

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

JANUARY 9, 2024

Immediately Following
Inauguration Exercises

Performing Arts Center

Alderman Dowd

Welcome to the Inauguration in the City of Nashua. We had a few changes because of the winter storm and the agenda has changed a little bit this evening. My name for those of you is Richard Dowd. I'm the Ward 2 Alderman-Elect and the Inauguration Committee welcomes you this evening. It was myself, former Alderman June Caron who can't be with us this evening, Alderman-Elect from Ward 7 Tim Sennott, and the Nashua City Clerk Dan Healey.

So at this time, it's my pleasure to introduce our Master of Ceremonies for this evening William Barry. Attorney Barry is a native of Nashua, NH. He graduated from the College of the Holy Cross with an A.B. in Economics and received his Juris Doctorate Degree from St. Louis University Law School in 1984. Bill has been a member of the New Hampshire Bar Association since 1984 and the Massachusetts Bar Association since 1985. He is presently a partner with Barry and Honorow Attorneys at Law in Nashua. Bill is a third generation Nashua native whose grandfather William H. Barry was Mayor of Nashua from 1911 to 1914. Bill has supported Nashua charities and other non-profit organizations for many years serving on various boards and committees. It's my privilege and honor now to bring up to the stage Attorney Bill Barry.

Attorney William Barry

Thank you Alderman Dowd and welcome everybody. Before we begin our ceremonies, I would like to ask the combined Honor Guard of the Nashua Fire Department and Nashua Police Department to post the colors. Please stand and place your hand over your hearts as the flag passes by. I will call up Richard Dowd for the Pledge of Allegiance. Thank you, gentlemen.

I call up Alan St. Louis for the National Anthem. Please remain standing as the combined Honor Guard of the Nashua Fire Department and Nashua Police Department retires the colors.

So, again, good evening. Welcome to the swearing in of our city governments. I think it's appropriate that in this kind of intimate setting that we are so close to the Color Guard that presented the American flag and our State flag with our defenders the Police and Fire singing the Star Bangled Banner. That's what draws us together as a community, as a State, and as a nation. I would like to begin by extending my sincere congratulations to all the newly elected officials and wish them success in all their endeavors. I'd further like to congratulate them and thank them on my behalf and the behalf of the community for running for office and we should remember their opponents who also ran for office. It takes guts, it takes courage, it takes time, it takes commitment to put your name on the ballot and you should all be congratulated.

Equally if not more are your families that should be congratulated for allowing you to run. The time spent, the efforts made, the commitments they need to do in supporting you quite frankly almost far exceed what you will do because you chose to do it, they follow you. So those in the audience who have your family up here, congratulations and thank you.

Now I would like to introduce the incumbent city officials who are here today observing the swearing in of the new boards. The special guests who are on the stage are as follows: incumbent members of the Board of Aldermen - Alderman Shoshanna Kelly, Alderman Gloria Timmons, Alderman Melbourne Moran, Jr. Incumbent members of the Board of Education: Neil Claffey, Christina Darling, Regan Lamphier and Heather Raymond. The following newly elected Board of Education members: Jennifer Bishop, Shewanda Daniels Williams, Sharon Giglio, Rob Johnson, and Kirsten Prinn. The following Board of Education Student Representatives, Warren Farley from Nashua North and Athanasios Miris from Nashua South. The incumbent present Board of Public Works: June Lemen and Paul Shea. The incumbent members of the Fire Commission: Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja and John Steere. The following City Officials are also here: City Clerk Daniel Healey, Fire Chief Steve Buxton, Police Chief Kevin Rourke, Corporation Counsel Attorney Steven Bolton, and Superintendent Mario Andrade.

With that, I'd like to introduce City Clerk Dan Healey who will now come to the podium to announce the results of the November 7, 2023 city election and our newly elected city officials who will be sworn in to their respective office.

Dan Healey, City Clerk

Thank you. We are assembled here today for the Inauguration of the 112th City Government of the City of Nashua. The

Aldermen-at-Large elect, Ward Aldermen elect, Board of Public Works Elect, and Fire Commissioners Elect are assembled on this day agreeably to the provisions of the Charter of the City of Nashua for the purpose of taking upon themselves the oath of office as required by law.

Corporation Counsel Steven A. Bolton will administer the Oath of Office to the newly elected City Officials on the Board of Public Works, Fire Commission, and Board of Aldermen. I will begin with the Fire Commission and ask that the newly elected officials stand as they announce your names to take your oaths of office.

The results of the votes cast for Fire Commission was duly canvassed by the Board of Aldermen as by law provided and it appearing therefrom that Kevin Burgess, Thomas Kelly, and Gary Lambert have been duly elected members of the Fire Commission of the City of Nashua and they are qualified as such for ensuing four years. Corporation Counsel Steven A. Bolton will you please administer the Oath of Office.

