

A special meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Tuesday, April 27, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. via teleconference.

President Lori Wilshire presided; City Clerk Susan K. Lovering recorded.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Susan K. Lovering; Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright led in the Pledge to the Flag.

#### President Wilshire

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

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

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

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

*To join by phone dial: 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 875 4593 5804 Passcode: 999999*

*The public may also view the meeting via Channel 16.*

We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, through public postings. Instructions have also been provided on the City of Nashua's website at [www.nashuanh.gov](http://www.nashuanh.gov) and publicly noticed in the Nashua Telegraph, City Hall, and the Nashua Public Library.

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

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

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

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

The roll call was taken with 11 members of the Board of Aldermen present: Alderman Michael B. O'Brien, Sr., Alderman Patricia Klee, Alderman Richard A. Dowd, Alderman June M. Caron, Alderman Benjamin Clemons, Alderwoman Elizabeth Lu, Alderman Ernest Jette, Alderman Jan Schmidt, Alderman Brandon Michael Laws, Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright, and Alderman Wilshire.

Alderwoman Shoshanna Kelly, Alderman Thomas Lopez, Alderman David C. Tencza, Alderman Skip Cleaver were recorded absent.

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

#### President Wilshire

As is customary, this public hearing is for the Committee on Infrastructure. I will turn the public hearing over to the Chair of the Infrastructure Committee Alderman O'Brien.

Chairman O'Brien

Thank you Madam President. Before us this evening is a public hearing of street re-numbering petition for 5 Berkshire Street, Sheet 61B/Lot 30 and Sheet 61B/Lot 29. To the public that has joined us tonight, the way we traditionally do things, I will call for testimony in favor and after receiving all testimony in favor I will then call testimony in opposition. At the conclusion of that, I will recall additional testimony in favor from those that may or did not have a chance to speak. However if misinformation was given or something, I will allow for additional testimony and in the same, I will call again testimony in opposition. May I point out, the main thing here is we're in search of information on this particular item. We want you to communicate to us but at the same time this is not to debate the issue but provide us more information so we can decide as a committee appropriately.

President Wilshire

Alderman O'Brien, one second, is there someone that can tell us why this is necessary – this street re-numbering.

Chairman O'Brien

I see a hand raised by Mr. Steven Auger.

Steven Auger, Project Manager for Hayner & Swanson

For the record, my name is Steve Auger. I am a Project Manager with Hayner & Swanson and our office is located at 3 Congress Street here in Nashua. I thought I'd give you kind of just a quick history of the permitting approval process that we've gone through for this subdivision. It will show how we arrived at this point. I'm here representing Forcier Contracting and Building Services. Ms. Jessica Forcier is attending the meeting tonight. She's in the lower left part of your screen. She can speak for Forcier Contracting if the need arises. We're before you seeking to initiate the address approval process for our two lot subdivision located at 5 Berkshire Street.

Very quickly, it is Lot 29/Map 61B. It is .28 acres in size. It is in the RA Zone. We have residential abutters to all four sides. We first appeared before the Zoning Board of Adjustment back in October 13<sup>th</sup> where we were approved for four variances – two per lot and we appeared before the Planning Board on March 18 where we received conditional approval of the one into two subdivision. One of the conditions of that approval is we have to go through the address assignment process.

Very quickly when we submitted through the planning process, the Fire Marshal's office told us that there was no address left for a subdivision in this care. Right now, I'd like to share my screen. It will make things a little clearer as to what I'm talking about. So this is the first sheet of the subdivision plan and you can see where we're proposing the two lots. This tract as a whole is currently 5 Berkshire Street. If anyone has driven by, it's a large storage building there right now which the Forcier Contracting plans on removing that and in its place constructing two single-family homes one on each lot. As I said, our address is 5. This abutting lot right here where I have the cursor, that has an address of 3 and the lot right next to it on the other side has an address of 7. As the Fire Department explained to me during the address assigning process at some point in the past, there was no address left for potential for a future subdivision. The Fire Department does not have the authority to make the determination of what the additional address that we'll is obviously one of the lots can re-use 5 Berkshire Street.

