

A regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Tuesday, June 27, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. in the aldermanic chamber.

President Lori Wilshire presided; City Clerk Dan Healey recorded.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Dan Healey; Alderman Ernest A. Jette led in the Pledge to the Flag.

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

The roll call was taken with 13 members of the Board of Aldermen present: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Jette, Alderwoman Kelly (via Zoom), Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire.

Alderman Lopez and Alderman Clemons were recorded absent.

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

REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Donchess

I had a few things. First, I wanted to follow up on the memo that Tim Cummings wrote to the Board of Aldermen concerning our cooperation work with BAE to secure a very substantial federal grant in order to expand and modernize their CHIP making a part of their facility in the south end and to engage the federal government or to support BAE in getting this grant. So the potential grant is under the CHIPS Act. BAE would as requested a grant in the amount of about \$36 million to be supplemented by - invest private investment by BAE. In order to qualify for the grant, they have to show that there is a cooperative agreement that there is an effort by a government either local or State to assist in providing job training to individuals who would be employed as a result of the awarding of the grant. So we working with BAE specifically, Tom Bishop, developed a plan to invest \$200,000 if they are awarded the grant in assisting to establish a training program for the people who would work at BAE, the new jobs. So we're optimistic that they will get the grant and were they to be awarded the grant, we would seek to reallocate some of the ARPA money to this purpose. This is an important initiative in my opinion. We want to develop a very strong, thriving, manufacturing sector focused upon strategic improvements like the manufacturer of computer chips which this is. Now if the grant is awarded, they would add 24 jobs at BAE plus some downstream jobs as well. They will see a major improvement in their chip making facility. So hopefully that grant will be awarded. I want to thank Tim Cummings and Tom Bishop. Tim Cummings of course from our side and Tom Bishop from the BAE side. They've been working on this for a number of months and they finally come to a plan that we're optimistic will be successful.

Madam President, I also wanted to mention the budget which is before you tonight. The budget as I proposed was a 4.4% less than the rate of inflation. There would have been somewhat less if it hadn't been for the cyberattack and the expenses incurred as a result of trying to combat that. The Budget Committee and I wanted to thank you for all of your efforts and all the time you spend which is an annual ritual. You spent a lot of time reviewing all the various departments, made some adjustments both down and up, and came out with about the same bottom line. I can't certainly disagree with anything that the Budget Committee did.

In terms of the priorities within the budget, I think community security was a top priority in that the budget as proposed and as adopted includes two new police patrolmen and a police sergeant. It returns the Emergency Management Director position to the city, and to the budget, and of course we filled that by hiring Emily Martuscello. She has done like a fantastic job. On the fire front, it also initiates a new position in the Fire Department although only for a half a year but that will get the position started. Those are the new positions. Public Works did reduce their headcount or their number of employees not by layoff but by just an open position by one and a half positions. So there's a personnel reduction there.

Again, I want to thank the Budget Committee for your focus, your devotion, the time that it takes. I have served on the Budget Committee in the past and I know it takes a lot of work and sacrifice of various evening. So thank you Rick Dowd and all the members of the Committee for your work on that. I suggest that the Board pass it as proposed by the Committee.

I wanted to mention Madam President the Pride Parade which was on Saturday. Again, a very successful event. A lot of people were involved in planning and executing the parade from the Board of Aldermen - Shoshanna Kelly and Derek Thibeault from Ward 8 was there as well. From the staff, Kath Palmer, Megan, Caron, and a whole group of city employees plan this over a period of a long time. They raised money, sponsorships so there's no city money involved.

It's all paid for by private contributions. The restaurants were crowded and there was a lot of people having a good time. It did rain but that didn't seem to dampen the spirits too much. So again, I think that that was a very successful event.

Finally Madam President, I wanted to point your attention to the WalletHub survey that came out again on the best run cities in the country. They survey I believe 182 cities and they evaluate the quality of services as compared with the cost per person and as a measurement of the efficiency of the city operation. We moved up from fourth now to third as they call it "best run city in America". I think that, again, Madam President is due to the efforts of many people - all of our dedicated and hardworking city employees across all of our departments - the Board of Aldermen, our management team, everyone contributes to this and I believe it's an accolade that we should be proud of and try to improve even further. We have moved up over time. We were 13th at one time, and then 10th, then fourth, and third. So I think we are spending the city dollars effectively at least according to this survey compared with other cities around the country.

That Madam President is all I have other than to wish people a happy summer and a Happy Fourth of July. I hope to see you over the course of July and we'll be back here in August.

RESPONSE TO REMARKS OF THE MAYOR

Alderman Klee

Thank you Madam President. Thank you Mr. Mayor for your comments. I have to say that I was unable to make the Pride Parade. Vaccines sent me to 103 degree fever so I didn't think it was good to be out there.

I thought the letter from Director Cummings explaining the CHIP Program and I'm very happy to see that the city being part of it. So thank you and thank you Director Cummings for all that you do.

Alderman Moran

Thank you Madam President. I'm sorry that I missed the Pride Parade. I was actually on important business in New York trying to secure funding for an LGBTQ plus sober living home that will hopefully open here in the city. I also took in a concert. I understand my company also sponsored the event and from the pictures and videos that I saw, great job to Alderman Kelly and the Mayor's staff for putting it together.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Madam Chairwoman. Mr. Mayor why aren't we number one? That's what we're going to hear. I think it's fantastic that we're number three and we moved up. This is a great city. People don't realize if they haven't lived elsewhere how great a city really this is and how well run it's been for many, many, many years.

I did get a chance to attend the Pride Parade. I was lucky enough to hold the banner - the city banner with Clerk Healey. Not being part of that community, I don't know how it feels to be in that community but walking down the street and seeing some of the faces of people that are and they appreciated us walking and celebrating with them, I think really made a difference to them. I hope it did and I hope that we continue to have this every year. Alderwoman Kelly does a great job and her part helping to organize it in the city, Megan, and Kathleen do a great job organizing it. Like you said, it doesn't take any taxpayer money away and I think that's important because people think it does and it does not. It was a great event. The rain came. I was drenched on the way home. I had to walk home to my car but it was a great event and thank you Mr. Mayor and everybody from the city that put it on.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. I just wanted to echo all the sentiments on the Pride Parade. It's been an incredible thing that we put together in the city for a number of years. Everybody put in so much effort and it was a great, great day. I have to say I was especially proud to see the viewing party from the Performing Arts Center. That was a really cool moment for me. Yes it rained. I actually took the unicorn riding the rainbow off my car in the pouring rain but we had a blast so thank you everyone who came out and everyone who supported on the staff and Board of Aldermen.

RECOGNITION PERIOD - None

READING MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the minutes of the regular and special Board of Aldermen meetings of May 23 and 24, 2023 be accepted, placed on file, and the reading suspended.

