

A regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Tuesday, May 12, 2020, at 7:30 p.m. via teleconference.

President Lori Wilshire presided; City Clerk Susan Lovering recorded.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Susan Lovering; Alderman Benjamin M. Clemons led in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Wilshire

As President of the Board of Aldermen, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are:

a) Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means:

We are utilizing WebEx through the City's IT Department for this electronic meeting. All members of the Board of Aldermen have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen in to this meeting through dialing the following number 978-990-5298 and using the password 273974. The Public may also view this meeting on Comcast Channel 16.

b) Providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting:

We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, through public postings. Instructions have also been provided on the City of Nashua's website at www.nashuanh.gov and publicly noticed at City Hall.

c) Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access:

If anybody has a problem accessing the meeting via phone or Channel 16, please call 603-821-2049 and they will help you connect.

d) Adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting:

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting via the methods mentioned above, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled. Please note that **all votes** that are taken during this meeting shall be done by **roll call vote**.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. **When each member states their presence, please also state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-To-Know Law.**

The roll call was taken with 12 members of the Board of Aldermen present: Alderman Michael B. O'Brien, Sr., Alderman Patricia Klee, Alderwoman Shoshanna Kelly, Alderman Richard A. Dowd, Alderman June M. Caron, Alderman Benjamin Clemons, Alderman Lopez, Alderman David C. Tencza, Alderwoman Elizabeth Lu,

Alderman Ernest Jette, Alderman Jan Schmidt, Alderman Skip Cleaver, Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Wilshire. Alderman Clemons and Alderman Caron were recorded after roll call.

Alderman Brandon Michael Laws was recorded absent.

Mayor James W. Donchess, Corporation Counsel Steven A. Bolton, John Griffin, CFO, Deputy Police Chief Jim Testaverde, Bobbie Bagley, Public Works Director, and Tim Cummings, Economic Development Director were also in attendance via teleconference.

Alderman O'Brien

I am present, I am home alone and I can hear you.

Alderman Klee

I am present, I can hear everybody, I am in the room alone at the moment but as I say, my greyhounds and husband could be here at any point.

Alderwoman Kelly

I am here, I am alone, and I can hear everyone.

Alderman Dowd

I am here, I am alone, I can hear you and am practicing social distancing in accordance with the Governor's instructions.

Alderman Lopez

I am here, I am alone and I am social distancing.

Alderman Tencza

I am present, I can hear everybody and I am alone.

Alderwoman Lu

I am here, I can hear you and I am alone.

Alderman Jette

I'm here, I'm alone in the room and I can hear you.

Alderman Schmidt

I am here, I can hear you all and you might hear my bird, who is the only one with me.

Alderman Cleaver

Here and I am alone in the room.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

I am present, I am alone but there are others in the home.

President Wilshire

I am here, I am home alone I can hear everyone and I am staying home per the Governor's orders.

Susan Lovering, City Clerk

I didn't hear Alderman Caron or Alderman Clemons, I know they were just at the Special Meeting, can you hear us or are they on? I show 12 in attendance.

President Wilshire

Thank you. Also with us this evening is Mayor Jim Donchess, Corporation Counsel Steve Bolton. Is John Griffin with us tonight, or Police Chief Michael Carignan. I see Deputy Chief Testaverde is with us. Director Cummings is also with us. Bobbie Bagley is with us; did I miss anyone? Ok, very good. Mayor did you wish to address the Board?

REMARKS BY THE MAYORMayor Donchess

Thank you, Madam President. I am going to mention a few things. First of all, on your desks or at least your virtual desks, there should be a Resolution for introduction for a first reading under a suspension of the rules. This pertains to Main Street and it would give the Community Development Director the ability to alter temporarily site plans regarding the outdoor dining features of various restaurants so we could help to accommodate them in expanding their outdoor space.

Some of the Board Members have participated in a few telephone conferences we have had in the last week or so or more regarding the possibility of expanding the area that retail and restaurants can use by using the one lane on each side of the road, narrowing the street to one lane in each direction and including some different parking. Those are plans that will be coming forward but we are working with some Aldermen and others downtown, a lot of downtown discussions for the specific businesses. Of course, our overall goal here is to help build a stronger business climate, stronger economy downtown coming out of the or as we emerge from the Coronavirus Epidemic and as restaurants can begin to serve people, at least outdoors.

