

BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

March 7, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Mayor Craig called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Cavanaugh, Stewart, Long, Fajardo, T. Sapienza, 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.

Brendan Lemay, Ward 8, stated:

I am an organizer with Rights & Democracy and our group the Manchester Housing Alliance has sent me here to speak on their behalf tonight. I have two main messages – one of praise and one of concern. To start off with, our concern is that we are unclear about the status of the Pearl Street lot that is about to be converted into housing. The Zoning Board will be hearing this developer's request for a variance on Thursday and of the 254 market rate units, will any of those be set aside for voucher holders? Currently hundreds of voucher holders are living in hotels and homeless shelters because they cannot find a landlord who will accept them. Any of these units that are being marked as affordable, that is still 80% of the area median income and according to NH Housing, that is a single parent making just under \$56,000 or about \$27/hour. We just fought to raise the minimum wage of all city workers and contractors up to \$15/hour meaning that a Manchester city employee still would be unable to afford an affordable housing unit. We need more housing for those on fixed incomes and others who make 0-80% of the median area income. Our main concern from the Manchester Housing Alliance is that as a collective, we spend countless hours following the Planning, Zoning and Aldermanic Boards yet it has not been clear to us just what exactly the public benefit will be for giving away public land to private interests. We acknowledge that private

developers will be how we build our way out of the housing crisis. Especially when we are dealing with public land, we are entitled to make sure that the public benefits from this transfer. Again, we just want to make sure that people are going to be able to afford these apartments that we are giving government land for. On a more positive note, we are glad that the Board will be hearing an ordinance amending the zoning ordinance, Chapter 155. As I am sure you all know, this would lower school impact fees for dwelling units with less than two bedrooms and less than 900 square feet. We think that this would lower barriers to adding more housing units and would be an overall benefit to the residents of Manchester. By allowing the builders of these smaller units to avoid going to the Zoning Board for a variance, it will lower the time and cost it takes to get these built. We look forward to the Board cutting red tape and making housing easier to build. Thank you very much.

*On motion of **Alderman E. Sapienza**, duly seconded by **Alderman Heath**, it was voted to take all comments under advisement and further to receive and file any written documentation presented.*

CONSENT AGENDA

Information to be Received and Filed

3. Communication from Peter Chiesa, Deputy City Solicitor, providing an update on pending lawsuits against the City.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS, ENROLLMENT AND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

4. Advising that the update on the Revolving Loan Fund has been accepted.
(Unanimous vote)
5. Advising that the Finance Department reports:
 - Accounts receivable over 90 days
 - Aging report
 - Outstanding receivableshave been accepted.
(Unanimous vote)

6. Advising that the Financial Report for the first seven months of FY23 has been accepted.
(Unanimous vote)
7. Recommending that the following ordinance amendments:

“Amending Chapter 30: City Officials & Employees of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester by changing §30.11 Salary of Board of School Committee.”

“An Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 155 of the Manchester Code of Ordinances, to establish lower school impact fees for dwelling units with less than 2 bedrooms and less than 900 square feet of gross floor area and to make minor clarifications to existing language.”

ought to pass and be enrolled.
(Unanimous vote)

COMMITTEE ON LANDS AND BUILDINGS

8. Advising that the request from Dockside II Condominium Association to purchase property located on Riverfront Drive (Tax Map 105, Lot 8A) has been received and filed.
(Unanimous vote, with the exception of Alderman Levasseur who voted in opposition)
11. Recommending that the following Ordinance Amendment:

“Amending Section 36.40, Chapter 79-E Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive, by providing for additional years of potential tax relief and limiting the time upon which substantial rehabilitation or replacement must begin.”

ought to pass and be referred to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for technical review.
(Unanimous vote)

*HAVING READ THE CONSENT AGENDA, ON MOTION OF **ALDERMAN LONG**,
DULY SECONDED BY **ALDERMAN CAVANAUGH**, IT WAS VOTED TO APPROVE.*

Accept and Remand Funds

2. Donation in the amount of \$6,101.26 from the Manchester Rotary Club to the Health Department to replace and upgrade specialized electrical outlets and breaker systems at various schools that have been approved for dental van services.

Alderman T. Sapienza stated I think we should thank the Rotary Club for their generous donation to help us change the outlets so we can plug in the dental van.

