

**METHUEN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
GREAT HALL, SEARLES BUILDING
March 1, 2010 - 7:00 p.m.**

Chairman John Cronin called the Regular meeting of the Methuen City Council, scheduled for March 1, 2010 to order with all members present

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

MOTION BY: Councilor Giordano seconded by Councilor Zanni, to accept the agenda as posted.

UPON VOTE: UNANIMOUS

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Fr Wilkes gave the Invocation. Everyone remained standing for the Pledge of Allegiance

A special moment of silence was given for former DPW employee, Marine War Veteran and friend Roland Chretien who passed away.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

MOTION BY: Councilor Zanni seconded by Councilor Hajjar to waive the reading and accept the minutes of previous meetings February 18,2010

UPON VOTE: UNANIMOUS

CORRESPONDENCE/PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Manzi presented a citation to Methuen resident Jeff Paulino, head grounds keeper of the Lowell Spinners Baseball Park who was named "Grounds Keeper of the Year" for his hard work and dedication.

Councilor Pappalardo read correspondence from Valarie Giarrusso of 32 Hampshire Circle asking Councilors to attend all meetings with an open mind and focus on what is best for Methuen.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Lynne Martineau spoke on behalf of Martineau Towing business. Ms Martineau is asking why the Mayor has chosen to initiate new contracts excluding Martineau Towing. The contract was overseen by the Chief of Police signed by the Mayor until 2010 when the Mayor put two contracts into effect with no knowledge to the Police Chief. Referencing 30 B this decision was made by the Mayor without consulting City Councilors. Ms Martineau stated that one would think this is a political choice rather than one that is the best interest of the city. The best interest of the city would be a contract that meets the criteria, owns and operates all necessary equipment to handle all jobs in the city and not outsource. Martineau Towing operates and owns all necessary equipment to provide the best service to the City for eighty years. Ms Martineau finds Mayor Manzi decision not in the best interest of the City. If the mayor has ample reasoning (as he stated 2-1-10) the answer would be easy. One must conclude the decision is political and she asked that the Mayor refer to the City's welcome message of respect dedication to working families and a place where businesses can grow and prosper. Ms Martineau thanked Council for their time.

Mark Paine, 20 Maplewood Ave, spoke of concerns he and neighbors have regarding T-Mobil cell tower proposed at 24 Maplewood Ave. The issue is before Zoning Board seeking approval and is requesting variances from Methuen Zoning Ordinances. The requests are for 250 feet setbacks from property lines and are looking to put the tower 60 feet from his property line. He is asking for help from Council. There was a third place study regarding the need and placement of the tower. He has requested a copy of the report (3 times) from the boards and has not received or been allowed access and is within his right to get the copy. There were two postponements by T-Mobil eight hours before the meeting. The next meeting is March 31st and he is asking that Council members be at that meeting to help represent the neighbors dealing with this issue.

Jack Burke, 49 Canobieola Road, spoke of transparency and openness. He thanked the Council and administration for the effort over the last years for the additions of agenda and links to the City Council web site. He would want the Administration to consider the addition of contracts (with a link) that are agenda items. Mr. Burke also spoke on TR-10-12 the omnibus powers for the Mayor. If this has been done by resolution for years why have we not made it a code? Submit an ordinance and give the Mayor omnibus powers to balance the budget effective May 15th of every year and continue the Mayor provide a Friday noontime report. He would recommend the reports be published on the web so the citizens can see at the end of every year where the money is, where it comes from, who has spent more and who has spent less.

Mayor Manzi stated that in terms of the cancellation of the cell tower meetings, T-Mobil has requested the cancellation twice. T-Mobil has not (as of yet) provided them information the City is requiring for them to move forward. This is an inconvenience but T-Mobil has the burden of proof because they are the ones asking for the variance. They do not meet the ordinance requirements (as he sees it). On their part there is a deficiency in filing they have the right under the law to request the postponements. We are obligated to give the continuance.

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Chairman Cronin asked if there is a window where T Mobil has to meet in filing this petition for getting the paperwork into the City. Can they keep continuing?

City Solicitor Peter McQuillan stated there is a window that states the Zoning Board has to have a public hearing and make a decision but it can be extended by agreement of the applicant and the Zoning Board for an extension or waiver of the 100-day period. It has to be prepared and signed by both parties and recorded with the City Clerk. This was done in both cases and the deadline is for the day before the March 31st meeting.