Of course, we still need to be careful, we should need to open when it is safe to open; safety should be number one. On that score, Madam President, there has been some research recently that has come out very recently suggesting that wearing the masks, even homemade masks is very helpful in curtailing the spread of COVID-19. The research is showing that the virus is more likely to be spread through the mist is emitted when someone is talking or lightly coughing because it remains in the air, more likely than the droplets they were talking about at the beginning of the epidemic. Therefore, the research is saying that masks are going to be much more effective, are much more effective than was originally thought. So there a few things that are going on with respect to that.

First of all, The Board of Public Health is meeting tomorrow and will be considering a requirement that people who visit stores, restaurants and indoor business establishments, customers wear a mask when they make such a visit. You may recall that the Governor's orders require now, there is some gradual opening taking place, but the Governor's orders require that the workers in these establishments wear masks. But right now there is no State requirement that the customers wear a mask. The Board of Health is going to be considering such a requirement. Now it is Attorney Bolton's analysis that in order to enforce such a requirement, there would need to be action by The Board of Public Health which later would have to be confirmed by the Board of Aldermen. So depending on what The Board of Health discusses and decided up tomorrow, it is possible that the requirement of masks indoors would come to the Board of Aldermen and obviously we will keep you informed and provide more detail when and if that happens.

Also, the Nashua Rotary Club, in conjunction with the owners of the Common Man Restaurant are cooperating to distribute masks to the public at Nashua South this coming Friday, Saturday and Sunday. This is something that

the owners of Common Man procured I think 70,000 masks down in Central America and they have done this north of Concord and so they are going to try it in Nashua with our Rotary Club and then distribute as many masks as they can on each of those days. So if anyone is interested in that, you should check out the details and go to Nashua South during the hours that they are open.

Also, Alderman Lopez kindly arranged the sewing of, I believe, about 100 or more masks. He had asked me and I didn't have a chance to get back to him today, where those could be dropped off for the City. If you, Alderman Lopez, go to the side door of City Hall any time during business hours during the week, ring the bell, someone will come and take the masks and they will be put to good use and we greatly appreciate your help with putting these together.

Another issue on the COVID-19 virus, we have talked before about all of the people in the City, Public Health, Emergency Management, everybody is working very hard to keep our community and our residents safe. They are doing an extremely good job and we have discussed that before. They are, based upon what the tests they have been allocated, that is Public Works, have conducted a lot more tests recently than they were allowed to earlier on; a month or 3 or 4 weeks ago. Last week they did several clinics, they have been conducting a lot of tests and the criteria have broadened considerably. So anybody who thinks they would like to be tested, especially if you are over 60 should call the COVID-19 Hotline which is 589-3456. Just briefly there are, right now as of this morning, about 316 cases that have been tested in Nashua, 100 of those are still active, most have recovered, unfortunately 8 people in Nashua have passed away from Coronavirus and there are a number of people who are hospitalized right now. We are keeping our fingers crossed and praying for those who have gotten that disease especially those who are hospitalized with serious symptoms.

Finally Madam President I thought I would mention on the non-COVID front that the Master Plan of interviews for the Master Plan Consultants have gone forward and will be coming to the Board with a recommendation. Of course, the Master Planning exercise requires a lot of public input and so you don't know what is going to happen; there's a lot of uncertainty. We don't know when and how that Master Planning Exercise would proceed but we think we should a consultant in place and then work with them and with Public Health, and of course Public Safety and the safety of our employees in mind.

So I could go on about more of the COVID-19 issues, but I think I have covered the more prominent ones right now. So Madam President, unless there are questions, I will turn it over to you.

RESPONSE TO REMARKS OF THE MAYOR

Alderman Clemons

Yes, I just wanted to let you know that I was on the call, I don't know what the trouble was before, but I am here and present.

President Wilshire

Thank you, Alderman Clemons.