*On motion of **Alderman T. Sapienza**, duly seconded by **Alderman Trisciani**, it was voted to accept and remand the funds for the purpose intended.*

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON LANDS AND BUILDINGS

9. Recommending that the request from the Manchester Police Department to design and construct a police training facility on a city-owned paved parking lot located on Hackett Hill Road be approved.
(Unanimous vote)

Mayor Craig stated Chief Aldenberg has requested that we table this item temporarily.

*On motion of **Alderman Cavanaugh**, duly seconded by **Alderman George-Kelly**, it was voted to table.*

10. Recommending that the request from the Economic Development Director to modify the Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive Application (RSA 79-E) be approved.
(Unanimous vote)

Alderman Cavanaugh stated there is a correction that the City Clerk will address.

Matthew Normand, City Clerk, stated Ms. Nazaka has a few corrections to the new application and this is on page 89 of 150 on your agenda. The first being a typo in Section 7 to reflect the Hillsborough County Superior Court accurately. Then she is adding an Item 10 that says "I hereby agree that the burden of proof is on all elements of the proposal and the proposal must be supported by proof that it conforms to all applicable standards and criteria by providing written findings or statements of factual information which are intended to demonstrate that the proposal complies with any and all applicable standards or criteria." I believe she has worked with the Solicitor's Office on that.

*On motion of **Alderman Heath**, duly seconded by **Alderman George-Kelly**, it was voted to accept the report as amended, and adopt its recommendation.*

REGULAR BUSINESS

12. Nominations:

Airport Commission

Marc Tremblay to succeed August Fromuth, term to expire March 1, 2026

MDC Board of Directors

Joshua Wright to succeed Suzanne Brunelle, term to expire March 11, 2026

Mike Harrington to succeed Michael Reed, term to expire March 11, 2026

Rebecca Kane to fill a vacancy, term to expire March 11, 2024

Planning Board

Rafael Calderon as an alternate member, term to expire May 1, 2023

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

13. Confirmations:

Arts Commission

Randall Nielsen as a regular member, term to expire December 1, 2025

Amber Guilbeault as an alternate member, term to expire December 1, 2025

Michael Truong as a regular member, term to expire December 1, 2025

Personnel Appeals Board

Ernesto Burden as a regular member, term to expire March 1, 2026

MDC Board of Directors

Kyle Baker as a regular member, term to expire March 11, 2026

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Talia Burghard as an alternate member, term to expire March 1, 2026

Greg Powers as a regular member, term to expire March 1, 2026

Heritage Commission

Kaleigh Shaughnessy as an alternate member, term to expire July 1, 2024

Nadine Miller as an alternate member, term to expire July 1, 2024

Peter Richard as a regular member, term to expire July 1, 2025

Central Business Service District Board

Alex Horton as a regular member, term to expire May 1, 2025

Highway Commission

Andy Parent as a regular member, term to expire January 15, 2026

Office of Youth Services Advisory Board

Stacey Beeley as a regular member, term to expire January 1, 2026

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

- 14.** Communication from Mark Gomez, Chief of Parks, Recreation & Cemetery requesting acceptance of donation in the amount of \$102,920 from the Lids Foundation and Project Blackboard for the renovation of the Wolfe Park basketball courts, and authorization for the Public Works Director to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

***Alderman Barry** moved to accept and remand the funds for the purpose intended and authorize the Public Works Director to sign the MOU. **Alderman Burkush** duly seconded the motion. Mayor Craig called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.*

- 15.** Report(s) of the Committee on Community Improvement, if available.

There were none.

- 16.** 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 Peter Telge, Stark Mill Brewery, to place tables on the city green space adjacent to their property and use the public parking lot on the west side under the Amoskeag Bridge from April 15 through October 15, 2023 from 11 a.m. until 11 p.m. at a cost of \$1,260 be approved. The Committee further recommends that the jersey barriers be placed at the discretion of the Public Works Department.

***Alderman Barry** moved to accept the report and adopt its recommendations.*

***Alderman Levasseur** duly seconded the motion.*

Alderman Trisciani stated I just want to confirm whether or not the other businesses in that building were consulted and allowed to weigh in on this. I know that last year there were some challenges with parking for those businesses during the day when the tables were set up and not in use.

Jodie Nazaka, Economic Development Director, stated this application actually went through the City Clerk's Office. The Economic Development Office was not involved. Even last year when this application moved forward it was separate from the outdoor dining application we were running on Elm Street. I am not aware if the people or businesses in that condo building have had the opportunity to weigh in.