Chairman Cronin asked if the Zoning Board does not sign, does T-Mobile have the right to keep coming back or do they re-file from the beginning?

Solicitor McQuillan stated he would have to discuss that in an executive session and not in open session.

Councilor Campagnone asked how long can this go on?

Solicitor McQuillan stated the extensions have been mutual because the City has insisted on information over and above what has been provided. The applicant has provided most but not all of what the City needs for the purpose of a full comprehensive report for the purpose of the Zoning Board making an informed decision. There has not been any games or maneuvers everyone has been dealing very directly.

Councilor Pappalardo stated she had a conversation with the Mayor and he stated he gave an answer to the Martineaus at their meeting. They feel they have not received an answer. Mayor Manzi stated he gave a clear answer to the Martineaus.

Councilor Pappalardo asked the Mayor to write an answer to them.

Mayor Manzi stated he gave them a clear, unequivocal straight out answer as to why he took the action he took. It was not diplomatic language. It was clear, concise and without any doubt about what the main course of action was and why it happened. If the Solicitor clears him to do so he will send a letter.

Solicitor McQuillan stated he would discuss it with the Mayor after the meeting.

Mayor Manzi stated he gave a clear answer. He does not see the productivity in having another meeting. If he spoke on the phone he would use the exact same verbiage he used at the meeting in his office. Would not be any more or any less.

Councilor Kannan questioned the 250 feet requirement and 60 feet is unacceptable. T-Mobile was asked if there is another location and their attorney could not answer. How long can they continue in this area?

Solicitor McQuillan stated in his opinion there will be no further continuances. They will have a hearing on March 31st.

Councilor Kannan said if they do ask for a continuance she would like to see a letter come before Council. The 250 feet is a no brainier but the 60 ft is an issue (and the height) and zoning has the right to say find another location.

PUBLIC SERVICE
CONTRACTS

C-10-8 Fire Chief Employment Agreement

MOTION BY: Councilor Zanni seconded by Councilor Kannan to approve.

Councilor Giordano asked what the compensation would be?

City Auditor Thomas Kelly stated \$120,193.58 base pay. 2.3 times that of a firefighter and the ancillary payment.

Councilor Giordano questioned dues and subscriptions.

Chief Buote said it is budgeted through the fire department budget is a set line item that has been consistent over the years.

Auditor Thomas Kelly said he would get the information to Council.

Councilor Giordano questioned domicile and is that in all contracts?

Mayor Manzi stated Chief Buote is a Methuen resident and this has been consistent since Chief Gallant was hired. Each contract is different. There is no requirement under state law but it has been a standard provision.

Councilor Zanni believes the Fire Chief, Police Chief and Superintendent of schools should be people living in our community. Councilor Zanni asked what is the actual appointment date.

Chief Buote stated he was appointed June 30th and began July 1st 2009.

Councilor Pappalardo asked what his personal use for a vehicle in case of an emergency would be?

Chief Buote said the intent of that language is that he has use of the vehicle 24/7 because he would need it in the event of an emergency. It is his vehicle to use around the clock.

Councilor Pappalardo asked if he would spend a week's vacation away with the car?

Chief Buote stated he does not have any intention of doing that.

Mayor Manzi said it is his 24/7 and it would be the Chief's discretion. The Mayor does not see a limitation in this case (or the Police Chief). It comes down to the Chief's good judgment.

Councilor Pappalardo said she understood the 24/7 issues but she does not want him on a vacation with his family using that vehicle.

Mayor Manzi would agree but he does not see a person who has reached the high rank of Chief (or anyone) who would abuse it in that way.

Chief Buote stated if he is out of town and realistically not responding to an emergency he would use one of his own vehicles.

Councilor Zanni requested that the word "personal reasons" be deleted from the contract.

Councilor Lacey said Council couldn't do that because that is saying he cannot use it for anything personal and theatrically he can 24/7; he does not think the Chief is going to use the vehicle for vacation.

Councilor Pappalardo trusts the Chief's judgment but thinks the word personal should be deleted.

Councilor Hajjar asked if this contract is standard?

