Pledge to the Flag.

President McCarthy

Before I ask the Clerk to take the roll, Alderman Caron is participating by telephone and under the terms of the state law that allows her to do that, she needs to explain why she can't attend, if she can hear us, and who she is with, if anyone.

Alderman Caron stated the reason she could not attend, confirmed that she could hear the proceedings and stated who was present with her.

President McCarthy

Acknowledged that those present could hear Alderman Caron as well.

The roll call was taken with 15 members of the Board of Aldermen present; Alderman June M. Caron was not in attendance but participated in the meeting via telecommunication.

Mayor James W. Donchess and Corporation Counsel Steven A. Bolton were also present.

President McCarthy

Before we begin I am going to recognize Alderman Wilshire to make a motion so we can accept procedural motions without the roll call vote.

MOTION BY ALDERMAN WILSHIRE THAT THE RULES BE SO FAR SUSPENDED AS TO ALLOW FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF PROCEDURAL ACTIONS WITHOUT OBJECTION

A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:

Yea:	Alderman Wilshire, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Deane, Alderman Cookson, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Siegel, Alderman Schoneman, Alderwoman Melizzi-Golja, Alderman McGuinness, Alderman LeBrun, Alderman Moriarty, Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Lopez, Alderman McCarthy	15
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Nay:		0
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MOTION CARRIED

REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Donchess

First I wanted to mention a couple of items on the agenda. The primary one is the city budget which is before you tonight. The Budget Review Committee has considered this and worked very hard in doing so and are recommending that it be passed and I hope you will follow their recommendation. Having served on the Budget Review Committee while on the Board of Aldermen, it was a very difficult job especially during the months of May and June particularly for those who are working and can't sleep late the morning after. This year I did propose the budget for the first meeting in May which has been the custom but next year it is my goal to propose the budget for the second meeting in April in the hopes that it will make the schedule for the Budget Review Committee a little bit easier

I wanted to mention R-16-049 which proposes that we explore and enter a sister city relationship with Mysore, Karnataka State, India. I don't know what committee this will go to but when it does we can come and explain what might be gained by this. We do have a large population of Indian American citizens here in Nashua. Most of our Indian American comes from two states I India, first the city that Mysore is in which are Karnataka and also Andhra Pradesh. I think that by doing this there are things that we can gain in terms of the citizens that we have and hopefully improving our relationships with another significant democracy and trading partner in Asia. When I was Mayor before we did have a sister city in Korea, Yesan County which is just south of Seoul and we sent a delegation there one time; I and several Aldermen, a school principal and others went to Yesan County and they had delegations come here but that has lapsed. This relationship I think is more sustainable because we do have a whole group of citizens here that really want this to happen and will help to foster it. The sister city relationship with Korea was mostly promoted by one gentleman, Mr. Chung; whereas now we have a much larger group of people who reside here in Nashua. I hope you consider this carefully.

I did want to mention that the trolley has been a very fun and successful addition to downtown on Friday and Saturday nights. My wife and I have ridden on it a few times and the people riding on it seemed very enchanted with it and the drivers have done a really good job at attracting people to use it. I think it has helped to promote new life and good time's downtown on Friday and Saturday nights. I think it's been going on now for about 4 weeks.

Finally I would like to mention Carolyn Choate has formed a Beautification Committee for the city and has organized a group of people to begin working on different projects. Over the past weekend they worked and cleaned up a lot of brush near the Court Street Building and I think they have other projects in mind and I want to thank them for all of their efforts in helping us to have a beautiful Nashua. Beyond that, Mr. President, I don't have anything.

RESPONSE TO REMARKS OF THE MAYOR - None

RECOGNITION PERIOD – None

READING MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND PUBLIC HEARING

There being no objection, President McCarthy declared the minutes of the Board of Aldermen meetings of June 9, and June 14, 2016, accepted, placed on file and the readings suspended.

COMMUNICATIONS

There being no objection, President McCarthy declared that all communications be read by title only.

From: Jeffrey L. Snow, Superintendent, Edgewood Cemetery
Re: Request for Joint Convention with Edgewood Cemetery Board of Trustees

There being no objection, President McCarthy declared the communication accepted, placed on file and that the Board of Aldermen meet in Joint Convention with the Edgewood Cemetery Board of Trustees on Tuesday, July 12, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber

From: Mayor Jim Donchess
Re: Award of Nashua City Wide Telecom Project

MOTION BY ALDERMAN SIEGEL TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE, AND AWARD THE CONTRACT TO CUSTOM COMPUTER SPECIALISTS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,200,000

A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Wilshire, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Cookson, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Siegel, Alderman Schoneman, Alderwoman Melizzi-Golja, Alderman McGuinness, Alderman LeBrun, Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Lopez, Alderman McCarthy 13

Nay: Alderman Deane, Alderman Moriarty 2

MOTION CARRIED

From: Mayor Jim Donchess
Re: Contract Award to Pictometry

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COOKSON TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE PURCHASE FROM PICTOMETRY INTERNATIONAL CORP. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$104,217