Alderman Trisciani stated I think before approving this we should be checking in with the businesses to make sure they are okay with this and that it is not impacting the parking for their employees and clients.

Ms. Nazaka stated I am not sure if that was part of the application.

City Clerk Normand responded this is something that is typically coordinated by Economic Development and Parking. Mr. Telge did testify at the committee meeting this evening that he did reach out to all of the area businesses that would be affected. He claimed that there were no issues that came up.

Ms. Nazaka stated there is a condo association in that building and I am not sure if they have signed off on it.

Alderman Trisciani stated I would just want to make sure that there is sign-off and confirmation from them because we did get calls about it last year and there were some challenges.

Alderman Long stated my understanding is there is one company in that condo association, WZID, that is not in favor of this because they are going to have to walk an extra 20 feet from where they park. There is parking, however, they like parking in this spot because it is 10 feet from their business. Once we approve this, they will have to park 20 feet from their business. There is only one business that was opposed to this and it is WZID.

Ms. Nazaka stated just for the record, too, the Economic Development Office has not been a part of this application process so I haven't even actually seen the application that was submitted. I did provide some feedback to Mr. Telge when he reached out asking about tying it into last year's outdoor dining approvals and I let him know that we are not moving forward with that program this year since there is no justification to tie it back to any type of indoor dining restrictions or social distancing. I let him know that it wouldn't be associated with any approvals that were provided last year.

Mayor Craig called for a vote. *The motion carried with Aldermen Stewart and Trisciani duly recorded in opposition.*

17. 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 the Public Health Director for \$6,958 in city funds to cover the Public Health Dental Assistant position for three months due to the lack of Medicaid revenue be approved with money coming out of the contingency account.

Alderman Cavanaugh moved to accept the report and adopt its recommendation.

Alderman Levasseur duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Cavanaugh stated in committee we voted to take the money out of contingency and I just want to check with Sharon to see if that is appropriate and she agrees.

Sharon Wickens, Finance Director, responded yes this money can come out of contingency.

Mayor Craig called for a vote. *There being none opposed, the motion carried.*

The Committee on Human Resources/Insurance respectfully recommends, after due and careful consideration, that the request from the Public Health Director to add an Overdose Prevention Outreach Worker, grade 20, to her complement be approved.

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

18. Ordinances:

“Amending Chapter 30: City Officials & Employees of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manchester by changing §30.11 Salary of Board of School Committee.”

“An Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 155 of the Manchester Code of Ordinances, to establish lower school impact fees for dwelling units with less than 2 bedrooms and less than 900 square feet of gross floor area and to make minor clarifications to existing language.”

*On motion of **Alderman Cavanaugh**, duly seconded by **Alderman Stewart**, it was voted to waive the reading by titles only.*

*These ordinances having had their final reading by title only, on motion of **Alderman Burkush**, duly seconded by **Alderman Heath**, it was voted to Ordain.*

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman George-Kelly stated I would like to have Adrienne come up and give us an update on how things are going in the city shelter and what the next steps are with the shelter closing at the end of April.

Adrienne Beloin, Director of Homelessness Initiatives, stated the city shelters are closing at the end of April. Things have been going very well. We are right in the middle of these winter emergency sheltering efforts. There has been a lot of attention and focus put on kind of standing up the operations and we are still kind of getting through that. Staffing has been difficult and all of those different pieces are coming together now. What we found is that by providing particularly the 40 cots and the day services we are providing at the Beech Street location, it has been a wonderful addition to the service provisions in the city for the homeless population. We found that there were folks that were otherwise not captured by homelessness services and other service capacities coming to Beech Street and are reconnecting to homeless services and Healthcare for the Homeless, and Manchester Mental Health. FIT has been providing outreach there and connecting people to our coordinated entry system to connect to affordable housing. From Day 1 we have had service providers coming in the doors, getting acclimated to the space and really just doing this in-reach instead of outreach effort, which I know is the most effective way to do this work. It is very difficult to sit down and do lengthy assessments and connection to services and form relationships with people when you are outside or in tents and doing what traditional outreach does. Having an in-reach opportunity has just been extremely valuable. We think we have

