

BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

September 6, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Mayor Craig called the meeting to order.

Mayor Craig called for the Pledge of Allegiance, this function being led by Alderman George-Kelly.

A moment of silence was observed.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Cavanaugh, Stewart, Long, Fajardo, T. Sapienza, Sharonov, Trisciani, Levasseur, Heath, E. Sapienza, Burkush, Barry, Gamache, George-Kelly

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Craig advised that the purpose of the public comment session is to give residents of Manchester the opportunity to address the Board. All people wishing to speak will have up to three minutes to do so and any comments must be directed to the chair. Any resident wishing to speak will come forward to the nearest microphone, clearly state their name and address when recognized and give their comments.

Irene Boisvert, 90 Crosbie Street, stated:

We are homeowners in Ward 1. In the last two years, pigeons have appeared in addition to smaller birds which are being fed by a neighbor. It is now a nuisance. There are more than 50 of them in addition to the smaller birds which is probably another 50. They are spreading seeds from local toxic brush. In the last two years it has been recommended that birds not be fed during the summer. They are wild and probably carriers of disease. The pigeons are specifically being fed on the ground. This year all of the birds are spreading out to adjacent properties. I have found dead and diseased birds, mice and other rodents that are being attracted by the situation. We have tried to be considerate with deterrents that would not impact others but none are working. We had a garden and now we are trying to repair the lawn impacted by the birds. They eat

all of the seeds every time I try. What can we do? These are wild birds and know how to survive in the wild. Thank you for listening.

Brittany Ping, 408 Rimmon Street, stated:

I didn't put down a topic because I didn't really know what to talk about so I just started writing. I know there is a lot on the agenda that you can't immediately control but you guys get to control the minutiae of what happens in our city so I am taking advantage of this time because you are our leaders and you listen. I really appreciate that. Like many of you and many in this audience, I wear many hats and see many aspects of this beautiful city and I don't mean that tongue and cheek. I love this city and it shines. I also live and drive in areas where I explain to my children who are five and seven what a panhandler sign says and why we donate our time, treasure and talent for charities. My seven-year-old thinks we should just give them cigarettes because that is what they are looking for but I digress. This weekend I was happy to put on a neighborhood event in Lafayette Park on the west side. One of the organizers introduced us to cardboard sledding, an event that I have never done before. It is really cool. We rode down the hills of Lafayette Park on cardboard. Luckily it wasn't until the end of the event but about 10' down from where these children were cardboard sledding, we found an uncapped needle either carelessly thrown by one of the many who pass by and travel on Notre Dame or left for who knows how long. On the way back home, and I live up Amory Street, I walked by countless graffiti tags. They are on the utility boxes and they are on private property and on our bridges and sound walls. Ten years ago this was the work of silly kids and a lot was on the Piscataquog Rail Trail. This is not silly children tagging. Now it is four rival taggers hitting a property at Elm and Orange four times in the same weekend. This is our reality. I want to talk about the sensitive subject to which our city falls the most prey to in the state of NH and that is the personal recognizance bail. It is a common sense approach to affirm that citizens are innocent until proven guilty and it is no wonder that our legislature passed it in 2018. As with many of these things, it has had its issues in the actual accounting of it; how it is performed. If you listen on both sides, you will hear why. If you speak to the Bail Commission and the judges, they will explain to you why in actuality this hasn't worked. This past session, the late Alderman Shaw co-sponsored a bill. I hope that all of you

remain attentive this fall to legislation and speak for Manchester and her people as we need a constructive solution to fill in these gaps. Thank you for your time.

Kathleen Carswell, 385 Amherst Street, stated:

Mayor Craig, how many times must I have to come down here to voice concerns about things that keep happening day after day, month after month, year after year? It seems they are going on deaf ears and no one seems to care. Myself and my neighbors would like to feel safe in our homes and our neighborhoods but unfortunately we don't. I personally am tired of making the drug addicts get out of my backyard and stopping them from shooting up and leaving their drug paraphernalia around for myself and my neighbors to pick up so that the children who still play outside have a safe place to play without getting stuck with needles or items that they leave drug residue on. I know that the homeless or most of them don't like the rules at the shelter but why do we have to pay for their actions? I personally had a person looking in my apartment window not even three weeks ago so I went outside and yelled at him because he was high on heroin and he had to go 4 ½ feet to get to my window over shrubs and up an incline. Doing the zombie walk is what they call it. You can ask any officer. He was also walking into parked cars. He was very lucky that I didn't have my gun handy because he would have been headless and I would have shot first and asked questions later. More must be done with all of these homeless camps so that we, the residents of Manchester, can go for walks and not be afraid of being attacked or maybe even being killed. You also said that car registrations are down. Well if the police stopped and ticketed and towed the cars that are not registered or inspected in the city, maybe we could make up some of that money that is needed. I have personally seen cars with 2018, 2019 and so on inspection stickers in their windows driving around and some that don't even have a sticker on them. Something should be done about this now and not keep putting it off month after month and year after year. There must be something that can be done about these very greedy landlords that keep increasing rents \$200 or \$300 a month on us. People on a fixed low income cannot afford this and we have nowhere to go once we cannot pay our rent. Unless you would like all of us that would soon not be able to pay these crazy rent increases camping in your backyard...I am sure you would not like these choices. Things should be improving and not getting worse. Please start helping the residents of Manchester. Thank you.

Kelly McAndrew, 290 Cartier Street, stated:

For those of you who don't know me, I go by Ms. Kelly. I am a peer recovery coach and I lead Indestructible Unicorns Outreach. Although there are many subjects that are weighing on my mind tonight, I came here fully prepared to talk about the HOPE Boots on the Ground event that was created by Schonna Green, the Director of Homeless Initiatives who has done absolutely nothing in the 18 months that she has been here for her \$94,000 a year salary except to create an event using words like celebration, prizes and fun to clear out what little the homeless have left. It is truly sickening to even come up with an event like that. The smartest thing you have ever done was to cancel it. However, my agenda has changed due to the tragic death of an innocent 75-year-old grandfather. How long have I been begging you for a legal encampment? The murder of this man may have been prevented if you had a legal encampment in the city. When we started the camp down at Amoskeag and it was legal, it worked. It wasn't trashed. We had port-a-potties and we had food and we had help and we had outreach and we had medical. We never had problems. The problems began when you took everything away. I know the taxpayers don't want to pay for an encampment but I am pretty sure that Schonna Green's salary would cover most of those costs. The homeless in Manchester would be in a designated area and you wouldn't have to worry about them walking around on your trails or being in your parks because they would be happy to stay in their designated encampments. Trust me, they don't want to be seen just as much as you don't want to see them. I cannot imagine the pain that this family is going through right now and it is your fault. Is this enough for you now? Was it enough to have 30+ people die in the past couple of years? Was it? Are you listening now?