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING ONLY PROCEDURAL ACTIONS AND WRITTEN REPORTS FROM LIAISONS

From: Sam Durfee, Planning Director

Re: Referral from the Board of Aldermen on proposed Ordinance O-23-055, amending the zoning map by rezoning land off along the Amherst Street Corridor from General Business (GB) to General Business with Mixed Use Overlay District (GBMU), from Park Industrial (PI) to Park Industrial with Mixed Use Overlay District (PI/MU), and from Highway Business (HB) to Highway Business with Mixed Use Overlay District (HB/MU)

From: Sam Durfee, Planning Director

Re: Referral from the Board of Aldermen on proposed amended Resolution R-23-123 authorizing the granting of an Easement to Pennichuck Water Works, Inc. for the construction and maintenance of a water line

From: Lisa Fauteux, Public Works Director

Re: Referral from Board of Aldermen – R-23-123 and R-23-128

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

Without objection, President Wilshire suspended the rules to allow for a communication that was received after the agenda was prepared.

From: Tim Cummings, Administrative Services Director

Re: Discussion on CHIPS Act & Developing a Partnership with BAE Systems

There being no objection, President Wilshire accepted the communication and assigned it to the Budget Review Committee.

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

Andy Prolman, Esquire

Madam President, members of the Board good evening. My name is Andy Prolman Attorney with Prunier and Prolman here in Nashua. I'm here tonight on behalf of Raisanen Homes Elite seeking final approval and final passage of R- 23-123 to allow an easement to be granted to Pennichuck Water so we can run a water line from Manchester Street to the Raisanen project.

Some of you may know, the Raisanen Homes Elite purchased the Barker property at the end of Bartlett Ave. in the north end. In March of 2020 – 2023, we went through the Planning Board subdivision process to create 21 new lots plus the existing Barker house for a total of 22. At the time, we knew the water pressure was a challenge but we honestly did not know how challenging with lack of water pressure we have in this neighborhood in the north end of Nashua. As a result, we worked with Pennichuck and Pennichuck determined that the best solution to provide water to the Raisanen project would be to run a water line from the high pressure water line on the eastern side of Manchester Street through Greeley Park to the Raisanen property.

We initially proposed a route through the open field where the Frisbee golf is working but working with the city, working with City Engineer Dan Hudson, we came to an agreement where we're going to run the waterline parallel to the existing Greeley Park road so it minimizes any tree impact and minimizes any view impact from Manchester Street. We all collectively came to an agreement that that's the best route for the proposed easement for the proposed waterline.

The benefit of this waterline normally provides water service to the Raisanen project along the necessary hydrant pressure but it also roughly doubles water pressure to approximately...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

One minute.

Andy Prolman, Esquire

...47 homes in this section of the north end of Nashua on Bartlett, to Wellington, Elliott, and so to benefit all around. The easement has been approved by Pennichuck, by Attorney Leonard, and we have positive recommendations from the Pennichuck Water Committee, Planning Board, and Public Works and so we're looking for final passage tonight. I'd be happy to answer your questions but thank you.

President Wilshire

Thank you.

Fred Teeboom

Fred Teeboom, 24 Cheyenne. Referring to the gay parade, somebody not long ago called me a cyst. I still have no clue what that means.

I want to talk about R-23-175 proposed budget. The Budget Committee has \$1,800 to the budget and that means it's going to take 10 votes of this Board to pass that budget. I should want to mention the analysis attached to that budget. It says this is penned by the attorney. And it says – and this is written by the attorney. Attorney Bolton I presume. It says, "Court decisions concerning Nashua Charter suggests that a court may find that this provision ten votes. Anything over the proposed budget may apply to the budget resolution itself is inconsistent with State Statutes and therefore unenforceable." See Memorandum of Corporate Counsel March 8, 2018. I have read that Memorandum and I can tell you Attorney Bolton has completely false based on false an old law. It's based on Manchester Supreme Court case back in 2010 where I was an intervener. It's been appended by 2011 law that authorized spending caps in the State of New Hampshire. I don't know Mayor Donchess why you allow this kind of a paragraph to sit in the analysis. It appears every year. It's faulty. It shouldn't be there.

As far as the resolution itself, in the resolution you see a comparison of the spending cap and you also have a chance to take a look at the amounts of the budget that are proposed. The General Fund 317.5 million same as the spending cap calculation

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

One minute.

Fred Teeboom

Same perspective for the revenue fund. No mention anywhere in this budget about supplemental appropriations and only in the spending cup calculate. Why is that? That's because it shouldn't be in a spending cap calculation. The spending cap boasts a State (inaudible) law compares adopted budget from last year...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds.

Fred Teeboom

...the proposed adopted budget. Nothing beyond that budget. I don't know – Mayor Donchess and Attorney Bolton how do you come up with this conclusion. I'm telling you if you don't remove that last paragraph which is actually \$43.7 million over the cap, I will follow with the Attorney General a complaint about that you're not - that you're failing your official duties and I'll apply it to the Aldermen as well if you don't remove that paragraph. I don't know if the AG will act on that but the court have noted...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

Time's up.

Fred Teeboom

...that that concern with spending cap calculation reads them that in court next year. Thank you.

Laurie Ortolano

Laurie Orlando - 41 Berkeley Street. I'm here to speak in opposition to the budget. You know the 4.4% increase doesn't seem like much but it's every year we are taking this budget up when the biggest issue is our student enrollments are going down. What we're not being told is that once you apply additional escrow money that usually roll in in September, that budget goes up a couple more percent and it's easy to become a 7% budget which is what happened last year. I'm not a proponent of using significant amounts of escrow money to fund the budget. I think that should go back to the

taxpayers. I'm very concerned about what's happening and Risk Management being used like a slush fund to roll expenses over there that really are not property casualty expenses. I think the report that the consultant provided on the school was very eye opening and while it helped me put us as number three but the devils in the detail and you really have to look at the comparable cities that are used in that WalletHub analysis to determine if it makes much sense that Nashua is in it. I think we all know what these studies and reports can say and your ability to sort of throw yourself in those lists.

I think that we have a lot of work to do in the public education system here in Nashua and I think we have a lot of nonpartisan work to do. I don't think parents care what party affiliation you are when they're trying to educate their children. They just want their children to have a good education and I don't think we're delivering that through the Nashua Public School system. Our reading proficiency level throughout the District is about 20% and that is simply far too low for budgets of 59 million that keep going up every year. I hope that this Board takes seriously the consolidation of the building plans. Consolidating buildings will do a lot for a specific group of students, especially special needs students who require services...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

One minute.

Laurie Ortolano

...that are being split up between facilities taking specialized people making them travel building to building to deliver those services where the buildings are substantially underutilized. So I hope we give some serious thought to our property management for our school buildings and our performance in a very nonpartisan manner.

When it comes to the legal office, no one is surprised when I tell you I think you need an overhaul.

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds.

Laurie Ortolano

There's been a big liability issue that I think is caused by the legal office itself and the competency of that office. I'm going to be addressing that at the next public input and I think that it's unfortunate it's been allowed to go there but I think our lawyers need to understand what municipal law is about and how to serve a community as municipal lawyers. This sue us, see us one, raise us one mentality has to change. Thank you.

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING FINAL APPROVAL

From: Mayor Jim Donchess

Re: Fourth of July Fireworks Display in the amount of \$63,000 funded from 55660 Field Day and Fireworks/General Fund

MOTION BY ALDERMAN COMEAU TO APPROVE A THREE YEAR CONTRACT WITH PYROTECNICO FIREWORKS, INC., OF JAFFREY, NH, FOR FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS DISPLAY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$63,000. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT: 177 PARK AND RECREATION; FUND: 55660 FIELD DAY AND FIREWORKS/GENERAL FUND BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Comeau

Thank you. This passed unanimously through the Finance Committee. It's worth noting that it is the same company that we've used in years past. They just changed their name to Pyrotecnico and this three year contract will actually deliver substantial cost savings to the city over the three year period.