created a lot of stability and at the end of this effort my goal is to make sure that we are maximizing all of that potential during the time that we are open. I will be coming back to all of you with some really good statistics on who we served and what we understand about them and their needs and what we have been able to connect them to. That will be very valuable for us. The hope is that we continue to find ways to provide that kind of support in the city where it is needed. Just today, I met with my internal planning committee with the other departments in the city. We had 18 people at the table who are all from city departments that are not solely dedicated to homelessness but are very connected to homelessness in the city and have much of their departments focused on the management of the homelessness issues in the city. We had a good group of folks together today to talk about what our next steps are. The way I see us moving forward is moving our focused planning efforts from the safety and fatality prevention that we have been in the midst of just now during the winter to really the proactive initiatives that we are all eager to get to. Having this committee meet once a month internally and then having a counterpart committee with members of the Board and myself and members of the community from all the different stakeholder groups...having these two tandem committee groups meeting on a regular basis and informing each other and feeding information back and forth and having the transparency that we have all really needed, my hope is that we get to the groundwork of laying out how to solve these unthinkable and difficult to solve problems. The biggest goals are finding ways to create more affordable and supportive housing which is not an easy feat. We have a wait on what we are working with now but we know there has to be innovative ways to transform and do more. Mentioning the efforts that we have done in the emergency shelter, it is also about furthering the rehabilitation efforts with homeless individuals and figuring out the best ways to maximize the services that they get and the systems that serve them so we can produce better outcomes.

Alderman George-Kelly stated I appreciate you sharing that and it sounds like there is some really great work happening. I appreciate you being on top of it all and thinking ahead and being proactive and thinking about what is next for us. Thank you.

Alderman Levasseur stated my understanding is that money is going to run out from the state for housing for people in hotels. Are we anticipating that and is there an effort to

get more money from the state or what is the plan? I don't know where those people are going to go.

Mayor Craig stated Charleen has been working with Adrienne on this.

Charleen Michaud, Welfare Director, stated good news. There are a total of 54 families currently in single households who are here in Manchester hotels. That is down from 67 about a month ago. Whether we look at this in terms of the families or the single households without children, again the numbers are coming down. Those households that are without shelter, their hotel stay ends as of April 1. Those with shelter will be able to continue to stay in hotels until June 15. The idea is to get the kids through the school year. We are actively working as a department with those individuals who are willing to work with us. We have reached out by phone to every single family and we have sent out emails most recently. We sent an email out just this past week specifically outlining what we think those individuals should be doing to improve their circumstances. Things like saving the money that they do have because currently none of the money they have coming in has to go towards their hotel costs. If they are working, have they filed their taxes and saving that money. There are wrap around services that are being provided to all of these households so it is not just our organization but also Southern NH Services, Manchester Mental Health, Amoskeag Health, and Families in Transition. There are a whole host of agencies working with these individuals to try to find them more permanent housing. Some of them I believe will return to homelessness and some of them will be returning to stay with family or friends where they were prior to being in the hotels. We are actively working with all of them who are willing to work with us.

Alderman Long stated I am anxious to see the deliverables because we haven't been seeing those. It will be nice to finally get something in front of us. My concern again is once we shut down Beech Street, the businesses are going to have an issue again. Is there something we are looking at to not have that happen?

Ms. Beloin responded that is what we are going to be tasked to figure out right. I don't have the solution for that at this moment but that is something the planning groups are

going to problem solve. The other thing I just wanted to mention that is a key component to this and a part of the long-term strategy is we have secured some national consultancy. I think I mentioned this before but we are going to have some national consultants come in that the city hosts. This would be for all of the community service providers and the CoC providers for them to come to the table with me and for us to provide all of the data and have a sophisticated analysis done and a system design clinic done for our entire network of care system for them to point out what the gaps are in services, where we haven't secured funding that we maybe could access and all of those pieces that we would like to grease the wheels in. That work is going to be coming soon too. It is all about coming together and having these groups be in motion so we can then implement the different steps.

Alderman Long asked so the timeline is quick.

Ms. Beloin answered we are meeting now. The meetings are happening and as we determine next steps, we are going to be laying them out and implementing them.

Alderman Long responded I am noticing now that there are people at the old police station and people back at the transportation center so I am thinking come April...

Mayor Craig interjected if they are on private property and they shouldn't be, we need to notify the Police Department. Like every winter when we have opened up an additional shelter, once the weather does start getting warm, we see a decrease in people that are staying at the shelter. I think we will probably see the same thing. For those that really want to participate and take advantage of the services, we can make those connections to another shelter, to housing or to a substance use disorder provider.

Alderman Long stated I am looking to avoid what happened last summer.