So we submitted to the Planning Department to kick off the aldermanic process. The Address Committee has reviewed it. They have offered their findings in a Memorandum to you folks. The one they are recommending is to re-number 7 Berkshire Street to make that 9 and then this lot here with have an address of 5 Berkshire and this would have an address of 7. If that is not the decision, then an alternative they are offering is to leave 7 Berkshire Street as 7, make this lot 5 Berkshire Street, and then number out of order and make this lot 9 Berkshire Street. I have spoken to my client's the Forciers about this and for what it's worth, our opinion is we would much rather see the latter option where this lot gets 5 Berkshire and this one gets 9. I certainly know that's numbering out of order but the last thing we want to do is cause Mr. and Mrs. Knapp any burden of having to change their address as a result of this project. At this time I'd be glad to answer any questions that the Board might have.

Chairman O'Brien

I cannot see any hands up because I'm on a smaller screen but if anybody has a question, please speak if as far as the Aldermen.

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you. Do we no longer use letters to renumber? For instance, 7A.

Chairman O'Brien

We have done that in the past but this all comes down to 911 recognition for a call of emergency service when it comes in. Although it may be self-explanatory if the building was on fire. I'm sure the Fire Department can see it but there's other emergencies such as medical emergencies and the additional delay in trying to locate the address could be critical. In an optimum world, it would be better if we could give it a whole number and a number that is in the sequential to the street but we've had in the past an "a" type of situation.

Alderwoman Lu

I see. Thank you.

Chairman O'Brien

Anybody else? Any other aldermen with a question? Okay. Moving on then, I will open up the public hearing for testimony in favor. I will also indicate if any member of the public would like to speak on the matter, there is also at the bottom of the screen to raise your hand. I can see that on the screen so if you want to do that, that would be fine too.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### **STREET RE-NUMBER PETITION (5 BERKSHIRE STREET – SHEET 61B/LOT 30 AND SHEET 61B/LOT 29)**

Chairman O'Brien

Does anybody want to speak in favor of the street re-numbering of 5 Berkshire Street? Seeing none, I will close the testimony in favor and go to testimony in opposition.

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

Chairman O'Brien

Does anybody want to speak in opposition to street re-number of 5 Berkshire Street? I'll recognize you Sir. I see your hand up. Could you please give your name, your address for the record please?

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

Rick Knapp

My name is Rick Knapp and my wife is sitting beside me with is Susan Knapp. We live at 7 Berkshire Street, Nashua, New Hampshire.

Chairman O'Brien

Okay you may continue with your testimony.

Rick Knapp

I am not in favor of changing my address at 7 Berkshire Street. We've been living here for 43 years and our life is really dependent on the people we depend on with our address and so forth. It would be really hard to change the address and really not beneficial to really not anybody else except for the City because of the emergency thing. I just feel that since we've had it so long, I think the idea of having it to change to like 5A, or 5B, or maybe out of sequential would be more beneficial. That's all really I have to say is just that everybody knows that's at 7 Berkshire Street. We've had mailing address and so many things and right now I'm dealing with the government with the VA center. That's neither here or there. I'm sorry that's it.

Chairman O'Brien

Thank you Mr. Knapp. Anybody else would like to be recognized to speak in testimony in opposition? Seeing none, I will conclude the testimony in opposition and re-open testimony in favor.

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

Chairman O'Brien

Seeing none, I'll close the testimony in favor and re-open testimony in opposition. Seeing none, we'll close the testimony in opposition.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

Chairman O'Brien

Therefore seeing that we've concluded the business of street re-numbering of 5 Berkshire Street, I'll close the public hearing on Street Re-Numbering Petition – 5 Berkshire Street at 7:18 p.m.

Madam President would you like to conclude the rest of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN THAT THE APRIL 27, 2021, SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ADJOURNED, BY ROLL CALL**

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Jette, Alderman Schmidt, Alderman Laws, Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Wilshire	11
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Nay:	0
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**MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Attest: Susan K. Lovering, City Clerk