

A regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. in the aldermanic chamber and via Zoom teleconference which meeting link can be found on the agenda and on the City's website calendar.

President Lori Wilshire presided; City Clerk Susan Lovering recorded.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Susan Lovering; Alderman Tyler Gouveia led in the Pledge to the Flag.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance.

The roll call was taken with 15 members of the Board of Aldermen present: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire.

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

President Lori Wilshire asked for a Moment of Silence for Renny Cushing. Renny Cushing was a 25 year (that I'm aware of) State Representative that passed yesterday. I know a lot of us served with him and were friends with him so if we could just take a moment of silence. Thank you.

President Lori Wilshire

Mayor did you wish to address the Board this evening?

REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

Yes, thank you Madam President. I just have a few things. First we have received today our Ukraine flag and we will be doing a flag-raising ceremony next Tuesday - a week from today - at 5:30 in front of City Hall to recognize and support the freedom and independence of the Ukrainian people. We have reached out to a number of groups and people in Nashua and in New Hampshire in hopes that some Ukrainian Americans or as many as possible will be able to join us and of course you are all invited and I encourage you to attend.

On many occasions I reported to you about the COVID numbers and they got pretty high this past winter. They are dramatically better, I mean we still have COVID, but the positivity rate, which is the percent of people who test and turn out to have COVID is 4.8% as of early this week and that is down from almost 30% not so long ago. The number of new cases per 100,000 within the last 14 days, which is another measurement that is commonly used, is down to around 200 and that was close to 3,000 a few weeks back, so that's good news. The hospitals have felt a lot of relief so things at least for the time being are quite a bit better.

I wanted to mention to you Madam President one of the things that's on your agenda tonight which is my nomination of Matt Sullivan as the Community Development Director. He has been serving as the City Planning Director for some time now - almost a year and a half. He previously worked for the Town of Wolfeboro and the Strafford County Regional Planning Commission. He has done a very good job and has received outstanding reviews by people throughout the City. We solicited applications and received some from around different areas of the Country. We had an interview team consisting of Lisa Fauteux, Tim Cummings, Deb Chisholm who works in Community Development, as well as Noah Telerski. They interviewed several people and unanimously came back and said they didn't even think it was worth going to a second round. That Matt Sullivan was clearly the most qualified. I subsequently talked with the Chair of the Planning Board. He thought Matt was doing a great job, so based upon all that and my own experience with Matt, which has been very favorable, I nominated him. He went before the Personnel Committee last night. I think he did a very good job and he comes before you tonight with the unanimous recommendation of the Personnel Committee.

And finally, Madam President, you see on your agenda the contract for the award of the 2022 paving program. This will continue with our paving plan of action and pave and crack-seal more streets. This comes to you because it is a contract of more than a million dollars. It has been recommended by the Board of Public Works and also by the Finance Committee. So I hope you will approve that contract. That is all I have for you this evening Madam President.

RESPONSE TO REMARKS OF THE MAYOR

Alderman Klee

I am very happy Mr. Mayor that you have put forward Mr. Sullivan to be Director. I worked with him for quite a while since Sarah has left us and he has been invaluable. He knows about having to go and look things up and he's just great. He

can cite the different zoning laws and so on that I have to know especially like in municipal as well as here, so I do appreciate his knowledge from within and that you put his name forward. Thank you.

Alderman Dowd

I just want to say that I worked with Matt quite a bit with school projects and he has been outstanding. I don't think we could find a better person to fill that role having lost Sarah who was hard to replace, but he is doing an outstanding job.

RECOGNITION PERIOD – None

READING MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the minutes of the Board of Aldermen meetings of February 8 and February 15, 2022 be accepted, placed on file, and the reading suspended.

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING ONLY PROCEDURAL ACTIONS AND WRITTEN REPORTS FROM LIAISONS

From: Adam Pouliot, Fire Marshal
Re: 19 Roby Street

From: Jennifer McCormack, Nashua Public Library Director
Re: Nashua Public Library Strategic Plan

From: Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager
Re: Communications Received from the Public

There being no objection, President Wilshire accepted the communications and placed them on file.

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

Kevin Rourke, Nashua Police Chief

Good evening. Thank you for allowing me to speak tonight. I'd like to speak on behalf of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Nashua Police Commissioners and the UFPO Local 645. The Union is made up of 17 civilian members. Most of these are civilian supervisors and they supervise the Teamsters Union. They include 3 lawyers, IT manager, Community Policing Coordinator, 2 Fleet Maintenance Supervisors, Citywide Radio Communications Supervisor, 2 Domestic Violence Advocates, the Records Manager and our Building Maintenance Supervisor. They are some very talented and important people that we have today at the PD.

During the early part of negotiations, we expressed to them, like we do all our Unions, the cities perspective on important items. One of those important items was the health care give back with HMO deductible plan. This was very important to the Mayor and the City. They gave that back with no reservation. They were very reasonable in their proposal. The Nashua Police Commissioners and I think this is a very fair and reasonable contract and I would ask that you support this contract this evening. Thank you.

Tim Senna

Thank you. Tim Senna, 62 Underhill Street, Nashua. I'm just here to briefly speak to Ordinance 0-22-004 which will prohibit a right turn on red from Adventure Way onto Daniel Webster Highway. I just want to start by thanking Alderman Thibeault for offering this legislation and everybody who supported it either here in this chamber or with the Infrastructure Committee.

The reason I want to speak to this tonight it's not a particularly exciting or attractive piece of legislation, but anybody who's driven down Daniel Webster Highway lately can see how important that intersection is becoming. The BJ's gas station has recently opened there and the recent influx in gas prices has caused significant traffic increases in that area backing up in both directions, not just down the South end, but the North end as well. Just around the corner we have plans and intent from the Costco Superstore to open their new location behind Old Navy, which is going to add to that block of traffic.

I want to repeat my thanks to Alderman Thibeault and hope that everybody in this room will keep this intersection at the forefront of their minds as this development increases. It's going to get a lot worse before it gets any better and I hope

this is just the first of several items that come forth to help mitigate the problems that may arise with the increase in traffic. Thank you.

Brad Westgate, Esquire

Good evening Madam President and members of the Board. My name is Brad Westgate. I'm a lawyer at Winer & Bennett, 111 Concord Street, Nashua. Here to speak on the Petition filed by Elizabeth Lu relative to building permit authorization for a vacant lot at 19 Roby Street. Ms. Lu and her husband Matthew Plante are here as well. They live at 17 Roby Street. 19 Roby Street as I mentioned is a vacant lot. They would like to build a single family home and related retaining wall and other improvements on 19 Roby Street. They would have to go through a number of processes to have the permits necessary to do so. They have been before the Zoning and Planning Board for a number of permits already, but are before this Board because of a Petition I filed on their behalf on January 31.

There is a State Statute that requires the governing body of a municipality to authorize the issuance of building permits when the property doesn't have frontage on a city accepted street and that's the case here. This end of Roby Street was never built out and accepted by the city, of course, most of Roby Street was. It was laid out on a plan many, many years ago – 1916 actually. What happens is that when 20 years pass after the laying out of the street and the city doesn't accept it, the law at the time provided that that street effectively reverted to private access only. So this Statute requires this Board in this particular case to authorize the issuance of building permits if they're able to pursue getting the necessary building permits for the project. You're action doesn't actually generate the permit, they still have to go through the normal Building Department channels for that process.

Earlier this evening just before the meeting started, I had passed out, and I think all of the members of the Board received it, two sheets of paper. One was a proposed motion that I had edited from the motion that Miss Graham had sent out with your packets earlier today and the second page of that sheet is the edits that I actually did to that motion. The reason essentially for the edits was that Adam Pouliot, the Fire Marshal, had met with Mr. Plante yesterday or the last day or so he's been communicating with Mr. Plante and also with Miss Graham and Matt Sullivan, Planning Director, regarding his initial letter of February 22 commenting on his thoughts relative to access. Because of his meeting with Mr. Plante and further review of the matter, he came to the conclusion - that is Mr. Pouliot - that the access as provided in the plans that's made by Hayner Swanson for this project would be satisfactory.

Because the original motion tied into his letter of February 22, which had some specific recommendations regarding access, given that those have now really changed, I suggested the motion for approval be modified to rather than tying into his February 22 letter and instead reference just generally that the requirements for the Fire Marshal be satisfied in connection with the issuance of the permit. Thank you Madam Chairman. We respectfully request that the motion be granted and we respect your time.

Laurie Ortolano

Laurie Ortolano, 41 Berkeley Street. I am here to speak about R-22-008 the Expendable Trust Fund for 14 Court Street. I am not in support of this and feel that we should be looking at another way to address Court Street and I would hope that the Board would think a little about this. There is an existing resolution that was passed in 2011 - R-11-160 which is sent up to establish an Expendable Trust Fund and has been funded for renovations, repairs, and maintenance for various city buildings. So I'm wonder why R-11-160 is not being utilized.

The other thing is that Laura Colquhoun is going to dial in and talk to you about the special revenue fund that's used by the Hunt Building. I think you have a lot more transparency when you put a building like 14 Court Street into that special revenue fund. Now personally 14 Court Street is a white elephant. It's a money pit and I think the only reason why we maintain that old building is that the central fire station emergency call lines come in from the north and south into that building and I don't know if that can be moved. That's the significance of that building. There are call lines there and so if that's not the case, Alderman O'Brien can clear that up but there is some significance with the Fire Department in that building and the rest of the building is so expensive to maintain. You know the communication by the Administration when they spoke to the Board last week when they said they hoped this would become self-sufficient. I think what should have been said is "most likely it will never be". That hasn't been a self-sufficient facility probably in 50 years and I don't think you're gonna get it there. I think Peacock Players and other places that are utilizing those theaters you should look for spaces downtown that you can move those places to and not operate that building anymore.

We were not told accurate information last year about the roof cost. It was budgeted for \$750,000 and ended up being \$250,000. Money ended up being shifted over there. I think there was a total lack of transparency in what went on with that building and I don't want to create an avenue that allows that to exist so use the existing resolution if you want or pay

attention to Miss Colquhoun because I think she's going to make more sense on greater transparency and accountability. Thank you.

Karen Bill

Karen Bill, 95 Parnell Place, Nashua. I'd like to speak about the communications received from the public. While I was reading through the 350 page Board of Alderman packet for this evening's meeting, I was puzzled for the support for keeping outside dining like someone said it was going to go away. Then I was informed with a letter from the Mayor asking the residents if they wanted it to be continued. In language that didn't mention altering...

President Wilshire

Miss Bill, we aren't taking action on that this evening.

Karen Bill

Well you did take action on it as a point of order because you approved the communication so that is taking action.

President Wilshire

No, we are not taking action on that this evening Miss Bill. But you can talk about it at the next public comment period if you like. Thank you.

Laura Colquhoun

Laura Colquhoun, 30 Greenwood Drive. I'm here tonight to speak against the establishing of an expendable trust fund for 14 Court Street. It would be beneficial to the Nashua taxpayers and more transparent to have the City set up a special revenue fund account. The City currently has this type of account on the Hunt Building. This would show all the taxpayers the income vs. the expenses on a monthly basis of Court Street. Also in setting up this special revenue fund account, the City would be able to set-up a separate line appropriation for Court Street as stated in resolution R-21-142. It is important that the Nashua taxpayers have transparency on all the properties that are owned and operated by the City of Nashua whether the City is making money on the property or not.

The City has not done a presentation on Court Street since February 2020 and that is not acceptable in the eyes of the taxpayers. By putting the Court Street in a special revenue fund account, the taxpayers could see the progress on Court Street monthly and not have to wait to find out where the taxpayers stand on the building. Tax payers will be able to see when and if this property will ever be profitable. I ask the Board of Alderman to vote this down Resolution R-22-008 to set-up this expendable trust fund for Court Street. Taxpayers demand and deserve transparency. Thank you.

Matthew Gouthro

Thank you Madam President, Board of Aldermen, Mr. Mayor. Matthew Gouthro, 104 Fawn Lane, Nashua, NH. Today you are going to hear an update of the strategic plan of our public library by Jennifer McCormack. Changes and enhancements to our library here in Nashua.

President Wilshire

We are not acting on that this evening Matthew.

Matthew Gouthro

Okay, I'll wait to the next session then. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Sorry about that and thank you. Gerry Prunier. He's not here?

Rob Parsons

If I may, I'm Rob Parsons, Mr. Pounier was representing us. I'm owner of The Landing which is a parcel just south of

Adventure Way, south of the intersection that was to be voted on tonight. He is not going to speak tonight. We are going to address it at a later date. But there is an abutter on that road that would like to speak if they could take his spot.

President Wilshire

Is that something that we are taking action upon this evening, Adventure Way? Okay, I need your name and address and you have 3 minutes okay.

