

PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

MARCH 1, 2021

A meeting of the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee was held Monday, March 1, 2021, at 7:15 p.m. in via teleconference.

Chairwoman Caron

As Chairman of the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee, 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:

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

We are utilizing Zoom and the meeting link can be found on the agenda as well as on the City's website.

You can also join by telephone by dialing: 1-929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 882 2713 3992 and Passcode: 237958. The Public may also view this meeting on Comcast Channel 16.

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 and the Nashua Public Library.

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

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.

Alderwoman Kelly 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 4 members of the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee present: Chairman June M. Caron presided.

Members of the Committee present: Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons, Vice Chair
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Skip Cleaver

Members not in Attendance: Alderman Tom Lopez

Also in Attendance:

Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Steve Bolton, Corporation Counsel
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright
Alderman Ernest Jette
Alderman-at-Large Brandon Michael Laws
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Elizabeth Lu
Alderman Jan Schmidt
Mayor Jim Donches
Sarah Marchant, Director of Community Development
Bill McKinney, Building Safety Officer

ROLL CALL

Alderman Clemons

Thank you, I am here, I can hear everybody and I am by myself in the room.

Alderman Kelly

Alderman Lopez? Alderman Kelly is here, I am alone and I can hear everyone.

Alderman Cleaver

I am here and my daughter is with me and I can hear the proceedings.

Chairman Caron

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

Alderman Kelly

Great. Everyone is in attendance except for Alderman Lopez.

Chairman Kelly

OK. Can you tell us who else is in attendance Alderman Kelly?

Alderman Kelly

Well there's lots of people here. We have Alderman Wilshire, we have Alderman O'Brien, we have Corporation Counsel Bolton, Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Lu, Alderman Jette, Alderman Laws, Alderman Klee, our Mayor is here as well, Alderman Schmidt, Director Marchant. Did I miss anybody?

Alderman Dowd

Alderman Dowd.

Alderwoman Kelly

Sorry, you must've been on Page 2, Alderman Dowd.

Chairman Caron

Thank you. We will start with public comment. Is there anyone out there that has anything to say concerning any of the Agenda items this evening? Alderman Kelly?

Alderwoman Kelly

I don't see anybody, Alderman Caron.

PUBLIC COMMENT – NoneChairman Caron

OK, thank you. Alright Communications?

COMMUNICATIONS - NoneINTERVIEWSChairman Caron

Mayor are you here with Jedidiah Crook for interview for an appointment?

Mayor Donchess

Yes I am Madam Chair. I am nominating Jed Crook as an alternate to the Conversation Commission. You, Madam Chair, may know Jed and / or his family. He's a native of Crown Hill. His father worked for the City for a long time; I'm sure you knew him, Madam Chair.

Chairman Caron

Jason Crook, yes.

Mayor Donchess

Jason Crook worked for the City for a long time. But Jed went to Keene State College, he currently works at the Nashua Children's Home where he is the Assistant Supervisor of the Boy's Unit and Resource Educator. Previously he has worked at Keene State College, he worked at Bridges and he is an active musician, he's a sound technician and he's done various stints at Riverwalk Café both, I think, musically and working behind the counter. So Jed, as a lifelong Crown Hill resident, and someone who is interested in Nashua and preserving our open space and our environment, I think he's going to make a great addition to the Conservation Commission. He's gotten to know the Chair, Sherry Dutzy quite well and I think he's very familiar with what the responsibilities are. So I will just turn it over to Jed to tell us briefly why he is interested in serving on the Conservation Commission.

Jedidiah Crook (new appointment alternate)
52 King Street
Nashua, NH 03060

Term to Expire: December 31, 2023

Chairman Caron

Thank you, Mayor. Mr. Crook?

Jedidiah Crook Hi, thank you for the introduction. Yes, as the Mayor said I am a Crown Hill resident since I was born and I have spent a lot of time watching Nashua change over my life up until now. It's in a really exciting and also tumultuous place, I think, in terms of where it is moving, in terms of development and resources and land and open space being part of that. So I am excited to serve on the Commission and the possibilities that brings and then also the possibilities for education which is where I am really excited about the opportunity there. The great Keene State focused a lot on Environmental Science Education and specifically the historical implications of how we educate in different aspects of (inaudible) within the Environment Science in (audio cuts out) curriculums. So yeah I am excited to hopefully be an aid and an asset of service to the Commission.