Mayor Craig responded we totally agree and will work on that as best we can.

Ms. Beloin stated the effort at this moment is to capture these folks that are at Beech Street. They are here and engaged and making connections so we are trying to maximize the outcome of that for when the shelter closes.

Alderman Long asked where are we with the GateHouse contract.

Ms. Beloin answered we are just waiting for them to send it back to us so we can review it. That is another initiative that we have going. It is furthering the access to substance use disorder treatment.

Alderman Long stated this is the opportune time for people who want help.

Alderman Fajardo stated I want to double-down on the timeline. When is the national consultancy going to be engaged and have they already been identified?

Ms. Beloin answered yes. We have been working with a group and we are kind of finalizing the contract. We don't have dates yet and we haven't announced who it is.

Alderman Fajardo asked is it your intent to work on a general strategy apart from what the national consultancy recommends or are you waiting for their recommendation to implement strategy or something else.

Ms. Beloin replied I think the consultancy will inform a piece of what our initiatives are for the city and that piece is more the system design. I have always known that we need to focus on affordable housing and the availability of that. That is one piece. Then there is the communication and collaboration of our systems and what is working and is not working. That is another piece where they come in because they are really going to be looking at the integrated network of providers that we have and how well we are not duplicating services and working together as a group and maximizing the outcomes and measuring those outcomes together. They are going to point us in the direction of what other cities our size have done, what are the best practices, and point us in the right way so that the CoC and service providers in the city can work together. That is just one piece of that puzzle that the consultancy will provide.

Alderman Fajardo asked can you please come back at our April meeting and update the Board on this.

Ms. Beloin answered yes.

Alderman Long stated Charleen might know this but Section 8 is that the 30% or lower of AMI.

Ms. Michaud responded Section 8, which is now Housing Choice, is about 30% of a person's income.

Alderman Long stated I wanted to provide some clarification on the Pearl Street lot. First of all, we didn't give them the land. They bought it. Secondly, there are 60 units, 10 of which are 80% workforce housing and 50 units are affordable housing. There will be some Section 8 units. We bought the garages as an investment. I just wanted to make that clear. We did not give them the land.

Alderman Levasseur stated on the issue of the Pearl Street lot, I don't remember taking any votes on the parking garages. I thought we were still waiting for information on the TIF. I saw that they were going in front of Planning and I don't know if that was a step that they wanted to take before they come back to us for approval. I don't remember voting to bond the money because they said they were going to come back and tell us what their best price was on those parking garages. Am I correct?

Mayor Craig stated we did not vote on it and the Economic Development Office is coming forward with a TIF.

Alderman Levasseur stated so they are going ahead and making sure they get Planning approval before they come to us again and then we will get some numbers and some ideas of what those costs will be and that will be a big vote. We would need a 10 vote majority to bond the garages.

Mayor Craig responded yes.

Alderman Levasseur stated I don't need anybody to come up but they were going to put the development in the Hartnett lot first but now they are going with Pearl Street first. Did they switch those?

Mayor Craig answered yes.

Alderman Stewart stated I just wanted to take a moment to note that in the last four months, including several in recent weeks, we have had seven collisions between motor vehicles and pedestrians here in the city. That is since November where we had seven collisions where a car has collided with a human being. Two of these victims died. The other five sustained serious injuries and in some cases life-threatening injuries. I think all too often we get these emails from the Police Department and tend to shrug off those types of collisions as driver error or accidents that can't be avoided which I don't think is true. I will say that like homelessness and gun violence, nationwide we are seeing pedestrian and motor vehicle collisions on the increase. I would like to focus more in Manchester on making our streets safer. In the coming weeks and months, I would love to bring forward a proposal to discuss this in the Public Safety Committee. I would love to see more data analysis of all of these crashes, not just the seven that occurred in the last two months but going back several years and figuring out where they occurred and when and what the contributing factors were and to the extent that we can learn from those, make some design changes to the roads. I would also like to see increased enforcement and I would love to see us be able to give the Police Department more money for their traffic division for increased enforcement; equitable enforcement of the traffic laws in the city. I would also like to see us encourage the court system as we often do in other areas to really enforce prosecution of these crimes where people are getting injured or dying. I think all too often in my observation, and admittedly I don't have data just anecdotal but a lot of times the charges are, if not dropped, reduced significantly as part of plea deals and otherwise. I would also love to see some public information campaigns on safe driving. We haven't seen those in a few decades but it is definitely necessary not just for people driving under the influence but being distracted by things. I would encourage all of us to just be more observant and aware as we are

driving. Human beings are very, very fragile and even at low speeds, if someone gets hit by a car there is going to be serious damage if not death. I just wanted to say that. Thank you.