A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Wilshire, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Deane, Alderman Cookson, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Siegel, Alderman Schoneman, Alderwoman Melizzi-Golja, Alderman McGuinness, Alderman LeBrun, Alderman Moriarty, Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Lopez, Alderman McCarthy 15

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

From: Mayor Jim Donchess
Re: Award of Nashua Transit System Fixed Route CNG Bus Procurement

MOTION BY ALDERMAN CLEMONS TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND AWARD THE CONTRACT TO GILLIG, LLC, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,966,832

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Schoneman

As I looked at the back page of the communication it looks like this money is coming out of grant funds, is that 100% or is there a city match here? Secondly, when Mayor Lozeau was here last term we had a discussion about the CNG program in general and my impression from her was that it's not an economically viable plan without subsidies.

President McCarthy

I'm not sure what subsidies you are referring to.

Alderman Schoneman

I just remember that it wasn't economically viable without grant funds.

Alderman Deane

When the trash trucks were purchased we had a federal subsidy and that subsidy is now going to go away. I believe that is what he is referring to.

Mayor Donchess

Of the total purchase price of about \$3.9 million the city shares a little shy of \$300,000 and we are receiving about 85% of federal funds because they are CNG buses otherwise that number would be 80%. Plus there are federal funds through the State of New Hampshire that are contributing about 7.5% so we, Nashua, for this purchase price is providing about 7.5% of the funds necessary. As far as continuing operations, the bus system has been operating since 1984 or 1985 and there has always been and I think always will be, federal support for this system. We receive a significant amount of federal funds to operate the system every year and that has always been the case. I think it comes from the highway fund which a portion of which is used to fund alternate means of transportation. I don't think the fear that all of this money is going to go away is realistic.

Alderman Schoneman

When we started in the 80's were they diesel buses or CNG buses?

Mayor Donchess

They were diesel.

Alderman Schoneman

My specific question is anything going to go away regarding CNG? So there is no danger of CNG funding drying up for us?

Mayor Donchess

Well this is a purchase and we will own these buses. When it comes time to replace them I am sure we will use whatever incentives there are but right now it is our choice whether to buy diesel or CNG. If we were to go diesel we would still get federal support but there is an incentive to go CNG because the level of federal support is higher. It's about \$150,000 more to go for the CNG buses. Replacement of these busses could be in 7 or 8 years from now and I think there will still be federal money and if there's not a decision would have to be made at that time.

Alderman Schoneman

Do we have any sense of what the cost difference between a diesel bus and a CNG bus is?

Mayor Donchess

It's more, the CNG bus is more.

Alderman Siegel

We are getting a highly leveraged piece of capital equipment so I don't see that the going away is much of an issue. Mayor Donchess, isn't it the case that the CNG is generated by our landfill?

Mayor Donchess

It does not come from the landfill; the landfill methane gas is burned at the landfill under a contract with a private supplier to mine the landfill. This is a separate system. We are getting more than 500,000 riders per year so there is significant use of the system.

Alderman Schoneman

I fully agree that we should have a bus system; my question was just about the value of driving these things via CNG versus diesel. Maybe next time before it comes to this committee I will ask that question.

Alderman Deane

The question that hasn't been answered is what is the difference in cost between a CNG bus and a diesel bus and what's the difference in contribution between what we are getting now for CNG and what we would be getting for diesel and what the city's contribution would be outside of the \$300,000 that was mentioned? The trash trucks that are CNG and the price of CNG and the price of diesel, I believe CNG is more and the cost of the vehicles is a lot more. Then you have to look at the emission output on them. At the end of the day like the subsidy for the trash trucks is going away and I would imagine from an economic standpoint that we would go back to diesel.

Alderman Moriarty

I have never been a fan of CNG vehicles for the simple reason that it competes on the market with those who heat their houses with natural gas. It's a small competition but nevertheless I, personally, would rather use diesel vehicles whenever possible.

A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:

Yea:	Alderman Wilshire, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Siegel, Alderwoman Melizzi-Golja, Alderman McGuinness, Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Lopez, Alderman McCarthy	10
Nay:	Alderman Deane, Alderman Cookson, Alderman Schoneman, Alderman LeBrun, Alderman Moriarty	5

MOTION CARRIED

From: John L. Griffin, Chief Financial Officer
Re: City and School Retirement Trust Funds

There being no objection, President McCarthy declared the communication accepted and placed on file

From: Joseph S. Haas
Re: Did You Get This?