Oath of Office administered by Corporation Counsel Steven A. Bolton

Dan Healey, City Clerk

The results of the votes cast for the Board of Public Works was duly canvassed by the Board of Aldermen as by law provided in appearing therefrom that Manny Espitia and Matty Gregg have been duly elected members of the Board of Public Works of the City of Nashua and they are qualified as such in the ensuing four years. Attorney Bolton will you please administer their Oath.

Oath of Office administered by Corporation Counsel Steven A. Bolton

Dan Healey, City Clerk

The results of the votes cast for the office of Ward Alderman was duly canvassed by the Board of Aldermen as by law provided in appearing therefrom that Tyler Gouveia, Ward 1; Richard A. Dowd, Ward 2; Patricia S. Klee, Ward 3; Thomas Lopez, Ward 4; Ernest A. Jette, Ward 5; Christopher Thibodeau, Ward 6; Timothy Sennott, Ward 7; Derek Thibeault, Ward 8; John Sullivan, Ward 9 have been duly elected Ward Alderman for the City of Nashua and they are qualified as such for ensuing two years. Attorney Bolton will you please administer their Oath.

Oath of Office administered by Corporation Counsel Steven A. Bolton

Dan Healey, City Clerk

The results of the votes cast for the Office of Alderman-at-Large was duly canvassed by the Board of Aldermen as by law provided in appearing therefrom that Lori Wilshire, Michael B. O'Brien, Sr., and Benjamin Clemons have been duly elected Aldermen-at-Large for the City of Nashua and they are qualified as such for ensuing four years. Attorney Bolton will you please administer their Oath.

Oath of Office administered by Corporation Counsel Steven A. Bolton

Dan Healey, City Clerk

The results of the votes cast for the Office of Mayor was duly canvassed by the Board of Aldermen as by law provided in appearing therefrom that James W. Donchess has been duly elected to the Office of Mayor of the City of Nashua and qualified as such for the ensuing four years. The Honorable William Barry will administer the Oath of Office.

Attorney William Barry

I've had this honor a few times swearing you in and meeting with you. I always wish that the Inauguration Committee would have a box so that the height disparity would cut down a little but raise your right hand.

Oath of Office administered by the Honorable William Barry

Mayor Donchess

Well thank you all for coming to our abbreviated inauguration ceremony because of the snow storm on Sunday. I have really as a result only abbreviated remarks. I will have the opportunity to talk about the progress we've made and our vision for the future for our community at the State of the City address which will come up in February.

But, again, I want to thank you all for coming mostly family, and close friends, the PD, Deputy Fay, and members of the Police Department, Jim Tollner from the Commission, Chief Buxton, and other members of the Fire Department, Superintendent Andrade and other members of the - oh I see Chief Rourke. I didn't see him up here at the beginning. Chief Rourke thank you for coming and members of our School Department - Jen Bishop and the other members who are here.

We together up here on the stage have the honor of serving our community, of making Nashua a great city already, and even greater one, and I look forward and call upon everyone to work together to move our city forward. We've always done this by respecting each other, by being kind to one another, and I'm confident that we will be able to continue to do this over the next two and the next four years.

Our goal, of course, is to make our city a community where people will prosper, live healthy, and happy lives, successful careers, and family lives for generations to come. So we together are working together to advance the lives of all Nashuans 91,000 plus. There are many things that we will be working on together - the safety of the community, good schools, a strong infrastructure, housing and all of the other issues and problems that we face here in Nashua. But I, again, am honored to serve and be elected thank you to the citizens of Nashua. It is my honor to have been elected again to serve the community. It's been a wonderful experience and I'm excited and look forward to working on behalf of all of our citizens for the next four years. So let's all work together. Congratulations to everyone and let's have a great next two years. Thank you.

Attorney William Barry

So this nearly concludes the formal ceremonies for the Inauguration of the 112th government of the City of Nashua. I can't help but think what my grandfather who was sworn in 113 years ago would think. He'd be so proud of what this community is, what it's become, and you leaders have brought us here today and since that time so congratulations.

The Board of Aldermen will immediately begin conducting the organizational meeting. Would they please remain seated and the City Clerk will take the podium for the organizational meeting. I would ask the city officials except for the Mayor, the members of the Board of Aldermen, and Corporation Counsel to exit the stage at this time so that the organizational meeting of the Board of Aldermen may convene.

Dan Healey, City Clerk

At this time I will call the organizational meeting of the Board of Aldermen for the 2024-2025 term to order on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 6:25 p.m. I will open with the prayer and Corporation Counsel Steven A. Bolton will lead us in the Pledge to the Flag.

As with past organizational meetings, I will conduct the meeting until a President has been selected at which time I will step down and the President of the Board of Aldermen will preside.

I will begin by calling the roll:

Alderman Wilshire	<u> X </u>
Alderman O'Brien	<u> X </u>
Alderman Clemons	<u> X </u>
Alderwoman Kelly	<u> X </u>
Alderwoman Timmons	<u> X </u>
Alderman Moran	<u> X </u>
Alderman Gouveia	<u> X </u>

Alderman Dowd	<u> X </u>
Alderman Klee	<u> X </u>
Alderman Lopez	<u> X </u>
Alderman Jette	<u> X </u>
Alderman Thibodeau	<u> X </u>
Alderman Sennott	<u> X </u>
Alderman Thibeault	<u> X </u>
Alderman Sullivan	<u> X </u>

Also in attendance is His Honor Jim Donchess and Corporation Counsel Steven A. Bolton.