Victoria Sullivan, 1056 S. Beech Street, stated:

I have come before this Board many times asking you to address the increasing safety issues throughout the city but specifically in the south end. I sat here and asked for help with the encampments. I published letters to the *Union Leader* hoping that would force that the issue. I ran for office when I became frustrated with the city's lack of response. I have beat the drum for change in this city citing the dangers lurking in our streets, in our parks and on our trails. Now an elderly gentleman, a gentleman that I was actually shocked that you did not mention during the moment of silence...his name

was Daniel Whitmore for anybody who is interested, an elderly gentleman has had his life stolen on these very same trails; the trails that Mayor Craig stated on a debate stage were safe and in fact reprimanded me for stating otherwise. My son and his friend were on those trails 24 hours before that murder. How many other unsuspecting children and innocent children including other elderly members of our community were on those trails unaware of impending danger? How many more dangerous people are still lurking in those encampments in your ward? A danger that you created by encouraging encampments where dangerous people can hide. Children use the trails to go to down to the Little League and soccer fields. We should not have to be afraid of our children being murdered on the way to Little League. This is the second stabbing on these trails. This is the city that you have created. Now because of your policy of pandering and ignoring the crime rate, yet another family grieves. How many more lives need to be lost? While people are hurting, you are doing photo ops with scooters and Dunkin Donuts mascots. People are literally dying on your streets and you act as if bike racks are the most pressing issue in this city. You are acting like you are the mayor of Mayberry when you are actually on your way to being the mayor of Little Chicago. There was recently an editorial by Mr. Peter Arel in the *Union Leader*. In the letter, he called me out and he said where is Victoria Sullivan when the city needs here? To Mr. Arel and to everyone else who is still in the fight for this city, I am here. I am here tonight for you as well as for my own family. I am not giving up on our city. You, Joyce Craig, have failed this city. There are pages...I have pages and pages here of comments on social media stating that people are tired of the way that you have run this city. One comment is "Joyce Craig single-handedly destroyed this once great city." I disagree. You didn't do it single-handedly. You had lots of help. Your deception and that of your party to get you re-elected has brought us where we are today along with 11 members of this Board who are derelict in their duties and vote in lock step with you to pay back election favors and pad the pockets of your pet projects with taxpayer funded grant money while simultaneously raising the taxes on our citizens who are struggling to get by thereby increasing the rents on our most vulnerable. You 12 are complicit in the violence and the deaths and the tragedy that is Manchester. One of these comments on social media reads "Joyce Craig it is time for you to resign." I wholeheartedly agree but I will add that you need to take those other 11 members of the Board with you for

the sake of the city that you claim to love and perhaps you once did. You derelict dozen need to resign before this city is lost for good.

Eugene Gonzales stated:

The reason I am here is I don't have a residence. I know I voted for a few of you and it is kind of hard being where I am at because I have never been homeless and I always worked. I didn't choose to be homeless, it just happened. I am sorry about what happened. For me, I am trying to make it and I am trying to do what I can. I do work but the work that I do get is from a staffing agency where you work one day as a day laborer and then you get paid the next. The more money I make, the more I have to spend because I have to eat and I have to wash my clothing. We also get robbed. That's that. For me, it keeps going. I am a homeless veteran. I did six years in the Marine Corps. I asked the VA to help me and it is like they have concrete feet. They are just dragging their feet. That is all I have to say. Thank you very much for your time.

Ashley Poulin, 184 Oakdale Avenue, stated:

You may know me as the Soup Lady. I didn't prepare anything. This is completely off the cuff. Listening to everyone here tonight, it sounds like there is a singular problem and our city has not done a whole lot to take care of it. There is a huge homeless population and it is growing because the rents are out of control because of the greedy landlords and we have a useless houseless director who is actually focused on housing, which is great, but not houselessness and because of that, the people that do have four walls want to enjoy the outside but the people who are forced to be outside keep getting moved around like a game of bleeping whack-a-mole so what are we doing. I haven't done what I do since June 2. The City Council and I went back and forth with the ACLU. You all didn't budget at all; at all. So what are your plans? Do we have a winter shelter? Are we going to do more harm reduction events? How are we going to get the needles off the ground? How are we going to get people off the streets? How are we going to clear the parks and trails? This is your job. I have a 9-5. Do it.

Norris Viviers, 1361 Elm Street, stated:

I am here to bring to the Board two problems and some potential solutions. I own and operate the Bedford Block on Elm Street. We are proposing another 80 units on the corner of Myrtle and Elm and as it stands right now, the speed of the traffic on that part of Elm Street is definitely a safety hazard. That is one of the problems. The other issue we have up there, especially with the Pearl Street lot being developed and I realize there will be parking once the project is complete but we are already tight for parking up there as it is. I have a couple of potential solutions and what I am looking for is feedback from the Board as to where to start the process of looking at the possibility of changing the north end of Elm Street up to Pappy's Pizza to a single lane north and a single lane south with angled parking. The other possible solution as well would be side streets. There are lots of buildings there and lots of residents that don't have places to park so if you would consider, and again I want to know what the process would be to look at the possibility of making Prospect Street to Union Street a one-way east with angled parking. Then taking Myrtle Street and making it a one-way west from Union Street. That would solve a lot of the problems. I spend a lot of time at night just looking around that neighborhood and what is going on and the parking is always...there are no extra places to park. If this is something that could be looked at, where would we begin the process? I have actually spoken to Pam Goucher when we were talking about the project on Myrtle & Elm and she said talk to Kristen Clarke. I talked to Kristen Clarke and she told me to talk to someone else. I ran into Bob Baines at North End Bistro and asked who do I talk to and he referred me to someone else but nothing seems to happen. I guess I am here to look for feedback on where I would begin to get the BMA to look at these possibilities. Where do I begin?