There being no objection, President McCarthy declared the communication accepted and placed on file

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT RELATIVE TO ITEMS EXPECTED TO BE ACTED
UPON THIS EVENING

Ms. Paula Johnson, 15 Westborn Drive

What I'm going to talk about quickly is the budget. I didn't get to go to the budget meeting this year. I'm kind of busy because I'm healthier than last year which is a good thing. I'm not just sitting around just watching TV of all these meetings. For our taxes to go up another 2.5 %, I find it very hard that there was nothing in the budget that can be reduced. The police is going up 2.5 %; social security went up 0 % this year. People on social security are really behind the eight ball. I don't know about how many of you in here are collecting social security, how many are on a pension. I know we're not on a pension. My husband hasn't retired yet. But do we ever take people into consideration? The only people that are getting increases in their pay are employees of government. Government. Ask the average person on the street how much of an increase in pay have they gotten over the last several years. Most people are going to say zero to nothing. My husband hasn't had a raise in the last eight years. Everything keeps going up on us. We have to figure out how we reduce things. My health insurance went up 35 % this year. I'm sure city employees don't have my deductible: \$2000 out-of-pocket. I had to go from \$1500 to \$2000 just so I didn't have to pay an extra \$150 a month so I could keep my costs. I had to look at ways to reduce my household. But we don't look for ways to reduce when you send a tax bill to us. As a matter of fact, how many aldermen here pay their tax bills at this point? How many of you own property in this city? How many? Because my tax bill I paid today. It was close to \$2500. I can't see the quality of services. Bob Sullivan used to say that all the time. What quality of services has improved for my costs to go up? I am going to tell you I heard that the police got a 2.5 % increase, the highest in the budget. They were going to stop putting them out on the street because of all the people who run the red lights. I'm going to talk about that at the last part of public comment period because I'm tired. I almost got broadsided the other day right off of Main Dunstable Road going on the highway. A guy just breezed right through the light. There's no language barrier. It was red and they keep doing it right up at Ledgewood Hills, right through those red lights. Yet, we can't get the police out there. I spoke about this at the Ward 5 meeting back in January. I was the one who was complaining. I guess I shouldn't say complaining, concerned about this because it's just becoming a nightmare in the city, and I don't see the police out there watching at lights like they used to for people violating. But I will ask to please consider about voting. I know the budget is going to pass. There's going to be enough votes here. But when I think about the people on fixed incomes, fixed incomes meaning you can't have your salary go up and there's no other way to create that income to offset your costs here. For one, I'm tired of all these increases. It's getting to the point you're running everybody out of the city eventually. The seniors are going to be run out of the city. My house is paid for, and I liked to enjoy my house now but I can't because my taxes are getting out of control. Thank you.

Ms. Latha Mangipudi, 20 Salmon Brook Drive

I'm going to be speaking in favor of R-16-049, the sister city initiative that the Mayor very eloquently explained. I thank Mayor for taking the step to bring it to the Board of Aldermen. As Mayor Donchess explained, there is a large group of India American citizens, and they are contributing to the demographics. Not just the demographics, the economic growth and the cultural vibrancy and diversity in our city. I am really honor and proud to serve my community. I have lived in Nashua for over 25 years. The sister city initiative started last year when I hosted about four different delegations coming from India. The reason is the current Prime Minister, who took office in 2014, has really promoted this international partnership and opening up the opportunities, cultural, economic, tourist, tourism, and education sharing. He is really promoting a lot of international sister cities. The India Consulate in New York, each Consulate has two states in India that they are promoting sister cities within the states that they have adopted or it's under, they are the liaison kind of thing. It so happens on of them has states that the Consul General, Riva Ganguly Das, who was here in June, has Karnataka as one of the states. It just so happens, very conveniently, it's the state that I come from and my husband comes from, and there's a large contingency of India American population in this city. The consul general also has a mandate from India government as the ambassador from India government to the United States to promote this cultural, economic, tourism, the sister city concept, which is called the Twinning City. If I have a few minutes, Mr. President, a have a little blurb what the sister city is about that I would like to read. There is a formal organization in the United States called the Sister City Initiative. In recent years the term city

diplomacy has gained increased usage and acceptance, particularly as a strand of better diplomacy and public diplomacy. It's formally used in workings of the united cities and local governments and cities climate leadership groups and recognized by USC Center on public diplomacy. The importance of cities developing their own foreign economic policies on trade, foreign investment, tourism and attracting foreign talent. The US Sister City Program formally began in 1956 when President Eisenhower proposed a people-to-people, citizen diplomacy initiative. There's a history since 1956. Also the opportunity at this time when there's a globalization and an integration of communities. It's a distinct opportunity that we have in Nashua to connect. The Mysore Chamber of Commerce in Mysore approached me once they found out that I was an elected official and said they would like to have this partnership and the communication has gone on for over a year. Recently the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce signed a letter of intent with the Mysore Chamber of Commerce. It's an honor and an opportunity and I would be more than happy to do whatever I need to do and I would love to take a delegation with me to my motherland and the city where I was born. It would be a proud moment. In fact, the Chamber of Commerce from Mysore are willing to come here as a visit on August 13th when we will be celebrating the Indian Independence Day. There are many similarities between where I was born and brought up and Nashua like higher education, medical, dental, arts, language institute and the Central Institute of Food Technology and Research. I wanted to share my commitment to making this long-term partnership work.