I will now open the floor for nominations for the President of the Board of Aldermen.

Alderman Dowd nominates Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire for President of the Board of Aldermen

Dan Healey, City Clerk

Are there any other nominations? Hearing none, is there a motion to close the nominations?

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO CLOSE NOMINATIONS
MOTION CARRIED**

Dan Healey, City Clerk

The motion now before the Board is on the election of Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire as President of the Board of Aldermen for the ensuing term. Any discussion on that motion?

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD TO ELECT ALDERMAN-AT-LARGE LORI WILSHIRE AS PRESIDENT OF THE
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
MOTION CARRIED**

Dan Healey, City Clerk

Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire is declared President of the Board of Aldermen for the 2024-2025 term.

Oath of Office administered by Corporation Counsel.

President Wilshire

Good evening. I'm going to call for nominations for Vice President of the Board of Aldermen for 2024-2025.

**ALDERMAN MORAN NOMINATED ALDERMAN-AT-LARGE MICHAEL B. O'BRIEN, SR. FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF
THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN FOR 2024-2025**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD THAT NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED
MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN TO ELECT ALDERMAN-AT-LARGE O'BRIEN AS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE
BOARD OF ALDERMEN FOR 2024-2025
MOTION CARRIED**

President Wilshire

Congratulations Alderman O’Brien. I declare Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O’Brien, Sr., duly elected Vice President of the Board of Aldermen for 2024-2025 term.

Oath of Office administered by Corporation Counsel Steven A. Bolton

DRAWING OF ALDERMANIC SEATING

President Wilshire

I’ll call on the City Clerk to distribute the envelopes containing the numbers for the drawing of the seating in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Seat #1 - Reserved for Vice President

Seat #15 - Reserved for President

Seating was drawn in the following manner:

Alderman Clemons	<u>8</u>
Alderwoman Kelly	<u>14</u>
Alderwoman Timmons	<u>2</u>
Alderman Moran	<u>3</u>
Alderman Gouveia	<u>5</u>
Alderman Dowd	<u>13</u>
Alderman Klee	<u>12</u>
Alderman Lopez	<u>6</u>
Alderman Jette	<u>10</u>
Alderman Thibodeau	<u>4</u>
Alderman Sennott	<u>9</u>
Alderman Thibeault	<u>11</u>
Alderman Sullivan	<u>7</u>

BOARD OF HEALTH

President Wilshire

I’m going to call for nominations of three members to the Board of Health.

ALDERMAN O’BRIEN NOMINATED CHARLES T. CAPETTA, ANTHONY STORAGE, AND STEPHANIE WOLF-ROSENBLUM AS MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH FOR THE ENSUING TWO YEARS

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN CLEMONS TO CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS
MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O’BRIEN TO ELECT CHARLES T. CAPETTA, ANTHONY STORAGE, AND STEPHANIE WOLF-ROSENBLUM TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH FOR THE 2024-2025 TERM
MOTION CARRIED**

Oath of Office to be administered at a later time.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

President Wilshire

I'll call on Legislative Affairs Manager Donna Graham to present the Committee Assignments for the 2024-2025 term.

**ALDERMAN O'BRIEN MOVED THAT THE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE 2024-2025 TERM BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ACCEPTED BY VOICE VOTE
MOTION CARRIED**

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

President Wilshire

Thank you all for being here tonight. I'd like to thank the Inauguration Committee for all the work they did finding us a new place last minute. Also, I would like to thank the Honorable Mayor, fellow members of the Board of Aldermen, and citizens of our great city. It's with great humility that I accept the role of President for this (inaudible) Board for the upcoming 2024-2025 term. I'd like to thank everyone here this evening for supporting the incoming Board of Aldermen and the Mayor of which many are familiar faces with a few new faces filling in.

Welcome to all of you and thank you for your interest in serving our community. This is a great responsibility and one that should not be taken lightly. There's a lot of work ahead to make this a better city than how we found it. With that said, some hard decisions and some unpopular decisions are going to be made. What's important is that we remember when doing the work of the people who have put their faith in us to do so. I encourage each of us to reach out to the members (inaudible), ask for an opinion, ask for advice, or ask a question. No one of us has all the answers but collectively when we collaborate, we make good things happen in the city.

With Nashua having been awarded so many accolades - best run city, safest city, and all the other fine accolades, let's make sure we pass good legislation to keep us on track with our good reputation that has been built by those who came before us. We all know that many challenges lie ahead. Let's get to work.

ADJOURNMENT

**ALDERMAN O'BRIEN MOVED FOR ADJOURNMENT OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF JANUARY 9, 2024
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Attest:

Daniel Healey, City Clerk