

A regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Tuesday, August 9, 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 Daniel Healey recorded.

#### President Wilshire

I'd like to welcome our new City Clerk Dan Healey. Thank you for being here tonight. Welcome.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Daniel Healey; Alderman Thomas Lopez led in the Pledge to the Flag.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. If you are participating via Zoom, please state your presence, reason for not attending the meeting in person, and whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-To-Know Law.

The roll call was taken with 13 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 Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire.

Alderman Comeau and Alderman Gouveia were recorded absent.

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

#### REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

##### Mayor Donchess

Yes, Madam President. Well first, I wanted to join you in welcoming City Clerk Healey to our meeting. We're fortunate to have him and I'm looking forward, of course, to working with him over the years.

Madam President I wanted to say that the city, and I think most of the Aldermen know about this, the city's AAA bond rating was reaffirmed by Standard and Poor recently. They cited many good qualities about the city - our economy, residents, but also our strong financial performance, and conservative money management practices. So I want to congratulate John Griffin, CFO/City Treasurer and our financial staff for helping us achieve that distinction.

Paul Sullivan now is the Chief Assessor for the city. He has extensive experience in Massachusetts in Brockton where he worked, I think, 15 years as well as in Avon, which is a smaller community. He's looking forward to the work to be done here. We will make sure that he comes in to meet you sometime in the very near future.

Next Madam President, I wanted to mention something that we or the congressional delegation Region One of EPA announced yesterday they have awarded the Nashua Regional Planning Commission \$500,000 of brownfields funds. These are funds which are used to investigate, usually investigate, and to some extent cleanup environmental issues that are not so severe to be a superfund site but which impair the ability to build on or develop a particular parcel of land. This is important because we have the NIMCO site, which we now actually own after many years of litigation. We are going to be asking the Regional Planning Commission to allocate some of those funds to help us do further assessment on that building. They have allocated \$25,000 of brownfield funds in the past to do Phase 1 and 2 environmental studies but more work needs to be done to assess the cost of cleanup and clearing the site.

And finally Madam President, I wanted to mention to you and the Board of Aldermen an interesting project that Public Works is involved in with a local company. You may know or maybe not, a company GSSI on Simon Street. They are a company that employs about 70 people, and their expertise, and they're highly technical - their expertise is developing equipment that uses radar to look below the surface of something. It could be asphalt, concrete in a construction site, it can be an archaeological site, can be a polar cap, many different applications. They do have currently equipment that can after the fact, after pavement is laid down, measure the "compaction" it's called of pavement. A slight difference in compaction. The difference between say 91% and 96% can mean a great deal in terms of how long the asphalt lasts, how long the pavement stays down. So what they are trying to develop is, and they're well along with it, is a piece of equipment that you can mount on a roller so that the operator of the roller can determine in real time by looking at a screen what the level of compaction is of the asphalt that the operator is rolling. In using that application if they saw that well it's, you know, it's 91%, they might do a little more and make it 95.

So we have our working with Public Works has introduced them to our current paving contractor Sunshine Paving. They have the contract for the current year and I believe they will be installing the GSSI equipment on their rollers to experiment with the possibility of using this in real time to develop further develop the equipment and the technology.

Now in meeting with the people I asked - I mean this is a big market. I asked how much does the United States spend on paving every year? Now my recollection, I mean it was in the trillions. I think it was \$3 trillion. If not, it was \$2 trillion. Trillions of dollars are spent in the US paving every year. So if our local company can develop expertise that will enable all of the units of government to achieve a higher level or a better level of compaction - if it's too high, that's not good. Ninety-nine would not be good, too brittle. But if they can develop this technology that could be applied across the whole country and beyond, it would be good for all units of government and also certainly good for their company and their job base. So I thought that was an interesting story and I wanted to let you know about it. And that's all I have Madam President.

#### RESPONSE TO REMARKS OF THE MAYOR

##### Alderman Klee

Thank you. Mr. Mayor I wanted to tell you that I had spoken to Mr. Sullivan quickly because he and my husband hail from the same location. The only thing I said to him was as long as he's living there, he needs to bring us Cape Cod Pizza. It's just a must. So only the linguica one. That's my favorite. But it sounds like he's really excited about the job and we're lucky I think to have him here. So thank you.

##### President Wilshire

Anyone else? Seeing none.

#### 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 10, May 23, May 24, and July 25, 2022 be accepted, placed on file, and the reading suspended.**

#### COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING ONLY PROCEDURAL ACTIONS AND WRITTEN REPORTS FROM LIAISONS

From: William Atkinson, Assistant Fire Chief  
Re: Nashua Fire Rescue's Second Quarter Run Report

From: Jeff Poehnert, PEG Manager  
Re: Zoom Meetings

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

##### Laura Colquhoun

Laura Colquhoun, 30 Greenwood Drive. I'm here tonight to tell the city officials that as a taxpayer I'm angry. It seems like the Board of Aldermen have forgotten they were elected to represent the Nashua residents and now the Board feels like they do not have to listen to the residents. The city just turned over the management of the PEG television station to a new team. So the first thing they do is they want to shut down the Zoom for Nashua residents which is what Lord Wilshire wants. The PEG TV just got an increase in the 2023 budget and it states that it's going to cost an additional \$11,000 to have residents be on Zoom. Well to me, that's not a lot of money seeing how our officials are spending \$25 million on the PAC, \$30 million on the Riverfront, \$12 million on the new DPW building, and \$118 million on school projects. Let's not forget that the Board actually paid an Alderman's salary when they didn't show up for work, but what the hell it was our money not theirs.

I have a classic idea. If the city wants to shut down the Zoom for residents, instead of shutting it down shut it down for everybody. Period. Tell the city employees to get back to work in the newly renovated City Hall. The Nashua taxpayers should not forget that Lord Wilshire actually shut down the Zoom meeting in the middle of a meeting because she felt the residents were too vocal in their beliefs. Lord Wilshire is clearly one that does not want to hear from taxpayers even though we're paying her salary.

I find it funny that our Mayor calls the City of Nashua a welcoming city for everybody but their taxpayers. Mayor's motto to the taxpayer is just shut up and pay your property taxes. It is said there that our current Mayor and the Board of Aldermen do not want the Nashua taxpayers to participate in their government. Instead, the city officials just want to be able to shove their spending down our throats with no question asked by taxpayers. If this Board wants to shut down Zoom, shut it down for everybody. Why should Nashua taxpayers pay for something that they cannot use? Thank you.

Karen Bill

Good evening. Karen Bill, 95 Parnell Place. I echo a lot of what Laura said because I think that Zoom is a vital part of people calling in, especially people who can't get into City Hall for whatever reasons - if they have a disability or they just can't sit here for four to six hours. I know that it's even being used by members of the horseshoe here when they can't be present at a meeting whether they're out of town, or State, or home with some illness, or challenges.

I think that we're forgetting that, you know, the democratic process is one that involves and welcomes opposing views, different views. You know if two people in the same company always have the same ideas, one of them isn't necessary. You want to have thriving conversation so that ideas get presented. That's the way it happens - open minds, open conversation, open discussion about things, and actually listening to each other instead of thinking oh, yeah, here's that person, you know, in the audience who's coming up, or there's that person on Zoom because you know, the body language from people is very evident when some people speak whether it is on Zoom or here. There are some really regular people who call in on Zoom. I think, again, that the cost drop in the bucket compared to all these other projects. If only Laura the PAC was \$20 million. It's probably going to be 40 by the time it's done. But you really have to think about, again, if the city employees can use it, the public should be able to use it. It shouldn't be an avenue. It's been a successful avenue for people to call in...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

One minute.

Karen Bill

...for whatever reason. So I would encourage you to take a harder look at it and not just do away with it. If there's more discussion or some ideas to be had, or cost saving, something, you know, involve some more people but it shouldn't be shut down tonight. I don't think it's fair to the people that need it, and rely on it, and really participate because of it, and it's the only way that they do. Thank you very much.

Matthew Gouthro

Thank you. Can you hear me?

President Wilshire

Yes.

Mathew Gouthro

Matthew Gouthro, 104 Fawn Lane in Nashua. On this week's agenda, the Board of Aldermen there's an ambiguous language about discussing concerning public participation in city meetings via Zoom. Word around the city is that tonight you will discuss eliminating future public participation in all meetings via Zoom.

I first want to thank Alderman Comeau, Gouveia, Klee, and Sullivan for personally addressing my concerns on this topic. I wish I could have heard from many more of you, including the Mayor but as one Alderman told me they rarely respond to residents who don't reside in their Ward yet you make decisions on the Board of Aldermen that impact every Ward in the City of Nashua. So communicating with the Board of Aldermen via phone or email, including the representative in my own Ward, may be an available tool but ineffective if only a few members wish to participate it with that actively.

The Zoom and other web based platforms are effective engagement tools used in public meetings by cities and States all over this nation. Remote participation is the best way to keep our public engaged. New Hampshire's Right to Know laws support the use of Zoom to expand the mechanism for public participation. Our neighbor to the south, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, has enacted legislation to allow Zoom to be used in all of their public meetings. The decision to shut down Zoom participation for our residents will disenfranchise those residents with mobility, health concerns, the working public, even those with small children who can't attend these meetings in person. For example, I was planning to speak with you today in person but because I tested positive for COVID over the weekend I appreciate this opportunity to address you remotely and not putting anyone at risk and City Hall. These technical issues are just an excuse and the costs to make any improvements are nominal, if any. With a city of this size...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

One minute.

Matthew Gouthro

...we should not have crippling issues with Zoom. I conduct Zoom meetings in my professional role with hundreds of people on a weekly basis. If our IT Department can handle a turnkey product like Zoom, I'm afraid to even ask how our public records are being archived.

At the end of the day, I'm a big fan of open government and appreciate anytime we can give engagement tools to our residents to participate in what's happening in our great city.

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds.

Matthew Gouthro

I wish more of our representatives on the Board of Aldermen felt the same way. Too many times I've seen opportunities for public comment, debated, and even disallowed. For me, one time is too many. These self-serving attitudes when it comes to public engagement has no place in representing the will of the people of this great city. I humbly request that you take this engagement tool and keep it here with our residents. Consider keeping our city government here in Nashua open and transparent. Thank you for your consideration and continued support of our residents here in Nashua

Tim Sennott

Hi, can you hear me all right.

President Wilshire

Yes.

Tim Sennott

Thank you. Tim Sennott, 62 Underhill Street in Nashua. I also mentioned tonight that I'm the Moderator of Ward 7. The reason I mentioned that is because over the past month, we've had the two largest governmental bodies in the city - the Board of Aldermen and the Board of Education, have to take it upon themselves to conduct a process to replace members of the Board where vacancies have arisen. Once upon a time, this would be done via a special election but a couple of years ago, it was determined and agreed upon by majority of city voters that this was too costly of an expenditure given the amount of turnout. I bring this up because as a Moderator who conducts the elections in our city, I'm in excessive favor of anything that encourages increased participation in the government processes that affect our city. You know I do agree that \$35,000 for a special election for 157 people in one Ward to show out is a little excessive. I'd like it to be continued but unfortunately the turnout for the cost is too low.

However if there's a silver lining from the COVID pandemic, I think that it has been the ability to use the technology at our disposal in the 2020s to increase the public participation in what goes on at City Hall. I think whatever expenditures might be needed to increase that participation or continue that increased participation be very worthwhile endeavors for the City to pursue. I understand that there are some management issues at play in terms of the special skills needed to facilitate these Zoom meetings as they're broadcast on the public access television.