Mayor Manzi stated this is a standard three-year contract, does not fall under civil service. Department Heads upon appointment serve three years' terms.

Councilor Lahey said this is a three-year contract and pertains to the 10% cut. His contract is in effect for another two years because he has served one year based on not giving up the 10%.

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Chairman Cronin stated the numbers could change with the negotiations of a new fire contract because of the 2.3% higher than the highest paid firefighter could go up or down. Mayor Manzi agreed.

UPON VOTE: UNANIMOUS

OTHER OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Pappalardo asked for the status of the 40B sub committee that former Councilor Joseph Leone had started? He had thought there was money owed to the city. Mayor Manzi stated the State/IG is looking at two communities and there may be potential assessments levied against developers who had paperwork that did not meet the standard for profitability. He is watching that. He does not know if the sub committee has met.

Chair Cronin said the committee met one year ago.

The Mayor said he is not sure former Councilor Leone was correct about the money but will look into the matter there may be some potential. We can look at other communities and look at how it would apply to Methuen. The Mayor would work with a sub committee if the Council chooses to form another committee.

Councilor Zanni said there are three communities that were put in the 40B because they were over charged. We may have a ballot question on 40B and we should contact State legislatures because they are enacting a proposal to repeal 40B.

Chair Cronin stated he would call former Councilor Leone to get phone numbers for people at the State that he was dealing with and get information and then re-institute the committee to get involved with the State.

Mayor Manzi said he is watching and his perspective is to see what the IG is willing to do dealing with the other communities and as soon as he sees how they attack this and if we have the same similarities. We need to see what our filings look like and look to see if there is potential and there could be.

OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

TR-10-9 Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of council on Aging Formula Grant Executive office of Elder Affairs, Fiscal Year 2010

MOTION BY: Councilor Giordano seconded by Councilor Campagnone to adopt

UPON VOTE: UNANIMOUS

TR-10-10 Resolution Amending Traffic Rules and Regulations of the City of Methuen – Swan Street (remove from the table)

MOTION BY: (remove) Councilor Pappalardo seconded by Councilor Campagnone.

UPON VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION BY: Councilor Zanni seconded by Councilor Campagnone to adopt.

UPON VOTE: UNANIMOUS

ORDINANCES

TO-10-1 Ordinance Establishing Ten-Year Limit on Terms of Office for Boards and Commissions (Req. of Clr. Giordano) (remove from the table)

MOTION BY: (remove) Councilor Uliano seconded by Councilor Campagnone.

UPON VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION BY: Councilor Giordano seconded by Councilor Uliano to adopt.

Councilor Giordano asked when the ten years would start for Boards?

Chair Cronin said this would take effect thirty days after adoption.

Councilor Zanni stated there are nineteen boards in the city. There are nine vacancies. If this were enacted we would be going back in time. We would lose twenty-nine positions.

Councilor Zanni would agree that three positions are compensated. Assessors, GLSD, Licensing Boards receive a small stipend. Those positions could have limitations. There are people doing a good job serving for ten or fifteen years (and there are many). If Council does not want to re-appoint someone just vote him or her down. Paying positions he will agree but for voluntary positions he does not agree. People have done a good job for many years.

Councilor Kannan agreed with Councilor Zanni.

Councilor Giordano stated there is a check and balance and if a person is doing a good job for ten or fifteen years all they need is a 2/3 vote for Council to approve it again.

Instead of five votes they need six. Council has term limits. Why should someone sit on the Board for twenty years? After ten years it is time to move on.

Councilor Kannan said she would want someone with experience who knows what they are doing and wants to continue their service to the community.

Councilor Lahey stated he would support the Ordinance. If the Mayor has someone to appoint beyond the ten-year mark all that is needed is to have six councilors vote to appoint.

Councilor Zanni stated if there was a preponderance of people applying in the talent pool this would be fine but people are not applying to the talent pool. There are nine vacancies for different boards. Putting a ten-year cap on the individuals is not the message to send to the people who are giving their time voluntary. If it is a paid position he would agree but this is for volunteer boards many that are not filled. We do not have the people applying to the talent pool. If the person is not doing the job and Council does not want them Council has the option to vote them up or down. It is simple and we do not have to go through this issue.