Alderman Caron

Alderman Caron here, can you hear me?

President Wilshire

We can hear you Alderman Caron. OK I was here also; I don't know what happened. Thank you. Ok very good, thank you so much.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Alderman Harriott-Gathright, I was ...

President Wilshire

Alderman Klee?

Alderman Klee

I couldn't hear. I just want to thank the Mayor for going forward and working with Public Health and I look forward to something coming to the Board of Aldermen about wearing masks indoors. I don't know necessarily that restaurants would be plausible, but for malls and so on I think it's a good idea. I can tell you that I have signed on to a letter to ask the Governor to do it throughout our State also. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Anyone else, responses to the remarks of the Mayor?

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Yes Linda.

President Wilshire

Alderman Gathright?

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Thank you. I am happy that we are considering that people wear masks, because to be honest with you, if I go into the market and typically it is usually at Exit 1, quite a few people there that come though there, no masks, they don't follow the directions of how the aisles are supposed to, the direction you should go in an aisle. So it has been a challenge to be honest with you here in Nashua. So I am very happy that we even are considering that Nashua becomes a mask City. And particularly because we are a border town and I personally feel as though every border town at least should be a mask City. That's it, thank you Mayor for considering.

President Wilshire

Alderman Lopez.

Alderman Lopez

Yes, I just wanted to comment about the masks. So the 100 masks were made by the Girl Scouts and they are left over after we got masks for all of the shelters, all of the residential programs, all of the group homes. So there's a huge capacity of volunteer mask makers in Nashua. Latha Mangipudi has been printing out like 300 or 400 a day. So Alderman Kelly and I had talked about the possibility of mandatory masks back when we thought Governor Sununu was going to do it but if we do it at the City level we could work on getting volunteers to produce masks so that we can give them out to Police or business owners so that there isn't any kind of economic barrier to getting a mask. So I just wanted to comment that there is the ability to help each other. There is plenty of willingness and interest in doing so. So if we did move forward with the masking plan, it wouldn't be targeting people unfairly. We could make sure that everybody gets a chance to get one.

Mayor Donchess

Thank you very much Alderman Lopez, that will be, of course, very helpful.

President Wilshire

Any other response to the remarks of the Mayor?

RECOGNITION PERIOD - None

READING MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the minutes of the Board of Aldermen meetings of April 28, 2020 and May 4, 2020 accepted, placed on file, and the reading suspended.

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING ONLY PROCEDURAL ACTIONS AND WRITTEN REPORTS FROM LIAISONS

From: Rev. Sarah (Sally) Newhall
Re: Proposed School Street Flats

There being no objection, President Wilshire accepted the communication, placed it on file.

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT RELATIVE TO ITEMS EXPECTED TO BE ACTED UPON THIS EVENING
- None

The public has access to contemporaneously listen in to this meeting through dialing the following number 978-990-5298 and using the password 273974. The Public may also view this meeting on Comcast Channel 16.

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You may also submit your comments via e-mail which will be accepted and placed on file with the minutes of the meeting. Please e-mail your comments to: BOA@nashuanh.gov

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING FINAL APPROVAL - None

PETITIONS - None

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS - None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Budget Review Committee..... 04/27/2020

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the April 27, 2020 Budget Review Committee accepted and placed on file.

Budget Review Committee..... 04/29/2020

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the April 29, 2020 Budget Review Committee accepted and placed on file.

Budget Review Committee..... 05/05/2020

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the May 5, 2020 Budget Review Committee accepted and placed on file.

Finance Committee..... 05/06/2020

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the May 6, 2020 Finance Committee accepted and placed on file.

Budget Review Committee..... 05/07/2020

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the May 7, 2020 Budget Review Committee accepted and placed on file.

There being no objection, President Wilshire suspended the rules to allow for the oral report of the Human Affairs Committee meeting held Monday night regarding proposed Resolution R-20-031.

Alderwoman Kelly gave an oral report of the Human Affairs Committee meeting of May 11, 2020 with respect to Resolution R-20-031.

