

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE LAWRENCE CITY COUNCIL

DATE: Tuesday, January 20, 2009

A **REGULAR MEETING** of the City Council was held on **Tuesday January 20, 2009** at 7: 06 p.m. in the City Council Chamber with all Members present. Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez arrived at 7:09 pm and Councilor Silva arrived at 7:21 p.m.

Approximately Forty-five [45] persons were present.

A Moment of Silence was held.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

I. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

Council President Blanchette informed the Council Members present that the minutes of City Council Meetings conducted Dec. 15, 2008 and Dec.16, 2008 were submitted by the City Clerk for consideration and acceptance of the City Council Members.

Upon the motion of Councilor Twomey to accept the minutes as presented duly seconded by Councilor Gonzalez, the Council Members present voted unanimously [7-0] to accept the minutes.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Council President Blanchette requested those who wished to provide public input and participation to present them-selves and address the City Council. Upon the invitation of Council President Blanchette, the following individuals addressed the City Council:

Sal Lupoli, Sal's Restaurant, 360 Merrimack Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in support of the Compass Collaborative project at the Riverwalk location.

Michael Cercone, 255 Lowell St., Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of affordable housing.

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Marianne Pelletier, MCCEO, spoke in favor of the Compass Collaborative project.

Meghan McKinley, Crowe 354 Merrimack Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of the Compass Collaborative project on behalf of Little Sprouts Daycare.

Tennis Lilly, 40 Spruce Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of the sale and proposed use of the Saunders School as a homeless shelter.

Elizabeth Rodriguez, 30 Cypress Avenue, Lawrence, MA appeared on behalf of Isabel Melendez and read from a letter provided by Ms. Melendez. She also stated her support for the use of the Saunders School.

Herminia Aviles, 490 Hampshire Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of the proposed development of Saunders School as a homeless shelter.

Marcia Dupuis 490 Hampshire Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of the use of the Saunders School as a homeless shelter.

Luz Pereida 490 Hampshire Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of the development of the Saunders School as a homeless shelter.

Anchea Mena, 490 Hampshire Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of the proposed development of the Saunders School as a homeless shelter.

Wildo Gomez, 490 Hampshire Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of the Saunders School project.

Gloria Gomez, 490 Hampshire Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of the Saunders School project.

Almida Santiago, 490 Hampshire Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of the Saunders School project.

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Julio Coronel, 490 Hampshire Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of the Saunders School project.

Respo Dreppa, 490 Hampshire Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of the Saunders School project.

Luis Baez, 490 Hampshire Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of the Saunders School project.

James Barnes, Community Development Director, spoke in support of the Saunders School project.

Milagros Grullon, Community Development Coordinator spoke in support of the Saunders School project.

Tama Kotelchuck, 18 Yale Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of the Saunders School project on behalf of Lawrence Community Works.

Susan Erazo, 4 Bennington Street, Lawrence, MA stated that she was terminated from her position as a parking attendant for the City Of Lawrence allegedly for theft. She stated that the allegations were false and that the City Council consider reinstating her to her position with the City Parking Commission.

Marilyn Mercier, 2 Grant Road, Lawrence, MA spoke in opposition to the development of the Saunders School as a homeless shelter.

Sam Carter, 490 Hampshire Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in favor of the Saunders School project.

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Frank Incropera, president of the Mount Vernon Neighborhood Association, 514 Mt. Vernon Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in opposition to the use of the Saunders School as a homeless shelter.

Dorothy Incropera, 514 Mt. Vernon Street, Lawrence, MA spoke in opposition to the use of the Saunders School as a homeless shelter.

Peter Takvorian, Lawrence Police Chief, discussed the high number of property foreclosures in regard to the decision to be made about the Saunders School.

Joseph D'Amico, 11 Lorenzo Road, Lawrence, MA questioned the purpose and meaning of "tabled" items on the City Council Agenda and suggested the item be addressed by the Council Members.

Marilda Gosselin, Lawrence, MA spoke in opposition to the proposed use of the Saunders School as a homeless shelter.

Ellie Curtin, residence, Brunswick House City, 198 Essex Street, Lawrence, MA complained about her car being towed from in front of her residence. She stated there is no security guard on duty and advocated for sticker parking near the Brunswick House.

Dan Clark, 1 Jasper Street, Lawrence, MA commented on Ms. Erago's loss of employment and asked the Council Members to consider her predicament.

III. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Doc.260/08: National Grid – request permission to locate poles, wires and fixtures on Cross Street – Hearing held- Approved

At the request of Council President Blanchette, the City Clerk read the public hearing notice regarding the above as published. Upon the conclusion of the Clerk's reading of the public notice, Council President Blanchette opened the public hearing portion of the

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proceedings and invited anyone who wished to be heard to present themselves before the Council Members.

Steve Soucy representing National Grid spoke in favor of the petition and explained the project plan.

Upon no further discussion or comment offered by anyone present, Council President Blanchette closed the public comment portion of the proceedings and called upon the Council Members present to offer comment or discussion.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Gonzalez presented a motion to approve the item as seconded by Councilor Abdo.

Council President Blanchette asked if there will be a double pole put in place at this location. Mr. Soucy explained that all equipment and wires will be transferred to a new pole put in place and the old pole will be removed.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Kolofos reiterated that the double pole has to be removed no later than six months. A discussion between Councilor Kolofos and Mr. Soucy ensued regarding the require removal of the double pole.

Upon no further discussion or comment offered by the Council Members present, Council President Blanchette closed the discussion portion of the hearing and called upon the Members present to consider the matter presented. Upon a motion to approve the measure presented by Councilor Gonzales, as seconded by Councilor Abdo, the Council Members present voted by roll call as follows [8-Yes;1-No] to approve National Grid's request for permission to locate poles, wires and fixtures on Cross Street.

Councilor Fielding – Yes
Councilor Gonzalez – Yes

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Councilor Moran – Yes
Councilor Abdoo – No
Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez – Yes
Councilor Twomey - Yes
Councilor Silva – Yes
Council Vice President Kolofoles – Yes
Council President Blanchette – Yes

Doc. 260/08: Approved

Doc. 283/08: National Grid – request permission to locate poles, wires and fixtures on Canal Street – Hearing held - Approved

At the request of Council President Blanchette, the City Clerk read the public hearing notice regarding the above as published. Upon the conclusion of the Clerk's reading of the public notice, Council President Blanchette opened the public hearing portion of the proceedings and invited anyone who wished to be heard to present themselves before the Council Members.

Steve Soucy, representing National Grid, explained and discussed the petition presented.

Upon no further public comment offered on the matter, Council President Blanchette closed the public hearing portion of the proceedings and called upon the Council Members present to offer comment or discussion.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Moran presented a motion to approve the measure. Councilor Gonzalez seconded the motion.

Upon a call for discussion Councilor Abdoo posed questions to Mr. Soucy regarding the placement of a temporary pole. Mr. Soucy explained and discussed the installation of the new pole.

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Upon no further discussion or comment offered by the Council Members present, Council President Blanchette closed the discussion portion of the hearing and called upon the Members present to consider the matter presented.

Upon a motion to approve the measure presented by Councilor Moran as seconded by Councilor Gonzalez, the Council Members present voted unanimously [9-0] to approve National Grid's request for permission to locate poles, wires and fixtures on Canal Street.

Doc. 283/08: Approved

IV: COMMUNICATION FROM MAYOR, CITY OFFICIALS & CITY ATTORNEY:

Doc.13/09: FY'09 Budget Status Report –B&F Director Mark Andrews to appear-Council Pres. Blanchette & Counc. Silva – Withdrawn

Council President Blanchette suggested there may be a future meeting on this item.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Kolofoles presented a motion to withdraw the measure as seconded by Councilor Moran and the Council Members present voted unanimously [9-0] to withdraw the item.

Doc.13/09: Withdrawn

Doc.21/09: Bridge Closings – traffic tie-up and delays – Common and South Union Streets, Casey Bridge, O'Leary Bridge- Council Vice President Kolofoles – Ref. to Ord.

Upon being recognized Councilor Kolofoles asked that the item be referred to the Ordinance Committee for further proceedings. Council President Blanchette referred the measure to the Ordinance Committee.

Doc.21/09: Ref. to Ord.