Bob Greer

Bob Greer, owner of Sky Venture NH, One Adventure Way. We are the business that is on Adventure Way and we are most heavily affected by whatever action this is. Yes this intersection has been a big problem lately, but the problem is with traffic coming into the area versus leaving the area. I'd like everyone to keep that in mind, please. I've got customers that are trying to leave and they want to leave and go north because they can avoid a lot of traffic that way. Leaving Adventure Way on a red light assuming there is no traffic coming north, it makes perfect sense. Obviously you have to wait if there is traffic coming, you can't turn, it's very logical, but it's a very easy way to reduce traffic on Adventure Way. Again, the biggest back up is from traffic coming into the area and leaving. Thank you.

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING FINAL APPROVAL

From: Mayor Jim Donchess
Re: Contract Award in excess of \$1,000,000 – 2022 Paving Program

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE TO APPROVE THE AWARD OF THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE 2022 PAVING PROGRAM TO SUNSHINE PAVING CORPORATION OF HUDSON, NH, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,562,802.50. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 160 ADMIN/ENGINEERING; FUNDS: BOND AND TRUST; ACTIVITY: PAVING; AND DEPARTMENT 169 WASTEWATER; FUNDS: BOND AND WASTEWATER; ACTIVITIES SEWER REHAB AND STORMWATER ABATEMENT
MOTION CARRIED**

PETITIONS

Petition for Authorization for Issuance of Building Permits for a Building on a Private Road - 19 Roby St.

MOTION BY ALDERMAN JETTE TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF A BUILDING PERMIT PURSUANT TO RSA 674:41 FOR THE ERECTION OF A SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING UNIT AT 19 ROBY STREET WITH SOLE ACCESS VIA ROBY STREET, A PRIVATE ROAD, PROVIDED THAT: 1) THE MUNICIPALITY NEITHER ASSUMES RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF SAID PRIVATE ROAD NOR LIABILITY FOR ANY DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE USE THEREOF; AND 2) PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF A BUILDING PERMIT, THE APPLICANT SHALL PRODUCE EVIDENCE THAT NOTICE OF THE LIMITS OF MUNICIPAL RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY HAS BEEN RECORDED IN THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS FOR THE LOT FOR WHICH THE BUILDING PERMIT IS SOUGHT; AND 3) ACCESS TO THE NEW STRUCTURE WILL BE PROVIDED BY A 16-FOOT WIDE DRIVEWAY WHICH SHALL EXTEND TO WITHIN 50 FEET OF AT LEAST ONE EXTERIOR DOOR PER NFPA 1 CHAPTER 18; AND 4) THE E911 ADDRESS ASSIGNED TO THIS PROPERTY WILL BE 19 ROBY STREET; AND 5) THE APPLICANT SHALL SATISFACTORILY ADDRESS ALL REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Jette

As you heard from Attorney Westgate the history of this and this motion that I just read is what I proposed at the Infrastructure Committee meeting because I felt that it included all the requirements of the law, and the Planning Board, and the Fire Marshal. However since then as you heard Attorney Westgate explain, the Fire Marshal has indicated that the 16 foot wide driveway that he talked about in his letter is no longer a requirement and that he and the engineering company that is working with the petitioner/applicant will come up with a different way of dealing with this. Its unfortunate the Fire Marshal didn't sent another explaining that, but he did send an e-mail which Attorney Westgate showed me and our about to be new Planning Director Matt Sullivan confirmed that was the case.

So in view of that, I would like to make a motion to amend what I just read to you by replacing it with the amended motion that was just passed out to you. I hope that I don't have to read the whole thing. I'll just point out that Attorney Westgate

made some improvements to what I had written and most significantly #3 he's changed it to read, "The petitioner shall satisfactorily address all requirements of the Fire Marshal's office" instead of specifying the driveway that was outlined in the original motion. So that's basically the amendment and so I move to amend the original motion by replacing it with that copy.

MOTION BY ALDERMAN JETTE TO AMEND TO GRANT THE PETITION AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BUILDING PERMIT(S) PURSUANT TO RSA 674:41 FOR THE ERECTION OF A SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING UNIT AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS AT 19 ROBY STREET WITH SOLE ACCESS VIA ROBY STREET, A PRIVATE ROAD, PROVIDED THAT: 1) THE MUNICIPALITY NEITHER ASSUMES RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF SAID PRIVATE ROAD NOR LIABILITY FOR ANY DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE USE THEREOF; 2) PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF A BUILDING PERMIT, THE PETITION SHALL PRODUCE EVIDENCE THAT NOTICE OF THE LIMITS OF MUNICIPAL RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY HAS BEEN RECORDED IN THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS FOR THE LOT FOR WHICH THE BUILDING PERMIT IS SOUGHT; 3) THE PETITIONER SHALL SATISFACTORILY ADDRESS ALL REQUIREMENTS OF THE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE; 4) THE E911 ADDRESS ASSIGNED TO THIS PROPERTY WILL BE 19 ROBY STREET; AND 5) THE PETITIONER SHALL SATISFACTORILY ADDRESS ALL REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Present Wilshire

The motion is to amend. Alderman O'Brien you wanted to speak.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you Madam President as many of the members here on the Infrastructure Committee remember, we did discuss this the other night. The Jette amendment seems to meet some of our concerns and satisfies the needs and wants and flavor of what the Fire Marshal basically agrees. So as Chairman, I say that it meets what we discussed and would fully support this motion and I'd like to thank Alderman Jette working with and cleaning this up and appreciate it. Thank you.

Alderman Klee

Thank you. This looks really good, but I just have some clarification if anybody can answer it. When it says "municipality neither assumes responsibility for maintenance for said private road nor a liability for any damages resulting from the use thereof" does that mean we don't pave it? We don't have to do the paving, we don't have to plow it, will there be trash pick-up for that particular address? If there is any accident or anything that happens on that is the City liable for anything?

Alderman O'Brien

I'm going to have to research, but maybe somebody else can give a better answer, but basically it's a private road. I think that would mean the owners would be responsible for the paving. Trash – I think that's the one that I question. I think everyone through their tax base has some entitlement to trash pick-up.

Alderman Klee

The reason I brought that up is recently I have been approached by someone, and I think Alderman Dowd can speak to it as well, from someone in Ward 2 that has recently built a few homes considered a private road and the City will not pick-up their trash nor will they pave it. That's why I wanted clarification on this and perhaps Alderman Dowd.

President Wilshire

I'm going to call on Alderman Jette.

Alderman Jette

Yes, it means exactly what it says that the City does not assume responsibility for the maintenance of the road, so that includes paving, plowing, or any of those things. Secondly, the city does not have any liability for any damages that might result from the use thereof. That's right out of the Statute that enables them to build a house on an unapproved street with our permission.

As far as the trash pick-up, my understanding is that they are close enough to the accepted portion of Roby Street and if they put the barrels out on the property line of this new lot, it would actually bisect it's adjacent to the approved part of

Roby Street, so if they put their barrels out there they would get trash pick-up. If they keep the barrels on the private road, there would not be trash pick-up.

Alderman Dowd

I researched this on the Manchester Street issue and both Matt Sullivan and with DPW. No there would be no trash collection, no plowing on private roads for a number of reasons which people can research if they want to. You can't bring your barrels to the end of the street and expect the City to pick them up. They won't do that.

Alderman Cathey

Based on this topic, I'm going to withdraw because I had a different understanding based on what came before the Planning Board.

President Wilshire

Anyone else? Alderman Lopez.

Alderman Lopez

I just would like to ask Corporation Counsel for their opinion on the amendments that they were working on and then additionally (this probably sounds like a stupid question but since it's been over 110 years since the road was conceived and we don't do these petitions very much), where the Petition includes a specific address does that create any complications if later we have to amend the address for any future projects like trying to get E911 up-to-date or something along those lines? Two questions for Attorney Bolton.

Steve Bolton, Corporation Counsel

I think the E911 protocol were taken into consideration by the Fire Marshal's office when they assigned the 19 Roby Street address to this parcel. So if the legislature changes the law and requires us to renumber everything, this will be included in that but I don't anticipate that happening. That's going to be the same situation with every property that the legislature requires it will have to do it. But I don't think it presents a particular problem in this case.

I've got no opinion on the trash collection. As far as I know, my office was not asked to review that and it's a new question which would take some research before I could give an informed opinion on that. I have every reason to believe that the situation is exactly as Attorney Westgate and Alderman Jette described it, so if this is what the Fire Marshal's office desires, I see no legal impediment if any of you wish to have written confirmation from the Fire Marshal's office that's up to you.

Alderman Klee

Thank you Madam President. I have no issue with what the Fire Marshal. My only concern, and I know it sounds like a silly one, but I don't want anybody to come later on. We do have a case with a very angry builder in Ward 2. It's my constituent which is why I'm involved in it that is very upset that he can't get trash pick-up - were told could not bring it to end of street. If that is the case, then he could bring it to the end of the street as was spoken to the 19 Roby property. So I want to have equity and fairness. I want to make sure that we're doing it the right way because Alderman Dowd and I will both will be getting some phone calls because we know he's listening so if we can. I know Matt Sullivan, soon to be Director Sullivan, is on the line. I hate to put him on the spot. He may not be able to answer this question. I don't see anybody from Public Works there, but if maybe we could get more information. I really am concerned about it because we both have been going round and round for months on this one.

President Wilshire

Mr. Sullivan is here.

Matt Sullivan, Planning Director

I'd be happy to address this question. For the record, Matt Sullivan, Planning Director for the City of Nashua. The uncertainty that Alderman Cathey referred to at the Planning Board level was that this specific situation is bit of an unclear one in that we are not certain whether to treat it as a private driveway or as a private road. Therefore there was some

consideration that trash pick-up may, in fact, be provided to the site based on its unique status at the cap of the road as it stands.

In speaking to representatives from the Public Works Department, it will ultimately come to Solid Waste to make to make a decision. It is not similar to the Manchester Street situation which involves multiple private units on a larger private road and therefore there is a differentiation. All be it we do not know exactly what will happen with this specific proposal this evening. That was the uncertainty that we spoke to at the Planning Board level however. I want to make that very clear that there is a difference in the two circumstances.

President Wilshire

Thank you very much.

Matt Sullivan, Planning Director

Of course.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you Madam President. While we are on the subject matter and this is really for the benefit for some of the newer Alderman, but being on Infrastructure for a while as Chairman, we get these occasional blips like this. Property within the city is coming down to I'm not saying overbuilt, but what was once considered a vacant lot now is being occupied. But the street numbers have been numbered. The system up in Concord - in case you do not know - but all 911 calls go to Concord. From Concord, they get fed out to the individual communities. So that's the "E". It stands for "Enhanced 911 System". They can tell exactly where the call is being made from and everything so it is imperative.

We have the authority as a municipality to grant an exception and we have in the past such as like an address number 19 and then the next one would be off numbered or something like that just to allow. At some future point, we may need to renumber the City if we ever get to that, but we have had several examples such as New Searles Road that I can think of and other different things. If you have questions of what the E911 what it basically means, but I'm glad to see that this one is very simple. It seems to meet the Fire Marshal's approval which means it meets Concord's approval. I don't have any problem with making Concord frown on occasion, but it just seems to meet the standards so I'm content with this. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Mr. Sullivan did you want to add something to that?

Matt Sullivan, Planning Director

I did receive an email this morning from Fire Marshal Pouliot at 9:25 a.m. stating, "Good morning Matt, I met with Mr. Plante on Roby Street yesterday morning to view the site to make sure it will meet our requirements. After viewing the site, the Fire Marshal's office has no concern with this project moving forward". I also spoke to the Fire Marshal this evening just before the meeting he confirmed that I could represent that he did, in fact, confirm that the site complies with his expectations. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Thank you. So the motion is to amend with the copy that was given handout this evening.

MOTION CARRIED

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN LOPEZ FOR FINAL PASSAGE AS AMENDED
MOTION CARRIED**

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

Joint Convention with Trustees of Woodlawn/Pinewood Cemeteries

There being no objection, President Wilshire accepted the communication, placed it on file, and scheduled a Joint

Convention with the Trustees of Woodlawn/Pinewood Cemeteries for Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Appointments by the Mayor

Board of Registrars

Andriana Lopera Espitia
137 Chestnut Street, Apt. 2
Nashua, NH 03060

Term to Expire: December 31, 2024

Gwendolyn Mikailov
11 Appletree Green
Nashua, NH 03062

Term to Expire: December 31, 2024

Cultural Connections

Sandra Pratt
24 Gingras Drive
Nashua, NH 03063

Term to Expire: March 1, 2025

Rosemary Ford
22 Nova Road
Nashua, NH 03064

Term to Expire: March 1, 2025

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Finance Committee 02/16/2022

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the February 16, 2022 Finance Committee be accepted and placed on file.

CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS

Community Development Director

Matthew Sullivan
229 Main Street
Nashua, NH

Term to Expire: Indefinitely

There being no objection, President Wilshire confirmed the appointment of Matthew Sullivan, 229 Main Street, Nashua, as the Community Development Director with an indefinite term.

Oath of Office administered by Corporation Counsel

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-22-008

- Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
- Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
- Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
- Alderman Thomas Lopez
- Alderman Patricia Klee
- Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
- Alderman Derek Thibeault
- Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

ESTABLISHING AN EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND FOR 14 COURT STREET EXPENSES, FUNDED BY APPROPRIATIONS

Given its second reading;

President Wilshire

Alderman O'Brien

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you Madam President, I would like to make a motion for final passage of R-22-008 and if allowed, I'd like to make brief comments on my motion?

President Wilshire

Yes.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you Madam President. Folks if there are any questions on this, please go to 14 Court Street and take a look at it. The building is tired. It's been a property of the city for an awful long time. Its history was once was a fire station. It was vacated in 1971 and since then it was brought back to life as the former Mayor Streeter Theater that was located in it. Within it there are the Peacock Players and different other community groups. My own daughters took Irish step dancing at that facility and so it has a connection with the community, particularly with the youth. But again, I have been there, I have used the bathrooms there, I have seen the theater itself get very, very tired.

At the whim of a city Budget at times we kind of meet a crunch. Does money really go into it? It's very easy to take a pencil and eraser and cross off a line item. But if we put it into an expendable trust, what we will be doing is earmarking a nominal amount of money into this project to help maintain this valuable asset for the community. So therefore I urge you to vote with me in support of this. It's something of a gem. As firefighters, it does have some historical content. I guess the horses names that ran out of the building was "Ash and Cinder", go figure, but anyways. It does have a historical content to the City and so therefore I think it's well worth to have the trust fund. Thank you Madam President.

Alderman Lopez

I agree with what Alderman O'Brien said. The building being characterized as the reason we're keeping it is because of the fire relays. That may be true, but that's not the reason – that's knowledge to me, but I do know when we're talking about the performing arts center from the very beginning there was great concern from the community performers that we would be building a performing arts center designed to bring in large scale audience acts and outside performers at the detriment of them. We wouldn't be remembering that they needed a place to perform. It might be losing the community theater and for people who may not participate in that or experience it themselves, I can see how this might look like we're trying to add meaning to a building, but I don't think we are. I think that building has served a tremendous amount of need over the years. I've seen many shows in both the upper and lower theater and it does have a heritage to it. I think it's an essential resource for our theater community. I think it's important to support them as they come back from COVID because a lot of their shows were entirely shut down if not heavily scaled-back due to occupancy numbers and that type of thing. They deserve as much of a chance to return to normal as anybody else does. I think they enrich our community by doing that, so I've been personally an advocate of improving Court Street Theater and supporting the groups that interact with it for years because of its place in the community not because of any particular operational attributes that it has.

I do recognize it as one of the first fire stations. It has historical relevance and I find that using it as a community center and for community performance groups and in the very ways that are developing for it. It maintains that historical legacy without just becoming a shrine that we have to pay money to maintain. So I consider this to be an efficient and effective use of the space as it is currently configured. We have Liquid Therapy - a business operating out of there generating revenue for us, increasing traffic to that area, keeping it viable. We have the potential for many more community performances to take place there. There are artist lofts inside as well supporting local artists who need space to do their work and to create. It's in good proximity to the Public Library, the expanded parking that the Public Library offers when they have shows.

It's a great reason and I would consider it poorly conceived to suggest simply removing it and sending groups that have performed in Nashua for years just to go find space elsewhere in Downtown where that's not quite as easy as it may

appear to some people to be. There are not a lot of large open-spaced buildings downtown. It was a challenge. The reason that the performing arts center wasn't suggested until Alec opened up is because there wasn't going to be a place big enough. So I would say personally none of my motivation was for fire switches or alarm relays, it was because that's a hub for the community, not just downtown, but for the entire city and it's important for us to keep it. Thank you.

Alderman Sullivan

I would like to make a motion to take this resolution and move it back to budget. Could I speak to that?

MOTION BY ALDERMAN SULLIVAN TO REFER R-22-008 TO THE BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Sullivan

The reason I want to do it is 1) for my understanding when I looked at it, Alderman Clemons was the main endorser of this legislation. Unfortunately, Alderman Clemons wasn't at the Budget Committee last week to speak to it when we recommended it for approval of which I did. Second, and not to put Miss Kleiner's or put words in her mouth, she was called on to speak to it. I don't think she was prepared to speak to it but did an admirable job. Finally since it came to trust funds, I had uncovered some information as far as we have a City Trust Fund now. I just thought that since I had uncovered some more information, I'd like to move that back to Committee. I'm not saying I'm for or against the resolution. I would simply like to talk about it more, if there is no time limit on this if we pass it in another month, it doesn't do anything.

President Wilshire

Motion is to re-refer. Alderman Clemons?

Alderman Clemons

Thank you. I appreciate the enthusiastic support from Alderman O'Brien and Alderman Lopez and I'm sure others. I had requested through the Chairman to hold this at the committee level because I was on vacation last week and was unable to attend that meeting, so I'm not sure why it did move forward but I have no objection to it going back to the Budget Committee meeting to be discussed further.

Alderman Klee

Yes, thank you Madam Chair. I am going to be very honest with you. When I spoke to Director Kleiner about this, one of the comments she had made were the leases are coming up. I think one of the key things that Director Kleiner had spoken to was relative to the good faith that we give to the people who are renting and leasing, etc., and that we are showing them that we are going to be using it. The trust fund that, I believe, Alderman Sullivan was speaking about is the City Building Trust Fund. I asked Director Kleiner specifically what is that money used for and she told me it's primarily for City Hall, but that at times it has been used to the Hunt, therefore showing that the Hunt is not self-sustaining itself. Public works as well as Public Health buildings. So we have used the money for other things.

Right now it's sitting at \$269,767.87. There have been building ground maintenance, security equipment that has been spent this year, so the money does get used. If someone feels that it's too much money that's sitting there, well that is their opinion but I do feel that moving forward with this where we've got leases that are coming up and pending, we're only going to be putting it further back and perhaps Alderman Dowd can speak to when the Budget Committee would actually be able to hear this. I think I'll leave it at that. Thank you.

Alderman Cathey

I was also on the Budget Committee and Alderman Sullivan and I had quite a few questions about how the Expendable Trust Fund works. I believe we both, and I don't want to put words in his mouth, came from the point of view of "why"? Why do we need this action in order to take care of this building? Director Kleiner said she would send us some materials and she did send us a report based on the expenses and revenue on the building. This action says that we can only put in the equivalent amount of the revenues the building generates. For next year that's \$40,000. That means we've only put in 40 which is 80, but the projected expenses are, I believe, \$120. So that's another \$40,000 that we're short. So we're not even getting up to the maintenance costs to take care of the building which is a far cry from letting the building be "revenue neutral" if we're lucky.

Then on top of that, the roof didn't even come out of maintenance costs. To my understanding, it came out of capital improvements. So if we need to keep spending big expenses on things on the building that are going to come out of funds elsewhere in the budget, then having this trust fund which has been bleeding money for at least the past 3 years. It's probably longer, I don't know if the expendable trust fund a) does the job that it's supposed to do, and b) is worthwhile in the long run because it's going to require a lot more money from the budget anyway.

So even with those thoughts, I think it does deserve more conversation back on the committee level. I'm not saying I'm definitely against it, but I would love to have more conversation about why this is the way to go when I believe there are other actions and other opportunities. I understand there are tenants and they want to have good faith, but I think showing good faith is doing the due diligence to make sure that we don't just pass an action or resolution but rather we solve the problem long-term and think about second and third order affects and how we can actually get this building to the desired goal we want. Thank you.

Alderman Thibeault

Yeah, I'm not really for putting it back in the Budget Committee. I just look like it's going to delay it longer. If we are putting this money into another trust fund or we're not putting it in another trust fund, honestly what is going to happen is this building is going to be forgotten about because there are other buildings that are going to be looked at as more important. This isn't just a historical thing. I mean I went there as a kid. It's a fire station, it's performing arts, my daughter went there for drama. Now she's studying Biology so obviously that didn't work, but you know what at the end of the day I'm afraid - and Chairman O'Brien said it perfectly - that "this building will get lost in the shuffle" and it's a great location, a lot of parking, people can eat outside without any barriers. It's something that if it goes back and we lose tenants, or people start getting frustrated and they go somewhere else, then we're going to lose that building.

Director Kleiner did a good job in sending us information. That building does need a lot of work. To Alderman Cathey's point \$40,000, \$80,000 isn't going to be all the money we're going to need to fix that building, but it's a start to something that no one can touch for something else. I think Alderman Dowd said it in the Budget Committee or Finance Committee that we still have to put the money in there every year. It doesn't automatically go in there, so we still as a Board of Alderman have to do that. I think we should keep it today and not have the amendment.

Alderman Dowd

As Chair of Budget I don't have any problem going back to Budget, I don't know when we can schedule it in, but we'll do our best. A couple of things – Junior Actor Singers also uses that building. My daughters have all been in a number of performances there.

The other thing is expendable trust funds is not someplace we hide money. It takes legislative action to put something in and there are specific spending parameters on money taken out. It's in the budget and budget book every budget year, so it's not hidden. It's very transparent but if you want to go back to Budget, that's fine with me.

Alderman Comeau

Thank you Madam President. I also I don't want to put words in anybody's mouth either, but I didn't get the sense from the speakers tonight that any of my colleagues are against maintaining the building, or doing some of these projects, or funding the projects. I think that my questions personally are procedural in nature. We have a number of trust funds that I don't know why we can't already use. We have capital improvements, general accounts, and downtown improvement funds. So my confusion is why we need another one when it seems like we may already have the mechanisms in place to do this work already. So I would definitely support at least having a longer conversation about it so that at least when I cast my vote I know that it's informed. Thank you.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. I'm inclined to move this forward. I think that I've heard about leases. I think that the theater is a diamond-in-the-rough that we have here in Nashua and having been on the Board of the Symphony, I've been in the building many, many times. It's under-utilized and it does need some attention and having its own trust fund will allow us to make sure that money goes directly into this building that really has a lot of potential and I know Alderman Gidge put in the artist studios, like there is a lot in there that can be happening and as we become a City that is starting to be known for arts and culture, being outside, coming downtown, I want to make sure we prioritize this building.

Alderman Clemons

Madam President I motion to move the vote.

**MOTION BY ALERMAN CLEMONS TO MOVE THE VOTE
MOTION CARRIED**

MOTION BY PRESIDENT WILSHIRE TO RE-REFER R-22-008, BY ROLL CALL

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

Yea: Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Moran, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons,
Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Cathey,
Alderman Wilshire 9

Nay: Alderman O'Brien, Alderwomen Klee, Alderman Lopez, Alderwomen Kelly,
Alderman Thibeault, Alderwomen Timmons 6

MOTION CARRIED

R-22-009

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman John Sullivan
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Tyler Gouveia
Alderman John Cathey
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons

APPROVING THE COST ITEMS OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NASHUA BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS AND UFPO LOCAL 645 PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES OF THE NASHUA POLICE DEPARTMENT FROM JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-22-009

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Dowd

This went unanimously through Budget and the request for percentage increases are very reasonable based on a lot of history of negotiations. They have also agreed to the City's healthcare which is a big step. We're trying to get that from all our unions and they agreed without reservation. So they have taken all the steps that we have been asking of unions to take and therefore through the recommendation of the Chief, I suggest that we pass it.

President Wilshire

Further discussion? Seeing none.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-22-009 declared duly adopted.

R-22-010

Endorsers: Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman John Sullivan
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Tyler Gouveia
Alderman John Cathey
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
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 CATHEY FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-22-010, BY ROLL CALLON THE QUESTIONAlderman Dowd

Again, unanimous decision by the Budget Committee to bring forward the recommendation to pass. This money is coming directly out of the police account. There is no additional funding required out of the budget and it makes the police officers another set of recruiters to get officers onto the police force.