Alderwoman Kelly

Was that last night, I was trying to remember what we talked about, I'm sorry it has been a long day and I was stuck on mute. Just give me a moment. I didn't realize you were going to have me do an oral report. I was not quite prepared. So we met last night, it was a quick meeting but we discussed, that's right, we discussed the money for the Police Department to allow them to take in the supplemental emergency funding. The Police Department is talking about getting up to 3 outfits per Police Officer, as well as other measures to keep them safe during COVID-19. So it passed unanimously and the Police were great in explaining what the money was going to go to. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Thank you.

CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-20-030

- Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
- Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
- Alderman Patricia Klee
- Alderman Richard A. Dowd
- Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright

RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF \$10,000 WITHIN DEPARTMENT 156 "EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT", FROM ACCOUNT 54407 "SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE" TO ACCOUNT 51300 "PAYROLL - OVERTIME"

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN SCHMIDT FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-20-030 BY ROLL CALL

President Wilshire

Alderman Lu, do you have your hand up? Alderman Lu.

Alderwoman Lu

I just have a question is that (inaudible) in the Emergency Management Division.

President Wilshire

I couldn't hear you Alderman Lu, I'm sorry.

Alderwoman Lu

First of all thank you. My question was is the payroll overtime account that the funds would be directed to, 51300, is that a General Fund Account or is earmarked specifically to be Emergency Management Division?

President Wilshire

I don't know the answer to that. Mr. Griffin, do you know the answer to that question?

John Griffin, CFO

Thank you, Madam, President. That fund is included in the Emergency Management Budget. What we are doing is we are transferring money from a non-salary account, Software Maintenance which was the (inaudible) into that particular overtime account within Emergency Management.

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you. I'm still learning, thank you very much.

John Griffin, CFO

You're welcome.

President Wilshire

Any other discussion on the motion for final passage?

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Tencza, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Jette, Alderman Schmidt, Alderman Laws, Alderman Cleaver, Alderwoman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Wilshire	14
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Nay:	0
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MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-20-030 declared duly adopted.

R-20-031

- Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
- Alderman Richard A. Dowd
- Alderman Patricia Klee
- Alderman-at-Large David C. Tencza
- Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
- Alderman Jan Schmidt
- Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright
- Alderman Thomas Lopez
- Alderman June M. Caron
- Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF \$122,122 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE INTO POLICE GRANT ACTIVITY “2020 CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING (CESF) PROGRAM”

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY TO SUSPEND THE RULES FOR A SECOND READING OF R-20-031 ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Alderwoman Lu

What is 31?

Alderwoman Kelly

It was the piece of Legislation I just spoke about to give funding the Police Station for COVID-19.

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman O’Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Tencza, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Jette, Alderman Schmidt, Alderman Cleaver, Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Wilshire 14

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-20-031 was given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-20-031 BY ROLL CALL

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman O’Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Tencza, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Jette, Alderman Schmidt, Alderman Cleaver, Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Wilshire 14

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-20-031 declared duly adopted.

R-20-034

- Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
- Alderman Richard A. Dowd
- Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O’Brien, Sr.
- Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright
- Alderman Patricia Klee
- Alderman Skip Cleaver
- Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

APPROVING THE COST ITEMS OF SIDEBAR AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE NASHUA BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS AND THE FIVE NASHUA POLICE DEPARTMENT UNIONS REGARDING A POLICE DEPARTMENT RECRUITING INCENTIVE

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN JETTE FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-20-034 BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Jette

And I'd like to be heard on it.

President Wilshire

Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

So I noticed that Deputy Testaverde is here, he could probably explain this better than I can. So could, is it OK to ask him to talk about this or do you want me to just say what I know about it.

President Wilshire

We could ask him if you prefer to do that Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

I'm sure he would be better qualified.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Thank you Alderman Jette; Madam President, can you hear me ok?