Alderman Jette

Thank you. So I have no disagreement with the work that the Finance Committee did, and the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, and the Board of Public Works as far as choosing this company and the contract that they've worked out.

But I, you know, I do have a problem with the whole concept of our taking approximately \$20,000 each year, blowing it up into the year, and leaving a lot of smoke and ashes with that money. I'm not against the fireworks. I'm not unpatriotic. Please don't think that I am. I'm an Army veteran. I love our country. I celebrate the Fourth of July. I enjoy a good fireworks show as much as anyone else.

It's always concerned me about, you know, city taxpayer money being used for this purpose. There are other cities that do a very nice job as far as fireworks are concerned. New York City is one. Boston is another and I learned that Portsmouth, New Hampshire, is another where they don't use taxpayer money for this purpose. They are lucky enough to find corporate sponsors to pay for this. I would like to encourage us the fact that we're entering into this contract with his company doesn't prevent us from trying to find whether it's a corporate sponsor. BAE sounds like a good fit to me but any corporate sponsor, or Rotary Club, Lions Club, any of those groups that would be willing to come up with the \$20,000 each year to sponsor this. We could sell the naming rights. We could still have the celebration but not at taxpayer expense. I know it's very popular and people may be questioning why I would even bring this up but it's how I feel. I want to put that out there. I would encourage whether it's the Park Superintendent, the Commissioners of Public Works, or the Mayor, the Mayor's office to think about the possibility of trying to find a partner, a corporate sponsor who would be willing to defray part of or if not all of the cost of this celebration. So thank you.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Madam President. I was about ready to call Alderman Jette unpatriotic but when I hear what he had to say, actually it makes a lot of sense. I'm gonna support this because I think most people in the city exception of people who own dogs and maybe have small children like the fireworks and I think they would probably be okay with their taxpayer money going to that. I also think maybe its Economic Development maybe that can find some sponsors. I think that would be a fantastic idea if we had someone sponsoring the fireworks every year and you use their sponsorship, and their name, and their signs, or whatever to do that because then we could save \$60,000 or \$20,000 a year whatever. I think that's a pretty good idea for someone to look into in the future.

Alderman Moran

Thank you. I do also agree with Alderman Jette. We did it for the Pride Parade. I'm sure we could do it for the Fourth of July. It's something to look into. Obviously supporting this today but many wise statements come out of my colleague over here and that was one of them. Thank you.

Alderman Caron

Thank you. So I understand your concern about the cost but I worked on fireworks for over 45 years for the city. You may think getting sponsors for some of these activities is easy but it isn't. We have a Summer Fun program that we raise in the vicinity of maybe \$20,000 but the city still has to provide some cost to that because you wouldn't get all these programs taken care of. I'm on the Board of Directors for the Senior Center and this year sponsorships are down. If they were giving you \$1,000, they're only giving you \$500 or maybe \$250. Things have changed so unless you could get someone committed for a five year period to pay for these fireworks, what happens? This is part of our city's celebration for Fourth of July. It starts early in the day with the kids having events, having lunch, and then it proceeds with the concert, or a baseball game, and finishing off at the Lions Club tribute to the Hall of Fame for Fourth of July, and then the fireworks.

It's wonderful. I'd love to see somebody write a check for \$60,000 or \$100,000 to take care of fireworks but that doesn't happen. It's very difficult to get people to donate for things that are under the city's umbrella. So I appreciate your thoughts on that but you have to think about the hard work that it takes to try to get someone to sponsor something that is very important to the city when you see 35,000 or 40,000 people in Holman Stadium and the surrounding area enjoying these fireworks. For some people, that's the most important thing for them in the summertime. Thank you.

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran,
Alderman Jette, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd,
Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault,
Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire

13

Nay:

0

MOTION CARRIED

PETITIONS

Petition for Waiver of School Impact Fees – Covington Place, A Condominium Community (2-21 Sutton Way)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE, AND REFER TO THE PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND THE NASHUA PLANNING BOARD, BY ROLL CALL

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

- Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Jette, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire 13
- Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

Joint Convention with The Edgewood Cemetery Board of Trustees

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared that the Board of Aldermen meet in joint convention with the Edgewood Cemetery Board of Trustees for the purpose of electing a Trustee and called for a nomination.

Trustee Maffee nominated Brian Morrissey for a five (5) year term to expire on March 28, 2028.

There being no objection, President Wilshire closed the nomination.

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

- Yea: Trustee Dion, Trustee Hollis, Trustee Lozeau, Trustee Maffee, Mayor Donchess 5
- Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Jette, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire 13
- Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

President Wilshire declared Brian Morrissey duly appointed to the Edgewood Cemetery Board of Trustees for a term to expire March 28, 2028.

Oath of Office administered by Corporation Counsel.

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared that the Joint Convention now arise.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Budget Review Committee 05/16/2023, 05/22/2023, 05/24/2023

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the reports of the May 16, May 22 and May 24, 2023 Budget Review Committee be accepted and placed on file.

Pennichuck Water Special Committee 06/12/2023

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the June 12, 2023 Pennichuck Water Special Committee be accepted and placed on file.

CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-23-123

Endorsers: Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

AUTHORIZING THE GRANTING OF AN EASEMENT TO PENNICHUCK WATER WORKS, INC. FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF A WATER LINE

MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-23-123 AS AMENDED BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Klee

Thank you, Madam President. As Attorney Prolman had had mentioned, this was a an amendment to the original easement and that the best part of it is that it originally impacted almost 2,400 square feet of the park trees wise and it was gonna go right through the green space of the park. This moves it over so that it follows along the road - the fire road I guess would be the best way to mention it and it's only like 633 impact. So the decision that was made was this was the better one. The developer came to the table and was in complete agreement with it.

The good part about all of this is not just so much that it helps the developer but there are almost 50 homes in that area that have extremely low water pressure, very low water pressure. I've been told to flush the toilet, or take a shower, you never do both at the same time just because there isn't enough water. That is horrible. The entire area within that has very low water pressure and Pennichuck is going to be addressing that in the next couple of years. So my hope is that this is the right step. It doesn't impact the park very much and it's a win/win for everybody.

I do want to comment that from the beginning of this development from the very first talk of development, I did mention that there was water issues. We were reassured that this was not a problem but when they looked into it further as Attorney Prolman had said, it was much worse than they thought it was. So this is something to get that project started and to help many residents within that area. So I hope that you will support the final passage of R-23-123.

President Wilshire

Alderman Klee I've just been notified by the Attorney that you did you intend to adopt the amendment?

Alderman Klee

I apologize. Yes did I miss something? I jumped I guess.

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

It was my fault. Sorry.

Alderman Klee

Oh, that's okay. That's okay. I apologize. You were right. So I'd like to motion for the goldenrod copied of R-23-123 to be adopted. Am I saying that properly Attorney Bolton?

Steve Bolton, Corporation Counsel

I think what you want to do is move to amend Resolution R-23-123 by substituting the golden rod copy that everyone has received.