President Wilshire

Discussion? Seeing none.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-22-010 declared duly adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – ORDINANCES**O-22-004**

Endorsers: Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Richard Dowd
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons

PROHIBITING A RIGHT TURN ON RED FROM ADVENTURE WAY ONTO DANIEL WEBSTER HIGHWAY

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN THIBEAULT FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF O-22-004ON THE QUESTIONAlderman Thibeault

So right turn red. The DPW contacted me a couple months ago about this and they were getting some complaints about since they put the BJ's gas station on Daniel Webster Highway that when people are doing a U-turn, people are taking a right turn on red, it's getting more dangerous than it was before. It's always been a smaller problem but now that there is more traffic, it's definitely been an issue. So they reached out to me and I said that's not my Ward go see Alderman

Cathey. I said if he doesn't sponsor it, I will because on the other side of the road is Ward 8. So it's my people that are the ones that are concerned about it even though this is technically in Ward 7.

So what's happening is people are coming out of the Bluestone apartments, and the Louisburg Square apartments, and people who are eating at Pizza Hut I guess as well and the only way out of that way is to take the U-turn if you want to go North or to go all the way down and take a right down by Barnes and Noble and Shaw's. So it was there to try to protect people from getting into accidents because people aren't waiting all the time. They're supposed to stop but if they see an opening, they take it, and people are taking the U-turn because they have the light. It's potential for risk and for accidents.

Since we've put this in, gas prices have skyrocketed and now you have all kinds of traffic going in and out of there. So I think honestly, and I hope Matt Sullivan is still here, I think there needs to be a bigger fix for that whole thing because it's beginning to get really messy down there and there is going to be other problems not just this right turn on red, but there are going to be other things that we need to work on because we're starting to get more e-mails about it in general. I think it's a bigger issue, but for now we've started with this. Thank you.

Alderwomen Kelly

Thank you and thank you for bringing this forward. I had some questions. I did look through the discussion at Infrastructure and I'm actually pretty knowledgeable about this area. I do go here for gas, so I know how busy it can get there. I do know that Matt Sullivan is here and wondering if he could speak to the end of the memos that the Planning Department is looking at the bigger solution and I wanted to know what that is. Because I always get worried that we're making a short-term decision to try to fix something when there is a longer-term solution with the businesses that we heard from and the business that will be going in.

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Director

Good evening members of the Board. Matt Sullivan, new Community Development Director. It feels good. I also believe that Dan Hudson is on and I'm not going to put him on the spot speaking to this, but the implication there is we also recognize as the neighboring owners made us aware this evening that there is other potential development proposed in this area and approved development in this area. That included additional traffic impacts that were contemplated in the Planning Board's review of the application at that time.

So the comment made to larger development trends in the area is simply to say we need to be more deliberate as we go through traffic study and corridor study to ensure that any proposed developments and even those that are approved currently are adequately mitigating the traffic. What I will say is that we have been in direct contact with BJ's about the current condition and the approved condition and asked them to supply additional traffic study data for us to review and consider and we may, in fact, compel them (I'm comfortable saying this on the record) we may in fact compel them to return to the Planning Board to make circulation changes to their site to deal with these conditions that we are witnessing. We believe now only because of the current gas price trends but also because of the design of the site, that the traffic impact was under estimated and therefore the impacts to Adventure Way and the DW Highway corridor were not adequately planned for. So we're taking more comprehensive look at this intersection certainly based on that contemplated development, but we do intend to intervene with BJ's directly as they have created in combination with other businesses a compounded affect an unsafe intersection condition here. I hope that addresses your question.

Alderwoman Kelly

It does. If I could have one more follow-up. So I guess that's really good information. I understand there is increased traffic here and what I'm trying to wrap my head around because I'm looking at this amazing traffic study - if you've ever looked at one, they are quite interesting to look at - but I think my question is around is the attention to this spot just because we have additional cars because that right turn from Adventure Way is not the BJ's people. You have to go in, and around, and back onto DW. So those right turns and those U-turns should have already been going on the whole time. So I'm trying to figure out where...

Matt Sullivan, Community Development Director

Yes absolutely. I think it has been exacerbated by the BJ's development. Certainly this is not a new condition, but I think it's been amplified based on that new development. I don't know if it's appropriate to call on Dan Hudson if he still has joined us this evening. He may be able to speak more adequately to some of this. If he's not available I can certainly provide some additional information.

President Wilshire

He's available. Mr. Hudson would you care to join us?

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

Thanks Mr. Director. No, that's correctly described. This is an existing problem that has been there for a while. It is exasperated by the additional level of traffic. What you have at that location is a high number of U-turns for the reasons Alderman Thibeault noted. To reverse direction, people have to use that U-turn and at the same time, some people are trying to take a right turn on red. It's not a great location sight distance wise because you are coming up the vertical hill there. You are looking left, your left turn traffic beside you, you have a couple lanes going northbound on DW Highway, and now as of late you have some added congestion because of BJ's traffic. So it's a condition that has existed. We would have recommended that it be changed regardless, but it has become more recently more problematic because of the additional congestion.

President Wilshire

Seven hands just went up! Alderman O'Brien.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you Madam President. We heard this in Infrastructure and I don't want to go deep into history, but you have to remember right turn on red lights some of you don't remember the 70's. I vaguely do myself. Some of you weren't born during the 70's, but the thing is we went through a real crisis where there wasn't enough fuel and shows history. Looking today, history repeats itself and fuel prices went up. But for a vehicle to sit at a red light in dead idle, there was great concern. So there was federal change and they said "yes". All States had you had to stop completely at a red light, no turning at all. That's why the green arrow was invented, but because of the fuel shortage and then they came out with the right turn on red unless the municipality looked at it and then determined that it was hazardous to do so. We have now come to that with this particular intersection. So therefore, that's why it passed the Committee, but I just wanted to bring the background information on why we do have the authority to limit the right turn on red. I mean prior to 1970, everybody had to come to a complete stop.

Now as far as the BJ's, I wish they had better signage. I don't know, maybe somebody can talk to them but there is an exit on the DW for heading northbound. So there really is not a need for the BJ customer to go down back to Adventure Way, and then to come up, and then to go through the light. Usually I try to avoid lights, although it is against the law to go on somebodies property to avoid them. The thing is there is a way out, but unfortunately the public isn't using this which created this. So therefore, it went through Infrastructure, we approved it, and I hope that answers some of your questions on why we have the authority to do so. Thank you.

Alderman Klee

Thank you Madam President. The truth is that I think what people have stated here the entrance into the BJ's gas station is what is backing up. It's not the people leaving the gas station because they coming out of and I, too, like Alderwoman Kelly has use it quite often.

The issue that I see is that they're coming out of BJ's, doing a right turn on red, and then we have a U-turn as well. I know in Concord they put up different kinds of lights saying you know "you can't right turn on red when someone is doing a U-turn". They have these big giant signs.

I had a couple questions and perhaps Mr. Hudson can answer them. In the downtown area we have right turn on red, but we have restrictions like off of Amherst Street onto Main Street during certain hours. Would that be something that would allow for this but during certain times not to allow for it? I don't think that this is going to affect the right turn on red. It's going to affect the Adventure Way, but I think maybe if we allowed it to happen during the really not busy times or something much like we do even on Main Street. Would something like this help or is it just kind of a waste of time to do it?

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

Sure. Thank you. I supposed that in the late hours of the evening if it's not busy, then it wouldn't be as needed. One thing to note too is that lane that you can make a right turn from is a shared through right lane. So the only people that are turning right on red are the first or second person in line if those people want to turn right versus go through. So a lot of people are trapped behind the throughs during the red anyway.

So I don't think this change will have a significant effect on traffic conditions in the area. I think it's more of a safety issue and it was brought forward based on concerns that we received. But if the Board wanted to entertain any hour restriction, we certainly can do that but I wouldn't do that during normal business hours or on Saturdays. This last Saturday I heard there was a lot of issues there as well so.

Alderman Klee

Thank you, I'm not suggesting, just wanted to get some ideas.

Alderman Moran

Thank you Madam President. So I take this way home. I live in Ward 7 but I work in Ward 8. I'll come down Spit Brook and take a left onto DW. I don't think so much it's the traffic that's coming from Adventure Way, I think it's the human behavior change because now you're frustrated. Frustrated that you can't get into CVS, frustrated that you can't get into Best Buy, and now people are coming back onto Adventure Way, and just flooring it as fast as they can. Where I come from, it's a Massachusetts stop, a slow roll, make sure nothings coming, but not paying attention to the U-turn. I think the frustration is caused by the increased traffic in that area that is really causing people to blow through that light. I for one before Lent started, I would visit that Pizza Hut almost frequently, every day if I could, and that U-turn is true. Everyone coming out of that side you're going to get side swiped. I was leaving CVS the other day and someone banged that U-turn and entered into the gas station from the wrong entrance where it clearly says "not an entrance". So there is a lot of frustration over there that does need further study for the impact on the area. But I think this ordinance will slow people down to think twice before they take a right into a U-turn.

Alderman Clemons

I agree completely with Alderman Moran on this. For me it's about the traffic that is making a U-turn. I have been in that situation myself making that U-turn where I almost go into an accident with somebody coming out making a right turn on red. I personally feel that wherever we can have a right hand turn on red, we should have it. I even like the left hand turns on red on one-way streets like over on West Hollis Street. I think its Liberty onto West Hollis Street you can do that, but it has to be safe. When you have an entire population of people that live on one side of the road and the only way that they can turn around and go north is to make a U-turn, then that U-turn has to be safe for them. So for those reasons, I'm going to support this legislation.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. I actually wanted to ask, and I don't know if the idea and maybe this is for Mr. Hudson, to restrict the U-turn was ever looked at. I disagree with what was just said that you can just go a block further and you can get on past the Shaw's. Also you can go out of some of those apartments the other way. I know which ones you're talking about but like Royal Ridge you can go through the other way.

President Wilshire

Did you have a question?

Alderwoman Kelly

My question is have we ever considered restricting the U-turns? Sorry I said a lot around the question.

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

Thank you. That was talked about, I believe, both when BJ's came forward with their traffic study and later when Costco came forward with their study. That was talked about, but it's a very heavy U-turn movement because all of the residences that want to reverse direction. So in looking at the number of people that wouldn't have a great alternative otherwise, you'd have to go further to make another U-turn heavier somewhere else. I think it became a consensus that that wasn't a recommended approach.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you very much.

Alderman Comeau

Thank you Madam President. I was actually going to ask the same question. It seemed like a lot of conversations were centered around the people making the U-turns. In general, I favor things that are less restrictive. I feel like the more we keep the cars moving, the less they'll be backing up somewhere else. I know it's been said that the traffic isn't necessarily the people leaving the gas station, but the fact is there is significant increase because of that. So it's just increasing the number of cars in the area in general and people making a right turn in the face of somebody making a U-turn are already doing the wrong thing because you're supposed to be waiting until there is an opening. I'm not sure if we further restrict that if people who are already doing the wrong thing aren't just continue doing a different wrong thing, but it will also slow down some people who may have the opportunity to go and now won't be able to if they do follow the instructions of the signage when it might have been perfectly clear to make their turn and now they're not going to and that is going to back up everyone else who's trying to get out of that roadway.

My thought as far as getting rid of the U-turn was that the next light is only a couple hundred feet up. I know it is also a busy intersection because it's Spit Brook Road, but the timing of those lights offers a green arrow for U-turns specifically. The north bound and south bound lanes have the simultaneous lefts. So that flows pretty well. In my experience, I don't know what impact this would have on that but it seems that if our concerns are largely centered around the U-turns and not the right turns, then maybe we should be looking to restrict that instead.

Alderman Dowd

Yes. I just want to ask the question having been familiar with infrastructure changes in Ward 2. What type of infrastructure studies would you need to make this happen - signage and is that going to be in place before we are making other changes to that intersection or taking advantage of the traffic study to find out what the ultimate solutions are? I will tell you that I think that U-turn to go north is dangerous. So either you shouldn't be able to take the U-turn when people are taking a right which would say "no right turn on red", so I'd be in favor of what we're asking right now but how long would it take to implement that?

Dan Hudson, City Engineer

I'm not sure if I fully understood the question. I will tell you what has been looked at is the lengthening the southbound left turn. That's something we know is not quite enough storage and that was looked at as part of the Costco study and that change is planned to be made by Costco.

The right turn on red, as I said, I don't foresee significant backups as far as safety issue. I don't think it's going to significantly change things, but it is going to reinforce the fact that we don't believe it's safe to make that maneuver with the U-turns. When the Costco development is constructed, that will connect through some of the other ways to come and go. That may help. Those are the kinds of changes we talked about. Also Costco as part of their offsite development, they plan to lengthen the turn lanes and it may I believe even change the configuration where you would have a left through lane and a right turn only lane which would improve some things there because you could maybe have a right turn signalized overlap with another move. There are some things in the works. Nothing immediate. For this change if it was approved, it would be simply putting up no right turn on red sign at the signal on Adventure Way.

Alderman Cathey

To Alderman Thibeault's point, DPW did contact me and said that Thibeault would support the legislation if I did not. My first question was I need a traffic study. I'm not going to do anything without data. That doesn't make any sense.