President Wilshire

Yes.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Thank you. Thank you for having me here tonight. I will try to be brief. It's difficult for me at times. I was before you, many of you, last summer telling you that we were down approximately 20 officers and earmarked to be down 22. Right around September we changed Personnel & Professional Standards out of their primary responsibilities as recruitment and took a whole new look at how we had been doing it for decades and did a huge transformation. One of the outside the box things that they came up with was this recruitment incentive program. We are able to do it totally within our own budget. Basically what it is, is you are a member of an agency does a face to face in person hand-off with a potential candidate Police Officer or Dispatcher, because those are the two areas we were really suffering with personnel retention. And if that candidate is successfully hired by us, the person doing the recruitment will receive a \$500.00 incentive. And again it's all within our current budget, we are not asking for any additional funds. I can tell you I am very proud of the work they've done since January of this year up until a couple weeks ago, we have sworn in 15 new officers and added people to Communications & Dispatch. So it's working two of those people were part of this program, but it's a full court press with hiring right now and obviously we have not lowered our standards.

President Wilshire

Thank you.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

You're welcome.

Alderman Klee

Thank you, Madam President. When this came in front of the Finance Committee, I believe it was, I commented that when I worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs, we had a very difficult time getting nursing staff. It wasn't the RN's as much as it was the LNA's and Nursing Assistants that we had a hard time. But one of the things that they did to be creative was employees that as in this case, passed on a viable candidate that was hired, we gave them, I think at that point it was like a \$50.00 or \$150.00 bonus. It worked phenomenally and in the long run it was worth it as well as a bonus given to those who came on board too. So I think this is a good idea.

President Wilshire

Any other discussion on this Motion?

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Yes.

President Wilshire

Alderman Gathright?

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

My question with this is that I know we realize that sometimes we have friends and family members and everything that know different people that might be interested. I am more interested in the diversity piece of that. So is there anything special going out in terms of that \$500.00 that you are looking for people of color, because you know, we all know, that we just don't have on our Police Department that represent the City. So I would appreciate it if you didn't include that, that that's a part of it.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Thank you, Madam President. Thank you Alderwoman Gathright. The \$500.00 is for any candidate, it is not directed specifically at any one group, one class or one structure. What I can tell you is I know you are very familiar with how passionately Chief Carignan is with working with the community. One of the things I witnessed first-hand in some of our meetings with community members and some of the leaders in the minority community is the Chief telling those members that not only is this a priority for him but he's also turning it back to these community leaders and asking them to be our recruitment officers. And I have watched him do that several times. So it is a 100% priority for us as far as this program – it basically doesn't say, if you bring in someone it's \$500.00 if they are a minority.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

It doesn't matter.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

It doesn't matter, right. No we are just looking for quality candidates and I would, if I may, very, very briefly, you mentioned people bringing in friends. I can say another thing, which I don't think it would surprise anyone here. We have had 2 people successfully recruit people. We've had numerous people bring potential candidates in. It just hasn't met our standards, to include myself, I taught classes at Rivier University and what looks like a potential good candidate for me when I turn them over. I let Professional Standards back to do their digging. You know, I can't know every student that I teach so we still are doing our due diligence so it's not the good old boys' system.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Thank you.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

You're welcome.

President Wilshire

Any further discussion? Seeing none, would the Clerk please call the roll?

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Tencza, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Jette, Alderman Schmidt, Alderman Cleaver, Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Wilshire 14

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-20-034 declared duly adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – ORDINANCES – None

TABLED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-20-036

Endorser: Mayor Jim Donchess

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF \$2,092,948 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT ("CARES ACT") TO COVER ELIGIBLE COVID-19 RELATED EXPENSES

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

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD TO SUSPEND THE RULES FOR A SECOND READING OF R-20-036 BY ROLL CALL

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Tencza, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Jette, Alderman Schmidt, Alderman Cleaver,

Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Wilshire

14

Nay:

0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-20-036 was given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-20-036 BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Dowd

And I'd like to speak to it for a moment.

President Wilshire

Alderman Dowd.

Alderman Dowd

Yes this is one of the efforts, many efforts to get the City reimbursed for some of our COVID-19 expenses and I would recommend passage.

President Wilshire

Ok is there any discussion, any further discussion on Resolution 20-036?

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Dowd,
Alderman Caron, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Tencza,
Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Jette, Alderman Schmidt, Alderman Cleaver,
Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Wilshire 14

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-20-036 declared duly adopted.