Councilor Uliano said there are full rosters on the most important Boards in the community along with the paying Boards. Those are the Boards people want to get involved with. The incumbents always get back in. These people are very good but other people want to serve on these Boards. They do not fill out applications because they feel they will not be considered. Councilor Uliano will support this ordinance because there needs to be regulations for the higher Boards. Over ten years they would need a two thirds vote of the Council.

Councilor Pappalardo will support this ordinance. She has asked that the positions be put on the web site. That is helpful because people did not know there were openings. People can go to the web site and know what is out there and available and will be able to apply.

If the Mayor submits a name and they have been on for ten years they only need six votes to get approved.

UPON ROLL CALL: 6-yes 3-no (Clrs Zanni, Kannan, Hajjar)

TO- 10-2 Ordinance Establishing One Year Period before an Appointment of a Former City Councilor to a Board or Commission. (Req Clr Giordano) (remove from the table)

MOTION BY: (remove from the table) Councilor Kannan seconded by Councilor Pappalardo.

UPON VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION BY: Councilor Uliano seconded by Councilor Pappalardo to adopt.

Councilor Giordano stated this is simple. Any City Councilor leaving office would have to wait one year before they can be appointed to any Board or Commissions

Councilor Zanni said he would agree if there were stipends involved but if the position is voluntary and they have served the community for a number of years he does not see the need for this legislation.

UPON ROLL CALL: 6-yes 3-no (Clrs Cronin, Zanni, Kannan)

CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS

<u>Constable</u>	<u>Term to Expire</u>
A. Michael Alaimo, 198A Brookdale Ave., Methuen, MA	03/01/13

MOTION BY: Councilor Pappalardo seconded by Councilor Kannan to approve
Councilor Pappalardo stated that Council passed a resolution deleting all social security numbers from applications she asked again what has to be done to correct this problem. Mayor Manzi said he would take care of the mistake and send an email to the City Clerk.

UPON VOTE: 8-yes 1-no (Clr Cronin)

Mayor Manzi had to leave the Council meeting. Councilors posed questions. Councilor Pappalardo asked (regarding the last storm) if DPW or the City is going to get money.

Mayor Manzi said he had a conference call (today) he is not sure, he is going to try but the requisite for that type of aid is not there for this occurrence. It was not there with the last (year ago) occurrence that was more severe but we did get federal relief. DPW did a great job, the guys in the field worked hard and the Mayor sends out thanks to them and National Grid for their quick response and cooperation.

Councilor Pappalardo asked if DPW would go and pick up branches? Especially for the elderly who are not capable of disposing of the branches.

Mayor Manzi said he has lifted all charges at the transfer station. He needs to discuss that and is not sure he can do it again but will get back to Council after he assesses the cost.

Councilor Kannan asked for the Mayor to keep the street cleaning involving streets around Forest Lake at the top of the list because of the run off into the lake.

Mayor Manzi stated he would do that and prioritize those streets.

Councilor Uliano asked what the "emergency protocol" is and would he put it in the form of a letter so Council will know how to respond to constituents.

Mayor Manzi said the fire department line and police line were acting as emergencies lines. The City had a warming facility at the CGS staff by the Red Cross. We did not have the need for a full operation center but there was staff working. The flooding was

not as big a problem (as in the past) but some people were dislocated and there were people there for them on those lines.

Councilor Uliano said there were people with downed lines who had to wait till Monday because of the need of a wire inspector.

Mayor Manzi said a call to him (cell phone) would have dispatched inspectors immediately.

Councilor Pappalardo asked if the City is going to meet the deadline for the grant for Forest Lake?

Mayor Manzi responded “yes” we are going to meet the deadline to get the grant application completed.

Councilor Pappalardo asked if the City has gotten the money from the Toll Brothers?

Mayor Manzi stated they would have an application before the Planning Board meeting before March 9. They will ask to put up five model homes as opposed to the one the special permit currently allows. They will state in a letter to the Planning Board that the money will be due and payable on June 1 2010 (instead of June 30th).

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

1. TR-10-11 Resolution Declaring Parcel of Land in the City Methuen as Surplus Properties and Authorizing the Same for Sale – 23 Chase Street

MOTION BY: Councilor Zanni seconded by Councilor Uliano to approve for first read.