PETITIONS – None

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

Appointments by the Mayor

The following Appointments by the Mayor were read into the record:

Cable Television Advisory Board

Andrew Cernota (Reappointment)
129 Shelley Drive
Nashua NH 03062

Term to Expire: January 1, 2019

Paul F. Johnson (Reappointment)
44 Browning Avenue
Nashua, NH 03062

Term to Expire: January 1, 2019

Conservation Commission

Dan Sloan (New Appointment)
8 Westfield Street
Nashua NH 03062

Term to Expire: December 31, 2017

Planning Board

Scott LeClair (Reappointment)
10 Daylily Drive
Nashua NH 03062

Term to Expire: March 31, 2019

David Robbins (Reappointment)
102 Cherrywood Drive
Nashua, NH 03062

Term to Expire: March 31, 2019

There being no objection, President McCarthy accepted the Appointments by the Mayor as read and referred them to the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee

Alderman Deane

Are the reappointments going to attend the Personnel & Administrative Affairs Committee meeting?

Alderman Clemons

Typically they are not requested to attend unless a committee member wishes for them to be there.

Alderman Deane

If any Board member wishes them to be there but usually that questions is asked. Okay so they are not going to be there.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Budget Review Committee 06/16/16

There being no objection, President McCarthy declared the report of the June 16, 2016 Budget Review Committee accepted and placed on file.

Finance Committee..... 06/15/16

There being no objection, President McCarthy declared the report of the June 15, 2016 Finance Committee accepted and placed on file.

Human Affairs Committee 06/13/16

There being no objection, President McCarthy declared the report of the June 13, 2016 Human Affairs Committee accepted and placed on file.

Committee on Infrastructure 06/22/16

There being no objection, President McCarthy declared the report of the June 22, 2016 Committee on Infrastructure accepted and placed on file.

WRITTEN REPORTS FROM LIAISONS - None

CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-16-034

Endorser: Mayor Jim Donchess

RELATIVE TO THE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2017 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NASHUA GENERAL, ENTERPRISE, AND SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-16-034 BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Schoneman

I am on the Budget Review Committee and this came out of Budget with a vote of 5-1 and I was the only descending vote. I plan on descending here as well. I think that the budget is successful at staying under the

cap and I like to see that, however, the priorities that we are establishing in the budget I am a little dissatisfied with. I listened to a speaker who spoke in public comment today about social security increases and 2.5% may not seem like a lot and sometimes we refer to that as a stable tax rate but it is stable growth in a tax rate where many folks don't have stable increases over the same period of time. Services have been maintained in this budget and that's great. The increase went all to salaries primarily; raises that were given largely that were in excess of the cap and I think the city and taxpayer pay a price for that. If we were to take a look at the trends you will see that salaries are up and pensions are up. Benefits are down and I think that's a step in the right direction. I think benefits probably still exceed those in the private sector. We see the operational portion of the budget relatively flat and that's the part of the budget where people say services have not been increased. Here we have a budget, salary, and pension increase, services flat and taxes up and I think that I'd like to see us in the future strive to change some of those trends so that salaries and pensions match more of what happens in the private sector and that for increased money, if there is increased tax revenue to be raised it goes to increased operational costs.

Alderman Clemons

I too will not be supporting the budget this evening but I have a very different reason. I've heard the opinions that unions and salaries are to blame for the fact that we can't do more in our city but actually my opinion is that Nashua stands in the middle of the pack as far as wages go for most city employees when you compare us to other municipalities. In addition to that there are many other reasons why services have stayed flat or in some cases have been cut and those reasons are cost of materials and the cost of outside contracting, for example, the school bus contract, the costs associated with downshifting of state liabilities onto the municipalities. These things have all cut into what we can spend because of the spending cap. I consider myself to be more liberal than the average person but even still; I am a homeowner in Nashua and I pay taxes. I don't want to see my taxes go too high but what I also don't want to see is for me to pay more in taxes and get less in service and that's what this budget does. I know that the Mayor worked very hard to get the budget under the spending cap but in order to do that some services had to be cut and whether or not you look at those services as being important or not, the reality is that they are being cut and there are things that we had last year that we won't have this year. Yet, we are going to pay more in taxes than we did before. In fact, for the last 10 years we have been cutting the amount of services and increasing the taxes. For those reasons I cannot support a budget that I am going to pay more for and have less to show for it.