Chairman Caron

Great, thank you. So anyone from the Personnel Committee have any questions for Jed? Alderwoman Kelly?

Alderwoman Kelly

Alderman Clemons?

Chairman Caron

OK, Alderman Clemons.

Alderman Clemons

Thank you, I don't have any questions but I do want to just thank you for coming forward and for volunteering your time. I know that it takes, as Hillary Clinton said, it takes a village and certainly when we have folks like you come forward, I think it really it makes our community better. So thank you for your time and your efforts and everything. I really appreciate it.

Chairman Caron

Thank you Alderman Clemons. Anyone, other Aldermen out there that would like to ask any questions?

Alderwoman Kelly

Alderman Wilshire?

Alderman Wilshire

Thank you. Hello Mr. Crook, how are you? I couldn't let this go by without asking some kind of question. Have you been to the Conversation Commission Meetings and understand pretty much what they are doing?

Mr. Crook Yes, I've been to the last few and one of the things that I am personally really excited about is there is main point forward, is the Salmon Brook Area in Ward 7 which I spend a lot of time personally in, trying to pull out invasives and clean up trash off of. So I am excited to do that not just a normal community person but also through the Commission. That area specifically is a really incredible opportunity because it is a really special nook of untouched area that's in a part of the town that isn't really I think seen so often as a place for open space and open wildlife.

But there's major fish populations down there, there are heron, there are deer, there are fox, there are coyote, all within this little nest of area that is really hidden sort of there behind the Girls, Inc. that I think would be really great for that community especially that lives right around it to have access to. So I am excited to see that happen.

Alderman Wilshire

Thank you, appreciate that.

Chairman Caron

Thank you. Anyone else? No one else? Well Mr. Crook I think your enthusiasm for getting on this Committee is going to be a big asset and I think it's great. As Alderman Clemons said, we need volunteers and we need them to move the City along and make it grow and make it better. So thank you so much and we will bring up your appointment later on in the meeting and then you will be given the information as to when you can be sworn in. And again, Mayor, thank you for bringing someone so enthusiastic to sit on a Committee for you, again.

Mayor Donchess

Well he's great isn't he? So I can't wait to see Jed on the Conservation Commission maybe performing musically somewhere in the City, as soon as we open up.

Chairman Caron

Sounds like a plan, thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Alright, see you later.

Chairman Caron

Thank you.

APPLICATION TO LICENSE HAWKER'S, PEDDLER'S, ITINERANT VENDOR'S LICENSE - None

APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY TO RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING CONFIRMATION RE-APPOINTMENT TO THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION: JENNIFER BISHOP-SAUCIER WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE OCTOBER 1, 2023; THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION: FROM ALTERNATE TO MEMBER -CAROL SARNO AND NEW ALTERNATE APPOINTMENT - JEDIDIAH CROOK BOTH WITH TERMS TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2023, BY ROLL CALL.

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

Yea:	Alderman Caron, Alderman Clemons, Alderman Kelly, Alderman Cleaver	4
Nay:		0

MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS - None

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

O-21-045

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

AMENDING THE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION ORDINANCES AND INCREASING THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT FEES

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE OF O-21-045, BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman Caron

You heard the motion. Does any of the Committee members have any questions for either Mr. McKinney or Ms. Marchant?

Alderman Kelly

I actually do.

Chairman Caron

OK Alderman Kelly.

Alderman Kelly

So Mr. McKinney I believe you mentioned that there was a lot of updating to be done to keep us in line with what the State is doing. Now we have sort of shifted it so that won't happen in the past. Can you just explain that a little bit more? Like there has become a bigger group of NROs. I didn't understand that at all. I was trying to follow.