Councilor Pappalardo asked City Treasure Ann Gausteferro when the property was taken?

Ms Gausteferro responded 1968.

Councilor Pappalardo asked why the city waited so long to do anything with the land?

Ms Gausteferro said three years ago she and the Assessor’s, Inspectional, Conservation and Engineering went through all lots that were city owned to see if there were viable lots to sell for buildable lots. They did come up with some and the others were deemed wetlands or undersized. This (Chase St) is undersized. The reason it is before Council is because there has been a request to purchase the land and the process is that it goes to the various departments to see if the city should sell the land or keep it. This is an undersized lot and would have to go to zoning if one wanted to do something with the land. This is the first step in auctioning it off. It is then advertised in the newspaper all abutters are notified, and then it goes to an open auction.

Councilor Pappalardo questioned the assessment of the property from 2004 to 2006 from \$46,100 to \$82,400. Why is it now assessed at \$7,700?

Ms Gausteferro stated the assessed value in 2006 had issues on (few) parcels when the value was rolled into the system. It was assessed at more than 100% its value. In 2007 there is a drop. Prior this was assessed as a buildable lot. Going through the lots if it was deemed not buildable the assessment was corrected.

Councilor Pappalardo asked for a list of all surplus properties in Methuen.

Ms Gausteferro will provide council with all city owned parcels.

Councilor Kannan noted the drastic change from \$82,000 in 2006 to current. 21 Chase Street has a smaller piece of land with a two family house valued at \$54,500 (2010). 25

Chase Street is valued at \$77,000 (2010). Councilor Kannan does not want to see 23 Chase Street sold for \$7,700 because the abutting lots have a \$50,000 more value. Ms Guasteferro agreed and wants to auction it for the most amount of money the city can get. Ms Guasteferro said she would speak with Assessor John Cena because the information comes out of his office and have him review it.

Councilor Pappalardo said that the property was a buildable lot and had a house on it years ago why has it been deemed a non- buildable lot?

City Solicitor Peter McQuillan responded that it did not meet the zoning dimensions and is under sized. It has officially been designated a non-buildable lot.

Councilor Giordano asked the name of the person interested in purchasing the lot because he does not want it to go before zoning and approved as a buildable lot.

Ms Guasteferro said once this is declared surplus she has to put this out to auction.

UPON VOTE: UNANIMOUS

2 TR-10-12 Resolution Authorizing Transfers by Executive Order from General Government Departmental Budgetary Accounts and Other Available Funds to Satisfy Budgetary Requirements

MOTION BY: Councilor Zanni seconded by Councilor Pappalardo

Councilor Hajjar asked if this is standard operating procedure?

City Auditor Thomas Kelly stated this is to satisfy budgetary accounts. This would allow him to go and freeze accounts and work with department heads to find any surplus within their operating budget they can transfer out of the accounts so it does not have to be put on the tax recap sheet next fiscal year. It is standard procedure and is reported to the city council every month and is audited by our independent auditors.

Councilor Pappalardo asked how much money is in free cash and is he going to take money from free cash.

Mr. Kelly responded \$121,398.00; he is not taking money from free cash. There is \$470,790.00 in stabilization and he does not plan on taking any of that money from those accounts because we need to build them up if we are to build a new high school, we will need those reserves. This is to satisfy budgetary accounts. If this were not done he would have to prepare many resolutions to move things around and it would be cumbersome. He monitors all accounts and (if) makes transfers at the end of every month to take care of any outstanding issues. Presently the only issue is snow and ice that is (net) \$200,000 dollars in the hole. He is hoping with help from department heads he can address that deficit and will do that over the next month.

Councilor Hajjar asked if Mr. Kelly would strike the language “free cash” and take it from anywhere else. Our credit rating is based on the reserves and they are too low.

Mr. Kelly stated he does not have a problem taking out the “free cash”. This is to satisfy any budget deficits in order to have a surplus at years end and get back to the free cash position we once had that was up in the millions.

MOTION BY: Councilor Uliano to amend the resolution to exclude the language “free cash” from the body of the resolution seconded by Councilor Campagnone

UPON VOTE: UNANIMOUS

MOTION BY: Councilor Zanni seconded by Councilor Pappalardo to adopt TR-10-12 as amended.