Dam Wright, Maple Street, stated:

We have a lot of people living outside right now. There are a lot of people living on the sidewalks. There are a lot of people living in the camps. There are a lot of people living in a lot of places without a roof and without walls. They are not doing so well. I came earlier this year and talked to you about the fact that if you continue to sweep camps and continue to mess with the people on the sidewalks they are going to get more and more desperate and you are going to see more needles in the park and you are going to see more people showing up in people's windows and you are going to see more

stabbings. Now it's happening right. I understand that you are going with the best information you have. It is bad information. It has been bad information. I will give you a perfect example. Was it last summer that a couple of you were in a discussion with me about maybe doing a legal camp? I have been in meetings with Schonna and she said no we can't do that Dan. We can't do that. Other cities have tried that and it doesn't work. Missoula, Las Cruces, Durango...look around. There are places that have made it work. That is not good information. The shelter was telling you that they didn't fill up until December 1 of last year as I was handing blankets to people in early November who were getting turned away. Guess what? They are filling up again. They are filling up on nights when I am counting over 60 people in two spots alone downtown outside. I have talked to them. You are getting an influx of new people because the rents are being raised or because their apartments are being renovated. Look at their numbers right now. It is not that summer wall that it is supposed to be. I really hope we have some big plans coming for this winter for what we are going to do about that and I really hope that we can start taking an approach of harm reduction and safe encampment spaces and safe youth stations and needle exchanges. These are the things that stop the problems. Look around and do your own research. Don't just take it from somebody you hired to tell you what you want to hear. Do your homework please and again think about taking a different approach because what you are doing isn't working. It is bad out there. It is bad for the people on the streets and it is bad for the people in the neighborhoods. It doesn't have to be. You just need good information and you need to make good decision. Please. Thank you.

PRESENTATION & PUBLIC COMMENT

2. I-93 Northbound Corridor Bridge Project by representatives from the NH Department of Transportation.

David Scott, NH DOT Project Manager, stated I want to thank you for allowing us to present this project to discuss the bridge preservation of five bridges on I-93 in both the City of Manchester as well as Hooksett. With me are Phil Kendall and Paige Begin from HNTB. This project is similar to the ongoing work on I-93 southbound. We are here to get input from the Mayor and aldermen. I believe there will also be limited input from the community and an opportunity for that. That said, the last slide will have not only

my email address which is shown at the bottom of the first slide but also a project website address so that people can go back to this presentation as well as look at the environmental impact statement. Every project that NH DOT develops adheres to all environmental regulations both for natural and cultural resources. If people are aware of any cultural resources related to the proposed work, there are provisions so that you can become a consulting party and those details on how to become a consulting party as well as all other aspects of NH DOT's environmental compliance will be on that project webpage. If people have any questions and aren't ready to speak tonight, you can take a picture of that last slide and reach out to me. At this point, I will turn the presentation over to Phil Kendall from HNTB.

Phil Kendall, HNTB, stated I just want to go over quickly what the presentation goals are going to be. We are going to do an overview and provide a construction schedule and share some of our traffic control concepts that we have developed based on meetings with the department and obtain feedback and answer any questions. The work overview is what is included in this project preservation and is very similar to the projects that are out there in the southbound bridges right now in the same area. We are going to be replacing the bridge pavement and the waterproofing membrane on the bridge decks, repairing the concrete decks themselves, repairing the bridge curb and bridge rail that are in need of repair and replacing the bridge joints. What is not included in the project is any drainage improvements off the bridge or any guardrail or approach rail work or any pavement beyond the needs of the bridge preservation itself. At this time, I am going to hand it over to Paige to give you a detailed explanation of the project.

Paige Begin, HNTB, stated I will start off by going over a brief overview of the location of the project. As stated, this is a bridge preservation project for five bridges along I-93 northbound. Four of those bridges are in Manchester and one is in Hooksett. If you take a look at the graphic here starting down by the southern area here and moving upward, we have where I-293 merges in with I-93 northbound and then working up towards Exit 7 which is the Route 101/I-93 interchange we have what we are calling the Bridge Street Bridge and Stack Bridge. We gave these bridges nicknames for ease of communication. Moving north more towards Exit 8 which is the exit for Wellington

Road, we have the Stevens Pond and Wellington Road bridges and then up in Hooksett by Exit 9 we have the US-3 bridge. To go over an overview of the anticipated construction schedule, this construction is anticipated to take place over two construction seasons, each spanning from approximately April until October. Season 1 will take place during 2024 while Season 2 will take place during 2025. We have color-coded the bridges here grouped by work area by season. In blue we have the Stack Bridge, Bridge Street Bridge and US-3 Bridge which will all be under construction at the same time during the same season while in green we have the Wellington Road Bridge and the Stevens Pond Bridge which will be under construction during the other construction season. These groupings were based on things such as proximity of the bridges which you can definitely see here with the Bridge Street Bridge and Stack Bridge as well as the Stevens Pond Bridge and Wellington Road Bridge as well as work area balancing. You can see from this graphic that the Stevens Pond Bridge by area has more work to be completed on it so we wanted to balance out those seasons as much as possible. One thing to note before moving on here is that the groupings themselves are not anticipated to change, however, the bridges that you see in blue here could happen during Season 2 and the others during Season 1 but the groupings themselves are anticipated to remain. There are four main locations of interest along this project that we wanted to bring some special attention to as the construction will alter the traffic patterns a little bit. First is Location A which is right by Exit 7 towards Route 101 eastbound and all of these graphics are looking in the direction of travel. Location B is on Route 101 westbound just before the split where you can keep left where it is I-93 southbound or keep right towards I-93 northbound. Location C is by the Wellington Road Bridge. The ramp that you can see off to the right here is the Exit 8 off-ramp. Finally, in Hooksett we have Location D which from this spot the Exit 9 and on-ramp would be behind you and then the ramp you can see right here is the Exit 9S off-ramp. We are going to start by taking a closer look at Location D which is in Hooksett so we can then really focus in on the Manchester locations. Location D under existing conditions as you can see on the left performs as what we refer to as a weaving movement, which is where the vehicles incoming on the ramp here, if they wish to travel on I-93 northbound, have to change a lane in order to do so. Similarly, vehicles on I-93 northbound if they wish to take the Exit 9S off-ramp here must achieve a lane change in order to do so. A big change here is that during construction there will no longer be a