Bill McKinney, Building Safety Officer

Yes, the NRO 105 actually had several sections to it that involve the Commercial Building Code, the Residential Building Code, Plumbing Code, Electrical Code and it continues on. In 2015, well actually in 2002 the State adopted a State-wide Building Code. In 2006 they included the Residential Code into that State Building Code. The City of Nashua did not revise our Ordinances to keep at pace with it, and instead still declared each individual Code to be adopted within the City.

So the language that we propose to change is that the City of Nashua recognizes any amendments to the State Building Code, any updates to State Building Code and amendments by the State and/or by the City to keep in pace with the State of New Hampshire.

Currently the State of New Hampshire is under the 2015 Building Codes; Building, Plumbing, Electrical, Mechanical. However our City Ordinances were still referencing the 2002 Codes or the 2003 Codes, my mistake. So that was causing quite a bit of confusion, even though there was language in there that said, or whatever Code is most current. It was causing a lot of confusion for us and it needed to be updated. So we have recommended language that will keep on pace with the State each time the State updates the Code which is about every 3 years, a new Code Cycle.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you for clarifying, I just wanted to make sure I understood. I appreciate your hard work and I don't you to have to do any more than necessary. So it sounds like you did the right steps to get us in line here. So thanks so much.

Mr. McKinney

Thank you.

Alderwoman Kelly

I see Alderman Lu's hand up.

Chairman Caron

OK, Alderman Lu.

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you, Alderman Caron. I just had a couple of questions. So I understand that we raised the residential rates in the first round. My only question, because I had noticed that the resident rate, I'm sorry, let me correct myself. In the first round we did not raise the residential rates as much as the other two or three categories. And I noticed that in this proposal the rates go up significantly for residential but not for industrial or office. It sounds like you are telling us, Mr. McKinney, that together though with the two changes they both have been treated somewhat equally and they are both sitting in the same position relative to other neighboring communities. Is that correct?

Mr. McKinney

2017 for the adoption of the 2018 fee revisions. We elected, again, we used a 15 to 20% range on increases. We elected to keep the residential at the time on the lower end of that range because of the recovery that was going on in residential construction. Our fear was to raise our rates at that time would cause quite a bit of public outcry. So at this point here, and we did state during those meetings and hearings that we would revisit that and probably have a slightly steeper increase in two years to address that, depending upon how the economy was going. And we feel that the economy, especially under residential construction, is the right time to bring that out, to bring all of the fees back into more of a level area.

Again, we are probably about mid-range when you look at the other communities around us, Manchester and Concord still tend to be higher than us on fees. And I don't believe we should be the top in the State, but I certainly don't want to put us where we were before as one the very lowest.

Alderwoman Lu

OK thank you. And the other question I have is, it may just be a typo, but looking at the mechanical rates on multi-family, they are either going down or it is just a typo and the two rates were switched.

Mr. McKinney

I suspect that there is a typo there. I will have to look into that and I can certainly respond to that question.

Alderwoman Lu

But none of them are going down, is that correct.

Mr. McKinney

No the fees would not be going down.

Alderwoman Lu

Ok the only reason I noticed is I thought every one of these categories was going to reflect the same percentage change and then I discovered it wasn't. So I kind of I thought that was a problem; I realize now it probably isn't a problem, that they are scenarios and not straight figures.

Mr. McKinney

Correct. We take into account the amount of staff time when we look at the data entry that works for the projects. We also, I had stated before, we are hoping to bring on our on-line portal. So some of these fees that we would normally charge that may be – say it was \$29.75 for a device, that was rounded up to \$30.00. And so we did that because we want to see how this on-line portal is going to work before we start having the variations in fees and pennies added to the fees. So, a lot of our fees have been rounded up.

We also did a change, right now the City charges what they call a "base permit fee" of I think it's \$68.00, but that doesn't calculate if we go into our on-line portal. There is no way to calculate that automatically. So what we needed to do is we actually increased what your plan review fee and administrative fee would be so that would level out as soon as you did a permit and the system would automatically calculate it.

Alderwoman Lu

OK thank you.

Mr. McKinney

You're very welcome.

Alderwoman Lu

I am all set.

