

A special meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Wednesday, June 24, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. via Webex.

President Lori Wilshire presided; City Clerk Susan Lovering recorded.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Susan Lovering; Alderman Jan Schmidt 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:***

*To access Webex, please refer to the agenda or the City's website for the meeting link.*

*To join by phone dial: 1-408-418-9388 - Meeting number/access code: 717 730 926*

*If for some reason you cannot connect to Webex, please contact us at (603) 821-2049 and they will help you with connectivity. The public may also view the meeting via 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](http://www.nashuanh.gov) and publicly noticed at City Hall, Public Health Department and the Nashua Telegraph.

***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.**

Deputy City Clerk Reyes called the roll and asked them to state the reason he or she could not attend, confirmed that they could hear the proceedings, and stated who was present with him or her.

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 Lopez, Alderman David C. Tencza, Alderwoman Elizabeth Lu, Alderman Ernest Jette, Alderman Jan Schmidt, Alderman Skip Cleaver, Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Wilshire.

Alderman June Caron, Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons and Alderman-at-Large Brandon Michael Laws were recorded absent.

Mayor James W. Donchess, Corporation Counsel Steven A. Bolton were also in attendance.

Alderman O'Brien

I am present, I can hear the proceedings and I am alone.

Alderman Klee

Yes, I can hear the proceedings, I am alone, I am here and I am here due to social distancing.

Alderwoman Kelly

I am here, I am alone, I can hear everybody and I am practicing social distancing due to the Governor's Order.

Alderman Dowd

Yes, I am here, I am alone and I am practicing social distancing in accordance with the Governor's Order and I can hear everyone.

Alderman Lopez

I'm here, I'm alone, I can see and hear everybody who is here and I am practicing social distancing.

Alderman Tencza

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

Alderwoman Lu

I am here alone, I can hear you and I am practicing social distancing.

Alderman Jette

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

Alderman Schmidt

I am present, I can hear you, I am alone and this is for social distancing.

Alderman Cleaver

Present and I can hear everyone and I am practicing social distancing.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

I am present, I am in this room alone, I can hear you and I am practicing social distancing,

President Wilshire

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

Susan Lovering, City Clerk

There are 12 present.

President Wilshire

Thank you very much. Tonight's meeting is a Public Hearing and I am going to turn the meeting over to the Chair of the Infrastructure Committee, Alderman O'Brien.

Chairman O'Brien

Thank you, Madam President. At this point, tonight's meeting is going to be involving Public Hearings and first on the Agenda will be Street Discontinuance on a portion of Palm Street. What we will do is what we have done in the past, we will invite the participants to come up, give us testimony in favor and at the conclusion of such I will then call for termination for testimony in favor and then up come up with testimony in opposition.

I will then call for the second time and then we can call at the conclusion for testimony in opposition. If the participants have already spoken their piece, I will allow them to speak for the second time; however, I would like to remind them (inaudible) into the Infrastructure Meeting immediately following this public hearing. So therefore I will allow the second testimony but only to supply the Board with further facts. So at this time, I will begin the Public Hearing and hear from anybody in the audience that has testimony in favor for the street discontinuance for a portion of Palm Street.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **STREET DISCONTINUANCE – PORTION OF PALM STREET**

#### **TESTIMONY IN FAVOR –**

Richard Maynard For the record, my name is Richard Maynard, I am a professional engineer with the firm of Maynard & Paquette Engineering representing the applicants, Palms Edge, LLC and Corriveau Revocable Trust. Owners are essentially vacant property on either side of the southerly end or dead end of Palm Street adjacent to the old railroad tracks (inaudible). The matter before the Board is to discontinue a short section of Palm Street some 1757 square feet in size to allow a vehicular connection around the old railroad (inaudible) to Ash Street from the Palm Street dead end. And also to allow new vehicular parking for the Palm Street neighborhood and also to allow two new small multi-family buildings to contain 6 and 12 units. This is all shown on the plan which should be in your packet entitled Preliminary Site Plan Palms Edge, dated November 22 (audio cuts out).

There are numerous benefits to all concerned parties with this proposed discontinuance. Paramount being access by emergency vehicles at the dead end and elimination of City vehicles, plows, trucks, fire engines using private property to turn around which also causes some private property damage. Public benefits include snow plowing and snow storage, neighborhood off-street parking, enhanced property values and the addition of some moderate income apartment units to the downtown area.

City Engineer Hudson has indicated his support for this project and the discontinuance in his e-mail correspondence dated April 22, 2020 which you should have. Finally, the Planning Board voted unanimously 9 to 0 to support the project as noted in the April 23<sup>rd</sup> Planning Board Minutes. The Planning Board voted to favorably recommend approval to the Board of Aldermen including the conditions outlined in City Engineer Hudson’s e-mail dated 4/22/20.

This proposed project including the discontinuance of a small portion of Palm Street dead end, would significantly benefit this immediate neighborhood and the City overall itself. Thank you.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

Chairman O’Brien closed the public hearing on Petition for Street Discontinuance – Palm Street.

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**STREET RE-NUMBER PETITION  
(26 ALMONT STREET, 28 ALMONT STREET AND TAX MAP 103, LOT 103 ALMONT STREET)**

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

Chairman O’Brien closed the public hearing on Street Re-Numbering Petition – Almont Street.

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**RENOVATIONS TO TRANSIT CENTER PLAZA LOCATED AT 30 ELM STREET BEHIND CITY HALL.  
RENOVATIONS WILL INCLUDE UPDATES TO THE PLAZA, TRANSIT CENTER BUILDING, AND BUS  
PLATFORM**

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

Chairman O’Brien closed the public hearing on Renovations to Transit Center Plaza.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN SCHMIDT TO ADJOURN, 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 Lopez, Alderman Tencza, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Jette,  
Alderman Schmidt, Alderman Cleaver,  
Alderwoman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Wilshire 12

Nay: 0

**MOTION CARRIED**

The special meeting was declared adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Attest: Susan Lovering, City Clerk