Secondly, the right on red still doesn't make sense because the majority of people who are going northbound know that you can leave BJ's going northbound at that one exit. There is a very low probability that people who are going to loop back around BJ's back down, which you can do, and then go back up to make the right on red. It's not expedient. It doesn't make sense. So the majority of the traffic is SkyVenture, CVS (which already has a very, very compacted parking lot). I do not take my Ford F150 in there because it's very difficult to get out. The same thing with Best Buy if you want to go back down around or go into the garage or whatever. So in my opinion, a majority of the traffic is businesses that are not related to BJ's and they will be prohibited especially when the shopping season comes up and then even more so when Costco gets built and gets connected. I think the back-ups are going to get worse and I think the right on red (there has been no accidents reported I don't think at that U-turn for right on red U-turn) so maybe it has been dangerous anecdotally but there hasn't been an uptick in accidents, so I don't think that it's necessarily a problem that hasn't already existed and I don't think this solves the problem either.

Alderman Thibeault

I mean this was a problem even before BJ's. It's not probably strictly for that and Mr. Hudson can certainly attest to what kind of complaints they were getting before. Obviously it got to a point where they asked me to sponsor this bill.

I just wanted to address something Alderman Comeau said that so we have two sets of apartments - Bluestone and Louisburg Square. You have Royal Crest, but to Alderwoman Kelly's point, Royal Crest can get out the other way. Now of course if they're closer to there, now we're going to make them go all through the whole Royal Crest to get out. That's fine, let them go, we don't care, right? The other two sets of apartments, you are still talking thousands of people, right. So now you're going to tell them don't take the U-turn, go down to the light, we're going to make your life uncomfortable so people don't have to obey the right turn on red law. So let them go right on red. We don't care. We want the other people to move all the way down there so why should we inconvenience them for people who are breaking the law anyway. That's the part that I don't get.

Thank you to Alderman Klee and Mr. Hudson for talking about those lanes. There are only two lanes there so what happens if you're going to Shaw's and you're going straight, you're block every single person that wants to go right anyway and it backs up that way. I know. I go to CVS and then I go to Shaw's, so I know sometimes I'm the one blocking everybody. So I just want to point a few of those things out and thank you.

Alderman Klee

Thank you Madam President. Truthfully I think this was a pre-BJ's. BJ's may be exacerbating it but I think it was a pre-BJ's issue and I say that because I have used that CVS for a pharmacy. I have done a lot of shopping at Best Buy and I turn in on that way when I come in the way that I'm coming. I can tell you that I have right turned on red there, and I am careful, and I am very cautious. You get part way out there and suddenly that person is - because they have the light. I can't see that they have the light. Everything is paused, the light turns, and there have been some near misses. So to say that there were no accidents there, if our Public Works is getting complaints, and this is becoming an issue, and they've gone and they've looked at it, I feel confident that this is something we should pass and I'm grateful that there will be other studies being done as more businesses come into there and so on. I think this is a stop gap issue. We can't ask all those people - and I've been in line multiple cycles to do that turn or to do a U-Turn there. I think it's something that we should pass this evening.

Alderman Clemons

I agree with what Alderman Thibeault previously said about the residents who live there. You can't restrict the U-turn because we don't have a viable option for them to go the other way. That's the problem. This was a problem before BJ's and actually was a worse problem before BJ's because in addition to the right turn, the parking lot was also at the same entrance. So you could have somebody making a left turn into the parking lot and crossing over where you were turning right. That doesn't exist anymore. That problem is solved with the new BJ's gas station. However those that are still making the U-turn, it is a problem and so I think we need to take deference to the people who live in the neighborhoods who need to utilize the Daniel Webster Highway and make that U-turn and give them the preferential treatment that they deserve by living in a neighborhood where unfortunately the only way that they can go north conveniently is to make a U-turn. They shouldn't have to do it fighting somebody else coming out of that intersection.

I know that it's not perfect, it's not a perfect solution. It certainly – I wish in a perfect world everybody would do the right thing and we wouldn't have to worry about making laws like this. But unfortunately, I can attest myself to being in close situations and the fact that there hasn't been an accident there if that's the case, we're lucky. So again, I'm going to vote in favor of this because I'm giving deference to those who live in the neighborhoods up there.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you Madam President. I have to agree with Alderman Clemons on this. I kind of sat on the fence. I did vote "yes" in committee on it, but I do feel for the people who live in the surrounding area taking away that U-turn just isn't the option that we really have and I'll be voting "yes" on this. Thank you.

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance O-22-004 declared duly adopted.

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-22-014

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF \$44,400 FROM ACCOUNT 70100 "GENERAL CONTINGENCY" INTO DEPARTMENT 179 "LIBRARY", ACCOUNTING CLASSIFICATION 53 "PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES" TO FUND HALF THE COST OF A FACILITY ASSESSMENT AND MASTER PLAN FOR THE LIBRARY BUILDING

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

R-22-015

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman John Sullivan
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Tyler Gouveia
Alderman John Cathey
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman-at-Large Gloria Timmons

APPROVING THE COST ITEMS OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NASHUA BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS AND TEAMSTERS LOCAL 633, FROM JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026

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

R-22-016

Endorsers: Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman John Sullivan
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY TREASURER TO ISSUE BONDS NOT TO EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$5,000,000) FOR FRANKLIN STREET SCHOOL BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

Given its first reading; Assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE, BOARD OF EDUCATION, and schedule a SPECIAL BOARD OF ALDERMAN PUBLIC HEARING on Monday, March 21, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. by President Wilshire

R-22-017

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman-at-Large Gloria Timmons

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE 14 COURT STREET LEASE FOR UNIT B WITH LIQUID THERAPY, LLC

Given its first reading; Assigned to the PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE by President Wilshire

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES**O-22-010**

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons
Alderman Derek Thibeault

AMENDING THE LAND USE CODE BY ADDING PROVISIONS REGARDING SYNTHETIC NICOTINE AND ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICE SALES AND LOUNGES

Given its first reading; Assigned to the PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, PLANNING BOARD, and schedule a PUBLIC HEARING on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. by President Wilshire

PERIOD FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTPresident Wilshire

Tonight we have Julie Saige. Please give your name and address for the record and you have 3 minutes to speak.

Julie Saige

Hello, my name is Julie Saige. I live at 38 Deerwood Drive. I'm here because I was lied about and defamed in the last meeting and I need to set the record straight. Before I start with this, I'd like to thank the four Aldermen who specifically said that it was wrong for people to be laughing at and knocking me while I was speaking. One thing that I was accused of is having fear in my voice. That was not fear. It was me talking quickly because 3 minutes is not enough to discuss COVID and masks.

Besides being accused of having this fear, this lady talked as she knew who I was but I have never met or seen in my entire life. I cannot quote what these things she lied about so I'm going to paraphrase. She claimed that the information I gave was taught in school. There is literally no school in America that is teaching about CCL11 in the brain. She said I needed guidance and needed help in understanding the statistics and claimed the information I gave was outdated. She continued to say that we needed to protect our children so we don't continue to spiral down an echo chamber of fear and she pointed at the screen where I was acting like I had some mental illness. She accused me of getting my information off of Facebook and TikTok and not from talking to people and all these statements are just false. I made the mistake that someone on the Board would have known who I was, so let me tell you a little about who I am.

As far as I can find, I am the most awarded teen with different experiments, inventions in areas of science. I am also a teen who has won the most spots to have experiments (inaudible) with space with eight already in space and two more this year. I was a New Hampshire State winner for the Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge and placed in the top 10 of International Next-Gen Mask Challenge which was redesigning face masks to make them better. There were around 1,000 entries and I made it to the top 10 beating out top universities and engineering firms. I also have two provisional patents on my face mask design. When it comes to masks, I am the expert. I also ran my own science news on YouTube and Twitter for the last 6 years.

I get my information from actually talking to epidemiologists from around the world, pediatric doctors in multiple areas of pediatrics, cardiologists, emergency room doctors, and nurses, etc. Since March 2020, I have switched completely and have now only been doing news on Twitter dealing specifically with COVID. During this time, I was the first to say we need to be more concerned about variants. That it was mutating faster that it was supposed to be. I got Apple to look at how to clean their phones. I was the one that got people to stop (inaudible) masks because of material infection and other things. I was also the first to say that we dropped masks too soon and people could catch COVID outside and the list goes on forever which was all proven.

I understand physics and I understand particles. To think that I need guidance and understanding when some of the top epidemiologists in the world follow me is insulting. I kind of shocked that a complete stranger was allowed to talk said she knew anything about me? People try to say that masks are...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds

Julie Saige

...out of control but they want to control us especially kids in every aspect. She kept saying our children. I am not her child. No one owns me. This also goes beyond ridicule and public. My family has been coughed on, spat on by adults, and I even had a lit cigarette thrown at me the other day all because about wearing masks. When we contacted the police about this, they said that they will do absolutely nothing about it. Nashua does not protect its children and this will happen again now that the ordinance is rescinded. One more thing about who I am...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

Time

Daniel Saige

Hello. My name is Daniel Saige. I'm at 38 Deerwood. I'm actually going to talk about something a little bit different. I let my daughter speak for herself. There was something that was said quite often that had me confused. I did a little bit of politics. I ran for independent in California Governor. I grew up in Iowa – learned that law is what's important. You guys actually have a great council here – legal counsel. But during the last meeting, a lot of people kept saying "mask mandate". You guys had an ordinance. You're the legislation branch. You don't have mandates. Executive Branch has mandates through departments and judicial branches have mandates. You have an ordinance. It's just not the same thing. The problem when you're using these words wrong is people believe you can't follow a mandate. You actually have a person come up and say that "mandates aren't legal". A mandate from a court is very legal. If they tell you that you need to get psychiatric help, you have to do it. A mandate from the Public Health office is mandatory. You have to do it. It causes where younger people also will get confused. If they're told that they have to follow this mandate and then they think that they don't have to, or if they think that it's not an ordinance that it didn't come from legislation. You guys actually did a good job in that.

When the Governor's office did it, that was a mandate but you guys went through your branch. It's just something that I wanted to point out and I'm not sure how much you are getting the information from legal specifically about this. That's something to be very, very careful about. When people say they don't like mandates so that's why they were going to rescind it, every ordinance you do is exactly the same thing. So it's also kind of confusing there. It's just one of those things to bring to you guys' attention.

Laurie Ortolano

Laurie Ortolano, 41 Berkeley Street, Nashua. I'd like to thank the Board for sending 14 Court Street back to the Budget Committee for review.

I'd also like to ask the Mayor – you gave a nice presentation on our COVID numbers, but I'm wondering what level we're at. Usually you say if we're at still at substantial and the website still has us at a substantial rate of transmission and I'd like to know when that's going to change.

I'd like to address the removal of the press table at the back of the room. So this is your Chamber collectively and I was told that now Attorney Bolton is looking at putting a law library back there with some books. I'd kind of like to know. I got my press pass, and I'm ready to report, and the table has been removed. So I think we should bring our press table back and if you are going to have a law library back there, I think that's terrific. I think you should dedicate a shelf to Right-to-Know Law because I think we could use some polishing up on that.

As far as barriers go, that's coming up tomorrow and I'd like to say I've done quite a bit of work looking at the data and a friend of mine compiled all the surveys and information from February 22 and March 8 as of today. I think there is a lot of data in there that shows there is not a lot of support for these barriers. I'm disappointed in the letter that went out from the Mayor because I think that it was not clear, and it was convoluted, and it had a twisted view on what should be said. I know Derek you're shaking your head "no", but really you should allow me to speak and give me the courtesy to do that and then you can state your position on what you see. Some of it's debatable because its data on the way it's written and I really understand that. I'm looking at overall the response from the newspaper, the petitions that were signed, and the letters that in both sets of information.

Finally I'd like to speak on safety. I really think that the two new Chiefs had a private meeting with Alderman O'Brien and Tim Cummings to address the safety issues. I think these safety issues have been raised repeatedly by the public and I think our safety officials should put in writing their concerns. No short, small meetings with pro-barrier people on how we're making accommodations. I think it's reasonable that that be put in writing. Those are safety issues for our citizens so please ask your Fire and Police Department to put in writing the safety issues.

Finally, I'd like to let you know that I was up at the State House today giving testimony on the (inaudible) Bill for the Right-to-Know office.

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds

Laurie Ortolano

I think that was very promising. It looks like it's going to pass. That will allow citizens to file a Right-to-Know challenge for \$25 with an office, the (inaudible) office for Right-to-Know who will take the case and assist you with the challenge. I think it will offer some nice benefits to controlling costs, getting answers, and creating better transparency for New Hampshire. Thank you.