weave in that area. What we are going to have is just south of this graphic there will be a lane drop to turn the three lanes on I-93 northbound down to two and then when the Exit 9 on-ramp is incoming that lane is going to add on to the others so a lane change won't be required by those vehicles to stay on I-93 northbound. Then when it comes to the Exit 9S off-ramp here, that is going to be accessed via a choice lane so vehicles in that lane will be able to choose if they want to stay on I-93 northbound or take the exit off rather than doing a whole lane change. You can see here that the Phase I work area is pointed out. Now we will look at Phase II where you can see that the work area is flipped to the other side of the bridge. That would be typical for the phasing on these bridges where during one phase the work area will be on one side while the traffic is on the other and then those will be flipped for the other phase. Now taking a look at what we have been referring to as a windshield view of this area, you can see the weave happening here under existing conditions where during construction we will have that ramp incoming and adding on to the others with the off-ramp being accessed via a choice lane. Now we will take a look at the Manchester locations starting with Location A which is the Exit 7 off-ramp area. You can see on the top graphic the existing conditions today. The lanes that are noted with the orange arrows are one direction only lanes today. In the top lanes here if you are in those lanes then you will stay on I-93 only and then the bottom lane is an exit only lane while the lane with the yellow arrows is a choice lane so you can take the exit or stay on I-93 northbound. The big change during construction is that the choice lane is now going to be an exit only lane. If you are in that yellow lane, it will head towards Route 101 eastbound exclusively. We are going to...you can see in green here the pavement markings that will be used to let drivers know a little bit in advance that that change is coming. This is that windshield view here where you can see under existing conditions that this lane is a choice lane versus during construction where this heads towards Route 101 eastbound only. You can see here that we have an X covering one of the arrows on the overhead sign. We are still figuring out exactly what changes we want to make to the signage and what would be most beneficial and safest for everyone to notify drivers that that change is being made. We haven't finalized that yet but we just wanted to show something there to let you know that we are in the process of figuring out how to best achieve that as well as maybe some advance signage to warn drivers of that change. Now taking a look at Location B, which is the interchange between Route 101 westbound and I-93

northbound, under existing conditions today you have three lanes incoming from I-93 northbound and then two lanes shown here in blue coming from Route 101 westbound. Those will merge together just before the bridge to create four lanes on I-93 northbound. During construction, we are going to have those two lanes incoming from I-93 northbound. Those are the two I-93 only lanes that just came from Location A and then we are going to have one lane incoming from Route 101 westbound that will add on to the others so there are three lanes over the bridge during construction. Now we will take a step back towards Route 101 westbound to show how we go from two lanes in that location down to one. Under existing conditions, we have two lanes incoming on Route 101 westbound which just before the split opens up into three. That middle lane becomes a choice lane where you can keep left towards I-93 southbound or keep right to head towards I-93 northbound. During construction, that right most lane that opens up under existing conditions just before the split is going to be a closed off lane and what will now be the right most lane will still work as a choice lane where you can access I-93 northbound or southbound but being in that right most lane will be the only way to access I-93 northbound. That will act as one lane that is incoming that we saw on the previous slide. Here is on Route 101 westbound and you can see the choice lanes. This is after the third lane has opened up where during construction that third lane will not be allowed to open up and this new right most lane here you can access I-93 northbound. Finally, we are going to take a look at Location C which is the Wellington Road bridge by Exit 8. As you can see here, the Phase I work area is covering the entrance to the existing Exit 8 ramp. We are currently looking at a couple of different alternatives to determine how to best approach that being blocked off. One alternative would be, as I am sure many of you were familiar with during southbound, a closure of the ramp which there is on the southbound project so just closing off access to that ramp during this phase of construction. The other alternative which is shown here is the construction of a temporary off-ramp that is shown in orange. One thing to note here is that in order to make the geometry work for that ramp, it does have to be designed at a reduced speed and you can see here that it is accessed via a choice lane but there is a lack of deceleration lane. We are really taking a look at different factors with the two alternatives with safety at the forefront to really make sure that whatever is decided on is the safest for users of this area and move forward with that. A big thing to note is that moving to Phase II here you can see that access to the existing exit ramp

can still be maintained. So whatever is decided, it will only be in place for one construction phase which is approximately four months. That is a big thing to note there. Then you can see here during construction...this isn't an exact location but you can see highlighted in orange here an approximate location of what that ramp would look like and you can see it being accessed right from I-93 northbound and the sharpness of that curve which was designed at a decreased speed. Thank you all very much for your time and we would be happy to take any questions or comments now.

Mayor Craig stated you just went through a lot in a very short period of time which we all appreciate but it is my understanding that you have reviewed this with DPW and with a number of the aldermen whose wards would be affected and have incorporated their feedback. Is that correct?

Mr. Scott responded yes.

Alderman Stewart stated thank you for the presentation. I was one of those aldermen who was on the Zoom call with you a couple of weeks ago talking about this and I appreciate incorporating the feedback. I am curious to know if anything has been done since then about the timing? I know you said Phase I and Phase II could be 2024 or 2025 and it is up to the contractor. Do we have a timeline of when these will go out to bid and when we will have a decision on which bridges will be done when?

Mr. Scott stated the project should be advertised about this time of year next year and it will be the contractor's choice so three months to get through Governor & Council and probably January or February the contractor will be having the pre-construction meeting where they will give us their schedule.

Alderman Long stated I noticed that you are doing a lot of striping for these changes and I know that is problematic. After six months you get it but the first month when they are just driving and you get these oh no moments where someone is in the wrong lane. You did mention that you were going to think about signage. I would recommend that because I think that would be helpful also.

Mr. Scott responded yes absolutely.

Alderman Cavanaugh stated as far as Exits 8 and 9, I know the timeframe is to start in April. The volume in April through August...I am sure you have the numbers of the volume of traffic going through there during that time. There are going to be some major back-ups and I think the earlier we can get it going the better during the year.

Mayor Craig stated I know one of the comments that was presented to you was to coordinate with Emergency Services regarding traffic going to the Elliot from 101 eastbound. Have you done that or are you going to be doing that?

Mr. Scott answered I have reached out but unfortunately we have not been able to connect. That is definitely something we plan on doing to make sure that everyone is aware and we try to address any concerns.

There was no one available for public comment on the bridge project.

CONSENT AGENDA

Accept BMA Minutes

3. Minutes from the July 19 Special BMA, BMA and Finance meetings, and the August 2 BMA and Finance meetings.

Accept and Remand Funds

4. Donation of \$250 from Beasley & Ferber Professional Association to the Senior Center.
5. Donation of \$40 from Shannon Dionne for Fire Prevention Education.

Approve Under Supervision of the Department of Highways, subject to funding

6. 50/50 Sidewalk Petitions
Residential:
 - 18 S. Hall Street
 - 37 Kearney Street
 - 125 Vinton Street
 - 154 Fleming Street
 - 466 Kelley Street
 - 490 Amherst Street

- 923 Chestnut Street
- 925 Chestnut Street

Commercial:

- 14 Elm Street
- 91 Bay Street

Information to be Received and Filed

7. Communication from Peter Chiesa, Deputy City Solicitor, providing an update on pending lawsuits against the City.
8. Communication from Jen Drociak regarding H.O.P.E. Initiative's "Boots on the Ground Clean-Up Day."