Alderman Levasseur stated Alderman Stewart brings up a good point. I spent some time a couple of days ago on Elm and West Merrimack Street and as somebody who has literally lived on this block for many years with an office around the corner, I am actually terrified of driving down here. You know how you sometimes get behind the Sunday driver who is going 10 miles an hour? I am the Sunday driver when it comes to downtown because I don't know what it is but people for some reason think they have a right to that crosswalk even when the light is green. When the light is red, they aren't stopping. They don't even look. They just walk across the street. It is really scary to drive down here. I know there are a lot of issues in this area. I know it is all over the city and there have been a few other ones but I don't know if there is some perception that they have the right to the crosswalk because there is a crosswalk. I can't imagine we can put up any more signs saying stop for the light but we really need to do something because when this weather gets better, they are all going to be out. I am sure you have seen it Mayor and everybody who comes down here that they don't stop for the traffic lights and they won't wait for the walk signs and people who are driving see their light is green and take rights or lefts or go through them. If you are going to have police officers standing around watching people cross the street instead of handing out tickets they could just remind people that they have to stop when there are traffic lights because they are saving their lives by doing so.

Mayor Craig stated I don't know if Tim Clougherty or Chief Aldenberg have anything to add.

Tim Clougherty, Public Works Director, stated we can certainly look into the incidents that Alderman Stewart was talking about to see if there is any causation or commonality amongst them and see if we can come up with some recommendations for prevention in the future.

Allen Aldenberg, Police Chief, stated to your point alderman, in 2023 thus far we have had three pedestrian fatalities and two serious personal injuries on pedestrian versus vehicle. In 2022 we had two fatalities and two serious personal injuries. The three most recent ones that we have had that are fatalities at this point are the result of people not using the crosswalk when one is available within 100 feet of where the crash took place. There are other contributing factors like people wearing dark clothing at night. There are a lot of things that contribute to these crashes. A vast majority of the time, the operator of the motor vehicle is not at fault; the pedestrian is at fault for not abiding by the crosswalk to safely cross the street. None of these to my knowledge have occurred in a crosswalk. You make a valid point in terms of enforcement. I just had one enforcement officer retire so that is on the radar. We are going to start to do some things as the weather starts to turn to your point in terms of enforcement and education and some type of public messaging to get the word out. It is not about issuing a ticket. Sometimes it is about simply educating people and reminding them of the simple rules. Every time there is a fatal crash involving a pedestrian, we consult with the County Attorney's Office and they are the ultimate decider on whether charges will be brought forward against the operator. We just met with them recently on the three recent ones we had.

Alderman Long stated with respect to the crosswalks, is there a plan to repaint them sooner rather than later because I know some of them are really hard to make out.

Mr. Clougherty responded yes. We have a routine maintenance plan for painting crosswalks, parking stalls and what we call long lines which are double yellow, single white, and dash white. Similar to what the Chief just brought up, we just had two individuals resign from our traffic division. Those are the guys that do the striping so that was a conversation we had this afternoon about how we are going to tackle that this year.

Alderman Long replied I think that is an important thing.

Alderman Trisciani stated to Alderman Long's comment, people can go to See-Click-Fix if they have a crosswalk that is faded. I know that I entered one on Campbell Street and

within less than a week it was taken care of. So if the public is noticing that a crosswalk is not painted or the paint is faded, I would encourage people to go on the See-Click-Fix app and get that entered and DPW will put it on the radar. There is also a current program that I know we talked about at one community meeting where the Police Department is partnering with DOT at the state level on safe driving presentations. I know they piloted one in the fall but I think a lot of the community meetings had to stop during the winter months. I know those will pick up again with reminders on traffic safety and more education for the community as well.

Chief Aldenberg stated if I could just add Mayor, with regards to downtown the downtown walking patrol will be back the first week of April and one of their focuses will be on the pedestrian crosswalks on Elm Street.

Alderman Burkush stated tomorrow night in Ward 9 there is a community meeting at Station 7 at 6 PM. The Police Department will be there as well as the new Director of Youth Services. I hope to see Ward 9 residents come out.

*There being no further business, on motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Stewart**, 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