Alderman Klee

Thank you so much.

Steve Bolton, Corporation Counsel

If that amendment were to pass, then you want to move for final adoption.

Alderman Klee

Okay. So as Attorney Bolton has stated, I would like to – I’m a little shook here. I think I would like to move to amend R-23-123 substituting with the golden rod copy. I know I said it wrong. So I think we all understand what I have to say. Thank you.

MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE TO AMEND R-23-123 BY REPLACING IT WITH THE GOLDEN ROD COPY OF AMENDMENTS MADE A THE PENNICHUCK WATER SPECIAL COMMITTEE BY, ROLL CALL

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Jette, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire 13

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-23-123 AS AMENDED, BY ROLL CALL

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Jette, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire 13

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-23-123 declared duly adopted as amended.

R-23-125

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

RELATIVE TO THE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NASHUA GENERAL, ENTERPRISE, SPECIAL REVENUE AND GRANT FUNDS

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD TO AMEND R-23-125 BY REPLACING IT WITH THE GOLDEN ROD COPY OF AMENDMENTS MADE A THE BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE, BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Dowd

Yes the first thing I want to do is thank everybody on Budget Committee. We had several meetings and a lot of great

discussion with the departments/divisions to go over the budget in detail. I think that everyone did a great job there and I want to thank you for all the support that you've given to the budget.

At the budget wrap up session, we made some changes to the Mayor's budget and that amounted to first we added \$25,000 to the Great American Downtown. In the budget, it was listed as \$25,000 and the Mayor had asked that that be amended to 50. We've given them 50 in all past years so that was corrected. We made a motion to add \$10,000 to the Sculpture Symposium. We added \$50,000 to welfare assistance. We added \$34,812 to the Nashua Fire Rescue full time salaries and wages to cover another quarter year of the new Assistant Fire Chief which will help the Fire Department try to reach for their Level 1 Certification which hopefully would reduce fire costs for insurance for the homeowners in Nashua and \$32,000 to the city wide communication part time salaries and wages to assist in that area. One item was reduced \$150,000 in cloud based financial software subscriptions that was determined that we didn't need.

So the final budget FY23 total appropriations is \$430,362,300. The last three years average annual LSIPD is 5.9%. That allowable additional spending to last year's budget was in the amount of \$25,391,376. That would have allowed us to increase the budget to \$455,753,676. The total appropriations for FY23 are \$412,028,253. So the total appropriations in this final budget is by the calculations of finance under the spending cap by \$43,725,423. So with that, I would like to have the goldenrod copy accepted as the final budget.

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

Yea:	Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Jette, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire	13
Nay:		0

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-23-125 AS AMENDED, BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

President Wilshire

So in order to pass tonight's budget, we need 10 votes.

Steve Bolton, Corporation Counsel

No a majority.

President Wilshire

A majority even though we raised his \$1,813?

Steve Bolton, Corporation Counsel

Yes.

President Wilshire

Thank you. Simple majority.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Madam President. Just a couple of things. I want to thank Alderman Dowd for doing a fantastic job this year with the budget and the Budget Committee. Either I went to every one or I watched every single budget meeting. Instead of having music on while I work, I'm listening to budget meetings which is great. I learned so much.

But I think, you know, the two things that I had issues with that I think there's nothing we can do about it I think right at the moment but I don't think we did enough for fire. Alderman O'Brien did a great job getting some stuff in the other day but I

think the floor at Amherst Street is something we either got to address in the escrow or finding another way to pay for it. We can't have that collapsing because it's gonna cost the city a lot more money. I think we got to make sure we do a study for all the rest of the firehouses. So I think we need to do a little more there at some point. I wish it would have been in the budget but I'm okay with the way the budget is now.

The other thing is, and this is something that Alderman Sullivan brings up every year, is trust funds. I thought we were gonna look at the past year because we said the same thing we were saying, I heard Alderman Sullivan the other day and someone else was saying the same thing. We all look at these trust funds yet we didn't look at him last year. So I think we have to look at him. When we say we're gonna look at them, we have to look at some of them. Some of them we can't touch. David Deane Skate Park is there for exactly a specific reason and we can't move that money to somewhere else but there's some other ones, I think, that we can either get rid of or do something with the money that's in there. I guess that's a Budget Committee. I'm not on the Budget Committee but I think they need to be looked at and maybe pared down a bit. So that's it but I'm gonna so far I'm going to approve and say yes to this unless we have some changes that I might have to sign. Thank you.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you. I want to thank the fellow members of the Budget Committee. It was a long slog. It's my second time around. So I kind of knew a little bit more about what I was doing. But my main takeaways - so I am going to support this tonight. I do - I have to swallow hard when I say, you know, a year over year tax increase for Nashuans is tough. I understand that. But 80% - these are just my takeaways. Kind of the headlines that I - a little learnings that I had. 80% of the budget is done before we even walk in the room and that's from all of our prior year activity - bonds we approve, contracts so 80% of the budget when you add all that in is already done.

I did learn the State law around bonded debt. I don't know who passed that. I don't know when it was passed but I don't think that whoever passed it knows anything about the word "cash flow" because the amount of money that you can borrow based on your assets is crazy but its State law so it is what it is. I was delighted to hear that we will get as much at least as much in State funding for education. That was one thing that we got. I relistened to the education budget meeting today. I was driving in my car and I put that budget meeting on. So that's what I do when I drive. I listened to that and I know that there's been a lot of talk at the State level about these education freedom accounts. What was interesting is that the COO for the city for the School Department said to date, they haven't affected Nashua. So that surprised me. I think it was good to hear that.

I think also to capital improvements one thing that we talked about is that we put a little over here, we put a little over here, we put a little over here, and I don't really know how much a little here, a little here, a little here will do. I'd like to see us do one large amount on a project, improve it, and make it better, and make it whole.

I loved the budget books. Loved him. Everything was online. It was easy to navigate. I was able to go back and forth. So it was really easy so kudos for that. I know we'll improve on those next year.

And then finally, it's been talked about a lot. Oh, sorry, two more things - escrow accounts. I'm really going to be looking at those this year. Really looking at that because that money is starting to creep into the general fund so we need to watch that. So I am going to be looking at escrow accounts this year when that comes out in the fall probably.

But then the trust funds. We have a lot. We have a trust fund for a city hospital. I didn't know that. We have one. It was passed a long, long time ago and I think that these are things we just have to look at, evaluate because not really sure what the purpose of them are and scale them down, build them up, just look at them. I think it would be good to take a deep dive but I am going to support the Fiscal Year 2024 budget. Thanks.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you, Madam President. Just briefly. I just want to allay any concerns with Alderman Thibeault. And by the way, thank you for the compliment but however, you know, as far as the Amherst Street fire station, it's not dead. What the issue at hand is and for the public's knowledge, there is a problem. It has been identified. The solution has not. Okay. So what we're doing now is that the Fire Department is talking to engineers and coming up with the best type of solution. And there's others. We've got a couple other fire stations that need some TLC and these are municipal structures. So I'm hoping that it comes into the infrastructure to which is lands and buildings and we can work with the different division directors. I think Alderman Dowd and I have been in conversations and I think we have some ideas that are squirreling around in our minds that would be the best way for the taxpayer, and to do this, and increase the longevity of these structures. So it's it is a work in progress so I think it's good.