Alderman Siegel

To address some of Mrs. Johnson's points, there was a lot of discussion about what we could or could not cut and in fact, I would recommend to anybody if they want to see a very constructive conversation to look at the previous Budget Review Committee meeting where we did the wrap-up session on the budget and there were a lot of suggestions made and potential ideas were kicked around about what could or couldn't be done and I think there was a wide variety of viewpoints and it was a very interesting exchange of ideas. Unfortunately, we were not able to come up with anything. From my perspective it is somewhat frustrating. In the past I have been able to come up with certain things. Just FYI, one of the things we might look at in the future is the stop/loss policy that we have. I have gotten some figures from Mr. Griffin on it. It's a large insurance policy that we are paying right now but there's no reason to do anything with it right now because we've paid already for the premium going forward and effectively we've got a free look for quite some time until we have to actually take action on the renewal of that policy so there's no particular reason to do anything and take it out of the budget when the possibility may exist that we will actually use it above and beyond what it costs us. That was specifically why I didn't address that. As far as the notion of specific services which are cut, I would challenge anyone to identify the significant amount of cuts of services because I know where the money came out of. There was a significant amount of money saved in the bond debt, there was money saved in the healthcare provisions and some different estimations on other costs. I think if anything we did a fairly decent job balancing the need for accommodating the expenses of the city and finding some savings where they are. It's very difficult because we have certain costs which are not contractible. We can't tell bond holders that we are going to cut your payouts by 2%. Once you go through those things which are fundamentally inflexible you are back to trying to make the hard decisions about what to do. With regard to the police contract, I voted in favor of it reluctantly because the way the police supervisor's contract was structured we really would have had

no choice. We could have voted it down and gone to arbitration and have it spit right back at us with the same net financially but with a very demotivated workforce. It would have been a net loose, although I am sympathetic to the notion that in the future we should be very careful about negotiating contracts with "me too" clauses. I think the Budget Review Committee did a very reasonable job reviewing everything and I would like to thank the department heads who really stepped up to the plate. I think overall the city is run relatively efficiently and where there may be possible savings that can be had I think they are outside the scope or the control of the Board of Aldermen. I would recommend to my colleagues that unless you have a very specific idea about how you would change the budget after all of those review periods and what you might do after the careful consideration that we made, I would urge you to vote for the budget even if it is reluctantly.

Alderman Lopez

I rent an apartment and a lot of people in my Ward do as well and we are not at all immune to tax increases because our rent goes up as well and I know that a lot of the people in my Ward that are on fixed incomes rely heavily on quality city services being offered. We can't allow the quality of our services to degrade because we are not paying people competitively. I did attend the Budget Review Committee meetings and I did learn a lot about how these decisions have to be made and weighted. I am in favor of the budget as it was presented. I am always mindful of the situation that our residents are facing when on a fixed income and how our taxes impact them.

Alderman LeBrun

I echo many of the statements made by Alderman Schoneman. I too am on social security and I have not seen an increase in the past three years except for I believe a 1% the year before last. I also paid my tax bill recently and I do not get the services that many people get. I pay for my services and I pay my taxes so other people can get services. I will not vote for this budget. I had not voted for the past state budget nor have I voted for the past county budget. Until we begin to reign in government and make government more workable and smaller in size I cannot vote for any of these budgets.

Alderman Siegel

By "reigning in government," do you have a suggestion by what that specifically means tangibly and what cuts and changes you would make? I have paid my taxes and I am on well water and a septic system and all of my children have graduated from the school system. So as far as services that cost everybody a lot of money, I am not using many of them however, it is unfortunate that I have to pay the bill too and I feel the pain. It's a lot easier to say no without explanation than it is to say no but here's what I would change.

Alderman Clemons

In response to Alderman Siegel I would eliminate the spending cap and bring in a real budget that we could look at without regard to that and see what our real needs are. It could be that we would end up spending less than we do now but more likely it would be a little bit more but I think it would be fair.

Alderman Siegel

I would say to Alderman Clemons that is beyond the scope and power of the Board of Aldermen and therefore is not a viable option.

Alderman Schoneman

The issue I don't think is trying to find services or things that we can cut. Services have stayed essentially flat; they are no worse than they were last year. There is an increase in taxes and there is an increase in the budget. The issue is where that increase seems to be going; it seems to be going towards salaries and pensions. We can't come in here and say we are going to cut the salaries because they are contracts that

were previously approved. That doesn't mean that those approvals were good. The priorities going forward have to change and in the meantime, I can't support it.

Alderman Clemons

I think repealing the spending cap is a viable option that this Board could consider. The only thing I wonder is if it's going to take Nashua to become like Fitchburg or Brockton before we do it or are we going to do it ahead of that.

Alderman Caron

I too watched the Budget Review Committee work on this and I don't support everything but I think the Mayor and the Budget Review Committee worked really hard for this and I will be supporting this budget.