R-20-037

- Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
- Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
- Alderman Patricia Klee
- Alderman June M. Caron
- Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright
- Alderman Richard A. Dowd
- Alderman Thomas Lopez
- Alderman Skip Cleaver

AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NASHUA TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE SOUHEGAN VALLEY TRANSPORTATION COLLABORATIVE FOR TRANSIT SERVICES

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

R-20-038

Endorser: Mayor Jim Donchess
 Alderman Jan Schmidt
 Alderman-at-Large David C. Tencza
 Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
 Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
 Alderman Richard A. Dowd
 Alderman Thomas Lopez
 Alderman Patricia Klee
 Alderman Skip Cleaver
 Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
 Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF UP TO \$830,000 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT ("CARES ACT") FOR THE FIRST RESPONDER COVID-19 STIPEND PROGRAM

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

MOTION BY ALDERMAN CLEMONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES FOR A SECOND READING OF R-20-038 BY ROLL CALL

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea:	Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Tencza, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Jette, Alderman Schmidt, Alderman Cleaver, Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Wilshire	14
Nay:		0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-20-038 was given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN CLEMONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-20-038 BY ROLL CALLON THE QUESTION

President Wilshire

Discussion? Alderman Lu?

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you, Madam Chairman. Could someone just explain a little bit about this? Are there any strings attached?

President Wilshire

To my knowledge Alderman Lu, there are no strings attached on this Legislation. The First Responders are, it is a stipend that I believe that the State is paying that comes through the State from the Federal Government are able to get refunds or paid back from either the State or the Federal Government for paying, I think it's \$300.00 a week for fulltime employees and \$150.00 for part-time employees who are front line employees.

Alderwoman Lu

Ok, thank you.

President Wilshire

OK? You bet. Anyone else.

Alderman Lopez

According to the brief that we got about it, it says, "The qualified individual must be engaged in a first responder activity that requires them to interact in person, with the public or be out among general public. Individuals are ineligible for the stipend to be rolled back in their normal course of business and require them to be in physical contact with the public". I happen to be getting some of that myself since I work with the Emergency Room discharges and you have to document your time pretty carefully and it does say that this will be audited for compliance.

President Wilshire

Thank you, Alderman Lopez. Any further discussion? Seeing none, would the Clerk please call the roll?

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea:	Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Tencza, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Jette, Alderman Schmidt, Alderman Cleaver, Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Wilshire	14
Nay:		0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-20-038 declared duly adopted.

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

O-20-014

- Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
- Alderman-at-Large Benjamin Clemons
- Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
- Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
- Alderman Jan Schmidt
- Alderman Patricia Klee
- Alderman Tom Lopez
- Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
- Alderman Richard A. Dowd

RELATIVE TO TEMPORARY AJUSTMENT TO SITE PLANS

Given its first reading; assigned to the PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANNING BOARD, and hold a Special Board of Aldermen meeting to hold a Public Hearing to be scheduled in the future by President Wilshire

There being no objection President Wilshire suspended the rules to allow for the first reading of Ordinance O-20-014.

PERIOD FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – None

Alderman Lopez

How would do they do that?

Sue Lovering, City Clerk

Nothing has been received; no written comments have been received President Wilshire.

REMARKS BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

President Wilshire

Alderman Lu? You are muted Alderman Lu.

Alderwoman Lu

Sorry about that. Thank you. First of all, did we vote on that.

President Wilshire

We sent it to Committee.

Alderwoman Lu

You're right, ok. My question is aren't there several communications we've received, I just thought they would be submitted into the minutes here.

President Wilshire

I'm sorry, I can't hear you very well, I don't know – that's better yeah.

Alderwoman Lu

OK. I have received five communications in the last week from residents and I think all of them asked that we include them in the minutes. So I am wondering about them at this point. Are they being submitted? Robert (inaudible), Robert (inaudible), Mr. Sutton, Ms. Ortolano and Laura (inaudible). I think you were all sent (inaudible).

President Wilshire

They were all sent what?

Alderwoman Lu

You can't hear me?

President Wilshire

I can barely hear you.

Alderwoman Lu

Oh ok.