To Alderman Sullivan, my friends up in Concord, thank god we didn't let the American Education Freedom Act out the door. It died I think on the floor. It was a good death.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you, Madam President. Tonight I'll be supporting the budget. I think it's fair. I think it's what the city needs. When looking at a budget of this size, I look at what each department put into it. I think they got more of what they need. I don't think they got everything clearly but I think they got what they need to function and function at a good rate and a good clip without having many issues. I think when looking at a budget, and I know Alderman O'Brien and I were heavily involved in the one up in Concord this year, and the key to that one was everybody went away being mad at the budget. I think that's a telltale sign and I think that was the same down here. I think there's a lot of probably Directors who were frustrated with the budget because they didn't get everything they want. I think the Budget Review Committee did a great job vetting through everything and deciding the priorities for the city. So hats off to them and I will be supporting the budget tonight. Thank you.

Alderman Comeau

Yes. Thank you, Madam President. I also will be supporting the budget tonight. I just wanted to thank Alderman Dowd, and the Budget Committee, and all of the department heads for all the hard work that they put in. Like was mentioned earlier by the Mayor, you know, when compared with the rate that everything else in our lives seems to be going up, this is a pretty modest increase. I definitely think it's fair. Like was said earlier, everybody didn't get everything they wanted but everybody got enough to make sure the city continues to operate and that's a great thing.

I also just wanted to mention on behalf of Alderman Lopez who's not here who I know would love to say thank you for the increase to the welfare assistance he mentioned on Facebook. That was the first time in a long time that the welfare systems have gone up and as my Ward neighbor over in Ward 4, he and I have a lot of lower income communities in Wards 4 and 6. So I know that is going to greatly benefit a lot of people in the city so I was glad to see that happen. So glad to throw my support behind this and I'm sure that it will pass with no issues.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you so much. I want to echo a lot of this similar sentiments that the Budget Committee worked really hard this year to make sure that we were delivering a budget that was sound and fiscally responsible that also met some of the needs that we get to hear every time a department head comes to us. So the work that we did a week ago making some of those adjustments including the welfare which I was proud to work with Alderman Lopez on were reflections on the work that we've done in the last few months.

I also want to echo that I thought the budget book was incredible this year. I have made some suggestions to help us be more inclusive including making it so you can get large format and search ability online and also looking at making sure you can get it in a different language so that everybody in their city can actually have access to and read through that book. I know that we have it and we carry it around for months but I want to make sure everybody has access to it.

The last thing I just want to say is obviously I'm going to be supporting this budget. I think we've done great work on it. But I want to highlight a theme that we've heard. This is my sixth budget season which I know doesn't pale in comparison to some people who are going on the 24th. I heard from a themed perspective that infrastructure is something that we really need to turn our eye to and now that the Budget Committee has gotten this through hopefully, I'm hoping that we'll be able to spend some real time on looking at the assets that the city has in terms of buildings, and infrastructure, and coming up with a plan that'll allow us to be more effective in maintaining these because we heard things like Holman Stadium is going to need a huge renovation. We had to, you know, build a whole new middle school because Elm was no longer meeting the needs of our students. So I'm looking forward to longer conversations about that long term planning and how we can continue to maintain the incredible city that we have.

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

Yea:	Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Jette, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire	13
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Nay:		0
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MOTION CARRIED

Resolution R-23-125 as amended is duly adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – ORDINANCES**O-23-055**

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman John Sullivan
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Alex Comeau
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Derek Thibeault
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

AMENDING THE ZONING MAP BY REZONING LAND OFF ALONG THE AMHERST STREET CORRIDOR FROM GENERAL BUSINESS (GB) TO GENERAL BUSINESS WITH MIXED USE OVERLAY DISTRICT (GB/MU), FROM PARK INDUSTRIAL (PI) TO PARK INDUSTRIAL WITH MIXED USE OVERLAY DISTRICT (PI/MU), AND FROM HIGHWAY BUSINESS (HB) TO HIGHWAY BUSINESS WITH MIXED USE OVERLAY DISTRICT (HB/MU)

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF O-23-055 BY ROLL CALL**ON THE QUESTION**Alderman Moran

Thank you, Madam President. This rezoning of the land up on Amherst Street has been in the works starting with conversations at PEDC. I had a conversation with Alderman Clemons about what we can do to encourage more building, mixed use building, and then it turned into a conversation with my colleague from Ward 9 about how we could get places like IKEA and the Tuscan Kitchen Village thing that's over in Salem up onto Amherst Street and this is kind of one of the first steps. In speaking with Director Sullivan, the main question was is there any interest in building and development in that area if there was an overlay? The answer was yes. I know Director Sullivan is here. If there's any questions - and I see my colleague to the left has the map up - and reviewing the strip of land, it goes from the ground where the old Building 19 is all the way down to Northwestern Boulevard where right before Southern's psychiatric facility as I think that's the cut off there. We would hope that this would allow development to come in and build some mixed use housing on top of maybe, you know, maybe there will be an IKEA who knows?

Alderman Comeau

We can hope.

Alderman Moran

I wouldn't have to go to was it Stoughton to get and assemble my furniture. Thank you.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you, Madam Chair. I enthusiastically will endorse this. I was happy to see exactly where it was. I think that this - I think that this plot of land is really it can really be pivotal to kind of the next century if you will for the city. It has easy access to the highway. There's great infrastructure there already. I know I'm gonna be tarred and feathered for saying this but a year ago, I thought boy the Performing Arts Center would look really good down here because it was so close to all these other areas. I think this is great. I've been reading so many articles not only of different towns here in New Hampshire but all across the country trying to catch up on their land use code because of the new economy that's coming. You know we talk about manufacturing and where economies are going. It's not just the old factory building that really got Nashua started. Now there is, you know, medical, there's light manufacturing, there's research, there's all these great little pockets of the economy that I think we can now go after and throw housing in that on as well. So I think that this ordinance gets that started. So kudos to my colleague to my right for putting this through. Thanks.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Madam President. Yeah, I thought we had some really good discussions in the Planning and Economic Development Committee on this. I think it's a great idea. I mean we get accused of only caring about downtown. I think this is what the plan that Director Sullivan and prior Director Cummings has had for a long time. It's the Imagine Nashua to go around the rest of the city and look at what we can do to bring in development. I think Amherst Street clearly needs some work there. I was glad to see Alderman Clemons extend it a little bit all the way to that Market Basket so we could do a little bit more with it. I'm hoping that, you know, I think I've had conversations with Director Sullivan that DW Highway is the next and Spit Brook Road. There's lots of maybe some things we can do down there as well to kind of spur the same thing. I know it's not as big right now as Amherst Street is. I know we've had that discussion but I'm going to support this obviously and hope that we continue to do this stuff throughout the city where we have the opportunity to do that.