Chairman Caron

OK is there anyone else that has a question concerning O-21-045?

Alderwoman Kelly

Director Marchant, did you want to speak?

Sarah Marchant, Director of Community Development

Yes, please. Thank so much. Just really quick the Memo that Alderman Lu was referring to I did send prior to this meeting and I want to make sure that it gets included in these minutes. I can share it on my screen now and I know Donna said she'd make them available with the minutes. But I just wanted to make sure, for the record, that this Memo will be included in the packet and that's the information Alderman Lu is referring to.

Chairman Caron

Certainly.

Director Marchant

Thank you.

Chairman Caron

Anyone else? OK. Will the Clerk please call the roll?

Alderwoman Kelly

Alderman Schmidt, did you want to...

Alderman Schmidt

If you don't mind. I just wanted to say one thing, cleaning up the Code is OK for the City; actually it is really good for the City. But it is also very good for business and homeowners as well, is that right?

Mr. McKinney

Yes, it's important that we have clear and concise Codes. And where our Ordinances conflicted with the State Code, that makes the process very complicated, not just for our contractors. But when you think of a lot of the licensed professionals, the designers, and architects and engineers are working from out of State, they are looking at the State Code and then our Code references something different. It was really causing a lot of confusion.

Alderman Schmidt

Super, thank you. And bringing this all online will help that same situation a great deal.

Mr. McKinney

Absolutely. Our staff is currently overwhelmed, our front office staff is overwhelmed with emails and telephone calls and customers, that even when we have walk-in customers, when we return to that. That's a lot of time and the nice feature of the online portal is that contractors and developers can submit their information 24/7, anytime of the day or night, they can submit their information, get their information out there. We can respond to them, let them know that their permits are approved, they can pay online and everything is moving much faster and much to their benefit and ours.

Alderman Schmidt

Super. Thank you very much.

Chairman Caron

Thank you, Alderman Schmidt. OK. If there's no one else, the Clerk can call the roll?

Alderman Clemons

Forgive me, I thought I saw Alderman Dowd's hand.

Alderwoman Kelly

I didn't, did you need to speak Alderman Dowd?

Alderman Dowd

I was just going to say that I know that this past year during the pandemic, the Building Department has been extremely busy because there's been a lot of construction going on, not only commercial but everybody being home have done a lot of work at their home. And I can say personally from the School Building that we are going through and a personal project of my own, which I am sitting in, that the response from the Department has been outstanding. I just wanted to thank them for all of the work that they do.

Mr. McKinney

I thank you for that Alderman Dowd and I really appreciate those comments and I agree our staff has done just a phenomenal job of adapting to some drastic changes this year in the work world for us. Our staff are still out there every day, doing what the need to do. They have embraced the remote and virtual inspection process and had really made that whole new ability to us really roll very well and contractors are buying into that very well. So I thank you for your very generous words.

Alderwoman Kelly

Shall I go back to the roll?

Chairman Caron

Yes, please.

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

Yea: Alderman Caron, Alderman Clemons,
Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Cleaver 4

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

O-21-046

Endorsers: Alderman Ernest Jette
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderwoman Elizabeth Lu

CHANGING THE STARTING TIME OF REGULAR MEETINGS OF BOARD OF ALDERMEN**MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE OF
O-21-046, BY ROLL CALL**ON THE QUESTIONChairman Caron

OK. Alderman Jette, are you there so that you can speak on this please?

Alderman Jette

Yes I am here. Thank you very much, Madam Chairman. So I think is a fairly innocuous proposal. This proposed Ordinance simply changes the starting time of our regular Aldermanic Meetings from 7:30 to 7:00. Having sat through many meetings that have gone on until late at night, I thought it would be better if we could start earlier so that is the main reason for this. All of our other, I think almost all of our other Committee Meetings and Board Meetings all start at 7:00 like tonight's meeting, starts at 7:00. So I thought it would be good to have some consistency in the start times of our meetings.