REFERRALS TO COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

9. "Amending the FY2022 & FY2023 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating and transferring funds in the amount of Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000) for the FY2022 CIP 611122 Helping Hands - 140-142 Central Street Renovation Project."

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON BILLS ON SECOND READING

10. Recommending that Ordinance Amendment:

"Amending Section 70.40 Towing of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester by increasing the fees associated with vehicles towed without the consent or authorization of the owner/operator of the vehicle."

ought to pass and be referred to the Committee on Accounts, Enrollment and Revenue Administration.

(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman Fajardo who was absent)

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

11. Recommending that the request from Families in Transition to change the use of 401 Spruce Street for affordable housing be approved.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman Heath who was absent)
12. Recommending that the Amending Resolution and Budget Authorizations providing for the transfer and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$90,000 for CIP 611122 Helping Hands –140-142 Central Street Renovation Project, be approved.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Alderman Heath who was absent)

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AIRPORT ACTIVITIES

- 13.** Recommending that the request from the Director of Aviation to amend specific sections of the Airport Rules and Regulations for the Manchester-Boston Regional Airport be approved.
(Unanimous vote with the exception of Aldermen Stewart and Sharonov who were absent)

*HAVING READ THE CONSENT AGENDA, ON MOTION OF **ALDERMAN***

***CAVANAUGH**, DULY SECONDED BY **ALDERMAN T. SAPIENZA**, IT WAS VOTED TO APPROVE.*

REGULAR BUSINESS

- 14.** Communication from Alexander Walker advising the Board of his resignation as a member of the Manchester Development Corporation Board of Directors.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Stewart**, it was voted to accept with regret.*

- 15.** Communication from Danielle Fisher advising the Board of her resignation as a member of the Manchester Development Corporation Board of Directors.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Cavanaugh**, it was voted to accept with regret.*

- 16.** Nomination of Ryan Cashin as Fire Chief.
(Note: Pursuant to Rule 20 of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, these nominations will layover to the next meeting of the Board.)

Mayor Craig stated a letter is being handed out right now that I will read into the record.

Dear Honorable Board of Mayor and Aldermen:

I am honored to nominate Ryan Cashin for the position of Fire Chief and Emergency Management Director for the City of Manchester. Mr. Cashin has been a dedicated member of the Fire Department for 23 years and during that time he has continued to take on roles with increased responsibility and shows deep dedication to the commitment of the City of Manchester and to our residents. During his time with the Fire Department, Mr. Cashin has played a significant role in many different aspects of the Fire Department operations including EMS training, fire prevention and homelessness initiatives. He is a

strong leader and a problem-solver who has worked hard to earn the respect of the men and women of the Fire Department and the city as a whole.

Mr. Cashin will officially assume the role of Fire Chief and Emergency Management Director upon confirmation by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen at the October 4 meeting.

s/Mayor Joyce Craig

17. Nominations:

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Nick Taylor as an alternate member to replace Anne Ketterer, term to expire 3/1/2024

Talia Burghard as an alternate member to replace Guy Guerra, term to expire 3/1/2023

Office of Youth Services Board

Katrina Ealy as a regular member, term to expire 1/1/2025

MHRA Board of Commissioners

Tom Hickman as a regular member to replace Jared Landry, term to expire 12/31/2026

MDC Board of Directors

Steven Scheiner as a regular member to replace Alex Walker, term to expire 3/11/2024

Highway Commission

Amber Cannan as a regular member, term to expire 1/15/2023

(Note: Pursuant to Rule 20 of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, these nominations will layover to the next meeting of the Board.)

18. Confirmations:

Personnel Appeals Board

Ernesto Burden as a regular member, term to expire March 1, 2023

Susan Champagne as a regular member, term to expire March 1, 2024

Board of Health

Elizabeth Soukup as a regular member to replace Tanya Tupik, term to expire July 1, 2025

Parks & Recreation Commission

Erin Loomis Laughlin as a regular member to replace Michael Dimos, term to expire July 1, 2025

*On motion of **Alderman Heath**, duly seconded by **Alderman Cavanaugh**, it was voted to confirm the nominations.*

19. Communication from Philip Alexakos, Deputy Public Health Director, requesting up to \$25,000 from the contingency account to cover two rounds of spraying for the West Nile Virus if the risk level rises to "high".

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman T. Sapienza**, it was voted to approve the request.*

20. Report(s) of the Committee on Community Improvement, if available.

The Committee on Community Improvement respectfully recommends, after due and careful consideration, that the amending resolution and budget authorization providing for the acceptance and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$65,500 for CIP 211922 American Rescue Plan Act Funding for Health Centers be approved and referred to the Committee on Finance this evening.

*On motion of **Alderman Heath**, duly seconded by **Alderman E. Sapienza**, it was voted to accept the report and adopt its recommendation.*

*On motion of **Alderman Burkush**, duly seconded by **Alderman Barry**, it was voted to recess the meeting to allow the Committee on Finance to meet.*

Mayor Craig called the meeting back to order.

23. Report(s) of the Committee on Finance, if available.

The Committee on Finance respectfully recommends, after due and careful consideration, that Resolutions:

"Amending the FY2022 & FY2023 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating and transferring funds in the amount of Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000) for the FY2022 CIP 611122 Helping Hands - 140-142 Central Street Renovation Project."

"Amending the FY2022 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Sixty-Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$65,500) for CIP 211922 American Rescue Plan Act funding for Health Centers."

ought to pass and be Enrolled.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Barry**, it was voted to accept the report and adopt its recommendation.*

24. Report(s) of the Committee on Human Resources/Insurance, if available.

The Committee on Human Resources/Insurance respectfully recommends, after due and careful consideration, that the request from Mayor Craig to use up to \$750,000 in one-time funds to conduct a Classification & Compensation study for all city employees be approved.

Alderman Levasseur stated this is a staggering amount of money for an organization to come in and talk to us about our compensation issue. I don't know what precipitated this request and maybe you can give me some clarification before I say something.

Mayor Craig replied Yarger Decker has been in place for about 23 years now and since that time there have been over 900 changes to the pay scale. What we have today is inequity among employees within the city when you go from department to department. When you look at the agendas for the HR Committee, you are seeing more and more department heads coming forward and asking for changes which are relevant but are causing more issues because other departments are not doing the same. This is something that this Board has talked about I think for at least the last three or four years. Two of the budgets I have presented have put funding toward this but it hasn't been approved. I think the last one was because of Covid. It is an up to number. We also hope that we won't need to utilize all of these funds but the estimate that we got from the previous HR Director was in this range and that is why I used that number.