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

One minute.

Tim Sennott

I also understand that there may be costs associated with ensuring that the technology is kept up to speed to match the demands of the public. As somebody who you all know, would normally be there if not for circumstances beyond my control in one of the first two rows there tonight, I'm thankful for the opportunity to still be able to come and address you tonight through this means where prior to the implementation of Zoom...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds.

Tim Sennott

...or, you know, Microsoft teams or whatever, I wouldn't be able to. So I hope that the conversation tonight can lead us towards something that can continue the use of these technologies because I do think they're a worthwhile expenditure for the city. I think they've gone a long way in increasing participation at City Hall. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Thank you.

Laurie Ortolano

Hi. Laurie Ortolano, 41. Berkeley Street. I'd like to speak in favor of maintaining Zoom as a platform and interface for public to participate in all of your meetings. Right to Know New Hampshire is a big supporter of this interface and most of the legislation we backed last year contained language to maintain or expand Zoom as an interface for communities to grow their participation. Mr. Gouthro was correct in the legislation that was enacted in Massachusetts to expand it and I know the New England First Amendment Coalition is strongly behind using this platform to increase community participation.

I think when I read the letter on the costs, I think it's pretty nominal given all of the items in the budget and the type of programming we're doing in this city to allow that interface to, you know, improve and be maintained. I would certainly like to see that Zoom interface brought over to the schools side. Frankly, their meetings don't have it and that is rather shocking. I don't think their participation is as good as it would be if they had Zoom because they run their meetings at 6 o'clock, which is a very difficult family time if you're doing dinner. I know many people who haven't come out to school meetings because of their family commitments to have a meal on the table and that's the population that does have kids. If they want to have a family meal, it's right at dinner time.

So I'd like to see Zoom expanded. I'd like to see the investment made into it and I'd like to see the Board understand the benefits you've gotten from it because I think we've had quite a few older citizens dial in...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

One minute.

Laurie Ortolano

...to participate because, you know, it was a lot easier than them coming out and particularly in a New England climate in the winter and the cold. Zoom affords everyone a really awesome avenue to be part of a meeting. So I hope that you would support continuing the use of it and embrace the broader involvement you get in your public meetings through that interface. Thank you.

President Wilshire

I don't see anyone else. We'll move along.

COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRING FINAL APPROVAL

From: Tim Cummings, Economic Development Director  
Re: ARPA Funding Framework

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN LOPEZ TO APPROVE OF THE COMMUNICATION SUBMITTED BY DIRECTOR CUMMINGS ON MAY 17, 2022 FOR THE USE OF ARPA FUNDS AS "REVENUE REPLACEMENT", WHICH WILL ALLOW FOR THE FOLLOWING INITIATIVES, PROJECTS OR EQUIPMENT TO BE PURSUED: \$10,000,000 FOR THE HOUSING TRUST FUND; \$500,000 FOR THE BACK-UP SERVER (IT); \$850,000 FOR FIRE EQUIPMENT/ALARM; \$650,000 FOR POLICE RECORD MANAGEMENT AND GATE; \$600,000 FOR MAIN STREET STUDY & WEST HOLLIS STREET STUDY; \$1,500,000 FOR THE LIBRARY PARK PROJECT; \$600,000 FOR THE OPTICON SYSTEM; AND \$200,000 FOR THE ARPA PROGRAM SUPPORT AND FURTHER REQUEST DIRECTOR CUMMINGS TO RETURN TO THE HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND PROVIDE UPDATES PERIODICALLY**

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Clemons

Thank you Madam President. I believe that I'm going to ask that the maker of the motion amend it by saying \$10 million for the Housing Trust Fund and \$1.5 million for the Library Park project. I think he might have misread those.

Alderman Lopez

He did and he regretted that. \$10 million to the Housing Trust Fund and 500 what was the other one?

Alderman Clemons

\$1.5 million for the Library Park Project.

Alderman Lopez

And \$1,500,000 for the Library Park Project.

President Wilshire

Thank you Alderman Lopez.

Alderwoman Kelly

I'll keep this brief. This came to Human Affairs twice and we had really good background and all of these. So I obviously am very excited for the \$10 million for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund but these other projects are also very deserving. I think that they all did a good job explaining what this is going to be used for.

Alderman Clemons

Thank you. I am in support of most of this. I'm not a fan of the million and a half for the Library Park project. I think that that money could be spent somewhere else. For those reasons, I'm gonna vote no one on this legislation.

President Wilshire

Further discussion? Seeing none.

**MOTION CARRIED**

From: Tim Cummings, Economic Development Director  
Re: Communication – Approval & Place on File a Contract for Professional Engineering Services related to the Nashua Downtown Riverfront Implementation Project with H.L. Turner Group

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE TO APPROVE THE FIRST PHASE ON THE SPECIFIC DETAILS OF THE CANTILEVERED BOARDWALKS TO H.L. TURNER GROUP IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$404,340. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH THE TIF ACCOUNT CREATED TO IMPLEMENT THE DOWNTOWN RIVERFRONT PROJECT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

From: Mayor Jim Donchess

Re: ESRI GIS Enterprise Agreement Renewal in the amount not to exceed \$115,308 funded from 54407 Software Maintenance/General Fund

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN MORAN TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE GIS ENTERPRISE LICENSE AND ANNUAL AGREEMENT FOR THREE YEARS BETWEEN THE CITY OF NASHUA, PENNICHUCK CORPORATION, AND ESRI IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$115,308. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH: DEPARTMENT: 106 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES; FUND: 54407 SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE/GENERAL FUND**

**MOTION CARRIED**

From: Lori Wilshire, President, Board of Aldermen

Re: Zoom meetings

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO APPROVE TERMINATING THE PUBLIC ACCESS TO ZOOM MEETINGS**

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you. This is what I'm saying is pretty radical. I heard exactly what the people had spoken about and what have said but I copy and I mirror what is good for the State of New Hampshire should also be equally and legally good as well for this particular chamber. I think Alderman Klee could agree that within the State, we use very sparingly Zoom. There's a whole set of rules. This turned into something else.

I want to hear from the public. The answer is yes. The thing is I'm not the one that took the liberties that one particular citizen did and came out and introduced us to a whole new set of words of vocabulary that I can assure you that are not spoken even in the fire station. The term that was used was derogatory to women and therefore I find it particularly disgusting but what is the safeguard? There is no safeguard. None at all. We don't even have a switch to shut it off. It's uncontrolled. Raise your hand if you were at the Budget meeting like I was and saw five people that took our meeting on the budget as important as the budget was and just got off and round robin and came up and used their time. It was their right, but they went off subject and we know that they went off subject. We heard it. It's on tape. People play it back. You can see.

Therefore, what is the safeguards to what this is? We're not the ones in this chamber. We follow our rules and our decorums to a tee. It seems the public is not following our decorums. We don't use this type of language. We don't disparagingly attack our employees. Whenever we have an employee that's up for some other form of things, we go into closed session to discuss that employee but the public can't and yet they can lambast an employee on their opinions and not really based on any type of fact. Something needs to be done. Maybe after some time of terminating the Zoom meetings, we can come up with rules and guidelines that maybe more appropriate. As it sits right now, there is no guarantee that what had happened in the past will not happen again. Therefore based upon the past practice, I am very guarded. Like I say with the deepest of regret but I think those who have been an Aldermen for a while when I started if you couldn't make a meeting, you were encouraged to be at the meeting but you called in on a telephone. I understand that technology is lagging. I'd like to have Zoom for us that we're able to contact and come on to Zoom in order to record our presence and to be at the meeting.

From what I understand and the question could be asked and answered by Corporate Counsel by New Hampshire State law, I don't think there's any guarantee to have public comment at any of these really proceedings. So that would need to be clarified because you heard in somebody's comment, it's covered under the Right to Know Law. SO within that clarification, that needs to be discussed. So the whole thing needs to be taken a look at and maybe we should have the time out and come up with better rules on it and then we can make a better educated discussion. It doesn't have to last forever. Thank you Madam President.

President Wilshire

Can I ask you to respond to that?

Steve Bolton, Corporate Counsel

Alderman O'Brien is absolutely correct. The law does not require public comment be afforded except in specific incidents. The annual budget, issuance of bonds, supplemental appropriations all require this Board to have a public hearing on those issues otherwise, public comment is your choice. It is not imposed upon you by New Hampshire law.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you Madam President.

President Wilshire

You're welcome.

Alderman Sullivan

I am in full support of keeping the Zoom technology for these reasons. The reason why I read the communication in regards to the cost. I feel the cost is negligible considering what we have and the resources that we have in the city. I think that a reason that we should keep it is when you look at the landscape of the city and how people find out about issues, I think while our website is pretty robust our local media is not. Well we do have a local newspaper here, it's not very well circulated. It's only printed maybe once a week. Obviously there is an internet edition but it's still. I think this allows people to understand what's going on at the city level.

I think that while I do understand Alderman O'Brien's concerns, I think we're maybe mixing messages because I did see some ordinance being proposed about decorum, which I could understand and would welcome to discuss. However, I think that given the fact that the technology is there – and once you give people something, it's really difficult to take it away. I think it allows the citizens of Nashua to understand what's going on in their city. Now if we want to talk about maybe it's only for Board of Aldermen meetings and maybe it's not for every single committee meeting, maybe that's a discussion that we could have.

As far as for the Aldermen to maybe count that as attendance while I have used it a few times for that, I mean to me if we're going to take it away, take it away completely, including the Board of Aldermen. I would support keeping this as it is. Thank you.

Alderman Klee

Thank you Madam President. I apologize. I've been doing a lot of homework. So this could take just a few minutes. I've been contacting municipalities. I contacted the New Hampshire Municipal Association. I'm going to give you a few of the somewhat like communities that I feel as well as one town. So Concord, New Hampshire, - no for Zoom. Manchester – no for Zoom. As a matter of fact, Manchester said masks off, Zoom gone. Portsmouth – yes. They do have Zoom and they allow public comment in their Zoom. I said, "Oh, do you get a lot of public? They said never." So it's easy to have public comment and so on. So they'd don't get a lot of people coming in. They don't have the glitches that we have. Peterborough – yes it's a town. They do not have Zoom. Keene – they do have Zoom but not for public members. They allow the minute takers and people who are giving presentations. Board members – every time a board member wants to use Zoom, they have to be voted permission from the remaining members of the board. Litchfield – no. Those are just some of the ones that had called and spoke to their Town Clerks and asked information from.

I queried the New Hampshire Municipal Association. They said almost all towns – no. Some of the cities have continued it for various reasons and so on but the majority of them are not. Very similar reasons to what we're looking at. We're looking at the technical glitches. I was at the Planning Board meeting last week. For anybody that was there, I know Alderman Caron was there as well. I think it was a 10 or 15 delay we had - as well as Alderman Thibeault was there also. There was about a 10 – 15 delay. The person was trying to speak. It was going in and out. I was listening to it as I do here. You couldn't hear it over Zoom. It was just really, really bad and very difficult to do that.

For me, I would say we need to get rid of Zoom. I don't think we're right there. I think it was a good thing to do at the time. I'm not going to look at the cost of it because while I think every penny is important to look at, I don't look at this as going to break the bank kind of expense. I also look at the Board of Ed. I think it was brought up that they don't have Zoom. They don't have the technology and they do pack their rooms. Quite a bit they pack the rooms.