Alderman Comeau

Yes thank you, Madam President. Like my colleague from Ward 9 said, I also will enthusiastically support this. I had thought for a while now that that the development out in Salem the Tuscan Village is just a phenomenal piece of development. It's not finished yet so I mentioned it on Facebook. I know I shouldn't and, you know, it's a concrete jungle because it's not done yet. I lived in Denver and Boulder for a number of years and this is pretty much all they're building in other parts of the country. I call these little self-encapsulated communities that have housing, and coffee shops, and laundromats, and things like that in these little micro towns. They're great places to live. So I've always thought that Nashua should have more places like that. I'm glad to see that this legislation will at least open the door for someone to pitch us an idea. It doesn't mean that we have to do it but it allows a developer to come up with some creative solutions at least for us to consider so I'm glad that we're moving in that direction. Thank you.

Alderman Dowd

I'm not gonna say a lot and I'm really gonna support this. I support Director Sullivan's efforts in this area. Our Land Use Code is way overdue for modification. Some of the issues we've had with developments lately has been because our Land Use Code is not up to snuff yet and I know he's working on it diligently.

In this instance, Amherst Street that issue has been going on for at least 30 years back when I was chair of the ZBA. The only thing they wanted out whatever group it was wanted out there was industrial and then the city started charging the first 200 feet as general business and the whole thing like crazy. So this will allow the Zoning Board and the Planning Board to have much more freedom in working with staff to develop this area in an illogical and sensical way. So I fully support it.

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

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran,
Alderman Jette, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd,
Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault,
Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire 13

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance O-23-055 declared duly adopted.

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS**R-23-132**

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman John Sullivan
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman Derek Thibeault

Alderswoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons
Alderswoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF \$150,000 FROM THE NEW HAMPSHIRE HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY

Given its first reading; Assigned to the HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, by President Wilshire

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

O-23-056

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess

Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.

PERMITTING CERTAIN FUNDING TRANSFERS WITHIN THE PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION

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

PERIOD FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Laurie Ortolano

Laurie Orlando - 41, Berkeley Street. I've started my stopwatch here. Wanted to ask if the Board will be doing a final review on the art center - the close out or the cost for the project and whether there would be any kind of public comment allowed to that? I think it's important. That was a very closed book project compared to other construction projects that the city has taken on. There wasn't a lot of public involvement because of the nature of accepting the New Market Tax Credit money. I have pretty much strongly disagreed with that type of funding being used in a municipal project. I'm very concerned with Director Cummings initiating more of these types of projects with New Market Tax Credit money in Nashua as he indicated he might do for the Elm Street Middle School.

I want to let you know that the corporations that were formed there were three. The 201 corporations were supposed to be nonprofit public corporations. I challenged Attorney Leonard on this when the By-Laws were written and I read them but they were written as private corporations. Their meetings were essentially being done private and all of their records were being maintained private. I could not get Attorney Leonard to address why the By-Laws were done this way. We hired a consultant out of Drummond Woodson and paid him \$65,000 to do the work on the paperwork for that New Market Tax Credit and he did the By-Laws wrong. Because I couldn't get Attorney Leonard to work with me, I filed the 201 corporations into the lawsuit in Superior Court challenging those records and essentially I won. I've been in settlement with, which was announced in court. This is not revealing anything that is private. McLean Middleton joined representation for the 201 corporations which we are paying - the taxpayers are paying the legal bill for McLean Middleton.

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

One minute.

Laurie Ortolano

And they immediately when they joined on, they contacted me and said we don't know why these By-Laws are done this way. They don't make any sense. So they wanted to settle out quickly. I said no. I want to do discovery. They stayed on but essentially, they've completely written the By-Laws, have made them a public corporation, they're going to be adopted by the Board in August. My question to you is why did you allow me to have to waste my money and time to go to court - not my money...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds.

Laurie Ortolano

...but we're going to pay McLean Middleton out of the taxpayer dollars, probably 60 grand, to represent this issue that Attorney Leonard would not correct when I tried to speak to her. I think that's ridiculous. I mean there's a lot of questions of fraud in that Art Center project and why it was done the way it was done and that's going to be taken through the court. But honestly, I think she was a terrible municipal attorney in doing what she did to hide the misrepresentation of those corporations and forced me into court. Thank you.

REMARKS BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Madam President. Just two quick things. Speaking of the Performing Arts Center, I got to go to it a couple of weeks ago or week and a half ago. It was the first time since the opening for Toad the Wet Sprocket. I got to see Alderman Clemons. I don't know if Alderman Sullivan saw me but he was kind of in my row all the way down the end dancing up, and singing, and having a good time. So it was a great show. I love that place. You were definitely dancing.

Alderman Sullivan

Absolutely. I'm a good time guy.

Alderman Thibeault

So it was great. I mean I think the place was sold out or it looked sold out to me. I really enjoyed being there. I think it's a great thing for the city and I know other people have gone for other events and there's many more events coming up.

The only other thing I want to say is I was watching the budget meeting last night and Alderman Jette brought up a good point. They were going over the Multicultural Festival and talking about the trust fund for that. His point was that no one was there to speak for it. When we have these things come up to our committees and there's no one there to kind of tell us what it is if we have questions, and we've had this happen before in other committees and I don't know how we fix it, but it'd be great if when we're voting on these things and trying to pass or not passing that we have someone there that we can ask questions for so we can get them answered so we can make the right decision by the city and not kind of guests on things. So I want to thank Alderman Jette for bringing that up again last night. So thank you. That's it.

Alderman Gouveia

Thank you, Madam President. I just want to start off by thanking the volunteers who helped me clean the rotary out in front of north on Friday afternoon into the evening. A lot of confusion from the public on that project. That was kind of fun. It made for an interesting weekend but it was amazing that, you know, when I was called and I explained to people what the project was and how we're going about it, they went away with a better understanding. So it's a three phase project as I like to say. The first one was what we did last Friday and that was a whole community effort. It wasn't just Ward 1. We have some members from Ward 7 as well as Ward 5 helping us. That was just to clean it up and we did that. Now we're on to phase two which we're working with Bryan Conant at Parks and Rec. We have the Conservation Commission Chair and State Rep. Dutzy who is also helping us with what we want to see what that rotary and hopefully we can replant it to make it look presentable and also a low maintenance kind of rotary. So it was good to have the community together. I think it kind of got confusing with some other people and we said what we did but I think the project as a whole will be great for Ward 1. It's something since I've been elected people in the Ward 1 to see so sometimes you just have to roll up the sleeves and do things yourself. It was a good way to get the project running and I look forward to working with DPW, the Conservation Commission, and really anybody else who wants to jump in. I am not an expert on this by any means so looking for anybody who wants to help. I think this will turn out to be a really good project come the fall. Thank you.

Alderman Dowd

Again just want to thank the Budget Committee for an excellent job and for the entire Board for passing the budget unanimously. I think we did a lot of work to get it fine-tuned to provide the needs and requirements for the people of Nashua while keeping a frugal eye on the overall spending.

The budget books. They were new this year. In the beginning I had a lot of suggestions for the budget book and with John Griffin and Cheryl, they came up with a new way of doing them. I know that some of them were very challenging for people who are visually challenged so I'm thinking that next year we're going to try and add foldouts which will give bigger numbers and easier to see. So we'll work on a book so we've got a little while to do that.

So the other thing is it was just brought up about having people there to talk to their legislation. We could take the position formally, I guess, but we could take the position that if the sponsor of the legislation isn't at the meeting, it gets tabled automatically. That's something we can discuss but that's one way you can ensure whether somebody is there or not. I think it's probably a valid thing.