President Wilshire

You are talking about some communications that you received that aren't on the Agenda.

Alderwoman Lu

Yeah, can you hear me now?

President Wilshire

I can hear you now, you are closer to the mic, I think.

Alderwoman Lu

They were sent to the BOA and I thought they would be included in the, you know, put on file.

President Wilshire

They will be. If they are received after Wednesday they won't go on until our next meeting.

Alderwoman Lu

OK.

President Wilshire

OK.

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you.

President Wilshire

You're welcome.

Alderman Lopez

I would just like to clarify that there is one communication in our Agenda which was dated before our last meeting from Reverend Sarah Sally Newhall, 33 Digital Drive. I see it on my Agenda at least. It was regarding the Broad Street Flat, the School Street Flats and then it says it was sent Monday, April 27th.

President Wilshire

OK I am not sure why it did not make on the Agenda but we will make sure it gets posted there.

Alderman Lopez

Ok I think it is.

Sue Lovering, City Clerk,

We accepted that.

Alderwoman Kelly

Yeah.

Alderman Lopez

It was sent before our previous meeting so that's why it is on this week's.

Alderman Klee

Thank you, Madam President. I just wanted to, I had commented at the beginning thanking the Mayor for bringing forward about wearing the mask to indoor places, but I'd also like to commend everybody for all the work that they are doing for the temporary altering of site plans and changing of Main Street. We all know that we are going to have to change as we forward and I just want to thank everybody for that.

Alderwoman Kelly

Yes thank you sorry for the intrusion by Miles. I have a question or comment. One was about the mask as well. I appreciate the Mayor and the Board of Health considering putting a mandate in for that. I think that the slow re-opening has made people feel a little bit optimistic and I want to be optimistic too. But I want to caution people that they continue to be vigilant so we don't see a spike here in Nashua.

The other thing I wanted to comment on was the work that was being done for downtown businesses and businesses in general. I have been working with Director Cummings and Director Marchant, Alderman Clemons and we have had multiple conversations about making sure that we get the support to our downtown businesses and business owners as they kind of go through this, whether that is helping with rent or helping them to reconfigure their outdoor seating. We've done a lot of work and I commend everybody at the City who has done such a great job with the COVID Relief Fund. I have personally talked to 5 or 6 different business owners just to hear what they are going through and to make sure we are addressing that. I don't want to see our downtown go dark. So thank you for everyone and that's all I have.

President Wilshire

Thank you, Alderwoman Kelly. Alderman O'Brien?

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you, Madam President – May 8th I attended a 3:00 meeting hosted by Economic Development Director, Mr. Cummings. And many of the stakeholders from the downtown were present at that meeting. The conversation centered around opening up of Main Street. There were a lot of great ideas. There was a lot of information that brought forward. And I think it is in good hands between the Economic Development, the Board of Public Health which also was represented there. And I think what we are going to do and I think with the cooperation that I hope that we will receive from the Full Board of Aldermen that we can get a pretty decent slow opening but get it to do it right. I think we can open up the downtown. It probably will take us a long time to get back to normalcy. I don't use the term normal; I use the term typical and I think in the future we will be typical of what we came through and particularly after this pandemic. So I compliment Mr. Cummings for hosting that meeting and I look forward to further meetings to get this to come forward. It is the right way to go in slow opening. That is prudent for the safety with the virus of opening up our downtown. So thank you, Mr. Cummings.

President Wilshire

Anyone else? Alderman Clemons?

Alderman Clemons

Thank you. On the same topic of the previous two speakers, I just wanted to point out that Director Cummings asked me to mention the fact that he is working on Legislation to look at putting in takeout parking throughout downtown which I know was mentioned on the meeting that Alderman O'Brien discussed. So that is being worked on. There was an intention to have that ready for tonight but unfortunately it didn't make it. So you know for the business owners downtown who are looking for that or were expecting that tonight, unfortunately there were some delays but we are working on it and it will be coming forward.