Alderman Levasseur stated I would caution the Board for a couple of reasons. I was elected in the year 2000 for only one term and then took a long time off. I stated then when I found out about that compensation plan that it would come back to haunt us and boy it has. Twenty-two years later I am sitting on this Board and nothing has ever been done with Yarger Decker. In the middle of the night somewhere along the line what was supposed to be a merit system where you were granted a 1%, 2% or 3% increase based on how great of a job you did or did not do, the aldermen decided to go into a back room and change it so that it wouldn't be a merit system but would become an automatic step system of 3%. What we do know is that you automatically get a 3% increase in the first six months, at the end of your first year, at five year's longevity, etc. We all know and I have already explained this 100,000 times. The important thing is that instead of going and rushing ahead to look at what we can do to change the system

we have, I would like to instead...not that I would not agree to something like this at some other time but I think that we should have the Solicitor's Office, and Atty. Mueller comes to mind because he gave us a great dissertation on all of the laws required to deal with the homeless situation, tell us what kind of power and authority this Board actually has for the system we have now. Do we have the power to go out and say okay we just need to make our own changes? Instead of spending all of this money, why can't we decide ourselves what kind of changes we should or should not make? I don't really want to hire another big organization of some sort that is going to come in and give us a new compensation package because the biggest thing that aldermen have to realize is no matter what we put forth it has to be voted on by each and every different union. So when Yarger Decker came along, all of the unions had to agree to it. The firemen jumped on board. They sat and looked at it really carefully. Jim Roy told me many times that they were clapping like seals for that particular compensation package. They have enjoyed it, they loved it and it has been a boom for the employees. We could look at what my good friend here on my right, Alderman E. Sapienza, got paid and what his compensation was and what his retirement benefits were. We can look at the county compensation plan. We don't need to go out and hire somebody else before we know what power and authority we have here. What we do know is that severance is ridiculous and the steps are crazy out of line. Nashua only has five steps and we have thirteen. We are generous to a fault no question. What we could do is...we need to get people onto 401K plans and we need to get the severance back to be consistent at the very least. We shouldn't just be going out and hiring somebody without at least having this discussion ourselves and without understanding what powers and authority this Board has to make whatever changes we should be making that are more consistent with whatever the Board wants to do. I think this is a lot of money. I think that we should at least have our own investigation and our own HR Director...well she is new but she would be a great set of eyes to come in and look at something and tell us what Londonderry does. We should also use our own Solicitor's Office. Give us some kind of a foundation and understanding of what we have and what is wrong or what is right and go from there. I don't think this needs a lot of tweaks. I think that this last round of negotiations went very well. I think this was a 14-0 vote and I have never seen that happen before. We agreed and the unions were happy. Every went really well and smooth. I don't think that we need to spend almost \$1 million to go out and have

somebody else tell us what is good or bad. I think we should do it ourselves. I think a good strong committee of very qualified good aldermen that can handle this with some great insight from department heads...it doesn't matter what we come up with folks. The unions have to approve it and I would like us to keep that in mind before we go forward.

Alderman T. Sapienza asked what is the process going to be for moving forward. Are we going to go through the RFP process?

Mayor Craig answered yes. It would be an RFP process. I would think that a committee will have to be put together both internal and I think it is important to have an alderman representative as well.

Alderman Levasseur stated and a union representative.

Mayor Craig responded well I would leave that up to the HR Director as far as who should be on the committee.

Alderman T. Sapienza asked is this the final vote or we will be voting to spend this money on a particular project.

Mayor Craig replied this vote is to utilize up to this amount of money from the one-time account that has about \$3.8 million in it right now to be able to give our new HR Director the authority to start the process. I believe that an RFP was drafted before but obviously she needs to take a fresh look at it. She brings a wealth of knowledge to this role as well and we need to make sure we are doing this the right way.

Alderman T. Sapienza asked so a vote on the consultant or whoever is going to do the study will come back to this Board before the money is spent.

Mayor Craig answered yes that is what happens from a process perspective.

Alderman Long stated I need to reiterate that it is up to \$750,000 and basically the cheaper it will get will be based on the input that the aldermen will give. If we already know where we are going, we need to get that information to HR or that committee and the more information we give them as to what we are looking for, the less expensive it is going to be. We already pretty much know some of the things we want, however, it is very unfair now the way we have been doing it for the last four or five years. We take care of some departments and then they find out that they have someone who is in the same position as another department that is not getting the same compensation. They may come to us to change that. I wasn't surprised to hear the number of 900.

Mayor Craig stated that is the low end.

Alderman Long stated we are not necessarily looking at \$750,000. The more input we are able to give, the less that will be because we will know what it is we are looking for.

Alderman Cavanaugh stated we did talk about this in committee and I think the experts are within the city. I think we can do it here. We have a new HR Director who is five days in and I think it is a good idea to give her some time to look at this and see where we are. I wouldn't mind putting on the next HR agenda an item to form a special committee. I don't know what the process would be.

Mayor Craig stated we could get feedback from the Board.

Alderman E. Sapienza stated I kind of what to piggyback on what Alderman Long was saying. Are we going into this 100% objective or are we saying well gee we are looking to get a more generous scale than what we have now or are we looking to have a scale that is not quite as generous as the one we have now? Do we even know if we are looking to get an increase to compensation or a decrease to compensation?

Mayor Craig answered the facts that we know are that there are inequities within the City of Manchester from one department to the other with employees doing the same jobs. We know that there has not been a new pay scale since 1999 so roughly 23 years and things have changed drastically in that time. The benefit of having and insuring that

there is equity among our employees is both from an attraction perspective where we have a lot of departments who are looking to hire employees but also from a retention perspective. We need to retain the employees that we have here in the City of Manchester that have the experience. To answer your question, we don't know but those are the facts that we do know. There are inequities and we need to fix those instead of doing these one offs. To your point, Alderman Levasseur, it was great that we had a 14-0 vote on all of the city contracts. It was fantastic and I can't thank Alderman Cavanaugh enough for helping with that but we are still getting requests in HR and we probably have requests for about 20 different employees to change salaries or grades right now. That is the issue that we need to address city-wide.

Alderman George-Kelly stated I think as a member of the HR Committee that is a really important point to think about. We continue to get multiple requests for one off changes and if we are not granting those requests we are continuing to lose employees in our city. If we don't do this and we don't look at how we can make sure that there are equitable livable wages across the city, we are going to continue to have a difficult time both recruiting employees into our city as well as retaining staff across the city. Although \$750,000 does seem like a large amount, I think that if we pick the right consultant with true expertise that can help us to be able to come alongside the expertise that we all have that it will probably not cost \$750,000 in the end.