Alderman Moriarty

When talking about services it might be helpful to compare the services the city provides versus the services the state provides through Concord. It works out given the \$11 billion biannual budget in Concord versus the \$260 million budget in Nashua. Per capita the state budget is about the same size as Nashua which means that the \$6,000 per year that I will pay in property tax for Nashua, I get a certain amount of something from the city and equivalently through all of the business profit taxes and various other things that I will spend that will end up in Concord, they spend an equal amount. It's useful to recognize that in the City of Nashua's budget, about 80% of our budget is for city staff so in some sense the services that you get is exactly the number of people working for the city within 80%. If you take bond debt it's almost entirely....If you want to answer the question quantitatively, are services getting better or worse you just count the number of people that are working for the city. The police department has not gone down, the fire department has not gone down and the school; the teacher to student ratio has remained constant over the past few years. The services in Nashua have remained consistent. In Concord their salary and state budget is less than half. Basically Concord just gives out welfare checks, Medicare, Medicaid; none of which I use. I was surprised that Mayor Donchess managed to get it in under the spending cap at all. I am a big fan of the spending cap because without it the tax rate would out of control. We've had many opportunities to show fiscal prudence without a spending cap looming over our heads and had everything to do with the salary contracts that we passed which I voted against 90% of them. In summary on the one hand part of me wants to support the budget because it did come in under the spending cap but what I want to warn everybody about is this insidious spending cap by-pass that we keep getting. I think we are up to five now. One example was that CTE special revenue fund and we have a lot of bonding. There are items that should have been in the budget that, in order to keep the budget under the spending cap they are being squeezed out. Another one is R-16-045, establishing an expendable trust fund for the state employer pension cost which is coming here, that already failed once and now it's coming back. That is a spending cap end around end around. I can vote against the budget by the mere fact that there are all these other spending cap by-passes that are occurring as a result of poor planning up to it.

Alderman Siegel

The CTE fund was funded totally from money outside of the taxpayers of the City of Nashua. As far as the legislation that will be before us for first reading, it's funded at zero. It's a container so it doesn't by-pass anything. It's just sitting there waiting to be filled which is unlike the previous legislation where one could argue and there was an argument that was a by-pass and it failed. It's to create the vessel such that should we find money that was available we can set it aside for the time next year when we are going to be staring at a \$2 million bullet aimed at our head.

Alderman Clemons

I'd like to point out that while the police department, the fire department and the class sizes in the schools remain level, the problems that these individuals have to face every day is increasing. We have a drug

epidemic going on in this city right now and the police department and the fire department have to battle it every day. It's great that the Mayor got the increases that he did so we can keep those people on the streets but it's not good enough for the person who doesn't get help because there wasn't enough staff because the demand was too high. The same stressors are at the schools. These problems have increased over the last few years and instead of responding to them we have simply said well, what was good enough five years ago is good enough now and to me that's not true.

Alderman Lopez

With regard to Alderman Moriarty's point regarding state services and city services being comparable, we had an opportunity to see the state police and the Nashua police department in a joint exercise a few months ago after a car chase and I was much more impressed with how Nashua conducted itself. I think that speaks to why you need competitive personnel who are well trained. I know that Nashua Fire Rescue is very respected in this region as a training center. They do their job while battling extraordinary circumstances; an out of control heroin epidemic and other factors and I think they have done a great job managing. I don't disagree that maybe we could use more officers on the ground and fire stations but with the budget we have right now we reflected the most immediate need is making sure that the ones that we have are very efficient. I continue to support the budget.

A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:

Yea:	Alderman Wilshire, Alderman Deane, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Siegel, Alderwoman Melizzi-Golja Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Lopez, Alderman McCarthy	9
Nay:	Alderman Clemons, Alderman Cookson, Alderman Schoneman, Alderman McGuinness, Alderman LeBrun, Alderman Moriarty	6

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-16-034 declared duly adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

O-16-011

Endorsers: Alderman Don LeBrun
Alderman Ken Siegel
Alderman David Schoneman
Alderman Tom Lopez

ADOPTING PROVISIONS FOR REDUCED TAXATION FOR CERTAIN CHARTERED PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

- Tabled at Full Board Level – 5/10/16

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-16-044

Endorser: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Ken Siegel
Alderdwoman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman Sean M. McGuinness
Alderman Don LeBrun
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Tom Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy

AMENDING R-15-188 TO ALLOW THE CLOSING FOR PURCHASE OF THE HYDROELECTRIC FACILITY IN MINE FALLS PARK TO OCCUR ANYTIME BETWEEN DECEMBER 15, 2016 AND DECEMBER 15, 2017

Given its first reading; assigned to the COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE by President McCarthy

R-16-045

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Ken Siegel
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderdwoman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman Tom Lopez
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy

ESTABLISHING AN EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND FOR STATE EMPLOYER PENSION COSTS

Given its first reading; assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE by President McCarthy

R-16-046

Endorser: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderdwoman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman June M. Caron

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF AN ADDITIONAL \$39,862 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION INTO GRANT ACTIVITY "TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) GRANT" AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF MATCHING FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,972.40

Given its first reading; assigned to the HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE by President McCarthy

R-16-047

Endorser: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Siegel
Alderdwoman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Richard A. Dowd

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY TREASURER TO ISSUE BONDS NOT TO EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000) FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS AT THE SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT FOUR HILLS LANDFILL

Given its first reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD TO ACCEPT THE FIRST READING OF R-16-047 BY ROLL CALL, ASSIGN IT TO THE BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE AND THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, AND THAT A PUBLIC HEARING BE SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, JULY 25, 2016, AT 7:00 PM IN THE ALDERMANIC CHAMBER