I looked around, and the consistency would be good not only for us, we always know what time our meetings are going to start, but also for the public. And I also looked around at other cities in the area, in the State and they all start at 7:00 as well. Manchester starts their Board of Aldermen Meetings at 7:30 but they have a 30 minutes period of what they call "public participation" it is like our public comment period that starts at 7:00. So I thought it would be good for us to make this change and I hope other people agree. Thank you.

Alderwoman Kelly

Alderman Wilshire.

Chairman Caron

OK, do we have anyone from the Committee that has any questions for Alderman Jette?

Alderwoman Kelly

I have comments but I can hold until the conversation is done.

Chairman Caron

OK. Does any other Alderman that's out there have any questions or concerns?

Alderwoman Kelly

I don't see hands from any of the Committee members, but I do see Alderman Wilshire's hand up.

Chairman Caron

OK.

Alderwoman Kelly

Your hand is blending into your ceiling Alderman Dowd on my screen.

Chairman Caron

OK, Alderman Wilshire and then Alderman Dowd?

Alderman Wilshire

Thank you. I don't have a problem moving this to 7:00, either way, 7:00/7:30 it doesn't really matter to me. When we did this, I am going to say it was probably 15 or so years ago. It was Alderman Tollner at the time who was working down in Massachusetts and Alderman McCarthy worked down in Massachusetts and sometimes they had a hard time getting here for 7:00. And so we changed it then. Like I say, I don't really have a feeling one way or the other. I'll just go with what the Board feels is right. But that's why we did it, that's why we made it – the full Board Meeting – a little bit later so that everybody could participate.

Chairman Caron

Thank you. Alderman Dowd?

Alderman Dowd

First of all I always support the thinking that if it ain't broke don't fix it. But more importantly our meetings butt up against the Zoning Board. And the Aldermen have a very little chance to give an input as it is to the ZBA because they start their meetings at 6:30 and by the time they read COVID thing and everything. They have been nice enough to allow us time to speak in advance but we are always butting up against even the starting at 7:30. If we start at 7:00 Aldermen won't have any input to the Zoning Board which impacts all of our Wards. And I don't think that's right. So unless somebody is willing to change the day of the Zoning Board, I think we ought to keep the meeting at 7:30.

Alderwoman Kelly

Alderman Klee also has her hand up.

Chairman Caron

OK, Alderman Klee?

Alderman Klee

Thank you so much Madam President. I echo the words of Alderman Dowd. I have had to speak in front of the Zoning Board and it does create an issue as it is if your case isn't being heard right way you have to ask for special dispensation to be able to speak ahead of time and so on. It does create quite an issue. It has been twice where I've barely made it to a meeting and I think we would be handicapping ourselves. And I can say as a State Rep, my Committee used to meet on Tuesdays and we would have meetings on Tuesdays and there were times I was rushing home from Concord to try to get to a meeting. I would personally prefer us to stay at 7:30 and as was mentioned, if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Chairman Caron

Anyone else?

Alderwoman Kelly

Alderman Schmidt.

Alderman Schmidt

Thank you. If we were to change this for our convenience because no one on the Board currently needs to come back from – what is going on at your house Shoshanna? If no one needs to come back from Boston or rush down from Concord it may change, you know, we've got our elections every two years. If several of our members can't make it back here in a reasonable time to get to a 7:00 meeting, it would be a shame that we'd have to change it again. I think consistency really would be a goal in this in keeping it at 7:30 now and going forward. Thank you.

Chairman Caron

Thank you. Alderwoman Kelly, would you like to speak now?

Alderwoman Kelly

Sure, sorry for the interruption. I actually have a lot of similar comments that have been said before, but I would say that I am sure Alderman Clemons joins me in knowing that getting down to Boston and back before 7:00 is a feat sometimes, obviously not currently an issue. But I would be in favor of keeping it where it is for that reason and for some of the other reasons abutting the Planning Board, etc.

Chairman Caron

OK, thank you. Anyone else?

Alderwoman Kelly

Alderman Cleaver and then Alderman Jette.

Alderman Cleaver

Thank you Madam Chair. I agree with Alderman Dowd, the Zoning Board is very important to all of us. And unless they are going to change their meeting, I don't see how we can change ours. And again, with Alderman Klee, sometimes the State Meetings run up against our meetings on Tuesdays and for the same reason I would very much like to keep it where it is.