The other thing is infrastructure. Yes I have talked to Chief Buxton about the fire stations, and the study they want to do, and we do need to look at that. We're also in the Infrastructure Committee looking at the parking garages. Another thing

is the stadium. We're pretty much done with schools. We may have one little tweak left but other than that, we should be a while before we have to do another school. So I think it's the time to look at some of these other city projects.

Just for an information standpoint, the School Department has over \$1 billion in infrastructure. The Board of Education took a motion last night to add more funding for maintenance. So I think we're getting there but it's something that we have to take a really strong look at because we can spend a little money now or we can spend a lot of money later. Even the high schools, the chiller on one of - I think it's North but it could be South - has to be replaced this year. After being 20 years old if things start to fail, or the parking lots need touch up, or soon they'd have to be totally done which is a difference of maybe \$30,000 versus a million. So I mean we've got to look at infrastructure. It's something that we've got to do citywide on all city buildings. I'm not saying that we do everything at once but we need to make a plan and stick to the plan and we haven't done so.

Alderman Comeau

Thank you, Madam President. Just one thing. This past Saturday I was privileged enough to be able to volunteer for an event called "We Ride So They Fly". It was an organized motorcycle ride that raises money for an organization called "Honor Flight". Honor Flight raises money to take primarily at this time World War II veterans and fly them down to DC and give them a combination so they can see the memorials for the (inaudible) wars that they fought in there. Unfortunately, starting to transition more into Korean War and Vietnam War veterans as we have fewer and fewer World War II vets left. The event raised, I want to say, a little over \$20,000. We wrote in honor of World War II veteran Henry Narocewicz who unfortunately passed away a couple of months ago. He was able to take his Honor Flight a couple of years ago. They flew him down to DC. He had a great time. So that is a wonderful event that is put on every year in June to raise money for Honor Flight and if anyone is interested, the website is weridesotheyfly.org. Thank you.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. I wasn't going to speak because we already spoke to the budget and pride. Thanks again for everybody who worked on both of those projects. But actually Alderman Comeau's comments brought to mind something I actually got to - I was in DC when an Honor Flight went out. It was a super powerful event. They talked about and brought forward all of the veterans as they were getting on the plane so it was really moving. So thank you for your dedication to that and let me know if I can help support it.

Alderman Jette

Thank you. So I'd like to wish everyone a Happy Canada Day which is coming up on Saturday, July 1st, and also a Happy Independence Day. Enjoy the firework show but please, you know, go to the stadium. Enjoy the \$20,000 firework show but please don't buy fireworks. Fireworks are illegal in Nashua so please don't buy fireworks and set them off at your home to the detriment of people for whom that's annoying, is irritating, and children, and dogs, etc.

I want to congratulate Alderman Moran for shepherding the rezoning of Amherst Street through to encourage the business development there. But please stay away from Ward 5. Thank you.

Alderman Moran

Thank you, Madam President. My best Alderman Jette.

First and foremost, I would like to congratulate my wife Lisa for receiving the Outstanding Young Alumni Award from Rivier University. She received it a couple of weeks ago. I'm proud for her accomplishments in getting that award but I know that her father who passed away six months ago and who retired from Rivier would be extraordinarily proud of her. I think it's a great acknowledgement for the work she does at our company, in the city when it comes to charity and a sweet recognition of all the work her father did at that school and how it led into her career. She got tuition remission because her dad worked there, and she got her degree, finished it up, and put it to good use. So I'm very proud of her. I know my father-in-law would be too.

Other than that, I wish everyone a Happy Independence Day. Be safe on the Fourth of July. This will be the first Fourth of July in quite a long time I won't be seeing the fireworks at Holman Stadium. I'll be away which will feel different but wish everyone luck.

Alderman Klee

Thank you, Madam President. I want to correct the record as far as the Performing Arts Center's meetings. They were

open to the public. I was on the Committee and it was more dynamic than any other meeting I have been at. We sat in Room 208. Members from the public, including Mr. Teeboom, Mrs. McCarthy were there. They gave input real time as the conversation was happening, they were giving input. They were giving ideas. It was not just Aldermen. It wasn't just people who were on the Committee that gave it. It wasn't city folk that gave it. It was people from the public that came in and spoke. It was the most truly dynamic meeting that I have attended since I've been an Alderman and I'm very proud of all the work that they did. There was a lot of - I can tell you there were times when I voted completely opposite of everybody else, might have pouted a little bit, but you know in the end, we have a really beautiful Performing Arts Center. I think that a lot of hard work went into it. We shot for the stars and accepted what we got because Director Cummings kept us in line. Trust me if we had gotten away with all the things we'd want, we would have had these beautiful plush seats with nice cup holders and so on but the budget didn't allow for it and he kept reminding us over, and over, and over again.

There were people from the public that were there such as Mr. Teeboom who at the beginning were completely against it, felt that it was going to be a money pit. By the end, he was telling us all what good jobs we had done. There were times when he still disagreed with this. Please don't - he was not 100% on board and I'm not trying to put words in his mouth. But even those that were naysayers came to the table. So I just want to make that very clear. It was open to the public. Meetings were put out there. That's how we all knew.

I also want to just kind of add one more thing to Alderman Jette's comments about the fireworks. PTSD veterans are extremely affected when people set off fireworks - illegal fireworks. I'm going to keep saying the word "illegal" fireworks in their yard. It is legal to buy them in the State of New Hampshire but not to use them within the city limits. I can give you an example of what happened. I knew a PTSD patient who had been working through all of his problems. He was doing phenomenal, got a job, had an apartment, and people were setting off fireworks. He was taken out by ambulance because he reverted back to his PTSD. He's never left. He has been infirmed ever since and that's been probably close to five or six years. That breaks my heart. I don't care if it's one veteran. We say that we're doing this because we're celebrating our veterans. Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, myself we work really hard at the Dalianis House to put on an event so that they have something during the daytime so they stay in when all those fireworks are going out. So why we all may love the fireworks. There are a number of people, children, pets, and PTSD veterans that don't so I just hope that that people do listen. I know Facebook will say they have the right. Well these people have the right to live too.

Then I just want to on a happier note, I just want to remind everybody I know it's a month away but Ward 3 is having their park fest. We have a lot of vendors there. We have a Facebook page. It's facebook.com/ward3parkfest. Currently we have a stone house picture contest going on. There are a lot of proms going on, a lot of weddings, send your pictures in. We're giving three prizes with a value of \$50 for the top three that are chosen. We're selling t-shirts for \$10. We're only going to at the event have a limited number of medium, large and extra-large. If you want a different size or guarantee you have one. We're going to have a lot of different people that. Ellie the comfort dog is going to be there. We're going to have our ACO there to teach children how to approach dog. The Fire Department is going to have a touch-a-truck. Public Health will have a vehicle there. We're gonna have 20 raffle baskets plus. They keep growing. People keep donating. We're gonna have two children's bikes - a boy and a girl with training wheels, helmet, elbow, knee pads, and there's so much more. One of the things that we had donated to us was the end for Nashua book. It's really interesting. It does the entire alphabet from A to Z. Artwork was done by a number of people within our city and so on. So I hope everyone will come out especially from this Board as well as citizens. We call it the Ward 3 ParkFest. It's gonna be held at Greeley August 13th 10:30 to 2:30. I'd like to personally thank Alderman Moran who made a generous donation for making this happen. Billiards/Detroit North made a large donation. Randy Turmel did. Shirley's Florist. Representative Spiers did. It's because like that and all this money is going to TAP which is the teachers and paws program. You can look up their website. It won't go on any longer. So thank you so much.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you, Madam President. I would just have to say that I've heard some pretty wise advice of some of the Aldermen. Leave the pyrotechnics to the professionals. In my 35 years career on the Fire Department, let me tell you walking around with a nub where your fingers used to be isn't cool. Nashua puts on a great show at Holman Stadium so I hope that people will come out and enjoy themselves.