Before the past two years, we were packing rooms as well here. We don't pack them quite as much now because people can do Zoom. I've spoken to a number of elderly people in my community who yes they would like Zoom and equally who say I don't do technology. So yeah. When I explained to them some of the situations and the glitches, I've asked them have you zoomed. They said no, they don't Zoom. They were told that once we get rid of Zoom, they no longer can speak which is not true. They can still send letters. They can still call. I do return every phone call. I return every e-mail. I think one of the members of the public said that just a few people returned his message. Everything that he basically said to us was what he wrote to us. I can speak for many of the people around this horseshoe that we do read all the e-

mails. We just don't necessarily respond if it's not our constituent. That does not mean that we don't hear. That does not mean that we don't see just because we haven't pressed the send by sending a message. I just feel that if I responded to every single e-mail message whether it's my constituent or not, I wouldn't get any work done. I would just be responding to e-mails because we do get quite a bit.

As Alderman O'Brien pointed out, New Hampshire voted against it. Well it wasn't so much we voted against it, we were told no. We were told by the Speaker of the House that that would not be happening and they cut off public comment. You were there and that was how you spoke.

My biggest issue is the glitching. We don't have control. If we mute everybody because someone is misbehaving, we mute everybody. That means that the employees that are trying to give presentations can't give the presentations and that creates its own headache. I'm not going to be popular amongst my fellow colleagues here because I don't believe the Aldermen should be Zooming in. In the past, we had two phone lines that we could call and I think that's what we should be going back to. I know and I'm saying this knowing that the month of September I'm going to be having two surgeries and there's a good chance that because of quarantining and being laid up, that would mean I would have to call in if I wanted to be able to participate. I'm not just doing this because I'm here at every meeting. This will affect me as well. So I want to put that out on the table.

I think it was mentioned that there's been bad behavior. I think that it was mentioned about the profanity. I can tell you I remember the day I sat here watching Zoom on my screen and was appalled by a man who walked in front of the camera totally nude, took his baby from his wife, and sat there very pleasantly, happily. We've had people who have put up vulgar signs and so on. I hate to punish the whole because of the few but we have no way of shutting them down unless we shut all of Zoom down. Until we can really get a handle on that technology, I think it's time for Zoom to go by the wayside. I think that many of the people that speak here as one from the chamber did speak was almost identical to an e-mail that we received. Again, I read them all. There's not one that goes by. I may not respond to all of them but I do read them all. Thank you for letting me speak Madam President.

#### Alderman Moran

Thank you Madam President. Pretty split on this issue. I don't know how I'm going to vote yet. I really want to listen to the debate from everyone else. My concerns are it does kind of disenfranchise folks that have access to this other than local access TV. For one, my family we don't have cable. We stream. So the only access that we have is to go onto Zoom and watch. Then again, my 7 year old and my 5 old also got to hear the "C" word for the first time by a member of the public during a Finance Committee because my kids were watching me on the Finance Committee. Mr. Mayor I think you were that night. So it does bring up a concern of mine for the public interfering in my ability to parent, which I find distasteful. I'm an elected official. My kids are not. I'm just trying to raise civically minded children.

Again, this allows us the opportunity to still speak and have people in the community bring very coherent things to us. My personal opinion is the folks that do become vulgar, and use belittling language, and hold up signs, and what not, they're missing something in their lives. I'm not going to go on about my credentials in mental health or anything, but they're missing something. So on this in totality, I'm very split. I think the elderly need access. I think people who can't get here and have child care issues should be able elect to Zoom. Maybe it is time for a pause to see what Lord Wilshire – one of our most popular politicians in the entire city can get control over Zoom to allow for civil engagement through all forms of access to the Board. I really want to hear more from everyone else. I think it's very important that we have citizens engaged. A few bad apples shouldn't ruin the entire bunch. I think there can be a pause to kind of figure out how to we engage and have the Clerk or someone have the ability to intervene so we don't have to have a parental advisory posted on local access.

On top of that, I know I travel a lot. Alderman Sullivan travels a lot, Alderman Comeau and I'm opening another mental health clinic in the west coast next year. I was planning on joining some days on Zoom. At the end of the day if the constituents can't join, I don't want to join. I don't think our employees or Aldermen should have a special privilege over citizens. That's all I have.

#### Alderman Lopez

So I agree with some of what was said by my colleagues. With regards to moderating, I don't think we have the infrastructure set up. While it was pointed out that \$11,000 is the current impact of it, the current impact is not entirely adequate and it's being performed by people who are videographers and it's not fair to ask them to also be Facebook moderators. It's not realistic to expect the public to fully moderate themselves as evidenced by some of the stuff that we've seen. It falls automatically to the Chairs of the different committees and their Vice-Chairs. We try to do our best but we weren't elected for that either. I wasn't elected for my live streaming credentials. It's very problematic and distracting

to conduct the business of the city to be dealing with people who are acting out, or unfamiliar with technology, and all that type of stuff. We have different roles for reasons.

I think if we were really going to do this right, we would need somebody who's a dedicated moderator. To be blunt, we haven't even managed to fill our second aldermanic assistant position in several years. Other than asking other departments to do it like the videographers, I don't think it's fair for us as Aldermen to say well we want the public to have a privilege. We're not going to pay for it. We don't know who can do it. We're just going to expect it to continue. I don't think it's realistic or sustainable. While I do think that Zoom has played a crucial role in managing the pandemic, I also take note of the fact that a lot of the speakers who are currently defending its use were pretty opposed to us meeting via Zoom and made the point that we needed to face the public and be here doing the city's business. I think that does extend to the public as well. It's an opportunity and it's impactful for the public to come and speak in person. I think we've lost sight of that in a lot of ways where it's easier to access as a click of a button. I think some people who may have come out and really engaged in issues and maybe watched the whole meeting don't have to now because they can just turn it on when it's their time to speak.

I don't agree that it disenfranchises more people than not. I don't think that we have adequate moderation mechanisms in place right now. I'm not impressed by the public's level of participation in some select cases but I don't think this is a decision that was made because of the people who are abusing it. I think it's a feasibility decision and I don't think Lord Wilshire is alone in her belief that this is something that if we're going to do it, we really need to put a lot more effort and time into assembling the infrastructure for it and making sure it works. I say that out of respect for the videographers who are trying to do it, the Aldermen who are trying to operate it and meetings at the same time, and the public who often want to be heard but it's much easier for someone to take up their time and to espouse their political beliefs and opinions if they don't even have to come down here to do it.

So I think we had a pretty good system for 100 plus years where the public could make comments in person and governance was conducted in person. I would like to reserve the right to re-engage it for the public if COVID numbers go up again and we have an outbreak of whatever else shows up in the next couple of years. I think if we're going to continue doing it for meetings, it should only be available to Aldermen or more importantly to city staff. If they're making presentations, or they can't come to attend the meeting, or it would be cost prohibitive, I want to save the taxpayers money by letting them do it remotely. I think the presentations come across more smoothly to the public when they do.

Additionally, I would also like to say that when we talk about access to meetings, there's not very good education even amongst board members as to how we can access meetings. The public does have access through public access. The public has live access through the website. So you can stream it live. I've been on this Board where Aldermen pre-COVID saw something on TV and then came bolting down to participate because they were concerned about what we were doing or what we were saying. That's been around for a long time. You can go to CTV on the city's website and watch these proceedings live. If you do feel like you want to make public comment, you can watch it live and then come down at the end. So I don't think the public is having any rights infringed by having Zoom removed. I think it behooves us to look at this a little bit more carefully and make sure that if we are going to offer it, we are moderating it because we don't have any way to control language. We don't really have a way to control what people are doing on the screen. We couldn't even control what people names were as Alderman O'Brien can attest to and we aren't able to confirm that the people speaking are even who they say they are who where they say they are, which are some things we can do at least here in person. Thank you.

#### Alderman Jette

Thank you Madam President. Before tonight's meeting, I was hoping to get a jump here and move that this be referred to the Personnel and Administrative Affairs Committee where a full discussion could be had. Since I'm the sixth speaker, it sounds like we're going to like or not, we're doing it tonight.

I think there are a lot of questions. A lot of good questions that have been raised. I don't think we really have the answers. The technical aspects of running a Zoom meeting – I experience a lot of Zoom meetings and I don't run into the same problems that we run into here. I don't pretend to be a technical expert by any means whatsoever. So I don't know why these other groups that I work with are able to conduct Zoom meetings apparently without much difficulty and why we have so much problem. I don't know what the answer to that is. I was hoping that the committee could have some of the people with that type of expertise come and offer their suggestions. I know I'm on the Cable TV Advisory Board and there are members on that board who are very technically proficient who might be able to offer us some guidance here.

I'm in favor of giving the public the opportunity to participate and I think the introduction of Zoom kind of came to us as a result of the COVID problem. For me, it taught me that we could allow much more access by – I'm thinking of the public yes but also Aldermen who couldn't come for whatever reasons. I'm also thinking about like in our committees. We often

times have experts who appear before the committee to offer some perspective on some project or whatever. These experts, they charge if you have them come to a meeting and they speak for 10 minutes at a meeting, they're clock starts the minute they leave their home or their office. All of that time traveling here, sitting here, waiting for their time, when they finally give their presentation, and then all the time they spend going back to where they came from we have to pay them and a pretty penny for that. Zoom allows them to come in, give their presentation in a very short period of time. It's a very cost effective way of getting the advantage of that type of testimony.

I don't want to repeat what other people have said the reasons for continuing to have Zoom but I do want to point out this came to us as a result of COVID. Ladies and gentlemen, COVID is not over. We're acting like it's something in the past. Most of us feel comfortable coming to meetings without masks now. They're predicting that there's going to be another wave of infections coming this fall. From my own selfish motives, I don't want us forcing people to fill up this room in coming here who may or may not be vaccinated, who may not choose to wear a mask. I think it's putting us in a vulnerable position. I still think it's a good idea to refer this to the committee and get the people who know the answer to these questions to give us the benefit of their expertise. I know this motion doesn't cut off debate. I would like to make a motion that it be referred to the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee.

### **MOTION BY ALDERMAN JETTE TO REFER TO PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

#### ON THE QUESTION

##### Alderman Dowd

Yeah, I think it does cut off debate because now we'll be debating whether to send it to Personnel Committee. It didn't go to any committee when we started using Zoom. We started using Zoom when City Hall was shut down. We couldn't have meetings here. That's how it started and we started just by I believe the President saying we're going to use Zoom now because we can't go to City Hall. It's closed. I don't think there's anything that can be discussed at that committee that can't be discussed here at the full Board right now because we're all here. Half of you have already discussed it. I think the rest of us want a chance to discuss it. If you go to a committee, you only have a handful of the Board unless everybody shows up in which case you're basically calling another full Board meeting. I don't think it's productive to send it to any committee.

##### Alderwoman Kelly

I'm going to defer to after the motion.

##### Alderman O'Brien

Thank you Madam President. Hearing what some of the people have said does not relieve the President of the Board runs the call of the meeting. If the President of the Board, in my interpretation and I'll ask the question to the President and if you want to refer with Corporate Counsel, but if the President deems to allow Zoom for aldermanic use or for receiving testimony, that was the call of the Chair. That is her prerogative as the Chair and I think that is backed by the book of Mason's and that is, again, referred to what happens at the State level. What should be good for the State of New Hampshire should be good for little 'ol Nashua here. So therefore, the modifications can be made on this through the call of the particular Chair. If Madam President if you want to refer that question to Corporate Counsel?