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V. APPROPRIATIONS-ORDERS-RESOLUTION:

Doc.12/09: Appropriation - Snow and Sanding - M.G.L. c. 44, sec. 31D- \$150,000 - Budget & Fin. Comm. – Approved

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Silva presented the report of the Budget & Finance Committee to approve the measure. The report was presented in the form of a motion seconded by Councilor Kolofoles and the Council Members present voted unanimously [9-0] to approve appropriation for snow and sanding-M.G.L. c.44, sec.31D for \$150,000.

Doc.12/09: Approved

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilor Silva presented a motion to take document 2/09, 3/09, 5/09, 7/09, and 8/09 out of the order appearing on the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilor Moran and unanimously approved by the Council Members present [9-0].

Doc.2/09: Appointment – Airport Commission – Charles Kolofoles – re-appointment – Pers. Comm. – Approved

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Abdo presented the report from the Personnel Committee in the form of a motion to re-appoint Charles Kolofoles to the Airport Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez and the Council Members present voted unanimously [8-0] to re-appoint Charles Kolofoles to the Airport Commission. [Councilor Kolofoles left the room]

Doc.2/09: Approved

Doc.3/09: Appointment – Airport Commission – Judge M. Stella – re-appointment – Pers. Comm. – Approved

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At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Abdo presented the report from the Personnel Committee in the form of a motion to re-appoint Judge M. Stella to the Airport Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilor Twomey and the Council Members present voted unanimously [8-0] to re-appoint Judge M. Stella to the Airport Commission. [Councilor Kolofos absent from room]

Doc.3/09: Approved

Doc.5/09: Appointment – Airport Commission – Paul Meli – re-appointment – Pers. Comm. - Approved

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Abdo presented the report from the Personnel Committee in the form of a motion to re-appoint Paul Meli to the Airport Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilor Twomey and the Council Members present voted unanimously [8-0] to re-appoint Paul Meli to the Airport Commission. [Councilor Kolofos absent from room]

Doc.5/09: Approved

Doc.7/09: Appointment – Airport Commission – Sharon Birchall – Pers. Comm. - Approved

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Abdo presented the report from the Personnel Committee in the form of a motion to appoint Sharon Birchall to the Airport Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez and the Council Members present voted unanimously [8-0] to appoint Sharon Birchall to the Airport Commission. [Councilor Kolofos absent from room]

Doc.7/09: Approved

Doc.8/09: Appointment – Airport Commission – William Pedrick – Pers. Comm. - Approved

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At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Abdo presented the report from the Personnel Committee in the form of a motion to appoint William Pedrick to the Airport Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilor Fielding and the Council Members present voted unanimously [8-0] to appoint William Pedrick to the Airport Commission. [Councilor Kolofos absent from room]

Doc.8/09: Approved

Upon being recognized Councilor Abdo presented a motion to take document 9/09 out of the order appearing on the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gonzalez and unanimously approved by the Council Members present [8-0].

Doc.9/09: Request for Resolution to benefit Ace Metal Finishing – Budget and Finance Comm. – Approved

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Silva presented the report of the Budget & Finance Committee to approve the measure. The report was presented in the form of a motion and seconded by Councilor Twomey.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez posed questions to Frank O'Connor, Jr. regarding the nature of the proposed resolution. Mr. Kostryn of Metal Finishing explained the purpose of the resolution presented.

Upon no further inquiry, comment or discussion the Council Members present voted unanimously [8-0] to approve the request for a resolution to benefit Ace Metal Finishing.

Doc.9/09: Approved

Doc.285/05: Disposition – 215-217 Abbott Street – Hous. Comm. – Approved

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez presented the report from the Housing Committee in the form of a motion to approve the

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disposition of 215-217 Abbott Street. The motion was seconded by Councilor Twomey and the Council Members present voted unanimously [8-0] to approve the disposition of 215-217 Abbott Street to Ruth and Steven Caisse, in the amount of \$6,700.00.[Councilor Kolofoles absent from room]

Doc. 285/05: Approved

Doc.135/07: Disposition – 127-133 Melvin Street – Hous. Comm. – Approved

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez presented the report from the Housing Committee in the form of a motion to approve the disposition of 127-133 Melvin Street. The motion was seconded by Councilor Twomey and the Council Members present voted unanimously [8-0] to approve the disposition of 127-133 Melvin Street to LFDEF, Inc. in the amount of \$15,000.00.[Councilor Kolofoles absent from room]