Karen Bill

Good evening. Karen Bill, 95 Parnell Place, Nashua. While I was reading through the 350-page Board of Alderman package this afternoon, I was puzzled by the support for the keeping outside dining like someone said it was going away and I was informed that the Mayor had sent a letter asking if residents wanted it to be continued like it was going away. It really puzzled me and made me think a little bit about how information is disseminated sometimes in letters maybe from the Mayor, but from a believable office like for the Police Commission and \$4 million waiting in the wings for the PAC, and to get people to vote for it, and then there's not really \$4 million waiting in the wings.

But really I'm here to speak about correspondence that I sent to the entire Board. I was advised that when I send something to the entire Board - yes you get it and it's in the meeting minutes, but what I wasn't prepared for was no replies. Zero replies. I've had a lengthy conversation with City Counsel about Right-to-Know. As you know, I sent three e-mails to Director Cummings asking for minutes for the barrier meetings. When I said "Right-to-Know" in the fourth e-mail that I sent to all of you, then I got a reply that said "I have no such document". I talked about this last time I was here. The minutes were on the website. I found them last week sometime when I downloaded them they were blank. I can't make this up.

To file a Right-to-Know request to get a simple answer to a question is insulting and acting in bad faith. The City continues to act in bad faith. Do you think 90,000 residents in Nashua, let's say 60,000 of them - I think I'm pretty close are voting age - how would you like 60,000 Right-to-Know requests to get a simple answer to a question? We just want records that should be made available under the law. It is a law. It is a law that you have to register your car. Do you think Attorney Jette gets a pass because he has Esquire behind his name and he doesn't want to pay to register his car?

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds

Karen Bill

No if I were employed with a company and I broke the law, I'd be fired. There is no consequence in this city for ignoring the law. It's not about a person, it's about behavior. Unlawful, deceptive, and condoned by leadership who should also be held accountable.

You know tonight you swore somebody in who said they'd be impartial. I wonder if Mr. Cummings took that oath as well. Again, management style - ignore them long enough and they'll go away. Well guess what, I'm a resident and I deserve for my questions to be answered...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

Time.

President Wilshire

Your time is up Miss Bill.

Karen Bill

And I'd like to know who's going to answer my questions Madam President. Is that unfair?

President Wilshire

There isn't a question and answer period.

Karen Bill

Well that's just it, there doesn't seem to be one.

President Wilshire

Your time is up Ms. Bill.

Karen Bill

According to law.

Elizabeth Lu

Elizabeth Lu, 17 Roby Street. First I just want to clarify every year what appropriations are not used revert to either being redirected by Aldermanic approval to other uses for the upcoming fiscal year or the Mayor may assign it of his own choice to a like use in the upcoming fiscal year. If you look at September 1, 2021 minutes of the Finance meeting at that time that year none of the escrows were questioned except by myself. My question was why is it that we just paid the final bill on the roof for 14 Court Street and yet we're asking to escrow \$750,000 for Court Street roof? So we had that discussion at the September 1, 2021 Finance Committee meeting which you can find the minutes because at that time we had a transcriptionist. We paid the final bill and the request was for the \$750,000 to be put in again. By doing this what is required is every year these funds that hadn't been used as expected get looked at again. There is a period when these escrows are looked at when you can weigh on whether they should be used for the original purpose or whether they should be redirected.

I also want to talk about the press table. I was here at the Infrastructure meeting and I was horrified to see a Board Chairman humiliate one of our citizens as (inaudible) sat for over two.

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds

Elizabeth Lu

Did you say 10 seconds?

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds

Elizabeth Lu

Okay. The Chairman spoke to the gallery and embarrassed Ms. Ortolano just for kicks. It was ridiculous. To me this seems like a petty issue and just put it back.

Finally President Wilshire, I'm asking you to please get a transcriptionist because my lawyer...

President Wilshire

Your time is up Ms. Lu.

Elizabeth Lu

I can't finish my sentence?

President Wilshire

No, you're done.

Elizabeth Lu

I hope you'll all consider whether this makes sense, if this is a way to...

President Wilshire

We passed legislation for the time period. If you can't be respectful of that, I'm sorry. There's nothing I can do about it.

Elizabeth Lu

No I'm respectful. I just thought I could finish a sentence. Thank you.

Laura Colquhoun

Laura Colquhoun, 30 Greenwood Drive. I wish you Miss Wilshire would be more respectful to the residents. I'd like to go on the record I've never asked to have the money to be taken away from Court Street. What I do want is I want the residents to be able to see that it is a losing proposition. We may in 10 years decide to make it a museum, which would be fine. The problem is I'd like more transparency with the City of Nashua and obviously that is something that you, and a lot of the other Board members, and the Mayor.

I'm also very upset with the Mayor's e-mail going out because when you say "oh, let's have outside dining", well Nashua has outside dining but it has nothing to do. You have to mention the barriers because most people are against the barriers. That's all I have to say. I think it's very petty that number one the last chamber had cushions on those chairs, and now there is none, and now you've taken away the table. Shame on you all.

Scott McCullough

Yes, I'd like to comment on you guys are doing a fantastic job. Thank you to Mayor Jim Donchess and I would like to know if Lori and everybody would be willing to make a team for the Best Buddies Friendship Walk coming up June 11th in Concord. I'd like to know Mayor are you willing to donate some money or make a team for the Best Buddies Friendship Walk coming up in Concord, NH? It's for Best Buddies New Hampshire. I was just wondering if – oh I forgot to state my name. My name is Scott McCullough, Congress Street, Building 49, Apt. 6. Sorry I forgot to do that. Sorry I forgot to do that Ms. Chair. Sorry, I totally forgot to do that. I'd like to see if you guys could maybe make up a team for the Best Buddies Friendship Walk or donate or Mike O'Brien and you guys could make a team.

Mayor Donchess

Well Scott, I'd be glad to donate. No Problem. I'm sure some of the Board will too.

Scott McCullough

If you guys would like to donate, you can go to www.bestbuddies.org. Look up Bangor Buddies on the Loose. Hopefully I didn't go too fast for you. Thank you and I greatly appreciate.

Keep up the good work and thank you for us having the mask mandate rid of because you don't know how much that meant to me when I went into work and they told me I didn't have to wear a mask at my hotel no more. I love it, freedom!

President Wilshire

Thank you so much.

Matthew Gouthro

Thank you Madam Chair. I'll start over once again from my earlier comments. Matthew Gouthro, 104 Fawn Lane, here in Nashua. Today in your meeting materials you received a proposal of a strategic plan for our public library by Jennifer McCormick. Changes and enhancements for our library here in Nashua are long overdue. While I applaud the efforts to make our library a more engaging and inclusive environment, as a Nashua resident I'm really disappointed in the state of the physical building and its' grounds. Not to take away from Alderman O'Brien's previous comments on another item, but the public grounds that surround this building is also tired. I'm astounded at how this City could let this public property get to this point. I remember speaking with Jennifer McCormick last year during our Nashua City Academy and sharing with her how this is not a really welcoming environment. Actually for my 4 year old who is an avid reader, she finds this place pretty scary.

You see this dark overgrown littered mess that seems to welcome only vagrants these days. Instead of creating an unneeded pedestrian mall by closing off traffic lanes on our historic Main Street, maybe our Mayor or this Board of Alderman can focus your efforts on cleaning up the dilapidated grounds around our Public Library and restoring the public's interest in the grand institution of its own very public library. Thank you very much.

President Wilshire

Thank you.

REMARKS BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Alderman Thibeault

Yes, I have a few. I'm going to start with the comments that were made in the public session. For Mrs. Ortolano, I was shaking my head and she can speak right through that, I didn't interrupt her. The reason that I was shaking my head was because of what she said about surveys, and data, and then the Mayor's letter. On the data and surveys, the Telegraph took a survey of 3,000 people out of 90,000 and came up with an 80% against barriers. What was it based on? Was it based on the new proposal? Who is the segment? I'm hoping to hear all this tomorrow. Who is the segment? Was it north, south, Main Street, was it business owners? Say the Paul Shea's survey, right, so people may think I support Paul Shea's survey because I like Paul Shea. But it's the same thing. I don't know where that data is coming from. I don't know where Facebook poll data is coming from, but I tell you right now, the amount of e-mails we got and everybody here we're all getting the same emails. We're getting more for expanded dining and you can say that's the Mayor's e-mail, but I'll tell you these Aldermen here, and I guarantee you there's Aldermen here, that are posting their own stuff to their Facebook to their groups or sending e-mail letters. I mean I sent one to my group, but I didn't say I was for or against it. I said "here is what's going to happen next week whether you are for it or against it come out. If you're a business owner on Main Street come out, if you work on Main Street come out, if you live in the north and you hate the going down Main Street come out. If love going out and having dinner on a beautiful summer night, come out. I don't care what your opinion is I want you here to tell us your opinion and then I'll think about it and make a decision." But to say the Mayor's letter influenced more of the City, or to come up with a 3,000 survey, or a petition that was done on the old proposal, or to say the police or fire are against it on the old proposal is nonsense. That's why I was shaking my head. I want to hear from the police, and fire, and AMR now on the new proposal that we will hear tomorrow night from Director Cummings. That's what I want to hear and that is how I'll make my decision and I'll listen to all the people that come tomorrow night that's how I make decisions. I don't make decisions on faulty nonsense and I don't care what political party the poll is done on. If you can't tell me where the data is coming from, I'm not going to believe it I'm sorry.

So as far as Miss Bill, if you're in my Ward I'll respond to you but I expect wherever you live that person will respond to you. I'm not going to respond to you unless you're in my Ward or unless you talk to me directly.

Two other things – Miss Saige thank you for coming. This is why I got into this. She was maligned at that meeting and I did speak out at that meeting. I don't know if anyone else did, there wasn't many of us. That was uncalled for and what has been happening to her is uncalled for. It's just not cool and she sounds like she's smarter than most adults and maybe smarter than some of us. Probably certainly smarter than me and it takes a lot of courage to come here after that and speak in front of us all. I applaud her and thank you. Even some of the Aldermen who spoke to what she said last week called her "Saige". Her last name is Saige. Miss Saige, right? Let's get this right and I thought we did a bad job there.

And the last thing is we referred the Court Street to the Budget Committee after the first reading. So I hear people saying well I want to know more about it. It went to the Budget Committee. Why didn't we have more information then? Why didn't we ask the questions then? What has come up now that we didn't know about then? So that's why I was going to say let's vote for it now, let's not refer it back to Committee to go through it all again. It doesn't make sense. If we're not prepared when we come to this, then why are we doing this? That's it.

Alderman Cathey

I'll start off by responding to Alderman Thibeault since I was on the Budget Committee. I did recommend it primarily because I thought, full disclosure that we still have to put money into the account anyway. If I felt like that account was useless, I could vote "no". Now granted that gives a chance for money to go into the account because the trust exists. However after that meeting like we stated (I'm sure you guys have the email from Director Kleiner about revenues and expenses) that was something that I didn't know. I didn't know about the original resolution. I didn't know about the roof going under capital improvements. There were a lot of things that revolve around Court Street that were not immediately known and I don't even know if I would have been able to know to look them up like the original resolution. So knowing that now, I don't think further discussion really harms anyone when we're trying to talk about how to spend money and

how to take care of the City, especially if there is no time limit. So that's how I personally thought it through and that's why I ultimately put it back down to Budget so we can talk about it again.

To Mr. Gouthro's comments about the library. At the Budget Review Committee meeting, I asked Director Kleiner about grants for historic buildings for Court Street and she said that they are looking to get a grant right now for that particular area outside the library, the courtyard area. You guys call it the "Library Mall". I don't know if that will get approved, I don't know if we'll get the grants, but they are looking at getting grants to take care of that part of the library. I know there are other things that need to be fixed, but we're doing what we can I guess and trying to make improvements that we need.

And lastly the things that I care about the most and I'll try to make this brief. I grew up in New Jersey. I don't know if a lot of people know that. There is a strong, strong Ukrainian community in South Jersey and I know a lot of people with a lot of family members in Ukraine. I was very close to a Ukrainian family in New Jersey and I am very happy that the Mayor is hosting this event for our solidarity with Ukraine. I think what is happening over there is nothing short of evil and someone who is just trying to take away the rights of people to do what we do in the horseshoe and talk about how they want their Country to be. So what little we can do, let's do that because honestly I'll tell you right now call me on my word if I can go over to Ukraine and put on a military uniform, I'd be there now because they need it and they deserve it. So if this little bit we can do, I'm for it. I'm for supporting Ukraine, and their freedom, and independence. Thank you.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you Madam President. I just want to thank everybody for coming out tonight on Zoom for talking and being part of the process and look forward to tomorrow night where I'm sure we're going to hear a lot of passionate testimony both for and against the expanded dining. I look forward to hearing that from anybody who will be attendance on tomorrow night's meeting as well. Thank you.