##### President Wilshire

Yes I do.

##### Steve Bolton, Corporate Counsel

Well yes. The presiding officer, the President of the Board of Aldermen, and in the case of the Board of Aldermen makes decisions but those decisions are subject to the will of the majority of the Board. If on a particular evening the President were to say that yes its okay if one of our Division Directors made a presentation on an issue by way of Zoom or other remote platform, it could be done and unless the majority disagreed with that, there would be no problem with doing that.

##### Alderman O'Brien

Madam President may I be able to make an amendment to my motion?

##### President Wilshire

Yes.

Alderman O'Brien

Well we do have a pending motion from Alderman Jette. So after we disburse with that, I would like to make if I may be recognized. Thank you Madam Chair.

Alderman Clemons

Well this is on the motion to refer, correct?

President Wilshire

Yes.

Alderman Clemons

So I will defer any comments on that.

Alderman Klee

Thank you Madam President. On the Motion to Defer to sending it to a committee, I oppose that. I think that we can all speak here to it relative to why this is being done. The question I think that was asked before, I think we got letters as to why that's happening. I think that this is just to change the way public comment is happening here. It's not cutting off any of the other so I see no need for it to go to another committee. I think we should make a decision and I appreciate you allowing us to have this discussion and so on. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Any other discussion on the Motion to refer to committee? Seeing none.

## **MOTION FAILED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO AMEND TO TERMINATE THE PUBLIC ACCESS TO ZOOM MEETINGS BUT IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES AS WARRANTED TO BE ALLOWED TO BE USED BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OR BY DIVISIONS DIRECTORS GIVING TESTIMONY TO THE BENEFIT TO THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN AND TO ALLOW THAT EXCEPTION**

## ON THE QUESTION

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you Madam President. I think in hearing what some of the concerns are, this seems to be a good compromise. This will allow this. I hope maybe at a future date that maybe we could come up with take this technology and tame it a bit to use it to fit within our decorum. As it sits right now, it's dangerous. It is dangerous.

I agree with Alderman Moran. I think we all hold ourselves to a high standard as being elected. The term "aldermen" means city elders. Somebody who is supposed to be bar represented from government. So this will allow to have the representation for the Board to have access to make the proper decision if members cannot be present. Maybe we can keep a leather eye in the future if we can get better things that we could probably bring it up for further discussion. So thank you Madam President.

Alderman Clemons

I had told you Madam Chair that I would be supportive of such a motion in the past and I made that a public comment as well. Having heard from the public and having heard from folks, I don't know where I stand on it. Having had my own...

President Wilshire

Alderman Clemons can we keep the comments to the motion to amend?

Alderman Clemons

Well the motion is to amend yes. So in regards to that amendment, we're still eliminating Zoom for public comment, correct in that motion?

President Wilshire

In that motion.

Steve Bolton, Corporate Counsel

You're just changing the motion.

President Wilshire

Okay. We're just changing the motion.

Steve Bolton, Corporate Counsel

If this passes, all you've done is amend the main motion. You still have to vote on it. You still have to debate the motion.

Alderman Clemons

So I'm going to defer my comment, again, until we get to the main crux of the conversation.

Alderwoman Kelly

I'll defer as well.

Alderman Dowd

I'll defer to we're back on the main motion.

President Wilshire

Okay, the motion is to amend. No further discussion on that motion?

Alderman Jette

Could you tell us how the motion is to amend it how?

President Wilshire

Mr. Clerk could you please repeat the motion.

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO AMEND TO TERMINATE THE PUBLIC ACCESS TO ZOOM MEETINGS BUT IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES AS WARRANTED TO BE ALLOWED TO BE USED BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OR BY DIVISIONS DIRECTORS GIVING TESTIMONY TO THE BENEFIT TO THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN AND TO ALLOW THAT EXCEPTION  
MOTION CARRIED**

President Wilshire

Alderman Clemons back to the main motion as amended.

Alderman Clemons

Thank you. I don't know how I'm going to vote. I thought I did but I've had some introspective on this both personal and – in my own profession, I'm dealing with such difficulties right now. What I believe is that we should be moving forward with technology like Zoom, particularly in my own industry. I think the need of having to be physically present has shown to be archaic quite frankly. But that being said, I do have the concerns and I share the concerns that were raised by several of

my colleagues that it's being abused by some members of the public and that the ability for us to create laws or rules surrounding what can and can't be said are and rightfully so in some cases restricted by the First Amendment and I agree with that interpretation.

So where I am struggling with this is how do we balance giving access to the public in a way that is constructive where they can come to us and speak to us constructively either for or against something or whatever their opinion may be and do it in a way where they might not be able to get to this chamber for whatever reason. I feel like having that ability I think is a good in general a good thing. I think we have two pieces of legislation this evening – one of which I'm a sponsor of that might help us with that in the future that I think will likely get broad support from this Board. I think that there are other things that can potentially be done technologically wise with Zoom that we haven't explored. I know that there is the ability to have it where you can mute almost everyone except for certain people. That technology exists. I don't know if we have to pay for it. I don't know if that would be more of another cost but it's out there.

I don't know. I don't know if we've explored it enough to just shut it off. I don't know. I'm really struggling with it because I err on the side of being with the public's ability to access our Board. I think what I had initially said was out of anger for what had happened at that Finance Committee by a certain member of the public. We can't live our lives based on the bad actions of certain people. I don't know where I'm going to vote on this tonight and those are my struggles.

#### Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you, President Wiltshire. I want to start by thanking you for bringing this forward. I think there have been multiple issues with Zoom, especially in the recent months and I think it was good for us to talk about it as a Board. I've been taking notes as we've been talking and the pieces of this from a problem standpoint that I'm concerned about our decorum. We are all on the same page in terms of how we as a body works, but the decorum has definitely eroded and I think that that needs to be addressed, especially when it comes to public comment.

The other concern that I've heard from others that I'm also concerned about is the funding and that that \$11,000 is just what they're doing now and that moderating a public forum is very different than moderating a group of people who have, you know, know how to use Zoom and we are employees of the city. So I think that that is something that we need to talk about. I think that the public forum is and more access is important. But there are technological things that need to happen in order for that to be a safe environment for everybody.

I don't buy the tech issues. I agree with some of the things that have been said here. There's a ton of bells and whistles with Zoom. There's a whole page that you can - I've been on with Congressman and we've made it so that people can, you know, talk when we want them to talk and they're muted when not. So there are ways around this. I'm not an expert so I think I would love some more information on how we fix that. Where I struggle and right now is that I think that part of this is values and we've talked about this as a country for a long time. You know work has changed. It's not a butts and seats anymore. People are working remotely from California to New Hampshire. COVID really did change the culture in terms of how we work and being physically present isn't this like thing to a few says the only way that you can do the work that you need to do. I know that I personally had to Zoom in multiple times and part of that was because I wanted to protect everyone in this horseshoe. My son was unable to be vaccinated until one month ago. So I think through COVID we've learned a lot about people's risk levels and how they feel in terms of, you know, their ability to want to come out, whether they want to wear a mask, or not wear a mask. I think that your own risk level and the public's risk level might be different. I never would want someone to not be able to come because they're afraid.

I also agree with the comment that the fall could be very different. I don't think COVID is done with us as much as we want to be done with it. So I would really hate to be in a position where we cut this off and then people feel like they can't access, or they might want to come but they have COVID, or they're a high risk person who might be very concerned about the levels at the time. So I really am struggling with this as well and a lot of people have said that. I think that there are problems to fix but right now I don't feel comfortable just cutting it off.

#### Alderman Dowd

Speaking of the technical issues, there are a few things that concern me greatly. One is my FCC rule - anything televised has a delay so that anything inappropriate can be cut out before it gets aired. Our Zoom is open to anybody even kids and anything said, there's no delay, there's no cut, they hear everything that is said on Zoom. Lately we've had a number of instances where things that have been said on Zoom that people shouldn't hear. We don't have a way to fix that right now with any kind of delay. I use Zoom a lot and I don't know of any way to do it. So that bothers me.

The other thing that bothers me is that if we have an issue with Zoom, we can't have a meeting. Several times the meetings have been delayed or almost canceled because we have an issue with Zoom. That's taking things away from

local government and to me, that's not right. We should be able to perform our duties. Relative to the telephone calls before we had Zoom for Aldermen, we had an agenda one night where we had something that was important to vote on and I called in from Lucerne, Switzerland, at three o'clock in the morning to vote and it worked just fine. If you can do it from overseas, you can certainly do it locally here in the United States.

So again if we're going along in a meeting and someone happens to Zoom, we have to stop the meeting and schedule another night out perhaps or wait until we find somebody that can fix it. That's an issue. That's a big issue and we don't have a solution for it and I'm not even sure we could solve that in any kind of committee meeting or any other meeting. If IT comes up with a much better can of worms, then maybe we can bring it back but right now we have issues. The other thing is that Aldermen had to run the Zoom meetings. When you're sitting up there, and to me, you're not representing your Ward or the city when you can't focus on the meeting you're focusing on running a TV screen. That's not good and that's not productive to city business. So let's look at what's best for city business. I have no problem with public input. We read the letters that we get that Donna forwards to us. We read emails and by the way if you have access to Zoom, you have access to email and you can write much more detail and an email to us than you can in three minutes on Zoom. Yes I agree with some of the things that are in the legislation that's coming forward trying to legislate people using decorum but you can't legislate that much as I would support the legislation. There's no penalties for anybody breaking that. Again anything that's said online, on Zoom, goes out to everybody that's on Zoom.

In businesses, you have a select group of people that have been invited to that meeting. In our case, it's open anybody in the world that wants to get on that meeting. It's a much different scenario than in a private business. We can easily get letters and emails and we do all the time and that gets the same point across other than somebody wanting to be seen on TV. So to me, I support having people being able to support us. For years, and years, and years they came here. We've had many nights in the past where we've had a full audience. Our agendas are posted way in advance. I know there's no local telegraph anymore but maybe we could do something to publicize what's on the agendas more comprehensively and get it to people. I know that Alderman Klee puts out a newsletter every week. Trust me, there's nothing that we're going to do that she doesn't cover in her newsletter. In fact, I have more emails from my constituents. I just copy it and send it out to them. That's a way. There are other ways that we can solve that problem but right now Zoom is not working the way we think its working.

Unless there's some way that we can delay - like when something happens on Zoom, when it goes out to the TV audience it's delayed. If you've ever watched the TV thing, it's delayed from real life. It's confusing if you're on the phone or on TV because it's different. Again, Zoom can't do that. Whatever said is aired by anybody listening. So to me that's a problem with FCC regulations. I don't know if anybody's ever looked into that from Legal but I think that's a problem. The words and things that are being talked about by Alderman Clemons, those things shouldn't go out on the air, including the internet. We have to do something about it.

Now if we want to cancel it so Aldermen can't use it and our Division Directors can't use it, I'm okay with that. If we want to give it as the amendment says the authority for the President to say okay if there's a Division Director that wants to present something and they're unable to come in, we can allow it. But I think that for the safety of the people listening and for the safety of this Board to be able to meet and other boards, I think that Zoom was put in place because we had to. City Hall was closed. We couldn't have aldermanic meetings without Zoom. Not the case anymore so I'm gonna vote to support the motion to do away with Zoom.

