

**Minutes of the Board of Assessors  
Meeting of October 6, 2020**

An online meeting of the Board of Assessors was held via Zoom on Tuesday, October 06, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM by Chair Daniel Hansberry

**Members Present:**

Daniel Hansberry

Robert Earley

Paul Bergeron

**Assessing Staff Present:**

Greg Turgiss

Douglas Dame

Louise Brown

**Other City of Nashua Staff Present:**

Administrative Services Director Kimberly Kleiner, Corporation Counsel Steve Bolton

**Mr. Hansberry**

I will call the Special meeting of the Board of Assessors to order at 1:30 PM on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Please bear with me; I'm obliged to read a rather lengthy opening statement.

Good morning and welcome to the October 6, 2020 Special Board of Assessors meeting. As Chair of the Board of Assessors, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

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

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

We are utilizing Zoom through the City's IT Department for this electronic meeting. All members of the Board of Assessors have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen into this meeting through dialing the following number 929-205-6099, once again that number is

929-205-6099 and using the Meeting ID number 647-473-0083. Once again that number is 647-473-0083 and password of 229644, once again the password is 229644. The Public may also view this meeting on Comcast Channel 16.

b) Providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting:

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

c) Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access:

If anybody has a problem accessing the meeting via phone or Channel 16, please call 603-821-2049, once again that number is 603-821-2049 and they will help you connect.

d) Adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting:

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

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. When each member states their presence, the reason they are not able to attend the meeting in person, please also state whether is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right to Know Law. So at this time I will pause to call the roll. Mr. Earley?

Mr. Earley

This is Robert Earley, a member of the Board of Assessors. I am following the Governor's emergency order and joining this meeting remotely from my home. There is no one here in the room with me.

Mr. Hansberry

Mr. Bergeron?

Mr. Bergeron

This is Paul Bergeron, a member of the Board of Assessors. I'm following the Governor's emergency order and participating in the meeting remotely. I'm calling from my home and no one is present with me.

Mr. Hansberry

And I'm Daniel Hansberry, a member of the Board of Assessors. I'm also following the Governor's order and I am at home and there is no one in the room with me. Please direct all testimony to this board and not to anyone in the audience. If you have questions, they are to be directed to the board and we will do our best to get them answered. When directing testimony to this board, please announce your name clearly for the record. Ms. Brown, are there any changes to today's agenda?

Ms. Brown

There are no changes.

Mr. Hansberry

Thank you. Does anyone have any questions before we begin? Seeing none, we will start. Okay, there is one order of business for today's special meeting, and that is addressing the Southern New Hampshire Medical exemption. Is there a motion to grant a charitable exemption in the amount of \$33,132,400 for the property located at 8 Prospect St., which is owned by Southern NH Medical Center slash Foundation Medical Partners?

Mr. Earley

So moved.

Mr. Hansberry

Is there a second?

Mr. Bergeron

I'll second that.

Mr. Hansberry

Is there any discussion? Seeing none... is there a discussion?

Mr. Earley

Mr. Chairman, just to reiterate, this is just for the hospital building itself, correct?

Mr. Hansberry

Right, it represents 98% of the value of the property, because there are some medical practices located within the facility.

Mr. Earley

Okay, thank you.

Mr. Hansberry

You're welcome. Are there any other questions or comments? All right, I will call the roll. Mr. Earley?

Mr. Earley

Yes.

Mr. Hansberry

Mr. Bergeron?

Mr. Bergeron

Yes.

Mr. Hansberry

Mr. Hansberry, yes. The exemption is granted. At this time, we will have our public comment period, and we remind members of the public that it is a five minute comment period per person; so once again, it's five minutes per person. Is there anyone who has signed up to speak, who called in to speak?

Ms. Kleiner

Yes.

Mr. Hansberry

Would you please identify yourself and state your address for the record?

Ms. Ortolano

Laurie Ortolano.

Mr. Hansberry

And your address, please, Ms. Ortolano?

Ms. Ortolano

41 Berkeley St.

Mr. Hansberry

Thank you. Go right ahead.

Ms. Ortolano

I think somebody else was waiting as well, because my phone was acting funny; so there might be somebody else there, Chairman Hansberry. Ah, yes, a couple questions on this exemption. Is there any documentation that the public can see that will show why it's getting the exemption at the hospital? I did put in a Right to Know for settlement agreements on this, there was I think back in 2009, and I believe it expired, the agreement on this property in 2018. It was extended last year, so and I think the buildings were probably getting exemptions, but now it's just the hospital. But I'd like to understand why it is receiving—I think this is an A9, a charitable exemption. And also does—I've put in a Right to Know, but I'd like to understand, does Saint Joseph's Hospital, as a Catholic hospital, receive the same exemption? And is there a way for the public to understand this, or was all of this done in non-public, as the reason for the exemption can't be understood by the public? I'm just trying to figure it out.

Mr. Hansberry

To answer that question, Saint Joseph's does receive the same exemption.

Ms. Ortolano

Okay, that's good to know. Great, so I've put my Right to Knows in, so I'll see what the City response is. Thank you.

Mr. Hansberry

You're welcome. Is there anybody else who's inclined to speak?

Ms. Kleiner

No, sir, I do not see anyone.

Mr. Hansberry

Are there comments by Board members?

Mr. Earley

No.

Mr. Bergeron

No, I don't have any.

Mr. Hansberry

Okay, there's no need for a non-public session. Is there anything else the administration needs to bring before us?

Ms. Kleiner

No, sir.

Mr. Hansberry

Is there a motion to adjourn?

Mr. Earley

So moved.

Mr. Hansberry

Is there a second?

Mr. Bergeron

I'll second that.

Mr. Hansberry

Okay, I will call the roll. Mr. Earley?

Mr. Earley

Yes.

Mr. Hansberry

Mr. Bergeron?

Mr. Bergeron

Yes.

Mr. Hansberry

Mr. Hansberry, yes. Meeting is adjourned at 1:38 PM. Thank you, everyone; once again, thank you very much to IT.