Doc. 135/07: Approved

Doc.139/07: Disposition – 46-54 Vine Street – Housing Committee - Approved

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez presented the report from the Housing Committee in the form of a motion to approve the disposition of 46-54 Vine Street. The motion was seconded by Councilor Twomey and the Council Members present voted unanimously [8-0] to approve the disposition of 46-54 Vine Street to Charles Hope Companies in the amount of \$31,000.00.[Councilor Kolofoles absent from room]

Doc. 139/07: Approved

Doc.291/07: Disposition – 15 Center Street – Housing Committee – Approved

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At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez presented the report from the Housing Committee in the form of a motion to approve the disposition of 15 Center Street. The motion was seconded by Councilor Twomey and the Council Members present voted unanimously [8-0] to approve the disposition of 15 Center Street to Arlington Social Club in the amount of \$8,000.00.[Councilor Kolofoles absent from room]

Doc. 291/07: Approved

Doc.292/07: Disposition – 7 Lowell Street – Housing Committee – Approved

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez presented the report from the Housing Committee in the form of a motion to approve the disposition of 7 Lowell Street. The motion was seconded by Councilor Twomey and the Council Members present voted unanimously [8-0] to approve the disposition of 7 Lowell Street to Church of God in the amount of \$15,000.00.[Councilor Kolofoles absent from room]

Doc. 292/07: Approved

Doc.134/08: Disposition – 56-58 Spruce Street – Housing Committee - Approved

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez presented the report from the Housing Committee in the form of a motion to approve the disposition of 56-58 Spruce Street. The motion was seconded by Councilor Twomey and the Council Members present voted unanimously [8-0] to approve the disposition of 56-58 Spruce Street to Gilberto Perez in the amount of \$7,200.00.[Councilor Kolofoles absent from room]

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Doc. 134/08: Approved

Doc.192/08: Disposition – 325 Broadway Street – Housing Committee - Approved

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez presented the report from the Housing Committee in the form of a motion to approve the disposition of 325 Broadway Street. The motion was seconded by Councilor Twomey and the Council Members present voted unanimously [8-0] to approve the disposition of 325 Broadway Street to Edward and Paola Cruz in the amount of \$15,400.00.[Councilor Kolofoles absent from room]

Doc. 192/08: Approved

Doc.289/07: Disposition – Saunders School Project – 243 South Broadway Street – Housing Committee - Tabled

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez presented the report from the Housing Committee in the form of a motion to send the disposition of the Saunders School Project to the full City Council without a recommendation.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez discussed the nature of proceedings and information obtained at the Housing Committee Meetings.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Fielding presented a motion to accept the report from the Housing Committee without a recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilor Twomey and the Council Members present voted unanimously [9-0] as follows, to accept the report from the Housing Committee.

Councilor Fielding – Yes
Councilor Gonzalez – Yes
Councilor Moran – Yes

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Councilor Abdoo – Yes
Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez – Yes
Councilor Twomey - Yes
Councilor Silva – Yes
Council Vice President Kolofoles – Yes
Council President Blanchette – Yes

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Fielding presented a motion to approve the disposition of the Saunders School Project [243 South Broadway] to Peabody Properties, Inc. in the amount of \$450,000.00. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gonzalez.

Upon a call for discussion, Councilor Abdoo discussed and commented about the input provided by individuals during the “public comment” portion of the proceedings who were not constituents of District E or abutters to the property subject to this item. Councilor Abdoo also discussed his knowledge about the problems of homelessness and hunger in the City of Lawrence and throughout the Commonwealth. Councilor Abdoo discussed and commented on the particulars of the proposal presented for consideration. Councilor Abdoo offered comment by comparing prior decisions for the development of areas in Lawrence that resulted in the loss of historic properties. He stated that he does not support the proposal presented.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Fielding stated that he disagrees with Councilor Abdoo’s statement that the location and areas around the location of the proposed construction lacks sufficient parking for the existing area residents and the employees and residents to be present in building once completed.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Twomey stated that he concurs with the concerns voiced by Councilor Abdoo giving reason for him also to not support the proposal submitted.

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Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez posed questions regarding the real property availability and offerings to Planning Director Michael Sweeney. Additional questions about the bid process regarding the real property offered for sale ensued between Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez and Director Sweeney. A discussion between Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez and Councilor Abdoos ensued regarding issues and concerns raised by Councilor Abdoos.

Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez resumed by posing further questions to Mr. Oaks of the Peabody Development Co. [proposed bidder and developer representative] regarding particulars of the proposed development.

Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez yielded the floor to Councilor Abdoos who posed specific questions to Mr. Oaks regarding the project.

Upon continuing, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez resumed by posing additional questions to Mr. Oaks regarding the anticipated management operations and use of revenues to assist other non-profit agencies. She discussed how residents of the completed facility would become involved and contribute to the Lawrence Community with Mr. Oaks.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Silva posed questions to Planning Director Sweeney regarding the bid process engaged by the Planning Office and how notices that the real property was available were announced and distributed in this matter. Mr. Sweeney stated that the notice of availability were sent to prospective purchasers thirty days after advertisement. Councilor Silva concluded by stating the proposed project needs greater scrutiny.

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Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Moran asked Planning Director Sweeney about the contract provision to complete the project. Mr. Sweeney stated that the project has to be diligently worked upon by taking positive steps toward completion or the project could be abandoned. Councilor Moran stated his concerns about the possibility that the developer could “back out” of the process and decline to proceed with any development plan without penalty or obligation. He suggested that the proposal presented is financially sound given the poor state of the real estate market.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Kolofos discussed the history of financial downturn over the course of the past few years. He discussed the need to develop a master plan for Lawrence. Councilor Kolofos posed questions to Planning Director Sweeney about the requirement of purchase and sale agreements pertaining to the sale of public property. Councilor Kolofos commented that the sale of City owned real property should be finalized no later than ninety days from the date of award.

Further discussion ensued between Councilor Kolofos and Councilor Moran regarding the method and manner of completing purchase and sale agreements.

[Councilor Twomey presented a motion to conduct Council business past 10:00 p.m. which was duly seconded by Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez and unanimously approved by the Council Members present]

Councilor Kolofos continued by posing questions to Director Sweeney concerning efforts implemented to promote economic development in the City of Lawrence. Councilor Kolofos commented specifically about particular aspects of the proposed project that he believes are not favorable to the City of Lawrence and he believes are not acceptable.

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Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez stated that a final decision on the item should not be considered until residents of the neighborhood are offered an opportunity to provide their input and discussion on a project that will have a direct impact on them.

Council President Blanchette discussed parliamentary procedures that may apply under circumstances suggested by the Council Members. He commented that neighborhood input may not have any bearing on the process required to be followed by the City through the Planning Office with particular regard to the project proposed and advertised as presented to the Council. Council President Blanchette also discussed the impact the item may or may not have on the 2009 fiscal budget.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Gonzalez stated that he supports the measure and believes the area is not overly congested in regard to resident parking and the impact the proposed project will have on density concerns.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Moran reiterated the need for City revenue is too dire to consider rejecting the monies being offered by the proposed bidder to develop the project.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Kolofos commented that wasted monies also present a problem. Councilor Kolofos commented on other various wasteful practices resulting from prior contracts entered into by the City Of Lawrence.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez requested that the Council Members again consider their intentions on the matter presented and that it may be prudent to proceed by obtaining input from the residents in the area affected by the

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development. She stated that it would be detrimental to defeat the measure without full and complete input and disclosure obtained through communication. She stated that if put to a vote that she would be voting in favor of the measure.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Abdoos stated that he is open, willing and available to any offer to discuss the project with residents and anyone else who may be interested in this project.

Upon no further comments, discussion or inquiry by the Council Members present, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez presented a motion to table the item as seconded by Councilor Moran. Upon vote of the Council Members present, the measure was tabled as follows: [7 - YES; 2 -NO]

Councilor Fielding – Yes
 Councilor Gonzalez – Yes
 Councilor Moran – Yes
 Councilor Abdoos – Yes
 Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez – Yes
 Councilor Twomey - No
 Councilor Silva – No
 Council Vice President Kolofoles – Yes
 Council President Blanchette – Yes

Doc.289/07: Tabled

A discussion ensued among the Council Members regarding contacting neighborhood residents and scheduling future meetings on this item.