Alderman Levasseur stated every single meeting that I have been here, I see a list of changes for parking. Everybody wants zoning and parking changes and it is amazing that nobody has ever had to have a special committee to come in for the whole city to decide that every street should have the same exact parking and the same striping and the same signs on them. We don't have that. We have a committee that people come to and those people on that committee make those decisions. We have been making those reclassification decisions on a case-by-case basis. We just changed a whole department...I think we gave the refuse collectors a pay scale from a whole other group and moved them up and they got a very good bump. We have the intelligence and the smarts and the experts. It is okay if they come in and ask us for changes. We have been making these changes on a case-by-case basis. It has been working. It is not perfect but I can just tell you this and keep this in mind and I want it on the record that if

you come in with something less generous, it is not going to pass. It is not going to pass because some of the Board members aren't going to vote for it and it is certainly not going to pass with the unions. So if you are going to create a different system, you better get the unions involved now before we go and hire another company and waste this money. Everybody here has voted for all of these changes and I rarely have ever seen a change that has been requested that has not been given or granted by our department heads. The department heads know their departments and they know when they can't hire somebody and they need maybe a two-step jump in an economy like today. A year from now or not more than two years from now we aren't going to be worrying about getting employees. It is going to be a different world we are going to be living in. That is a fact. I just don't see why we need to go hire a corporation or some HR Director or whatever company that is going to come in to tell us how to do our business. We have been doing this business. We do it well. We have an HR Committee and we have an HR Director and we have department heads that know how to ask and know how to jump salary increases and move things along. I just think this is a waste of money and by the way what is the name of the one-time account. Is it called the one-time account or is it the economic development account?

Sharon Wickens, Finance Officer, answered it is the special revenue reserve account.

Alderman Levasseur asked with \$3.8 million in it.

Ms. Wickens replied yes.

Alderman Levasseur stated well I have given my \$.55.

Alderman Cavanaugh moved to approve. **Alderman Long** duly seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Cavanaugh, Stewart, Long, Fajardo, T. Sapienza, Trisciani, Heath, Burkush, Barry, Gamache and George-Kelly voted yea. Aldermen Sharonov, Levasseur, and E. Sapienza voted nay. The motion carried.

25. Report(s) of the Committee on Public Safety, Health & Traffic, if available.

The Committee on Public Safety, Health & Traffic respectfully recommends, after due and careful consideration, that the request from Fuss & O'Neil to add a painted crosswalk across the frontage of the Fire Station at 100 Merrimack Street be approved.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Barry**, it was voted to accept the report and adopt its recommendation.*

26. Report(s) of the Committee on Lands & Buildings, if available.

There were none.

27. Resolutions:

"Amending the FY2022 & FY2023 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating and transferring funds in the amount of Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000) for the FY2022 CIP 611122 Helping Hands - 140-142 Central Street Renovation Project."

"Amending the FY2022 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Sixty-Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$65,500) for CIP 211922 American Rescue Plan Act funding for Health Centers."

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Cavanaugh**, it was voted that the Resolutions be Enrolled.*

28. Bond Resolution:

"Authorizing Bonds, Notes or Lease Purchases in the amount of Two Million Eight Hundred Thirty One Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Seven Dollars (\$2,831,377) for the 2023 CIP Baseball Stadium Upgrades (DPW)."

***Alderman Long** moved to that the Bond Resolution be Enrolled. **Alderman Cavanaugh** duly seconded the motion.*

Alderman Levasseur stated the last time this came in front of us I think we were in the middle of some hotly contested issue and this kind of just passed by really quick and I

didn't get a chance to say anything about it. The fact that the city and the aldermen are voting for \$2,831,377 for the baseball stadium seems to me again another waste of taxpayer's money for a project that was supposed to be tax neutral when it was first conceived and never has been. The \$2,831,377...the list of laundry things that they want to do that I think includes increasing the size of the dugout and increasing the weight room and all of these types of things are certainly not necessary items for the city. If you go back to the 2005 contract, there are two parts that say "any improvements to the baseball stadium have to be borne by the owners of the baseball stadium" not by the City of Manchester. If Major League Baseball tells them they have to expand their dugouts or improve their weight rooms or whatever at the stadium, they have an opt out clause where they can actually write to MLB and ask to opt out of it. These aren't requirements. These are wants and they want \$2.8 million from the city taxpayers for the stadium. I don't even know if anybody goes to the games anymore but we are throwing almost \$3 million at these guys after we just gave them \$1 million for improvements to the stadium and they said they wouldn't come back with their hands out again and here they are three years later asking for a handout again. We don't have this kind of money to be throwing around like this right now. These aren't necessary items. This wasn't the sprinkler alarm or the sprinkler system, which was a problem. These aren't integral important things that are for public safety. These are wants. These are desires and wants for these guys and we shouldn't be bonding any more money. Where is this money going to come from for revenue? They are not paying us back for it. This is another handout and it is an unnecessary one. I ask this Board to say enough is enough.

Mayor Craig called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken. Aldermen Sharonov, Levasseur and E. Sapienza voted nay. Aldermen Trisciani, Heath, Burkush, Barry, Gamache, George-Kelly, Cavanaugh, Stewart, Long, Fajardo and T. Sapienza voted yea. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman E. Sapienza stated I have some questions for the Police Department. Has ShotSpotter come on board yet.

Steve Mangone, Assistant Police Chief, replied we are still waiting for the funding.

Alderman E. Sapienza asked how about the camera software.

Asst. Chief Mangone responded that is being implemented right now but we haven't received the funding yet for ShotSpotter and I don't know when it is going to come.

Alderman Long stated Alderman T. Sapienza won't be able to make the MDC meetings because they moved them to Thursdays at 8 AM so I would like to appoint Alderman Trisciani to the MDC Committee.

Alderman Levasseur asked did Schonna Green quit.

Mayor Craig answered no.