Chairman Caron

Thank you. Alderman Jette I have a question for you. Before you put this piece of Legislation in, did you have any conversation with members of the Board to see how they felt about this?

Alderman Jette

I think I spoke to the President and I also spoke to Alderman Clemons because I knew that, I first thought of this last year or the year before and at the time Alderman Clemons was commuting from Cambridge and I didn't want to do this if it would make it more difficult for him. But at the time, he told me he was moving to I think Bedford and that he didn't anticipate that it would be a problem. And then, of course now with COVID, everyone is at home anyway. I think I mentioned it to Alderman Lopez and he said he thought it sounded like a good idea. I didn't speak to many others because I didn't want to run afoul of the right to know law and talking to people I am still weary of violating that provision. So I didn't poll all of the other members for that reason.

I hear what my fellow Aldermen are saying about leaving it the way it is and I appreciate their input. I would like to point out that just about every meeting, every other meeting starts at 7:00 or earlier. The Board of Public Works starts at 5:30 and we have all seemed to have managed to have arranged our schedules such that we can attend whatever meetings we are interested in. The Zoning Board of Adjustment, you know, I have appeared before the Zoning Board of Adjustment and as has been pointed out, they have been very accommodating and allowed me as an Alderman and I'm sure other Aldermen who have made known their desire to testify, they have taken me right at 6:30 in order to make sure that I could make the Board of Aldermen meeting.

I think the Zoning Board of Adjustment meetings sometimes go to 10:00 or later so even starting our meeting at 7:30, there's still the possibility that you would have a conflict trying to attend the Zoning Board Meeting as well. They do allow you to submit written testimony but I understand what people are saying and I didn't see any downside to moving it up to 7:00 since all of our other meetings start at 7:00 or earlier. But I bow to the general wisdom of my fellow board members.

Chairman Caron

Thank you for your answers, Alderman Jette. And I appreciate that you didn't contact everyone because obviously the right-to-know can be very complicated. Is there anyone else out there that has questions or concerns?

Alderwoman Kelly

Alderman Clemons, is your hand up on purpose?

Alderman Clemons

Yes.

Chairman Caron

OK Alderman Clemons.

Alderman Clemons

To be honest I appreciate the conversation here. I work in Lexington, Mass now is where the office is but to be honest I've been telecommuting since August. But I mean that is going to change and likely I'll be in the office, I know for a factor I'll probably in the office on Tuesdays. So even if the rest of my schedule doesn't change, I mean some days it is fine, some days getting back from Lexington is not a problem, it is a breeze and I get home in an hour.

Other times it is depends, it is 1 ½ hours. And depending on what is going in the workday but to be honest, to me, I don't care one way or the other, particularly because if there's something, I mean I can get to meeting late or if there's something pressing, we can participate via teleconference or phone. But I mean I also understand what the rest of my colleagues are saying about the Zoning Board and I think that's a bigger issue than my own, myself. So I am going to defer to my colleagues on this one.

Chairman Caron

OK anyone else?

Alderman Dowd

Chairman Caron?

Chairman Caron

Chairman Caron

Yes?

Alderman Dowd

Just one additional thing.

Chairman Caron

Alderman Dowd, you can speak.

Alderman Dowd

Many times when we go to the ZBA and you can squish in your comments before but I have had issues with the School Building Project where I had to stay there for a good part of the meeting to listen to the dialogue and answer questions and resolve things to ensure the timely construction of the schools. The other thing is you can't go into the meeting late and comment because they vote on things, and once they vote on things, that's it. They are not going to go back reconsider after they take their votes. So going in at the end of their meetings doesn't work. Once the case is heard, the case is heard.

And other nights where the Committee meetings start at 7:00 we are butting up against, for instance, the Planning Board, you are butting up against a Committee Meeting, it may not even be the Committee that you belong to. The case of the Zoning Board, you are butting up against the Full Board of Aldermen meeting and in retrospect and to fulfill our requirements to our constituents, we should be at all of the Board of Aldermen Meetings. So that's why I would not be in favor of changing the time.