President Wilshire

Anyone else?

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you Madam President. I have a few things. I'm going to try not to repeat what people have said because I know it's getting long on this issue. I do want to answer Alderman Jette's question about why in the world and in the world for me too the technology works great and there's never these issues. It's money. It's because these companies - I worked for Eversource. Well they pay to make sure the technology's perfect and that somebody's running it. They have a big IT department because if that doesn't work, the business can't work. So we don't have the kind of money to do that type of thing.

So \$11,000. It's going to be more just like Alderwoman Kelly said and some of the others have said. It's going to cost more than that to do it. The right way to make everything work the way that would be the safest, it would cost more money. I think, you know, I'm all for technology but I hate to say it but somehow City Hall sometimes is a little bit behind on technology. If we can't spend the money to upgrade all of that, then I don't think we should be using it.

There's a misconception out there that we're not listening to our constituents or the people of Nashua. There's 90,000 people, maybe 70,000 plus adults on Zoom. We may get five or six people commenting at a meeting if that. That doesn't mean we're not listening to the people in the city. I listen to my constituents all the time. I get emails, I get phone calls, I send a weekly newsletter out as well. Sometimes I reach out to them more than once if something big comes up. I tell them how the meetings have gone like which way they went, what meetings are coming up, what things are important on the docket that they should know about. It doesn't matter what party, if any, that they belong to. It doesn't matter if they vote. If they send me an email and they want my information, I will give it to them every week.

Now do I respond to Mr. Gouthro's email? Again to Alderman Klee's point, we can't respond to every email. Maybe Aldermen-at-Large can but I got a constituency that I have to respond to and they come first. It doesn't mean I'm not thinking about the city. It doesn't mean I don't vote for the city I do but when I'm going through those emails, constituency comes first. Three of the four Aldermen that responded were for Mr. Gouthro's points. One of them send us a letter with a paragraph there was exactly the paragraph that Mr. Gouthro wrote almost word for word. So obviously, they're going to respond to him. I wasn't gonna go back and forth with him on this issue because what ends up happening anytime I'm debating an issue friendly with someone, it shows up on Facebook and it gets twisted. So what's the point of doing that, right? Come here and talk to us and we'll listen.

Before COVID, there was no Zoom issue. People came in. Alderman Klee said it and I'm repeating this one because I've been to those meetings. Board of Education packs that room in when there's an issue that people care about. They do. I've been there. It's been standing room only. So to say that nobody goes to those and Zoom would be better, I don't think that's the case.

As far as whether or not we let the Aldermen use it or city officials, I can go either way on that. I'm here for every single meeting that I'm supposed to be. I have not Zoomed into one that I wasn't supposed to be Zoomed in for. The ones I Zoom in for are the committee meetings I'm not part of in case I want to say something but I'm listening because I'm trying to still learn everything. One of the things that was said in one of those emails that we're taking away people's constitutional right for free speech. That is absolutely not the case. They can come and speak. They can send an email. They can send an email to me. They can send an email to all of us. That's free speech. Do we not have free speech before COVID? I don't know. I think it's gone too far now.

The people that usually talk are the ones screaming at us. Some of the people on Zoom don't even put their names. They put Mayor's a jerk. That's their name - Mayor's a jerk. I don't find that funny. I find that offensive to the city - not the city but the people out there in the city, the constituents that actually do want to Zoom in and want to debate the issues with us telling us how they really feel not to call somebody a "lord". Some of you guys support these people calling "lord" or we're saying something against the Mayor and that's just not appropriate. We're using the "c" word. It wasn't just using it. It was basically calling Mayor Donchess and Attorney Bolton that word. You can play back the tape. I know someone's probably gonna say that wasn't true. Play back the tape. It was there. So I find it hard for the people who really want to participate in this government of the city that we were put and by the way, I get paid by Eversource. That's my salary. I get a stipend from the city and it's very small. So before anybody says they pay my salary, that's a resource. I got elected by the voters of my Ward to support them and that's what I'm doing. When we have people that just want to play games, and fool around, and swear, and call people names, that's not appropriate. It's not appropriate on Zoom. It's not appropriate in the chamber. If you want to state your issue of why we're doing something that either you like, or you don't like, speak, send an email. I respond more to things that aren't nasty. Okay. There's no reason for me to speak to someone that's nasty because they're not going to speak nice back. They're just not. So just be nice. I try to be nice to people. I don't know why they can't be nice back but I will listen to anybody that has an opposing view.

No one's looking I heard we're looking to take away debate. No, we're not. We're having a debate right now. Not all of us are on the same side. You've heard someone one side, someone on the other, and some in the middle. That's debate. But what we've heard out there, I think made some people change their minds a little bit or at least make them think about it. It made me think about it more towards the way I'm thinking now, which is I'm going to vote to get rid of Zoom.

#### Alderwoman Timmons

Thank you, Madam President. I listened to everybody around the table but it's kind of personal with me. I listen to my constituents as well and a lot of them do not come on Zoom. They're out there in the community beyond that. So I hear what they have to say. They're not on Zoom but what they do say when they hear from other people is a lot of misinformation and the misinformation actually come from people that make inaccurate comments on Zoom. The way that they talk to the Mayor, they don't have respect for the Mayor. They don't have respect for us in general and not kind. So I'm gonna support this because I think it's only the right thing to do. So that's my comment. I listened to everything everyone else said in here and I agree with most of you but I do know that my constituents, the silent majority and there's thousands of them. It's not five, thousands of them, that's why I keep getting elected. They do not like the tone these

people use on Zoom. A lot of them are also seniors. They don't have Zoom. They don't even want to know about Zoom. What they tell me is could you fix my phone? I want to be able to call my daughter. How do you do this? How do you do that? Can you take a picture? Other than that, that's the older population in my group. They're just not on Zoom. I'm a baby boomer and we're just not that savvy. A lot of us are but most of us are not. But my constituents, which the city, a lot of are not on Zoom so I'm gonna support this legislation.

President Wilshire

Thank you.

Alderman Caron

Thank you. As the new kid on the block, I just want to say that I think six months ago I said we should stop Zoom because it was time to get people back into the room so that we can see them, listen to them. I think we need even more so because as we talk about the comments that are made, I have been listening for the last six months on - I watch it on TV - and when I hear some of these comments and in the way people are very nasty and rude, that's sad because we can't shut them off. Here at least we can stop them from talking, escort them out of the building. I don't care. I support eliminating Zoom. If we want to take it up and talk about it as Alderman Jette said, how can we fix it? How can we get IT to figure out things that we can do as Alderman Dowd said? Delete people, take them off, don't allow them back on if they continue with their rantings and ravings.

But I think we need to get people here. We're not taking the right of public comment before or after a meeting. I watched Board of Ed and you're right, it's a lot of people that go there. If you have big cities like Manchester and Concord and those people that do not do Zoom, then we're not taking away anybody's rights. It was there. It was a need for the last two years but it's not a need now. I think we need to eliminate it and then if we want to have a discussion in one of the committees, how can we fix it and what's the cost as Alderman Thibeault said, then we can have another discussion and look how to do it. I know for myself and Alderman Dowd came in that the Aldermen that were sitting in these seats both got ill and they will give him permission to make phone calls. I don't have a problem with that. I think that should be on a case by case basis. So I will be voting to eliminate this. Thank you.

Alderman Dowd

Would you ask Corporation Counsel since there's only 13 members present does seven votes carry?

Steve Bolton, Corporate Counsel

Yes.

Alderman Dowd

Thank you.

Alderman Moran

Point of order. If the Board's will is to support this would it go intersect at tonight's meeting? Meaning tonight's public comment at the end? Would that only be allowed for the people in the in the room. Maybe through you to Corporation Counsel.

President Wilshire

I mean if it passes, we're going to finish the evening.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you, Madam President. Could you please just clarify the motion so I understand if I vote yes then what I'm voting for and if I vote no, then what I'm voting for.

Alderwoman Kelly

I would like to request a roll call vote.

Alderman Thibeault

I just wanted to say one more thing about the Planning Board meeting that was shut down the other day for about 20 minutes. Part of the reason - this is to Alderman Jette too - some of it was on the city side but some of it was the guy that was trying to speak for his client, he was having issues too from his end. So that's not controllable from our end and I think at a point where you need that information if you're using Zoom you shut down the meeting and may not come back. Otherwise if he's there, you can continue with the meeting. So it's not just what we can control. It sometimes what we can't control on somebody even when they're trying to do something good as provide for their client and they can't speak so.

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO APPROVE TERMINATING THE PUBLIC ACCESS TO ZOOM BUT IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES AS WARRANTED TO BE ALLOWED TO BE USED BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OR BY DIVISIONS DIRECTORS GIVING TESTIMONY TO THE BENEFIT OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN AND TO ALLOW THAT EXCEPTION, BY ROLL CALL**

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

- Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Klee, Alderman Moran, Alderman Lopez,  
Alderman Dowd, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons,  
Alderman Wilshire 9
- Nay: Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Jette, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly 4

**MOTION CARRIED**

PETITIONS

Petition for Rezoning - Gateway Hills off Research Drive (A-798, A-1010, A-1011, A-1008, A-1021)

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN THIBEAULT TO INDEFINITELY POSTPONE THE PETITION FOR REZONING - GATEWAY HILLS OFF RESEARCH DRIVE (A-798, A-1010, A-1011, A-1008, A-1021)**

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Madam President. So this was something that Flatley had asked to rezone. It came to the Planning and Economic Development Committee. We had tabled it and while it was being tabled, they withdrew their proposal for it. So we decided to continue to table it and then eventually what we ended up doing was voting on it to where it's coming here now to indefinitely postpone. So that's where we're at.

**MOTION CARRIED**

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS - None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Budget Review Committee.....05/23/2022, 05/25/2022, 05/31/2022, 06/02/2022, 07/25/2022

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the reports of the May 23, May 25, May 31, June 2, and July 25, 2022 Budget Review Committee be accepted and placed on file.

Committee on Infrastructure.....07/27/2022

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the June 27, 2022 Committee on Infrastructure be accepted and placed on file.

Finance Committee.....05/18/2022, 06/01/2022, 08/03/2022

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the reports of the May 18, June 1, and August 3, 2022 Finance Committee be accepted and placed on file.

Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee.....07/18/2022, 08/01/2022

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the reports of the July 18 and August 1, 2022 Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee be accepted and placed on file.

Joint Meeting – Planning and Economic Development Committee and Committee on Infrastructure.....05/17/2022

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the report of the May 17, 2022 Joint Meeting of the Planning and Economic Development Committee and Committee on Infrastructure be accepted and placed on file.

Planning & Economic Development Committee.....05/17/2022, 07/19/2022

There being no objection, President Wilshire declared the reports of the May 17 and July 19, 2022 Planning and Economic Development Committee be accepted and placed on file.

CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS

Nashua Arts Commission

**There being no objection, President Wilshire confirmed the reappointment of Sara Ceaser, 3 Pine Street, Studio 2D, Nashua, to the Nashua Arts Commission with a term to expire April 1, 2025.**

President Wilshire

Is Sara here this evening? Okay, she'll be sworn in at a later date.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

**R-22-045**

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

**RELATIVE TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$50,294.73 OF FY2022 UNANTICIPATED REVENUE INTO FUND 7024 "OPIOID ABATEMENT EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND"**

Given its second reading;

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN SULLIVAN FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-22-045, BY ROLL CALL PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 49.**

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

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

13

Nay:

0

**MOTION CARRIED**

Resolution R-22-045 declared duly adopted.