Alderman Burkush stated I would like to update the Board and the Ward 9 residents about the situation we have been dealing with down at the rail trail around Nutt's Pond. First, we want to extend our sympathies to the family of Mr. Whitmore. As we all know, this violent crime shouldn't have occurred and the assailant obviously shouldn't have been out on bail. For the past few months, we have been working very hard down at the south Manchester rail trail around Nutt's Pond. The area goes from Spring Garden down to Gold Street and then continues south as we know down to the Cracker Barrel sign. We have been working together and have had four clean-ups with many volunteers including South Little League, Manchester Urban Ponds, and the Manchester Moves rail trail group. We have had engaged neighborhood activists. Jason B. is one of the ones who works very hard down there weekly taking garbage cans out so the city can pick them up. This gentleman has also worked trimming brush with his own equipment. He has worked with Tom Mattson to clean-up the area. We have been working with city staff. I can't say enough about Parks & Recreation and DPW and the Fire Department in helping us clean-up the area. Actually, Alderman Trisciani and I met with the new Parks Project Manager and we talked about some really interesting ideas when we were down walking the trail on 8/22. Some of the ideas

are a fit park and a rail trail around Nutt's Pond and different plantings of different species and just cleaning up the area as we can. I was there on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week with DPW. They were cleaning out the area that we had done in the spring. There were no encampments in that area around the pond. The incident that occurred from our perspective was a very unfortunate thing but we are going to continue to work hard around that area. We have talked with some property owners. Brady Sullivan has property in the area and they are willing to work with us and also some of the other neighborhood businesses like Home Depot. Again, we are very sorry for Mr. Whitmore. Like you, I am very concerned but we have really good engagement. The police have been down there now on bikes and even with their ATV. We are sorry about the incident but we are going to continue to work hard to improve the area.

Mayor Craig responded thank you very much for providing that overview.

Alderman Barry stated pretty much on the same note as Alderman Barry, on the west side there is a group that is headed by a young lady named Barbara Charette and it is called The Piscataquog River Park group. Myself and some other aldermen are going to help them clean up the area and make sure it is safe for people. We had a few meetings already and we met with Parks & Recreation and the people involved with the homeless situation. We are focusing on keeping that area safe and cleaning it up. Tom Mattson again...Mark you are lucky to have someone like Tom. He is a great resource for the City of Manchester. He is familiar with the Piscataquog River Park and he is going to have the Parks & Recreation Department assist us. Anyone out there that wants to be involved, send me an email and I will get you in touch with Barbara Charette.

Alderman Levasseur stated Daniel Whitmore was 75 years old and a lifelong Manchester resident. Unfortunately, I was down there today for the wrong reason which was to go and put candles and certain things down with his granddaughter. I got to see the trail for the first time and I can't tell you how impressed I was with the trail itself. It is extremely wide and tarred. If you are a roller bladder or biker it is an amazing trail. It is unfortunate that this incident occurred. Jamie if you have been the one that has been really working to clean it, the place is spotless and congratulations to Parks &

Recreation and whoever is keeping the trail clean because it is really stunning. It is unfortunate that in the day and age that we are living in right now with these violent criminals that are allowed out on bail as a community we are afraid to go on these trails. I did see elderly people walking on the trail today. I saw women with their dogs walking. This is a very, very unfortunate incident. I don't want to politicize it. I just really feel bad for the gentleman who was murdered and his family. At the same time, it was good to see people out there and it is good to see that you are really keeping an eye on it and doing a good job keeping it clean. I just don't know what we can do to make the people in this city feel safer. We really have to do better. We have to do something. I don't know if we all have to go up there together as one group of people and yell at the legislature or what but we have to change these bail laws because if we don't do it we are the ones that pay the price as a city because there are too many good things going on in this city that are overshadowed and clouded over by this nonsense from our legislature and the fact that they are allowing these people to get out. It is not only here but it is everywhere in the United States and it is sickening. We have to step up and do something. We have to fight hard.

Mayor Craig stated in a conversation that Alderman Long and I had today as he was one of the co-sponsors of the bill with Ross Barry, to your point it is not political. This was a bi-partisan bill from representatives from Manchester and others who signed off on it. We talked about what we need to do moving forward and putting specifics in the bill. We have to talk more about it. Many of us advocated for it at the state level. There are groups in both parties that fought against it. I, too, had a conversation with the granddaughter today and she wants to help and I think that sharing her story unfortunately will help people understand the impact that this has had on our community and on families in the community. This isn't the first example. Asst. Chief Mangone could probably come up here and list over a dozen and it continues. It has to change.

Alderman Levasseur stated let this man not have died in vain and let this be a moment that we realize the severity of the issues that we are dealing with and let's hope that some good can come out of this.

Mayor Craig stated I want to bring your attention to the new business packet that was handed out. A piece of good news is that the city is one of the winners of the Build Back Better Regional Challenge Award together with ARMI, SNHU, UNH-Manchester, MTA, Southern NH Planning Commission and the Manchester Airport. It is \$44 million that will be coming into the City of Manchester. \$1.1 million will be coming directly to the city to create a Manchester Resiliency Council but this is all based on working together to support the bio-fabrication industry that Dean Kamen has started. The Council will be coming before this Board in October to present more information. I just want to thank everyone who participated in this. Shannon, my Chief of Staff, led the effort and I really want to thank her for all that she did in making sure that Manchester was one of the 21 winning communities throughout the country. I want to thank you and the many others. Our office is getting calls and I am sure aldermen are getting calls about fuel assistance programs. Within this packet there is some information that we have gathered in terms of places that residents can call whether it is the utilities and getting on a payment plan or the state fuel assistance programs or our Welfare Department or Salvation Army. Take a look at this. We are continuing to dig but I wanted to make sure that everyone had this information and it will be posted on the city website. There is a Ward 9 community meeting tomorrow night, September 7, at 6 PM. It is at Station 7 at 575 Calef Road. The state primary election is Tuesday, September 13 from 6 AM until 7 PM and you can find your polling location on the city website if you have any questions about that.

TABLED ITEMS

29. Ordinance Amendments:

"Amending Sections 33.025 & 33.026 (Compensation Manager) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester."

"Amending Sections 33.025 & 33.026 (Human Resources Analyst) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester."

"Amending Sections 33.024, 33.025 & 33.026 (Project Coordinator) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester."

"Amending Sections 33.025 & 33.026 (Water Works Director) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester."

"Amending Sections 33.025 & 33.026 (Water Works Deputy Director-Finance and Administration) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester."

"Amending Sections 33.025 & 33.026 (Water Works Deputy Director-Water Treatment and Supply) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester."

"Amending Sections 33.025 & 33.026 (Water Works Deputy Director-Water Distribution) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester."

These items remained on the table.

ADJOURNMENT

*There being no further business, on motion of **Alderman Cavanaugh**, duly seconded by **Alderman Long**, it was voted to adjourn.*

A True Record. Attest.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Normand". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

City Clerk