Number two, I'd like to wish all my friends in Nashua and across America Happy Birthday America. Enjoy. Try not to eat too many hotdogs and hamburgers.

On a personal note, 40 years ago the best thing that ever happened to me - at least that's what my wife tells me - Diane and I celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary without getting any lawyers involved or anything. It's been just bliss. The kids have been great and everything else like that. They know how to eat with the correct knife and fork so it's all been good. So it's been a fantastic ride and I'm looking forward to 40 more and honey I'll be home shortly. Thank you.

President Wilshire

I would like to take a moment to thank Alderman Dowd for the work on the budget and all the members of the Budget Committee. There was some good conversations back and forth. So I appreciate the work that everyone put in on the budget and thank you for passing it tonight.

Committee announcements:

Alderman O'Brien

Yes as everybody knows, tomorrow night we do have a Special Board of Aldermen's meeting at 7 p.m. here in the chamber. I think we're going to be discussing a public hearing on Deerwood Drive Lot H-103. Immediately following or by the clock of 7:15, the Committee on Infrastructure will meet. So you're welcome to stay after the meeting. Thank you.

Alderwoman Timmons

Thank you, Madam President. The Cultural Connections Committee meeting will be held tomorrow Wednesday, June 28th from 12 to 1 at the Nashua Community College which is on 505 Amherst Street.

By the way, the festival is at Greeley Park not at the Library. We did have meetings at the Library to discuss the meeting at Greeley Park.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. Just a reminder that Personnel will be meeting on Monday, July 3rd, in the aldermanic chamber.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN THAT THE JUNE 27, 2023 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ADJOURNED BY ROLL CALL

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

Yea:	Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Jette, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Comeau, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire	13
Nay:		0

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Attest: Dan Healey, City Clerk



THE CITY OF NASHUA

Office of Administrative Services

"The Gate City"

TO: Board of Aldermen

FROM: Tim Cummings, Administrative Services Director

Date: June 26, 2023

RE: Discussion on CHIPS Act & Developing a Partnership with BAE Systems

Background

The CHIPS and Science Act “CHIPS Act” is a U.S. federal statute enacted by the 117th U.S. Congress and signed into law by President Joe Biden on August 9, 2022. The act provides roughly \$280 billion in new funding to boost domestic research and manufacturing of semiconductors in the U.S.

Specifically, there is a program called “The CHIPS Incentives Program,” which aims to catalyze long-term economically sustainable growth in the domestic semiconductor industry in support of U.S. economic and national security. The CHIPS Incentives Program can provide incentives in the form of direct funding (via grants, cooperative agreements, or other transactions), loans, and loan guarantees for eligible projects. The CHIPS Incentives program will support investments in the construction, expansion, and modernization of commercial facilities in the U.S. for the front- and back-end fabrication of leading-edge, current-generation, and mature-node semiconductors.

This specific program run through the Department of Commerce requires local and state participation – in the form of incentives – to qualify. The Department is most interested in financial inducements that create “spillover benefits” aimed at improving the overall ecosystem for semiconductor manufacturing. This means, for purposes of the grant program, incentives that support workforce and education are weighted more favorably than outright tax abatement.

With this in mind, the City’s Economic Development Office in conjunction with BAE Systems is seeking approximately \$200,000 to develop a new workforce-training program at Nashua Community College. This new program would support the greater Nashua semiconductor and microelectronics manufacturing industry. The funds would go directly to the college to design and launch this new training program.

Semiconductor Facility in Nashua

BAE Systems currently manufactures semiconductor chips at its Microelectronics Center (MEC) at 65 Spit Brook Road in Nashua. The MEC is a 110,000-square-foot, Department of Defense accredited chip laboratory and fabrication center. The company has been incrementally modernizing the MEC via a number of small capital expenditure projects started in 2020. The company’s Foundry Modernization Project (FMP), with CHIPS Act funding, will front-load the replacement of aging tools that can no longer be repaired. Some of these tools represent single points of failure that could disrupt manufacturing operations. The FMP also builds in some redundancy to mitigate risk.

The MEC is foundational to the work done at BAE Systems and to national security more broadly. The chips produced in Nashua support a wide array of 5th generation electronic warfare systems like those found in the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter. Other applications include communication satellites and commercial uses.

If awarded this CHIPS grant BAE is prepared to make a capital investment of approximately \$50MM over a five year period on top of the grant award being requested of \$36MM from the Department of Commerce.

BAE Systems anticipates the MEC FMP will attract associated supplier, workforce, and other related investments that correspond with the MEC's production and workforce growth. The new equipment will increase the level of automation, adding efficiency to the MEC's operations. The FMP's effect on BAE Systems' local workforce is the creation of 24 new jobs, a roughly 12% increase from the current facility workforce. The company anticipates an increased need for related investment and capacity in the job-training programs related to those positions, such as the bootcamps conducted in partnership with Nashua Community College. More than 20% of the MEC's suppliers are historically underutilized small businesses. These small-business partners collectively expect to hire ~10 new employees after award of a CHIPS Act grant. The investments outlined above will help create a more productive, efficient, and self-sustaining ecosystem.

Partnership

Over the past few months, we began a dialog to assess whether a program could be developed for our mutual benefit. To that end, the following conceptual proposal has been sketched out, on which your feedback would be welcomed. The concept for a Workforce Development Training Program is as follows:

- A "Clean Room Bootcamp" would be an approximately 8-10 week workforce-training program run out of Nashua Community College as a non-credit class modeled on the successful Microelectronics Bootcamp that is currently running. Students are guaranteed an interview with BAE Systems at the end of the program.
 - The idea is to give basic "clean room" skills to potential employees so they can have a certain level of education, exposure and understanding of a clean room environment, making them more attractive candidates for employment.
 - The "start-up" cost for equipment, materials, and other consumable items is approximately \$200,000 (using estimates from the first bootcamp start-up).
 - Student tuition is \$5,500 per session.
 - The course is self-sustaining with student tuition.
 - A similar program is currently on Cohort #28, with approximately 12 students in a class (over 300 individuals trained to date). It has been a huge success. Graduates have a 98% job placement rate at multiple regional companies.

Request

The City of Nashua would commit to providing up to \$200,000 seed costs of implementing this new training program. The city will use ARPA funds with some leftover money or Escrow, but only if BAE Systems is successful in obtaining a grant. The City of Nashua would enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with BAE and the Community College to effectuate this proposal.

BAE Systems' grant "pre-application" is currently before the Department of Commerce for review. The company expects feedback in late summer, after August 1. To that end, I am asking that this communication be referred to committee for a discussion in July.