**R-22-046**

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess  
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.  
Alderman Thomas Lopez  
Alderman Richard A. Dowd  
Alderman Patricia Klee  
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons  
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

**RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF \$4,500 FROM DEPARTMENT 194 "CONTINGENCY", ACCOUNT 70100 "GENERAL CONTINGENCY" TO DEPARTMENT 103 "LEGAL", ACCOUNTING CLASSIFICATION 51 "SALARIES & WAGES"**

Given its second reading;

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN CARON FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-22-046****MOTION CARRIED**

Resolution R-22-046 declared duly adopted.

**R-22-047**

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

**RELATIVE TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$75,000 OF FY2022 UNANTICIPATED REVENUE INTO FUND 7058 "PARK REHABILITATION EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND"**

Given its second reading;

**MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN KELLY FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF R-22-047, BY ROLL CALL PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 49**ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you, Madam President. This money is going to go towards St. Andrews field down in Ward 9. Great baseball field. Unfortunately, the playground around it needs a little work and this will go a long way in cleaning that up. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Anyone else? Seeing none.

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

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

13

Nay:

0

**MOTION CARRIED**

Resolution R-22-047 declared duly adopted.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS – ORDINANCES****O-22-021**

Endorsers: Alderman Richard A. Dowd  
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  
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons

**ESTABLISHING NO PARKING AREAS DURING SCHOOL HOURS NEAR THE FRANKLIN STREET SCHOOL**

Given its second reading;

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF O-22-021****ON THE QUESTION**Alderman Dowd

The basic requirement of this no parking during school hours is for safety, to allow the orderly and pick up and drop off of students during the day, and to ensure that we have access for emergency vehicles if God forbid there were ever an emergency in the school that they won't be blocked. We have the blessing of the Fire Department, the Police Department, and Board of Public Works.

Alderman Klee

Thank you, Madam President. I was unable to attend the meeting that this was discussed it but I did speak to Alderman Dowd. I just want the public to know that when they say during school hours, they mean not during the summer, not during school vacation. At that time, it will still be open as it has been and I just want to make sure that I am speaking that correctly. So if I may ask Alderman Dowd that question. Is that correct?

Alderman Dowd

That is correct. There will be the posting of the school hours on four sides of the school. I made sure of and it will be only during the hours when school when students are actually in the class – a few minutes before, a few minutes after so there's no confusion on the hours but it's only when students are in school.

Alderman Klee

Thank you, Madam President. Thank you Alderman Dowd.

President Wilshire

Motion is for final passage of Ordinance 22-21. Any more discussion? Seeing none.

### **MOTION CARRIED**

Ordinance O-22-021 declared duly adopted.

### **O-22-022**

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

### **UPDATING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOOD-SERVICE FEES**

Given its second reading;

### **MOTION BY ALDERMAN JETTE FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF O-22-022**

#### ON THE QUESTION

#### Alderman Jette

So the Environmental Health Department of our Department of Health noticed that there was the food service fees there was some confusion by the people who are regulated by these fees. They also realized that the fees had not been updated since 2006 or 16 years ago. So they reviewed the fees and they looked at other communities in southern New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts and they came up with a recommendation for changing that table of fees and presented it to the Board of Health who recommended that it be brought to the Board of Aldermen. I and Alderwoman Timmons were asked to sponsor it. It went before the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee and they unanimously recommended that it be adopted. So I asked for support to pass this ordinance. Thank you.

#### Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Madam President. So I was there at that committee meeting and I thought this was a really good thing for the city. I thank Alderman Jette for bringing this forward. One thing he didn't mention is it is going to bring us in a little more revenue than we're currently doing and it's going to be more equitable than it currently is now the fees and that goes for the next one so I don't have to speak on the fire prevention fees. But I just wanted to thank the Department and Alderman Jette and Alderwoman Timmons as well. Thank you.

#### Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. I won't get into the weeds too much but I think that the proposal that was brought before the Committee was really smart in terms of bringing us up to date with a lot of the other cities and what the way they do it but also, I was really interested to hear that it's going to be more possible for someone who might be opening a restaurant to have a better grasp of what it's going to cost them. Right now, we do it by per seat and so this is going to be like you're going to know exactly what it costs before you even get into it. So I thought that was really important.

#### President Wilshire

Further discussion? See none the motion is for final passage of Ordinance 22-022.

### **MOTION CARRIED**

Ordinance O-22-022 declared duly adopted.

**O-22-023**

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

**UPDATING FIRE PREVENTION FEES**

Given its second reading;

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF O-22-023**ON THE QUESTIONAlderman Dowd

During the budget process that we went through, we noticed that a lot of the fees that we had from the various departments who were probably not up to date. Fortunately for the Fire Department and through this strategic planning, they had already been working on updating their fire prevention fees and this one's before Budget and was passed unanimously. I recommend final passage and Chief Buxton is here to support the motion.

President Wilshire

Discussion on that motion? Seeing none.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Ordinance O-22-023 declared duly adopted.

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS**R-22-050**

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

**RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF \$8,400 FROM DEPARTMENT 194 "CONTINGENCY", ACCOUNT 70100  
"GENERAL CONTINGENCY" TO DEPARTMENT 144 "EDGEWOOD & SUBURBAN CEMETERIES",  
ACCOUNTING CLASSIFICATION 51 "SALARIES & WAGES"**

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

**R-22-051**

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess  
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 June M. Caron  
Alderman Derek Thibeault  
Alderman-at-Large Gloria Timmons  
Alderman Lori Wilshire

**RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF \$95,000 FROM UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE INTO POLICE GRANT ACTIVITY "2022 BYRNE DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM"**

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

**R-22-052**

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 Thomas Lopez  
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly  
Alderman Richard A. Dowd  
Alderman June M. Caron  
Alderman Derek Thibeault  
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons  
Alderman Lori Wilshire

**RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF \$91,578 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE INTO POLICE GRANT ACTIVITY "FY2023 COVID RELAXED RESTRICTIONS GRANT PROGRAM"**

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

**R-22-053**

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess  
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  
Alderwoman-at-Large Gloria Timmons

**RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF \$34,927 FROM DEPARTMENT 174 "WELFARE ADMINISTRATION" INTO DEPARTMENT 172 "COMMUNITY HEALTH" AND DEPARTMENT 173 "ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH"**

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

**R-22-054**

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

**CHANGING THE NAME OF OLD HARRIS ROAD TO SOLAR LANE**

Given its first reading; Assigned to the COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE by President Wilshire

**R-22-055**

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess  
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.  
Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.  
Alderman Thomas Lopez  
Alderman Richard A. Dowd  
Alderman June M. Caron

**RELATIVE TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$300,000 OF FY2022 UNANTICIPATED FOOD SERVICES RELATED REVENUE INTO FUND #2100 "FOOD SERVICES FUND"**

Given its first reading; Assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE and SCHEDULE A SPECIAL BOARD OF ALDERMEN PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2022, by President Wilshire

**R-22-056**

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

Alderman Richard A. Dowd  
 Alderman Derek Thibeault  
 Alderman Lori Wilshire

**RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS ESTABLISHED BY THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT "ARPA" AND FY2022 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,500,000**

Given its first reading; Assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE and SCHEDULE A SPECIAL BOARD OF ALDERMEN PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2022, by President Wilshire

**R-22-057**

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

**AMENDING THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT CONSOLIDATED PLAN FOR FISCAL YEARS 2021-2025 TO ACCEPT ROUND 4 CDBG-CV FUNDING UNDER THE 2020 CARES ACT**

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

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

**O-22-024**

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

**RELATIVE TO PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

**O-22-025**

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess  
 Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.  
 Alderman-at-Large Melbourne Moran, Jr.  
 Alderman Thomas Lopez  
 Alderman-at-Large Ben Clemons  
 Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly  
 Alderman Richard A. Dowd  
 Alderman Lori Wilshire

**RELATIVE TO PUBLIC COMMENT AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

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

PERIOD FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Denise Muccioli

Let's see if I can do this with my iPad. Denise Muccioli, 6 Midhurst. So I've been listening to the Zoom meeting with quite a bit of interest and the discussions. A third grader can Zoom. Literally a third grader can Zoom. I don't think you're given the seniors credit because seniors can learn. If you're going to do this, I wish I guess it passed. We have to make allowances for people with special needs. There's people that have psychological conditions, such as agoraphobia. For them to come to something like this would be impossible. So that's something you need to consider. There's seniors that are housebound and can't get out of the house. There's people that don't have cars. They can't come here. So I think you're cutting off quite a bit for public comment.

You could do things like - everybody's worried about delay. I could swear right now, right? What's going to stop me? You'll escort me out but I'm still going to get the word out. So you're not, you know, by saying that Zoom doesn't have a delay - you're not - I could say anything right now. Obviously, I'm more respectful than that but I'm just saying that's not gonna happen. I think you're cutting a lot of people off of Zoom and I don't think its right.

Alderman Thibeault talked a lot about respect. I'd like to get some respect from the Mayor. I'd like to get respect from some of these from the Board. I've written letter after letter, complaint after complaint, fact after fact, photos after photos concerning the disc golf at Roby Park. I did get a preliminary report from New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services that proves there's environmental impact on critical wetlands. There's no water back there now. None. Even with all the rain that we had, you can see the little animals footprints in the mud and, you know, the mud is all cracked up and dry. Yes, we're having a drought...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

One minute.

Denise Muccioli

...but then ripping up stumps close to critical wetlands and letting the soil erode is causing more problems. I have a lot of problems with the way that this disc golf park was approved. Nobody applied for a wetland variance. I'm sure you're getting sick of me saying that. Nobody applied for a site plan. How do you get away with that? How do I get somebody to respond to me other than just sitting here and everybody looking at me with a blank stare on their face?

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds.

Denise Muccioli

I'm not trying to be disrespectful but I've gotten no response back. We're all constituents. We all voted you know. There's a whole bunch - there's 500 people that voted. They're not getting any answers and I don't think it's right. I think it's disrespectful. I don't know how this got approved by not following your own City's ordinances. If I wanted to build something in my backyard that came close to wetland buffers...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

Your time is up.

Denise Muccioli

...I'd have to apply for a variance. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Okay on Zoom, we have Scott. Your name and address for the record, please.

Scott McCullough

Scott McCullough, 49 Congress Street, Apartment 6. I'd like to talk to you about hopefully you guys can bring back Zoom down the road. I would like to see like I'm part of Best Buddies and maybe if you say hey, if you keep disrespecting me I will be removing the person off of Zoom. It's just a suggestion Miss Co-Chair and Alderman Klee or Patricia and she is amazing. You guys are all amazing. I hate to see Zoom go away but like you said, the disrespect on Zoom is out of hand.

I would like to know if you guys got an email from somebody from Best Buddies. We'd like to come in September 27<sup>th</sup> maybe to the chambers to talk about Best Buddies. I don't know if he received an email and I would like to - I'd like to invite one of the Board of Aldermen like Alderman Kelly or Alderman John Sullivan to the Best Buddies gala down in Concord at the Grappone Center. It's only \$100 but all the money goes towards Best Buddies. I'd like to invite you guys to the Best Buddies gala. If you're interested, please visit our website for more details. It's good to see Dawn sitting in aldermanic chambers again. I miss her. Thank you for your time.