A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Wilshire, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Deane, 15
Alderman Cookson, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron,
Alderman Siegel, Alderman Schoneman, Alderwoman Melizzi-Golja,
Alderman McGuinness, Alderman LeBrun, Alderman Moriarty,
Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Lopez, Alderman McCarthy

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

R-16-048

Endorser: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman Ken Siegel
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman David Schoneman
Alderwoman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Tom Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy

APPROVING A LOCATION OFF STADIUM DRIVE AS THE REPLACEMENT SITE FOR THE DAVID W. DEANE SKATEBOARD PARK CURRENTLY LOCATED ON BRIDGE STREET

Given its first reading; assigned to the COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE and the BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS by President McCarthy

R-16-049

Endorser: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Lori Wilshire
Alderman Benjamin M. Clemons
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderwoman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman Tom Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy

AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A TWINNING (SISTER CITY) AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION WITH THE CITY OF MYSORE, KARNATAKA STATE, INDIA

Given its first reading; assigned to the PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE by President McCarthy

Alderman Lopez

Can it also be referred to the Cultural Connections Committee?

President McCarthy

That is a good suggestion, yes it can.

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

O-16-014

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien
Alderman Benjamin M. Clemons
Alderman Lori Wilshire
Alderman Ken Siegel
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman Sean M. McGuinness
Alderman Tom Lopez
Alderman David Schoneman

ENABLING THE SAMPLING OF BEER OR WINE AT FARMERS' MARKETS

Given its first reading; assigned to the PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE by President McCarthy

PERIOD FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jim Cutter, 86 Palm Street

Mr. Cutter read aloud a letter dated June 28, 2016, addressed to Alderman McCarthy and is attached to these minutes.

Ms. Paula Johnson, 15 Westborn Drive

I have a question. I thought anything with new business had to come to the end of the meeting that we couldn't discuss it at the beginning of the meeting like earlier this evening. First of all, Alderman Clemons, it is the will of the people that we have the spending cap and it was a teacher that changed it that made it a little bit worse now so you would have a little bit more money if he didn't change the dynamics of it and the City Clerk's office was a little bit more informed with the public on that spending cap. We are starting to have a revolution in this country; they already had it in Britain because the will of the people is being stomped on.

I am here for R-16-048, the relocation of the David W. Deane Skateboard Park. How many people go and walk in Mine Falls Park? Five, okay, I live by Stello's Stadium and when I was on the Board I was against Stello's Stadium because of the noise. We were promised everything by Streeter and by the time Streeter left all of his promises were broken. It has become very congested in the that area, we've got the Y, Conway Ice and I know they want another sheet of ice and I hope we sell the street department over there to Conway at market value and not for peanuts. Companies pay their fair share and it offsets our taxes and when they don't pay their fair share then we have to pick up the cost to maintain. So now we are going to put in the David W. Deane Skateboard Park.

I am a nimby and I have spoken to a lot of the neighbors who are also concerned about this. We have a Board of Public Works commissioner who lives in the neighborhood. If you look at the congestion over there now, we have the high school, the police department, the buses; we have Stello's in the fall and in the spring that's very active and we've got the Y. I have some pictures of where everybody parks over there to go into Mine Falls and now we are going to have people go skateboarding over there. I guess the question is how much can one neighborhood take. They park around the oval and by the side of the salt barn. We have a dirt road that goes into Mine Falls that we have to share with bicyclists and cars. We share it with people who are not accountable for keeping their dogs on a leash and the DPW started to put up signs but they didn't put up the ordinance with the signs. These dogs are off leash and they can bite someone. Now we are going to cram in the skateboard park. Because none of us are direct abutters we were never notified of what was going on. If I just didn't happen to ask anybody about this, which was Director Fauteux, I probably wouldn't have known that the first reading was tonight. Since I can't make all of the meetings I figured I would voice my opinion about this. My concern as well as a lot of the neighbors concern is with the neighborhood, who is going to come into the

neighborhood and who is not. That area is so congested now. We don't get police presence because I guess we have such a drug crisis in the city which I understand; I wrote an op-ed on heroin addiction. We are asking the city, state and the federal government to pay the doctors and the drug companies to really do it because they are the ones writing the prescriptions and getting a lot of these people hooked on it. Everybody that signed on because you think this is a great idea, think about the neighbors because I don't see anybody coming forward to say the skateboard park should be in their area.

I've been complaining about West Hollis Street for months. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure it out. Just take a solid white line and make the whole thing a left turn right down to Ledgewood Hills and see if that works. Don't put up any more signs unless it's all going to say left turn. Somebody is going to get killed there and it's going to be on the head of the city because the city has known about this and the former Mayor knew about this and it's only getting worse. It's getting worse because people have no respect, they run the red lights left and right in this city.

Alderman Siegel asked a very important question if the Renaissance was going to pay for this, \$250,000 came from the contingency and the rest from the cell tower, they are not paying for anything. Enough is enough already and I hope notices will go through my entire neighborhood so everyone is aware of this, that this meeting is coming up.