Doc.249/08: Abandoned Property – 44 Washington Street – Housing Comm. – Approved/Declared Public Nuisance/Letter

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez presented the report from the Housing Committee in the form of a motion to declare 44 Washington Street as a public nuisance, which was duly seconded by Councilor Kolofoles

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and unanimously [9-0] voted upon by Council Members present. Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez suggested Attorney Boddy to draft a letter to the owner of the property or counsel regarding same.

Doc. 249/08: Declared Public Nuisance/Letter

**Doc.250/08: Lodging House – Green Street – complaints – Hsg. Comm. –
Approved/Letter to Licensing Comm.**

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez presented the report from the Housing Committee in the form of a motion to approve the item and stated that it may be of some benefit to request further investigation of the matter to the Licensing Commission with particular regard to known complaints.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Kolofoles and unanimously [7-0] voted upon by Council Members present [Councilor Moran and Councilor Gonzalez were not present in the Council Chamber at the time of the vote].

Doc. 250/08: Approved/Letter to Licensing Comm.

Upon the motion of Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez, seconded by Councilor Abdo, the following items were unanimously approved by the Council Members present [7-0] to consider them as a block.

Upon the motion of Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez, seconded by Councilor Abdo, the following items were declared surplus by unanimous vote of the Council Members present [7-0] [Councilor Moran and Councilor Gonzalez were not present in the Council Chamber at the time of the vote].

285/08 Surplus Declaration – 85 Bay State Road–Hous. Comm. - Declared Surplus
286/08 Surplus Declaration – 17 Beacon Street – Hous. Comm. - Declared Surplus

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- 287/08 Surplus Declaration – 449 Broadway – Hous. Comm. - Declared Surplus
- 288/08 Surplus Declaration – 453-457 Broadway–Hous. Comm. - Declared Surplus
- 289/08 Surplus Declaration – 50 Crosby Street – Hous. Comm.-Declared Surplus
- 290/08 Surplus Declaration – 147-149 Essex Street–Hous.Comm. - Declared Surplus
- 291/08 Surplus Declaration –102-104 Exchange Street –Hous. Comm.-Declared Surplus
- 292/08 Surplus Declaration – 86-90 Foster Street – Hous. Comm. – Declared Surplus
- 293/08 Surplus Declaration – 13-35 Haverhill Street – Hous. Comm. – Declared Surplus
- 294/08 Surplus Declaration – 37 Haverhill Street – Hous. Comm. – Declared Surplus
- 295/08 Surplus Declaration –197-203 Jackson Street –Hous. Comm. – Declared Surplus
- 296/08 Surplus Declaration – 49-51A Newbury Street–Hous. Comm.– Declared Surplus
- 297/08 Surplus Declaration – 59-59A Newbury Street – Hous. Comm.-Declared Surplus
- 298/08 Surplus Declaration – 61 Newbury Street – Hous. Comm. – Declared Surplus
- 299/08 Surplus Declaration – 219-225 Park Street – Hous. Comm. – Declared Surplus
- 300/08 Surplus Declaration – 50 Pleasant Street – Hous. Comm. – Declared Surplus
- 301/08 Surplus Declaration – Riverside Drive – Hous. Comm. – Declared Surplus
- 302/08 Surplus Declaration – 74 Springfield Street – Hous. Comm. – Declared Surplus
- 303/08 Surplus Declaration – 83-85½ Tremont Street –Hous. Comm – Declared Surplus
- 304/08 Surplus Declaration – Water Street Rear of 76 – Hous. Comm.-Declared Surplus
- 305/08 Surplus Declaration – Willow Street – Hous. Comm. – Declared Surplus

VII. WITHDRAWALS:

Council President Blanchette granted Councilor Silva the floor for the purpose of presenting matters concerning the withdrawal of pending matters before the Budget & Finance Committee.

Councilor Silva moved to present the matters listed below in “block” form for withdrawal from the Council agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilor Kolofoles and unanimously approved by the Council Members present [7-0] [Councilor Moran and Councilor Gonzalez were not present in the Council Chamber at the time of the vote].

The Council Members present voted unanimously [7-0] [Councilor Moran and Councilor Gonzalez were not present in the Council Chamber at the time of the vote] to withdraw the following matters from the City Council Agenda:

- 80/06 Water Plan – update and development – Budget and Finance Comm. -
Withdrawn

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- 220/07 Finance Control – to be established – Budget and Finance Comm. -
Withdrawn
36/08 Claims against he City – Budget and Finance Comm. - Withdrawn
234/08 Sovereign Bank – city bank accounts – Budget and Finance Comm. -
Withdrawn

Council President Blanchette granted Councilor Abdo the floor for the purpose of presenting matters concerning the withdrawal of pending matters before the Budget & Finance Committee.