President Wilshire

Thank you.

Laurie Ortolano

Hi. Laurie Ortolano, 41 Berkeley Street. I would like to ask the Board to consider when you have legislation being brought forth by the Legal office, because often it's drafted by them, and that legislation is relevant to forming a new committee, or a board, or advisory group for the city I think it's very important to have that analysis section defined whether that board is a public body under RSA 91. A. I've been able to see that other municipalities do that and I've learned that we, in fact, have done that. My concern stems from the fact that you formed two RSA 162-g nonprofit organizations to handle and address the New Market Tax Credit for the Performing Arts Center and it was coupled with the NPAC Corporation which is a for profit. Collectively, it formed a joint committee. The analysis provided by Attorney Leonard said that those two nonprofits under RSA 162-g and RSA 292:1 constituted a public body - a public corporation. But it seems that no one in the city, the agencies of the city, the divisions and departments, know what that means. The Legal office doesn't provide advice to citizens, I get that. But when a citizen goes to the division or organization, they should know that otherwise how are you distributing records for this Performing Arts Center which is controlling probably upwards of \$30 million of city funding from taxpayer dollars? How is that being brought to the forefront for citizens to have access to information regarding that money?

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

One minute.

Laurie Ortolano

You know I'm really disappointed that these kinds of things you have to put into a lawsuit. I'm almost done with that lawsuit and I'm going to ask the Judge to rule on the public nature of the joint PAC committee, the public nature of the Capital Campaign Committee, the public nature of the Nashua Community Arts nonprofit, as well as a lot of violations that have happened with meeting minutes not being posted, meetings not being noticed...

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

30 seconds.

Laurie Ortolano

...and not being responded to. In the future, I think it would be enormously helpful when legislation comes forward for a committee, or an agency, or a board, or subcommittee that you have Legal define how that committee operates. Thank you.

Matthew Gouthro

Matthew Gouthro, 104 Fawn Lane in Nashua. I guess this is since my last public comment made remotely, I guess I will make it a good one. I want to thank all the Aldermen today who voted to keep public input at City Hall open, accessible, and transparent. It's very concerning to hear comments from the members of this dais that we don't have to have public comment at city meetings at all. I guess we'll all have to wait for that shoe to drop next.

To Alderman Thibeault's point, I am here to speak with you all intelligently. I don't hide my name. I don't swear on this platform. If that is happening by a few people, you need to moderate their participation and not eliminate this tool for everyone. You just essentially threw out the baby with the bathwater. The issue at hand with Zoom is that this Board of Aldermen does not know how to use Zoom. It's amazing that all of our K through 12 teachers here in the City of Nashua were able to effectively use this platform and communicate every day with our students during the pandemic. As a result of the pandemic, this tool has opened up new avenues for engagement around the world but somehow our IT professionals at City Hall can't seem to make this work. The money is not ridiculous enough to better manage this tool for the betterment of our city. Our residents want open government here in Nashua. Your vote today took away yet another engagement tool to our residents and their voice for public comment. This measure is greatly disappointing. You selfishly voted to keep this tool for yourselves and city staff to work remotely. We the taxpayers will remember this vote in future elections as another measure to eliminate transparency, accessibility, and public input at City Hall. Thank you.

Sara Gual

Hi. This is unusual for me. I listen to a lot of the meetings. I do not participate.

President Wilshire

Can we get your name and address for the record?

Sara Gual

I'm sorry. Sara Gual, 122 Coliseum Avenue.

President Wilshire

Thank you.

Sara Gual

I have vision problems so I can't drive to the meetings. I just like to be able to see how the different Aldermen react, how they participate, what their votes are, and this is going to now be taken away from me. I just I feel strongly that it's unfair to someone like me who can't drive – at night I should say. I drive okay during the day but I can't drive at night. I'm very sorry to see it disappear. It helps me determine who I want to vote for, among other things, and it gives me a better sense of the community. I'm sorry to see it disappearing. I'd like to see it brought back and if necessary stop some people from if they disobey the rules. Ban them, that's all. I guess that's all I have to say. I'm really sorry to see this happening. Thank you.

President Wilshire

Thank you.

Tim Sennott

Oh yes. Tim Sennott, 62 Underhill Street Nashua. I just wanted to, I guess post mortem, the issue of the room a little bit. I hope that the Board sees fit to revisit this in the future. I think it's a large opportunity to be lost for a lot of the folks in Nashua, particularly previous speakers who have mentioned their own difficulties and get to City Hall.

I understand that there's a cost and it's a technology hindrance at play. I think this is more of an articulate issue than it may have been giving credence for. I think more discussion than a single Board meeting is warranted. I think there are opportunities in the city to address some of the shortcomings that we do have in navigating Zoom as a tool for folks to access meetings at City Hall. But I would just like to reiterate my hope that this can be revisited sometime in the near future. I think it's something that's very valuable that has come out of the pandemic and we can't say that about too many things that have come out of the pandemic.

I mentioned earlier this evening my role as a Moderator. I wish, I wish that I had a tool like this. I mean we do have absentee voting to an extent but I wish that we had something so widely accessible that could increase voter turnout when we're conducting those elections. This is a tool that can greatly increase voter and constituent engagement.

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

One minute.

Tim Sennott

I just think it's a bit of a shame to see it go and I hope that in the future we can revisit that again. Thank you for your time.

President Wilshire

Thank you.

REMARKS BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Alderman Klee

Thank you, Madam President. A lot of things were said about Zoom and getting rid of. I will only speak for myself but I'm sure that many of my colleagues feel the same way. It wasn't an easy decision. It wasn't something I think that we made lightly. I think it was something that we thought about, we debated within our heads, and so on.

In my contacting other municipalities, I can tell you that everybody does things a little differently. One of those specifically Keene, they don't allow any kind of public comment at full Boards. They only allow it at subcommittees. The public comment, as far as they're concerned, happens at the committee level and not at the Board of Aldermen. I'm not advocating for that, I'm just saying that we all do things a little differently. Another and not just one, many of them don't allow what I call "for free for all" non-germane, non-agenda type of a comments. They only allow agenda items and anybody speaking of anything else. Again, we allow for more than that.

So for so many people to say that we're trying to hurt people, trying to cut things off, and so on, I disagree with them. I think we've really tried to do as much as we can. I don't think that we should stop staff from being able to do this. I think it's allows them to have their life and it's going to in other words save money for the city in the long run. As time goes by, maybe we should review Zoom to see if our telecommunication people can work on it but right now, I think as I think the word was used, we need to put a pause on it. I believe that we're always transparent.

And for the person who mentioned that now they can't access - they can't watch meeting because they can't access Zoom, yes they can. The thing is if you can access Zoom you have some kind of communications, you can watch it on - even if you don't have Comcast, you can still watch it on the internet. There are ways of accessing so on both live and after the fact. So it's just a different way. It'll be a new learning. I think someone made a, I thought it was rather curt comment, that seniors are just going to have to learn. Well no, they don't have to learn. I have a lot of seniors that are incredibly intelligent but when it comes to technology, their anxiety levels go way up to here. So I don't think that they should have to learn to be able to Zoom.

I think I probably belabored this enough and I apologize for taking any more time. But I think that our Board is very transparent. I think we were wrong to say this the way we said it but we also have a technology hole as far as this is concerned. There are a lot of things that we cannot do. I don't know how we cut people off at least at this point and we are different than a private company. So that's it. Thank you.

#### Alderman Moran

Thank you, Madam President. One - I would just like to acknowledge that the Nashua community, especially Ward 4, lost two Nashua residents in a senseless act of violence last week. We had two murders in the city and now their families grieving in the city for this violence. There are connections to my agency and this one particular victim and I just want to extend my thoughts to those victims' families and to say kudos to the Nashua Police Department for bringing the people allegedly responsible for the crimes to justice so quickly, and giving our city a sense of safety in a relatively quick fashion.

The next thing - public comment. I went back and forth on it. At the end, I voted to support it because I feel like it needed to be taken away temporarily. I think we need to bring it back. I think we need to find a way that allows the public to participate and for President Wilshire or Committee Chairs to be able to interject when profanity or other inappropriate things are happening just like some - I think we had a member waving inappropriate thing last month and President Wilshire shut it down right away. I think access to our meetings is essential. I think we should be available to our constituencies and that you should be able to speak to us in multiple forms, including the Zoom. There are alternatives but I think we should look for ways to allow if technology allows it to be better supervised. Keep in mind that the few that really brought this to the Board - the few members of the public that made these inappropriate statements who disgraced themselves on Zoom. They have a gimmick. They have a brand that they're building and I caution my fellow Board members to not allow their gimmicks and brands to ruin it for the other citizens in the city or let them - our purpose to do good for the majority and in the silent majority as Alderman Timmons stated earlier to derail the good work that we're all doing for the city, in the Mayor's office, and the city employees. Don't let gimmicks and brands destroy the ability to be involved with our constituency.

Last week I was wanting to talk about I was on local public access. I hope it's aired. I was assured it was aired this past Monday but I want to bring up that BRBTV – Bartis Radio and I can't get the

#### Alderman Lopez

...broadcast.

#### Alderman Moran

That's the one. Took over our local access and they are putting out a ton of great shows. I got to be on with James Klein, who's a former Marine, former Marine Guard to the President, active combat Marine. He and I worked in social services together. He is going to graduate school to be a social worker like I am and the name of his show is "Changing the Stigma". He has a show on the radio. Now he has one on local broadcast. We talked a lot about the barriers of mental health, how mental health affects the city, and what we can do as a community to improve mental health access. I'm hoping people not just check out the show that I was on the episode, but check him out and his show continuously as it airs on local access. Thank you, Madam President.

#### Alderman Lopez

I want to express my condolences to the friends and families of Julie Graichen. She was the woman who was stabbed on Kinsley Street last week. Julie was like many of the best people in the world. A very complex person but she was well known in the community. She was very much appreciated and she will be missed.

I wanted to announce or spread the word a little bit further because I've been announcing it periodically throughout the last couple of weeks. A week from tomorrow is Employment Connect at Nashua Public Library. So if anybody out there is looking for employment or looking for a better job, go to Nashua Public Library between 9 and 1. There are plenty of employers that will be setting up there. They're looking to interview people. They're looking to hire people. Anybody who completes the event gets a coupon to get lunch from Soel Sistas Catering. Then anybody who's not quite ready to interview or doesn't feel ready, there's an employment preparation event next Tuesday and that's August 16<sup>th</sup> at Main Street United Methodist. They'll have everything you could possibly need to be ready for an interview whether it's a haircut, or a suit, or resume writing, or anything like that. So that's called "Suit Yourself". Suit Yourself will be Tuesday, the 16<sup>th</sup>, at Main Street Methodist from 9 to 1 and then employment connected will be Wednesday at Nashua Public Library from 9 to 1. Thank you.

#### Alderman Clemons

Thank you. Not an easy vote tonight on the Zoom. You know I had a lot of reservations after just some self-contemplation. But I don't think that - I don't think that anyone here tonight was doing this in bad faith. I don't think that anyone here tonight by the way that they voted either one way or the other was doing so to shut down public comment or because they believe that people shouldn't go and come to us with, you know, how they feel about different issues or different things going on. I don't think that there's a person sitting around this horseshoe that believes that we shouldn't be hearing from the public. I think that there are legitimate concerns that were raised about what was going on and in some of the meetings with Zoom. I think that people's levels of comfortability with that software and with what it does and what it brings I think are different than mine and different than other people and that's okay.