President Wilshire

Thank you, Alderman Clemons. Remarks – anyone else? Alderman Lopez

Alderman Lopez

Yeah, I have been hearing from an increasing number of parents that their kids are struggling, that they feel like their kids need them now more than ever. They are looking at the end of the school year, by giving them the choice between Pass or Fail or grades, a lot of the seniors took a look at their grades and realized they had issues with GPA. They need to pass certain classes or even that they've been doing really well throughout the year and they don't want to just Pass or Fail at this point. So it is a struggle for parents and like I said, I have these stories over and over again from parents, "my children need me now more than ever". And that's true and that's a pretty lonely place for a parent to be. So I wanted to share this that a lot of parents are struggling with this right now. A lot of teachers are struggling and they are trying to reinvent their entire curriculum and figure out new ways to get this done and it's a struggle. It is very difficult you guys are not alone in what you are doing. All I can say is that I hope things get better, I hope that your kids get the best opportunities, if your kids need you more than ever and you are there for them right now, that's the best they can get. That's a good thing, so you guys are in this together and we are in it with you as well.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

I have a comment.

President Wilshire

Alderman Gathright and then Alderman Dowd.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

To Alderman Lopez, it is a Pass or Fail but there is an option, they can get a regular grade. That was passed by the Board.

Alderman Lopez

Right and that's what I said, it is that actual choice that is causing stress for parents because they are not sure how to navigate it or what the best decision is. So kids are making decisions and parents are making decisions with them that they've never had to before. I think it is a very good education as to how grades are constructed.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

I would encourage them to contact the specific teachers they are concerned about and if that doesn't work that they contact Administration.

Alderman Lopez

But start with the teachers, they know the kids.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Yes, exactly.

President Wilshire

Anyone else? Alderman Dowd.

Alderman Dowd

Just one thing, if at the next Board of Aldermen Meeting we are going to have the Legislation on the set up for the downtown that will want to be passed that evening, I would suggest that when a plan is put together that the preliminary plan, even if it is part of the Legislation be put out to the Board so they can review it before that meeting. I'm sure that Attorney Bolton can figure out how to do or not do that. And also, once you have a plan and if you've discussed it with the downtown merchants, can you have some of them or all of them, I'm all of them won't, but provide comments to the Board on how they feel about the plan so we that we can make more informed decisions?

President Wilshire

OK. Alderman O'Brien.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you, Madam President. This is the first I've heard about this pending Legislation was this evening. But it would be my educated guess that if it were to be assigned to the Committee it probably might be the Infrastructure Committee if it did involve the parking. So Alderman Dowd brings up a legitimate point, if it does get assigned to the Committee, I will expedite through the process to have the meeting duly announced and scheduled and I am willing to conduct an emergency Infrastructure Meeting if that assists my fellow Aldermen to be present to have that Legislation in the proper venue. So I will offer that to be discussed. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Thank you, Alderman O'Brien. Anyone else?

Committee announcements:

President Wilshire

Alderman Tencza?

Alderman Tencza

So on that note, I'd ask the members of PEDC to please look out for an announcement. We are scheduled for a meeting next week on the 19th that conflicts with a Budget Committee meeting. So we are working to find a different night and time where PEDC and Infrastructure can meet together to discuss the issue of downtown and how to move forward on that. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Thank you. Alderman Dowd?

Alderman Dowd

Yes, tomorrow night we have the Budget Committee Meeting and we will be addressing Community Development. Director Marchant will be there to present. And then Tuesday the 19th we will have another Budget Committee and that will be the Board of Education, the largest piece of the Budget. And then the following evening on Wednesday, at 7:00 PM we will have a Public Hearing on the entire Budget that will be held as we are holding this meeting, on-line. But there will be the ability of the public to pose questions directly to the Public Hearing.

President Wilshire

Thank you, Alderman Dowd. Any other Committee announcements.

ADJOURNMENT**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN THAT THE MAY 12, 2020, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ADJOURNED BY ROLL CALL**

A viva voce roll call was taken to adjourn the Board of Aldermen meeting which resulted as follows:

Yea:	Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Tencza, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Jette, Alderman Schmidt, Alderman Cleaver, Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Wilshire	14
Nay:		0

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Attest: Susan K. Lovering, City Clerk