Alderman Dowd

Hopefully some good news. I just want to let everyone know that we have received the Alteration of Terrain Permit from the State for the new middle school and construction will start next Monday. It will be moving along and the new school will open up hopefully in 2024.

Also this evening there was a new ordinance for a bond for Franklin Street. There was a very detailed, extensive briefing that was done at the Joint Special School Building Committee on Franklin Street which lays out all the reasons for the costs and I'm going to send that to everybody on the Board. Some of you people have already seen it.

Steve Bolton, Corporation Counsel

No please don't. Bring it to a meeting, pass it out at a meeting.

Alderman Dowd

It has already been at the Joint Special.

Steve Bolton, Corporation Counsel

Pass it out at a meeting of this Board please.

Alderman Dowd

Did I refer to the fact that it's in the minutes of the Joint Special already. It was made part of the minutes.

Steve Bolton, Corporation Counsel

You've already said that's - don't send out an e-mail about it please.

Alderman Comeau

Thank you Madam President. I'll be brief. So the last time we met two weeks ago in this period for comments from Alderman before I talk about civility and I agree with all that. I agree that when members of the public are speaking they deserve to be treated with respect, but I do agree that goes for also the ones that we don't particularly like or agree with.

They deserve our respect also and that respect should be extended to everybody whether that's the public respecting us or us respecting the public. It should be between everybody and not just the people that we like. Thank you.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. I will go quickly. I first wanted to start by thanking the Mayor for putting together an event for Ukraine and I'm looking forward to seeing the flag flown and getting together with community members to reflect on what's going on there and how we are all feeling about that. Thank you, I will be there.

I wanted to also take a moment to thank you, Madam President, for recognizing Renny who was a giant in New Hampshire politics and will be greatly missed.

On a similar note, I wanted to thank the members who support me while I was out for a death in my family.

I also was encouraged to see the library come forward. It does need some real hard looks in terms of what we can do to improve it. It's a building that gets a lot of use and it's really an important part of the community here in Nashua. The Energy and Environment Committee has been talking a bit about it as well and we see that there can be some energy efficient changes as we make these changes that could also help save taxpayers save money in the long run. So looking forward to that project overall.

Just a little fun democracy is alive and well. Today is Town Meeting day for towns smaller than us. Quite a few people have come out and used their right to vote to get their voice out. I've heard anecdotally that there's just been a lot of people out there. Thank you everyone for participating in the democracy. We do it here, but the vote is really important as well. Thank you.

Alderman Jette

Thank you Madam President. I hope you'll extend me this personal privilege. I remember when I first became a member of this Board. I remember President McCarthy telling us that we should work on legislation in committees and that is where ordinances and resolutions should be vetted, questions asked. Just because you have a committee meeting doesn't mean the committee has to act on that ordinance or resolution at that meeting. If they have questions and the people to answer them aren't there, it's perfectly okay to hold it in committee until you can get the right people there to answer the questions. So that when the committee makes a decision, a recommendation to the full Board, the full Board can rely upon the committees having done its homework, vetted the issues, and come up with a recommendation as to what the committee thinks is the best thing.

Now we re-referred a matter to a committee this evening and somebody mentioned that the committee met, and dealt with this, and that we shouldn't send it back to the committee. Well in that particular case, the prime sponsor of that legislation was not able to be there. We find out tonight that he has requested that it be held and that we not move ahead on it. Well we didn't know that at the time, but I fully expect when you sponsor a piece of legislation whether it's you as an endorser, or the Mayor, or the Administration that somebody is there to present the ordinance or resolution to us and why they're asking us to adopt this. On this particular matter at that meeting there wasn't anybody there. The Chairman looked around and saw Ms. Kleiner and said Director Kleiner can you help us with this? She said "well I'm not here for that, but yes I think I can talk about it". So she was caught by surprise. John Griffin was here. He wasn't expecting to talk about this. I had a lot of questions and Ms. Kleiner did the best she could to answer all the questions, but she couldn't answer a lot of them and neither could Director Griffin. So we recommended final passage, but after that we found out more information, we had more questions, and when you come to a meeting when legislation is proposed sometimes there is a time schedule - a deadline we have to meet but usually not. It's not like it gets put on a turntable and it's got to go around once and get off one way or the other. We have time to think about things to give it the proper vetting. We ought to take that time.

When the prime sponsor of the legislation says "yeah I have no problem with it going back to committee so we can discuss these things". He was never given a chance to explain why he sponsored it in the first place. So this is the second time within two meetings where the prime sponsor of legislation has asked for it to be held because they were not able to come to the meeting and in one case the majority of us denied that, and went ahead, and then tonight a majority of us said "okay we'll let it go back to the committee", but a lot of us didn't. So I would just like to ask us, we're a group. We all have the same goal doing what's best for the City. We are a collegial group. We should be cooperating to try to do the best we can and if someone asks out of courtesy to delay something, especially if there's no deadline involved, to be able to ask more questions, get more information. We ought to accommodate that. So in the future, I hope that when a situation like that arises again, that we think about that and allow us to properly - I mean when the motion was first made

to re-refer, I thought okay good well it will go back to committee and we'll be able to discuss all these things and avoid what happened tonight, you know.

Everybody was talking about this ordinance and I'm not sure a lot of you have read it because this ordinance doesn't allocate one dime to the Court Street building. All it does is establishes an account., in this case an expendable trust account to which money can be, in the future, allocated. When I asked questions at the committee meeting, every time I ask about how does this work, how does this trust fund work, I kept being told we support the arts. The arts are important. Well I'm all for the arts. That's not the issue here. The issue is what is the purpose of this expendable trust fund. Is it a good way to manage this thing or is there another way of doing it better and that's what the questions are all about. How do we best accomplish supporting this building? When I hear somebody say a tenant wants to make sure their money is being used for the building. These tenants are paying \$100 a month, \$250 a month. We just spent over \$600,000 on that building. Since I've been an Alderman, that's how much they're spent on that building. So if they're questioning if we are using their money to support that building, the evidence is pretty obvious I think, but thank you for indulging me. Thank you Madam President.

Alderman Lopez

I have notes. So my first one is that I just want to clarify for June 11th the Best Buddies Friendship Walk. I can walk. As everybody knows, I like to zoom around on my Segway, but I can do a little analog walking every now and then for a good cause. So if anyone is interested in doing that, I'm definitely interested in participating.

I believe it was Alderman Comeau, I think, somebody from that side who mentioned that there was already some action being taken or intended to be taken with regards to the library grounds. The Court Street grounds and the Library grounds about each other. That little terrace area - there is a plan to renovate it. There was a plan except 2020 got in the way and the Library decided that maybe during the time it was literally shut down and there wasn't a lot going on in terms of like security in what our revenue would be coming back from COVID. It might not be a good idea to start a big development venture. So their dreams kind of got crushed with that, but they have a very good looking proposal in plan and all that kind of stuff that I'd love to see them pull the money together to do it. That's what the Library Trustees do.

Additionally, the Court Street Theater is eligible for a lot of different art supports and a lot of art grants. We've already started getting some of those or at least started to get grants not specifically for 14 Court Street, but ARPA arts funding. So renovating the building is definitely a concern and as I said something that has been on the radar at least as long as the Performing Arts Center if not before that. I can only speak to the year I started as Alderman, but I think it's very important to renovate that building to update it and upgrade it because while it may seem on the outside that the City is well you pay your rent and the City is investing \$700,000 and all that. A lot of these companies haven't actually seen that fully realized because they haven't been able to do shows and they haven't been able to rebuild their own programs. There has been some publicity criticizing the Performing Arts Center. I don't know if anyone else has seen it, but there is concern among the performers there that there is anti-art sentiment and that half of Nashua that is art enthusiast is so focused on the Performing Arts Centers that they're not paying attention to community arts and the other half doesn't want community arts or of the same mindset that we don't need art in schools or that type of thing. So just because from our perspective in looking at the budget and the money we put in, we feel that we are investing in that building. That doesn't mean its meeting the building's needs. It doesn't mean that the constituents and non-profits organizations operating out of there agree with us. They may feel like a lot more needs to be done. We may agree that a lot more needs to be done but have to make budgetary decisions. We can't just say "okay well this is how much renovation has to happen". Let's just pull it out of the escrow, or let's bond it, or whatever.

Using the process, using Community Development, trying to apply for grants and find other funding sources for that is part of the picture. Capturing the funds that are generated by that, you know, the new Liquid Therapy rentals and things like that and making sure that they are supporting the building and don't get pulled away for a rainy day project or some other situation. That's part of the sustainability plan. I know that Director Kleiner has been very involved overseeing that. Before her, Director Cummings was working on it. I think presentation is probably long overdue as to what's more immediately happening on that. Definitely would have been a good thing to have in the Budget Review Committee, but a lot of my comments earlier tonight were made specifically because of public comment that was made which attributed in my opinion our motivations for doing something at Court Street to a detail I was not aware of even really being relevant. So I was interested in clarifying the value of the building and the importance of it, as much as establishing a vehicle in which to fund it and create sustainability. I don't think that's the total plan, I don't think that's going to solve every problem as was pointed out - maybe a third of just the operating expenses but it is a step toward actual sustainability for that site which is long overdue. I hope we have further discussions on that, I hope it gets vetted more thoroughly in Committee and we're able to make progress on that, and I hope we are reassuring to the tenants that are there that our engaging families, and organizing children to pursue their dreams, and all that kind of stuff they're not going to be ignored, neglected, or marginalized.

I also agree with what Alderman Jette said with regard to doing the work of the committee and not necessarily rushing to a decision to the committee. Tomorrow is probably going to be a pretty big meeting so trying to just resolve it in one meeting in a way that satisfies everyone is in my opinion is impossible. So I hope we are able to come up with a starting point and are able to really follow the issue and find solutions for what Nashua needs downtown because we are leaders. We shouldn't be engaging in any kind of tribalism when it comes to both parties need to occupy the same space. I think if we lead and if we come up with solutions that maybe don't make everybody joyful, but at least satisfy their needs, we're making a compromise, but we're making a functional compromise that will help everybody.

And then lastly, I just wanted to comment on Julie Saige and her Dad Daniel Saige who should be very proud of her. She made some references that may seem a little outlandish to people. If you don't read New Hampshire Magazine or weren't aware of her, but she did patent a water filtration system which got major national attention. She has had multiple projects that NASA has sent into space. It sounds unbelievable, but it's true. So us not necessarily knowing right away that we have an accomplished 16-year old scientist in our midst who is sharing extremely complex and sophisticated information, and that we should be listening to it, and that we should be impressed by it, and proud of it as a City is something we should pay attention to. I would ask the Mayor to consider recognizing her for her accomplishments formally so that Nashua knows that it has young scientists, and young inventors, and people who are qualified. She referenced some of her social media accounts and I know I can start a YouTube. I can start a Twitter. Nobody is going to follow it though. She has a pretty big following and she is very successful and it's because the information that she is giving out is sourced, is qualified, and is recognized by some very accomplished people in their own right as well. I think we should encourage that kind of innovation and insight and be cautious about what kind of conclusion we might lead to when having it presented to us. Thank you.

Alderman Moran

Thank you Madam President. One - I'd just want to thank all the public speakers and especially Miss Saige for being so courageous. You know she came out and stood up for herself. I wish my daughters will do the same thing when they grow up and stand their ground. It is unfortunate the harassment that she has experienced in the community. I can tell you that my wife has had some issues in the community with pictures of our new born child being photographed and the police saying "oh there is nothing we can do". This is not a recommendation for anyone, but in our case, my wife is now armed because if there is nothing she can with the law, she'll protect our child. I think sometimes that when you have encountered folks who are hostile toward you, you have to stand up for yourself and that even means coming down here and using your words and hope it's not advocating violence, but there are times when you have to take action into your own hands and I really do hope that my children are as strong as her when they become her age.

Second to Alderman Comeau's statements earlier. I do agree that we have to respect everyone who speaks here whether we agree with them or not. I'm new. I'm probably not as worn down as others, but people deserve to be heard no matter what their opinion is right/wrong, in the middle, gray. Everyone up there talking believes themselves to be right and it's up to us to filter through and find as much middle ground as possible.

Outside dining, barriers, whatever you call it - Alderman O'Brien and I will be co-chairing tomorrow night and I welcome everyone to come out and speak to it. It is very important that, again, you all heard and you may make our job feel uncomfortable, but that's part of what we signed up for and I look forward to hearing both sides of the argument.