No one here voted to shut down public comment tonight. So I just hope that when the discussion comes up, as it probably will, in the community that we take a deep breath and say, you know, thankfully this city does value public comment. We allow two public comment periods at every single meeting that we have. I don't think that there's another city in the State that allows as much public comment as we do. So just because we took it away on one platform this evening, we're going back to the way it was in 2019. I think that regardless of how you feel or regardless of how you voted, I think that this city values public comment and will continue to value public comment going forward. I hope that this debate can be settled and we can move forward.

#### Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. I want to start off by thanking Scott for always being such a joy in these meetings. I'll definitely miss his voice on Zoom. I also am going to put a table to come to your gala Scott so we can follow up with that if anyone on from the Board of Aldermen would like to come.

I just wanted to thank everyone on the Board for the support of the ARPA funds, you know, \$10 million into the Affordable Trust Fund is a really good start to start moving forward and helping support some projects. Obviously, it's not gonna be enough to do a whole project but it's definitely going to allow us to do some public private partnerships and start to increase the stock of housing. Thank you.

#### Alderman Dowd

It's a couple of quick things. One - you'll recall that a few meetings ago we authorize the naming of the traffic circle near the Rivier College after Officer Graziano. On Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup> this coming Sunday, it's the 58th anniversary of Officer Graziano's end of the watch. There'll be a brief ceremony at 2:20 p.m. to commemorate the official naming of Officer Edward "Rocky" Graziano Memorial Circle and everyone is invited to come down and partake.

Also this Thursday at 1 p.m. is the groundbreaking as late as it might be for the Brian S. McCarthy Middle School. It'll be accessible at the intersection of Cherrywood and Medallion. There will be places to park and they'll also be a beam signing for anyone that wants to sign a beam. There are a limitation on who gets to actually have a shovel and throw the dirt but everybody's invited. There will be tents and cold water just in case this heat continues. But it's been a long time coming. Many things held up the groundbreaking but as you'll see if you go down there or you see a presentation that I'll be giving shortly, not tonight obviously, but the school is the whole foundation is there, and the steel is going up, and the thing is really moving.

Alderman Kelly

Can you repeat the date Alderman Dowd?

Alderman Dowd

It's this Thursday the 11th at 1 p.m.

Alderman Kelly

Thank you.

Alderman Dowd

The thing is I want to thank the Police Department for their absolutely phenomenal response to the four tragic things that happened this past weekend. The one thing that wasn't mentioned was also thrown in there was a bank robbery. But they were able to find the perpetrators of the crimes, including the bank robbery right away within hours. And to me, that shows just how fantastic our Police Department is and how well they keep the City of Nashua safe. So kudos to the Police Department.

And the one last thing is – and this has nothing to do with our Police Department, but State Police have the jurisdiction over the Everett Turnpike and I think they've lost it. I have seen on numerous occasions cars going 90 - 100 miles an hour and people chasing one another. Today I almost had a guy run me off the road trying to squeeze in to get in. That's why we're having so many accidents at the intersections because people are speeding too fast and trying to make that those turns. I think we need more - if we only knew a State Rep. – get more State Police patrols In Nashua. The only time I've seen multiple police cars is when that person was killed the other day on Exit 6 and that's not acceptable. We need them to slow these guys down. It's one thing if you're doing - it's a 55 mile an hour speed limit. It's one thing if you do it 60 miles an hour, it's another thing if you're doing 89 miles an hour and there are a lot of them doing that every single day. It's about time something gets done.

Alderman Caron

Thank you. First of all just for the public comment, I have to agree with Alderman Klee because we have not eliminated public comment just because we have eliminated Zoom. As we've said before, we have it before and after. People have a right to be here and in all the time that I've been on the Board had a lot of people that have come in who are passionate about different things. You have people on Zoom that it's the same people. It's just their form. Maybe it's their 15 minutes of fame. I don't know, I don't care but if we take the time looking at what we can do to improve Zoom to make it easier for IT, for the videographer to do their job, that's fine. I don't have a problem looking to bring it back. I think right now we need to put a pause on it.

But on an up note, I don't know if anybody went to the Fairy Tale Festival but I did have a conversation with Jeff over from Park Rec because at the last back to school meeting, he said they had something like 200,000 likes on their Facebook page and they were anticipating a large crowd, which they got. They probably got almost 5,000 people which is fabulous. Unfortunately, I didn't go because my wings were at the cleaners but just so you know Mayor, and you've been around a long time, next year marks 50 years of Summer Fest/Summer Fun. I've already told them they better plan something really good and exciting because it is one of maybe two things that the city puts on that is free to the community and has lasted this long. It started during the gas crisis of 1973. Not high prices, no gas. So everyone had to stay home during the summer. So I think that's great and kudos to Park Rec for another successful some summer fun program and Fairy Tale Festival. Thank you.

Alderman Thibeault

Thank you, Madam President. I thought about going but my daughter is now almost 20. We had my son's graduation so we decided not to go but I don't think she would have let me take her anyway.

The one thing I'm going to miss about the Zoom and I am going to - I know I spoke up harshly against it earlier but there is some good that does come out of it occasionally. It's not just the public comment piece of it but Scott. He is always, always, always positive. We don't always hear the positivity hardly. We don't always hear when people think we're doing good. So it's great. I saw him pumped his fist when Alderman Dowd said the school was ahead of schedule. He's out there pumping and I could see it. So it's great to see that and I hope we see Scott in here from time to time.

I wanted to respond to Ms. Muccioli but she's already gone. A couple of things there. It's not an ADA issue with public comment because the public is able to comment. Even when they don't come here, they can send an email. She did. She sent a long email, which I actually thought was probably let her speak more about her views than the three minutes did that she was in here. So public comment is still there in multiple ways. So I didn't respond to her, quite frankly, because the disc golf course are now is still being held. They're still looking into it. I actually talked to Director Sullivan last week at the Planning Board and I asked him that exact question. He said it's still being held up. So there's really nothing to do until the review is gone through to determine if we're doing the right thing, if we're not doing the right thing, if something else needs to be done. So I didn't really have a new response to stuff I've already talked to her about early on when I thought disc golf might be minds instead of Alderman Sullivan is over there. It's still important because it's right off my Ward so obviously I have a Ward that would be using that park. So it's important to me as well.

Lastly, you know, we talked a little bit, you know, Mr. Gouthro is also gone. He said very particular that we're eliminating public comment. He's been saying that on social media. I've seen it before and it came again into our email box. Anybody who voted no – Alderman Clemons has already said it. We're not eliminating public comment. I hope that's what everybody that voted no feels that we're not eliminating public comment. That's not what we're doing here. There's plenty of ways they can reach out to us. They can come here. They can send us an email, speak to us in person, call us, anything. Like I said about Ms. Muccioli, sometimes the emails are longer than the three minutes they get. So I think they have the ability to do that. It's not the fact that we can't or can operate Zoom - maybe some of us can, maybe some of us can. I think we all can. It's somebody moderating it. It's somebody's using it. It's not us. We're trying to work on the people's business. It's not us. So that has nothing to do with it either.

Saying we are not having an open government. I've heard other emails say secret meetings. That's illegal. Right? Right, right Attorney Bolton. It's illegal to have a secret meeting. We cannot have a secret meeting. So if anybody out there catches us, please put us away because it's illegal, please.

And lastly, the BOE has lots, of lots, of lots of parents that are concerned about the stuff that the Board of Education votes on. Probably more so than stuff we do. A lot of people, as we could tell, most often don't care about what we do but Board of Education parents care. They find ways to be there at the meetings that they need to be at. Like I said, it's packed. So people can always find ways to get to meetings that are important to them where they want to put public comment whether, again, whether it's an email or not. They get emails as well that they either put into record, or read, or whatnot. So I just want to make sure that because what's going to happen now and I think it was Alderman Moran that said it people are going to go out now and say we've eliminated public comment, we've closed our government, we're doing whatever we want, everything illegal, and that's just not the case. People are going to believe that without listening to any of these meetings. If you just want to watch the meeting, it's not even that you can watch it publicly on Channel 16. You can watch it the next couple of days on Zoom or you go to our website, Nashua website, and you can watch it. If you just want to know what we're doing, you can watch that and you can send us an email. I read every single one just like a lot of you have said. I read every single one as long as they are, as nasty sometimes they are, but sometimes we get good ones. I read them all. So we're not doing the things that people are saying. I hope that the Aldermen that did vote against it are out there supporting the fact that even though there was a vote to get rid of it, that we're not eliminating that. If you guys believe that, that's fine say it but I hope you don't allow that to fester out there in the world because it's not what we're doing. What it does is it stops us from trying to do the really good things for our Wards whether it's fixing a park, or putting through mental health legislation, or whatever the things we do to make the city a better city. It gets in the way when people are saying things that aren't false. To Alderman Mora's point, that's the part I have to go let them talk. There's 70,000 other people in the city that don't believe that, but that's my problem. So thank you.

#### Alderwoman Timmons

Thank you, Madam President. Now I know what flew out of my head Alderman Klee. It was the secret meeting that I wasn't invited. I wanted to say that before it flies out of head again but I asked her what secret meeting. You know I'm not invited to the secret meetings and I was concerned about it. So thank you. Thank you.

Committee announcements:

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you, Madam President. I skipped an opportunity but I'd like to say what a fair job our new Clerk has done this evening. Got the first one under his belt so welcome Mr. Healey. Fine job.

On August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6 p.m. and Nashua High North will be a Joint DPW/Infrastructure meeting for the administration building that is currently going on schedule quite nicely at the city landfill. So we'll discuss that.

Looking at the agenda, there's only one thing I see coming from Infrastructure is the Old Harris Road change the name to Solar Lane. The benefit of that is mostly an address - a workable address for the Fire Department so in case there's some issue that they can respond. I will call members to see if they how they feel. Maybe we could combine the two if the agenda is light, so we'll have to say. I'll have to talk to our Administrative Assistant on that. So remember, August 23<sup>rd</sup> Joint BPW. It is a secret meeting, please. Please bring your decoder rings and we'll go from there. Thank you.

Alderman Moran

Thank you, Madam President. Next week on Tuesday, PEDC will be meeting and we'll have a presentation from Director Cummings on the Elm Street project. Recently there's been an article in the newspaper too about the costs and I think it's probably best that Director Cummings come and speak to the Committee and discuss exactly what the cost might be and where we actually are in the development of that project before random numbers get thrown out.

Also, he'll be providing an update on the PAC - the Performing Arts Committee. Sorry Performing Arts Center So I think many people as you heard tonight wanted to hear about it and we'll be talking about it again next week on Tuesday night.

Alderman Lopez

August 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. here and the aldermanic chamber we'll have a public meeting of the Human Affairs Committee because I didn't have a key to star chamber.

Alderman Dowd

Yes. At seven o'clock on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, we'll be kicking infrastructure Public Works Committee out and we'll be having the Joint Special School Building Committee at Nashua High North again at 7 p.m. We have some business and we have to pay some bills and things and that will also include Franklin Street.

Alderwoman Timmons

Thank you, Madam President. Tomorrow at 12:30 the Health Department has a meeting here at City Hall auditorium.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN THAT THE AUGUST 9, 2022, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE  
ADJOURNED  
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Attest: Daniel Healey, City Clerk