Chairman Caron

Ok thank you Alderman Dowd. Anyone else? OK, Madam Clerk?

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

Yea:		0
Nay:	Alderman Caron, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Cleaver	4

MOTION FAILEDAlderwoman Kelly

I believe I need to make a motion for indefinite postponement of O-21-046?

Chairman Caron

Yes.

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY FOR INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT OF O-21-046 BY ROLL CALLON THE QUESTIONAlderwoman Kelly

Alderman Jette put his hand up right as – go ahead Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

So I accept the committee's decision about not moving forward with this but, again, we run into this idea of using indefinite postponement, I think the intention is just to put an end to this. But the consequence of a motion for indefinite postponement is that a similar Ordinance could not be introduced for the rest of the term. So for example, if the Zoning Board changed their meeting night, which I think might, it is certainly something I would discuss with them. You know, the idea that the Zoning Board that would pick a night that conflicts with our regular Board of Aldermen meeting, that seems wrong to me because even though our meeting starts an hour later, they start at 6:30 we start at 7:30. As Alderman Dowd points out sometimes their agendas are very long and the thing that you want to be heard on and part of that is Alderman Dowd brings out a good point, you want to be there to hear the discussion, hear what other people have to say. There's a time for not only testimony but rebuttal, so to fully participate in the meeting, you really should be there for the whole thing and that means you would be conflicted. Do you attend the Zoning Board Meeting or do you attend the Board of Aldermen meeting?

So if perchance they would change their meeting, then maybe this would be worth taking another look at. So I think we don't have to end things by indefinite postponement, there is another alternative and that is to reject it. Rejection defeats it so it is done it doesn't hang around, but it doesn't prevent the reintroduction of the Ordinance or something similar to it that would be prevented with the motion for indefinite postponement.

So I would suggest that if all you want to do is end this and leave the door open for future consideration if circumstances change and warrant that, then I would suggest, I think Alderman Clemons is more of a parliamentarian than I am. But I would suggest that maybe just rejecting it would accomplish your purpose without preventing it from coming up in the future, if that was appropriate.

Chairman Caron

Thank you. Alderwoman Kelly, would you withdraw your motion?

Alderwoman Kelly

I don't care. Attorney Bolton, I thought we had gone over this multiple times and that the only way to dispose of Legislation was either to indefinitely postpone or table.

Steve Bolton, Corporation Counsel

The consequences of a motion to reject that passes and the consequences of a motion to indefinitely postpone which passes are identical. Your rules say that once you have disposed of a piece of Legislation, you can't introduce it again in the same term. You can suspend your own rules, you can introduce things, things can be done slightly differently.

You could propose an Ordinance to start the meeting at 7:15 or 7:10 or 7:01. There are many ways to accomplish what the Full Board has determined it wants to accomplish. But there is no distinction between rejecting Legislation or Indefinitely Postponing Legislation.

Alderwoman Kelly

In that case I would like to keep my motion as is and call the roll.

Chairman Caron

OK so the motion is to indefinitely postpone O-21-046. Will the Clerk please call the roll?

Alderwoman Kelly

Alderman Clemons has his hand up.

Chairman Caron

Alderman Clemons.

Alderman Clemons

Thank you. I normally would agree with, if this was, I actually agree with what Alderman Jette said in the sense if they were to change the Zoning Board that, you know, it seems to be that is our issue although the State House was mentioned as well, that if they were to change that maybe we would want to revisit this. So I would be more inclined to simply table this and leave it in the Committee. But that's another option.

Chairman Caron

Anyone else? Alderwoman Kelly do you see anyone else?

Alderwoman Kelly

I do not.

Chairman Caron

OK. Alright, the motion is to indefinitely postpone. Alderwoman Kelly would you please call the roll?

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

Yea: Alderman Caron, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Cleaver 3

Nay: Alderman Clemons 0

MOTION CARRIEDTABLED IN COMMITTEEChairman Caron

We are not taking anything off of the table.