Councilor Abdo moved to present the matters listed below in “block” form for withdrawal from the Council agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilor Twomey and unanimously approved by the Council Members present [7-0] [Councilor Moran and Councilor Gonzalez were not present in the Council Chamber at the time of the vote].

The Council Members present voted unanimously [7-0] [Councilor Moran and Councilor Gonzalez were not present in the Council Chamber at the time of the vote] to withdraw the following matters from the City Council Agenda:

- 242/06 Temporary Positions – 90 day ordinance – Pers. Comm. - Withdrawn
58/07 Employee Handbook – Pers. Comm. - Withdrawn
7/08 Personnel Director – Job performance – Pers. Comm. - Withdrawn

VIII. OLD BUSINESS: - None

IX. TABLED MATTERS:

The following items remained “tabled” without further action:

- 275/07 Marion Avenue – park to be named – Ord. Comm.
6B/08 City Contract Ordinance – Section 3.04.230- Ord. Comm.
22/08 Personnel Dept. – reorganization
236/08 National Grid–req. permission to place underground electric conduits on
Green St.-hear.
256/08 Parking – Prospect St/East Haverhill St- - removal of a 20 minute parking
sign

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X. NEW BUSINESS:

Council President Blanchette brought the matters listed below to the attention of the Council Members present and referred each to the Council Subcommittee as indicated:

- 14/09 Pvt. Patrick Donahue, WWI Veteran – Memorial – Counc. Twomey – Ref. to Ord.Cmt.
- 15/09 Parking – Broadway between Daisy and Park Streets – 30 min. to be deleted – Council Pres. Blanchette and City Attorney, Charles D. Boddy – Ref. to Ord. Cmt.
- 16/09 Parking – Chandler Street – amend current “no parking” restrictions to include said street in the alternate Parking Ordinance 10.36.031 – Council Vice Pres. Kolofoles – Ref. to Ord. Cmt.
- 17/09 National Grid – request to place underground electric conduits on Merrimack Street- Ref. to Ord. Cmt.
- 18/09 Handicapped Parking – 123 Garden Street – Andres Ramon – Ref. to Ord. Cmt.
- 19/09 Loading Zone – 250 Broadway – Mercedes Home Appliances – Counc. Moran – Ref. to Ord. Cmt.
- 20/09 Transient Vendor – Debra and Robert Laliberte – 209 Ferry Street – Ref. to Ord. Cmt.
- 22/09 DPW Water Division Re-organization – Frank McCann, DPW Director – Ref. to Ord. Cmt.
- 23/09 Water Treatment Plant–Contract approval for Maintenance & Operations–Carolyn Traficanti, Purchasing Agent – Ref. to Budget & Finance Cmt.
- 24/09 Acceptance of a Parkland Acquisition and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant for the renovation of Costello and Cronin Parks – James Barnes, Community Development Department Director – Ref. to Budget & Finance Cmt.

Items added during meeting

Doc.281/08: Revised Zoning Ordinances – Political Signage – Ord. Comm. -referred to Planning Board

At the request of Council President Blanchette, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez presented the report from the Ordinance Committee in the form of a motion to reconsider the item, as seconded by Councilor Silva and unanimously [7-0] voted upon by the Council Members present [Councilor Moran and Councilor Gonzalez were not present in the Council Chamber at the time of the vote].

Upon further consideration, Councilor Alvarez-Rodriguez presented a motion to refer the item to the Planning Board. The motion was seconded by Councilor Abdoo and the Councilor Members present voted unanimously [7-0] to refer the item to the Planning Board

[Tuesday, January 20, 2009]

for further consideration [Councilor Moran and Councilor Gonzalez were not present in the Council Chamber at the time of the vote].

Doc.281/08: Ref. to Planning Board

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Upon Motion of Councilor Kolofoles duly seconded by Councilor Silva, the Council Members present voted unanimously to Adjourn.

**ADJOURNED
(10:50p.m.)**

Attest:

William J. Maloney
City Clerk