Ukraine, again, I mentioned this earlier last week. For Lent, I'm praying and fasting for the people of Ukraine freedom fighters. I might not be former military like Mr. Cathey - oh you're not either. I may not be willing to be throwing arms on or army shield, but I'd be definitely willing to go over and provide mental-health care. I think what they're doing is standing up to an autocrat. They are standing up to anti-democracy invasion and that's American values. We are the shining beacon on the hill of democracy and those folks are fighting for it. I join them in fighting against an autocrat.

E-mails - I do my best to respond to all of them. I've got quite a bit on the barriers. I probably responded to 90% of them. I've read every single one. There was one day I got maybe 120 and maybe not hit all of them to respond, but if there are e-mails that I get that are related to a legal matter, I'm not putting city taxpayers' money at risk by responding with the wrong answer. I think that's something for Corporation Counsel. If you mention a lawsuit or anything like that, that's not me. That's Corporation Counsel. I'm not putting city taxpayer's money at risk based on something I have a seat-of-my-pants feeling to. I'll do my best to get an answer for you whether it might be forwarding it off to the right city department. I think that's it.

Alderman Klee

Thank you Madam President. As meetings go on, I tend to put notes down and I do 1, 2, 3, 4, just so that I can keep track of my thoughts as I'm going along. When Miss Saige stood up, she was my #4, but she's actually #1. First thing I have to

say that I wrote down here is "wow". She is quite impressive and her Dad was amazing by saying that he wasn't going to speak for her. I absolutely loved that, but I have to address the shameful behavior.

One of the things I noticed right off the fact was when Miss Saige was told her time was up, she didn't finish her sentence. She stopped speaking unlike many of the adults in this room. Chief Rourke did the same thing. He stopped talking because he was being respectful. We talk about being respectful. Respect works both ways and I know my colleague here beside me said he's not worn down. I don't feel like I'm worn down, but I've experienced it. I've experienced the yelling, the screaming, and sometimes foul language. It doesn't wear you down, but it kind of says you want respect, you have to give respect and I mean that from the bottom of my heart. I tell all my constituents I will do anything I can for you, but you need to respect me. You need to treat me, you need to ask me questions, and not yell questions to me.

Now to the barriers. Comments were made about the Mayor's letter being kind of deceitful. I didn't read it. I can't answer to it, but if he did put what was said down there how is that any different than people on the horseshoe here or any other elected officials that are putting out surveys, questions in a way that elicits the answers they want. I've asked that question, what's the difference? Why don't we call them out? Just putting it out there on the table.

As far as replying to questions, e-mails - I reply to a lot of them. Each one I asked the same question didn't matter what side they were on - "have you seen the new proposal?" The majority of them on both sides said "no". So my feeling is that I appreciate everybody's answers. I appreciated everybody's response. I appreciate every single person who has come out here. I appreciate every e-mail and we've gotten probably close to 400 e-mails. I commend you for having read every single one. We have gotten a lot which I referred to as "for me notes" that state I am so and so and you look at it and we probably got 30 or 40 that are exactly the same. I suggest strongly to my constituents they write their own letters. They write for what they mean and not because someone asked them to do it or because there is a survey. I think if we're going to attack these issues, we need to do it really from our own heart. I'm sorry I'm getting a little overheated here. I think my radiation treatments are starting to get to me so.

I want to talk about the Ukraine issue. I think everybody here has said the same thing. It's horrible what's happening over there. I am impressed when men and women are standing in front of tanks and saying they are not going to go any further. I'm impressed with the President who's not 57 feet underground and he's standing there and he's speaking to his people. I'm impressed with the countries that have opened their borders and I hope we do the same thing here in this country. I've spoken to people who have said they want to work to get home families that are willing to share. I mentioned to Alderwoman Timmons that I suggested that they go to the Cultural Connection to see if maybe they can get some support there and so on.

I wanted to also circle back to Miss Saige. You are an extraordinarily, impressive woman and I believe that Alderman Thibeault said that you're probably smarter than he is. I can tell you that you are definitely smarter than I am by leaps and bounds. I hope someday that you're not sitting in this horseshoe, but I hope someday you are sitting in Washington, D.C. in one of those seats. You may be too smart for that seat too, I don't know.

But putting all of that aside, I also want to thank President Wilshire as well as Alderwoman Kelly for taking the time to have a moment of silence for our dear friend. I'm going to try to get through this, so I apologize. I've been a State Rep. for 6 years. Renny has been by my side for those 6 years. Last term I was the Chair. Two years in and I become a Chair of a committee with a very contentious member. Renny taught me to remember the words that my mother said "you learn more from the people who disagree with you, than people who agree with you". I took that to heart and my mother used to say it all the time and Renny used it all the time. He said if you talk to the people on the other side, and I did, I got more respect from my committee on both sides of the aisle. They treated me with respect. They were kind and even the person who was contentious at the beginning, he taught me a lot.

The day he died was the anniversary of the day that we had passed the revoking of the death penalty. Renny had been fighting for that for 26+ years. He finally got it through. He died on that anniversary. After that vote, and it was an emotional vote, I was walking down from the State House to the LOB. I was walking in the tunnel and at the top of the stairs was Renny. I walked over to Renny and I said to him "you're an amazing man". He talked about how his father had been murdered point blank shot. There is a book about it. He talked about a few years after that his brother-in-law shot much in the same style and yet he still didn't feel for the death penalty. He actually fought for kindness for the man who had taken his father's life. I was blown away and then I told them about my husband's sister who was shot multiple times - eighteen year old outside a Boston nursing college. He was at the time 7 years old and it turned his life upside down. My husband, too, is against the death penalty even though this affected his life. I shared that story with Renny and I could barely get the words out. He hugged me, and he told me, and he said another thing that will always stay with me "when you work and talk with your heart and kindness you will find love all around you and that positive energy will bring you to the best possible". I hope we can all do that. Thank you.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you Madam President. Congratulations Matt Sullivan on the promotion, well done! I got to know you when I was an Alderman Elect and came in wide-eyed and not understanding what's going on and now I have constituents asking me how come there isn't a fire hydrant on my street and you allowed me to ask those questions and not make fun of me. So I appreciate that. So Congratulations!

To the ordinance going back to committee, I think that we have to remember that legislation is not like an automobile on an assembly line because sometimes you have to if you pass a known defect down the line, it can screw up things for years to come. I think to sometimes halt the assembly line to make sure that all the parts and pieces fit well together is okay to do occasionally. I just want you to know the Alderman you got for the next 2 years, I'm not afraid to raise my hand. I'm not afraid to ask dumb questions. I will make mistakes. I will admit when I'm wrong and sometimes I'll ask for a timeout and a pause to make sure we got it right, especially when it comes to the budget. It's the peoples' money. We have to make sure that we do the right things with it. So I appreciate us taking an extra pause on that and definitely we'll do our due diligence on that. Thank you.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you Madam President. I have a couple of things so please bear with me, but the first thing will start off on a sad note and then will crescendo onto something really spectacular but anyway. Unfortunately on this date March 8, 1971, Captain Honre Raymond of Nashua Fire Department made a supreme sacrifice and was killed in the line of duty at a 2nd alarm fire on 23 Damon Ave. Captain Honre joined the Nashua Fire Department in 1938 until his death tragically in 1971. Thirty three years of service. When he died, he was 60 years old. Although his death was 51 years ago on this date today, I did not know him but being a firefighter for 35 years, we never forget those that have made the supreme sacrifice and particularly for our City. His name is on the plaque up on the wall on Manchester Street with 15 other firefighters who made the supreme sacrifice in the protection of the community of this city. So on this day, I and Nashua Fire Rescue will remember. We never forget our own. May he rest in peace and may God's eternal light shine upon him.

Second thing sadly equally Chicken & Chips burnt down yesterday. Probably to the chagrin of my primary care physician, but I did enjoy the treat of chicken & chips. It was popular. I wish them the best of luck and hopefully maybe something else can come out because they were a nice treat and I did enjoy them.

Moving up to something a little bit better - to all my women colleagues on the Board and to all the women out there, Happy National Women's Day! None of you girls mentioned it. So I recognize you and it's good to serve with you.

The other thing that I have is maybe recommendation to Alderman Dowd what was brought up is the cabling. If that's what moving that cable - I don't think you're going to move it. They would have moved it when they built Lake Street. They would have moved the fire alarm from that location to Lake Street. You may think it's a good idea. Bring an open wallet. You got to look at it that some of that cabling is part of the telegraph system. Those little fire boxes, they all run into that hub and then from there is retransferred back to Lake Street. So it's a big project and I'm sure W1, or Jeremy Audette can explain it, or Chief Buxton.

The other thing is there is tree cutting going on at the landfill. That's our project in Infrastructure with Public Works. So it's not a bunch of beavers or anything so, it's part of the replacement of that project.

I did check my phone and Draft Kings did say that R-22-008 which has been referred back to committee will be coming back with a positive recommendation, I believe. I'll take those odds.

But I just want to say something, I do agree with Alderman Thibeault. Representative Klee knows the way we deal with things up in the State. We put a lot of faith into each individual committee. We have to and my Committee alone was 58 Bills. We were joined this week by Alderman Jette who did come up on another matter was at our committee meeting and hopefully he got to see some of the efficiencies. But 58 Bills in one committee if we kept re-referring things, it would be tragic. I understand that doing diligence and understand, but keep in mind I just say as part of our procedures if you do have questions, watch the calendar, show up to the committee meetings. Please keep that in mind because I'll list that into a segway when we get into Infrastructure tomorrow night, but I'll wait to committee assignments.

The final thing that I have - two final things - is wish me luck tomorrow, I'm going up to Concord to discuss with the Finance Committee. I'm glad you recognized Representative Renny Cushing. He's the one that wrote that Bill that is going to put 7.5% back into the pension system. He and I worked on that and it gives me an honor to carry that forward. We got it off the floor of the House like we said earlier and now it's going to Finance. I'll go up and present it to Finance. I'll get into some arm wrestling with them up there and hopefully that we can go from there. So again, wish me luck.

I'd like to congratulate Alderman Lopez for volunteering with our resident Scott McCullough for Best Buddies and if you want to handle that will be outstanding and count me in as one of the donators. Thank you Madam President.

Alderman Clemons

Sorry. I wasn't going to speak, but I didn't want to debate the legislation that was referred back to the committee tonight. There's a lot of things that need to be said about it. There's a lot of reasons why I brought it forward. I think the committee is the best place to look at it. I was on vacation. Had I been able to be at the committee meeting I would have. I communicated to the Chair and maybe he forgot that I was on vacation and that I would not be there. I asked as a courtesy to table that legislation, so I don't know why it came out or why it ended up here. It should have been in the committee. We really should respect one another when it comes to legislation like that. Alderman Kelly at the previous meeting wanted legislation tabled here so that she could speak to it and we chose not to do that. It's disrespectful. If somebody asks for legislation to be tabled and it's their legislation, respect them. If somebody wants it re-referred back to committee and it's their legislation, respect it. Thank you.

Committee announcements:

Alderwoman Timmons

The Department of Health has their bi-weekly meeting tomorrow at 12:30. Anyone that wants to Zoom in can do that. I think we have the JSSBC meeting on Thursday is that right? This Thursday at Nashua North.

President Wilshire

Is Joint Special this Thursday Alderman Dowd?

Alderman Dowd

No.

Alderman Lopez

I believe we are having Human Affairs Committee on Pie Day, March 14th.

Alderman O'Brien

I was wondering how you could forget me. Just to remind everybody in case you forgot, tomorrow night is Joint Committee of Infrastructure and PEDC and we will be discussing the barriers. I would just like to put out the ground rules. We are going to follow a little bit different format. Of course, I as Chairman will go by the wishes of the Committee, but at the meeting in particular the agenda has been changed. First thing needs to be presented is a presentation – let's put food on the plate. There has been a lot of innuendos and not so much in the factual department. So the presentation will be made by Director Cummings so that the committee members will be there and able to digest it and in the time make the proper decision. After the presentation, we'll go into a public format to allow the public to come forward. There will be a 3 minute time limit to come forward and to express their point of view. After that, we will convene and I think what we'll probably do at that particular time is work within the subcommittee and make a full recommendation to the full Board on what the subcommittee will be. So even though we will come into the procedure as we traditionally do, I'll ask for the motion of final passage. That doesn't mean that we're going to vote on it, but allows us to debate it with a positive recommendation that can be changed. And so that's going to be the format. So to go on I strongly encourage so we don't end up repeating and going through again, this is a very important subject. If you can be there, that's where all the cool people are going to be hanging out. Come on down, you're more than welcome. It's 7:00; it's right here. I'll reserve a seat for you. So looking forward to seeing you all then. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN CLEMONS THAT THE MARCH 8, 2022, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE
ADJOURNED
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared adjourned at 10:14 p.m.

Attest: Susan K. Lovering, City Clerk