R-20-021

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large David C. Tencza
Alderman Jan Schmidt
Alderman Skip Cleaver
Alderwoman Linda Harriott-Gathright

ESTABLISHING AN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STUDY COMMITTEE

- tabled at 6-1-20 mtg

O-20-010

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large David C. Tencza
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

CLARIFYING THAT COIN DEALERS ARE NOT SECONDHAND DEALERS

- tabled at 3-2-20 mtg

O-20-032

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Brandon Laws
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Jan Schmidt
Alderman Skip Cleaver
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderwoman Elizabeth Lu

REDUCING THE FINE FOR OVERNIGHT PARKING VIOLATIONS

- Tabled at 10/28/20 meeting held jointly with Cte on Infrastructure

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

Alderman Kelly

I don't see any of the members of the public present.

GENERAL DISCUSSION - None

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN - None

POSSIBLE NON-PUBLIC SESSION – None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY TO ADJOURN BY ROLL CALL

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

Yea: Alderman Caron, Alderman Clemons,
Alderman Kelly, Alderman Cleaver 4

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared closed at 8:08 p.m.

Alderman Kelly, Committee Clerk



City of Nashua
 Department of Building Safety
 Community Development Division
 City Hall, 229 Main Street, PO Box 2019
 Nashua, New Hampshire 03061-2019
 Tel: 603.589.3080 • Fax: 603.589.3119



Date: March 1, 2020
 To: Lori Wilshire, Board of Aldermen President
 Jim Donchess, Mayor
 From: William McKinney, Building Official/Manager
 CC: Sarah Marchant, Community Development Division Director
 Re: Updates to NRO Chapter 105 and fees review

President Wilshire and Mayor Donchess,

Included in this packet are the recommended updates to NRO 105. In 2017 the decision was made to review the ordinances and fess on a biennial basis in order to keep current with changes to laws and codes, and adjust fees to better offset the department operating expenses. Based on a survey of surrounding communities and the larger cities in the region, Nashua’s fees were and remain significantly lower. The last update to fees was in 2018 and it was agreed we would step up the fees over several years to reduce the impact of the increases.

Below is a comparisons of typical building permit costs, detailing existing fees and the proposed fees for the next two years beginning in 2021 as submitted with this legislation. The fee increases proposed are a step towards aligning our fees with Manchester and Concord (which are still higher than what is proposed here) but in line with our surrounding communities.

Current and proposed permits cost for typical new construction, alterations and renovations:

Typical single-family; 2 story, 2.5 baths, 3108 sq. ft., 1582 sq. ft. conditioned space

Building permit:	Current fee: 466.00	Proposed fee: 559.00
Plumbing permit:	Current fee: 128.00	Proposed fee: 160.00
Electrical permit:	Current fee: 194.00	Proposed fee: 267.00
Mechanical permit:	Current fee: 95.00	Proposed fee: 151.00

Multi-family; 3 story, multi fam, 6 units, 1 bath each, 7605 sq. ft., 6012 sq. ft. conditioned space

Building permit:	Current fee: 1,901.00	Proposed fee: 2,129.00
Plumbing permit:	Current fee: 840.00	Proposed fee: 1,007.00
Electrical permit:	Current fee: 805.00	Proposed fee: 908.00
Mechanical permit:	Current fee: 538.00	Proposed fee: 498.00

Office building/bank; 2 story, 28,000 sq. ft. (shell does not include tenant fit ups)

Building permit:	Current fee: 7,000.00	Proposed fee: 7,840.00
Plumbing permit:	Current fee: 720.00	Proposed fee: 953.00
Electrical permit:	Current fee: 944.00	Proposed fee: 1,075.00
Mechanical permit:	Current fee: 891.00	Proposed fee: 983.00

Industrial 1 story; 64,920 sq. ft., warehouse, 14,000 sq. ft. office space

Building permit:	Current fee: 19,730.00	Proposed fee: 22,098.00
Plumbing permit:	Current fee: 1,553.00	Proposed fee: 2,018.00
Electrical permit:	Current fee: 5,312.00	Proposed fee: 6,511.00
Mechanical permit:	Current fee: 3,449.00	Proposed fee: 4,366.00