REMARKS BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Alderman Wilshire

I want to send my condolences to the family of Michael Boucher.

Alderman Cookson

I would like to thank the members of the Board and the Mayor for your expression of sympathy at the loss of my mother. It was greatly appreciated.

Alderman Dowd

I would like to thank the Board for passing the budget this evening. It was a very difficult job for the Mayor to put the budget together and I'd like to thank the Budget Review Committee for all of the work that they put in on the budget. There were elements brought up of reasons why people didn't vote for the budget and one being salaries and that has to do with we want to have a liaison with the Boards that actually present the contract to us and that should be arranged without actually interfering with a negotiation process. Also, the pensions, the pension issue that we had with our budget here in Nashua is caused by the monies that are no longer paid by the state, they passed it down to us and it's severely impacting our budget and the next two years it's going to be even worse. The only way to solve that is to vote for people that represent us in Concord that are going to vote to fix that and accept the responsibilities that they originally said they would take on pensions. All of those things were beyond what we can do here with a budget committee vote so I thank everyone who voted for the budget.

Alderman Schoneman

Regarding the budget and pensions, I have a counterpoint. The pensions are based on salaries and the pension problem isn't just the states not paying what they said they were going to. The pension problem includes the fact that some of these pensions are pretty large and that's now what the state is passing down to us it's just part of what we offer for compensation and I think that should be addressed.

Secondly on Saturday, July 9th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. over at the airport there is going to be an experimental aviation event. I think it will be a great family event.

Alderwoman Melizzi-Golja

On July 23rd the Millyard Nano Brewery which is on East Otterson Street is doing a fundraiser for the Dreams Heard Foundation which is located in Nashua. If any of you have family members or children that have hearing loss or deafness this organization provides funds and help locate services for children throughout the year including camps.

Alderman McGuinness

I lost my father a week or so ago and I want to extend my thanks to all of you for your sympathy and the flowers.

Alderman LeBrun

Some months ago I met with Alderman Deane and Ms. Marchant in reference to the skateboard park and I expressed the same concerns that the previous public speaker expressed. This is not the place for another facility. There are too many problems in that area and too much congestion.

Alderman Lopez

With respect to the skateboard park, I don't know enough about the site selection to start second guessing the whole process but what I will say is that it did strike me as a surprise that we are moving it so far away from its other site because I would have imagined that local neighbors would have probably been the main users of it. I will also say that there is a skateboard park on West Hollis and Ash Streets that is very popular. I definitely look forward to the discussion at the Infrastructure Committee meeting. I also wanted to announce that on July 4th the Riverside Bar-be-que and at Bicentennial Park there are two events going on to celebrate the 4th of July. There are a lot of Veteran's in our downtown area who can't celebrate the 4th of July with a Bar-be-que because they don't have a backyard. All Veterans are welcome.

Committee announcements: None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN WILSHIRE THAT THE JUNE 28, 2016, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ADJOURNED

A Viva Voce Roll Call was taken, which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Wilshire, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Deane, 14
Alderman Cookson, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Siegel,
Alderman Schoneman, Alderwoman Melizzi-Golja, Alderman McGuinness,
Alderman LeBrun, Alderman Moriarty, Alderman O'Brien,
Alderman Lopez, Alderman McCarthy

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Attest: Patricia D. Piecuch, City Clerk

From: James B. and Mary E. Cutter
86 Palm St., P.O. Box 69-Nashua, NH 03061 Ph. 889-4246
Date: June 28, 2016
To: Alderman-At-Large Brian S. McCarthy, President
Cc: Jim Donchess, Mayor, Steve Bolton, Corporaion Counsel,
Thomas Lopez, Alderman, Ward 4.
Subject: 1949 Plat Plan error at 88 Palm Street.

Dear Alderman McCarthy,

At the last aldermanic meeting, I said we would like it very much if the BOA helped us with the city error of approving the 88 Palm St. bldg. permit that took part of our driveway/clothesline area.

But, it would be easier if Mayor Donchess helped because Sect. 45 of the City Charter has the Mayor 'shall enforce the ordinances of the city.'. Thus, we wish Mayor Donchess will enforce the 1949 plat plan ord. of 1971 at 88 Palm St. to 51' rather than 53.57'.

The Assessing Dept. changed the 88 Palm St. Tax Map to 53.57' in 1950 because they did not check the building permit against the deed. It stayed that way in 1971 because it used the very same paper when approving the 1950 building permit.

Leo Caron made mistakes to claim 53.57' in 1950 as the actual dimension because it was not in the deed and there can not be a gap in a driveway with a property marker. The original deed had a 3' long gap on Palm St. split by the house. See sketch below.

After I found the plat plan error I went to Angelo Marino of the Assessing Department. As of 2007, the tax map boundary line was corrected to 51' to agree with the deed recognized as the actual dimension. Please inform the Gilbertsons to return our property.

Sincerely,