UPON VOTE: UNANIMOUS

ORDINANCES

TO-10-3 Ordinance Revising Contract Authority of the Mayor (Req of Clr Pappalardo and Councilor Giordano)

MOTION BY: Councilor Uliano seconded by Councilor Pappalardo to adopt for first read.

Councilor Pappalardo stated this is reducing the amount of \$50,000 to \$25,000 so that all contracts \$25,000 and above come before Council. It is for outside contractors working for the city. This has nothing to do with in-house or city personal.

Councilor Lahey said anything over \$25,000 would include in house or out.

Councilor Zanni stated that Council has established a Finance Committee and we could have them look into this and find out how many contracts are over \$25,000 and come back with a report.

Councilor Kannan asked if this is a similar ordinance that was presented back in September by Councilor Lahey? Is Council allowed to bring this forward if it is similar to the ordinance back in September where it was voted (failed) 4/4.

Chairman Cronin stated if it is the same it cannot be brought forward for one year. He would have to review this and confer with the Solicitor.

Councilor Kannan said back in the year 2000 contract authority was raised from \$25,000 to \$50,000. If this is similar is Council allowed to speak on it at this time? She does not want to micro manage the Mayor. \$50,000 is not an extreme number with a \$182 million dollar budget.

Solicitor McQuillan stated he would have to review at the legislation. The measure brought forth by Councilor Lahey referenced the same ordinance but as to the subject matter he would have to review it.

Councilor Lahey said this does not cover as much as he would like but it does cover the portion of any contract pertaining to in-house employees. He does not see it as the same.

Councilor Giordano said this is a first read. The Solicitor will review it.

Solicitor McQuillan stated the measure Councilor Lahey introduced was an amendment, adding another provision to the existing ordinance. This (present) legislation is amending an existing ordinance.

Councilor Lahey said he specifically had stated in his legislation that it did not apply to the Mayor buying \$50,000 dollars worth of something. It was strictly an amendment to consultants, side letters and so forth.

Councilor Giordano stated that he has filed this legislation twice. This City Council has lost their power. This legislation is giving City Council the power to approve a contract \$25,000 dollars or more.

Councilor Pappalardo noted that when she met with the Solicitor and she asked if this was the same (legislature) that Councilor Lahey had previously filed, his answer to her was "no". Councilor Lahey's legislation was specifically dealing with people being hired back (after retirement) as a consultant. This ordinance is to reduce the \$50,000 dollar contract authority of the mayor to (outside contractors) \$25,000 dollars.

Solicitor McQuillan said this measure she is amending is reducing the figure of \$50,000 to \$25,000 the contract price that would have to go before Council for approval. Whether it is the purchase of paper clips or the hiring of a consultant. The provision being amended has to do with contracts subject to competitive bidding. Competitive bidding applies to services, equipment, materials, and consultants. Some matters do not have to

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be competitively bid. As the ordinance reads there is a competitive bid for a contract of \$50,000 dollars where the Mayor puts it out to bid and request the proposals where everything is complied within the statute (\$50,000 or less) does not come before Council. What the amendment is proposing is any contract competitively bid (whatever the reason) and falls within the Uniform Procurement Act, now has to go before Council. It does contemplate the purchase of services, material and equipment.

Councilor Pappalardo stated this (ordinance) is for contracts for a person coming into the city doing work for the city.

Solicitor McQuillan stated what they are changing are the contracts that were competitively bid subject to chapter 149 (public work projects) or 30B that applies to (practically) all other contracts the city enters into for the purpose of purchase. Whatever is competitively bid for \$25,000 or more goes before Council for confirmation.

Councilor Pappalardo said she researched other cities and towns and Methuen is the only city that has a fifty thousand dollar contract authority. Newburyport has a five thousand dollar limit; everything goes before their Council. Our Council has lost power. She is looking out for the taxpayers' money and where it is being spent. This is simple transparency.

Councilor Kannan asked for the next meeting to have a list of contracts the Mayor does approve for the \$50,000. She does not support this but will vote for first read. She would want to know how many contracts there are before the next meeting.

UPON VOTE: UNANIMOUS

ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD AND WELFARE OF THE COMMUNITY

Councilor Hajjar said he has no understanding of what the Mayor is using the contracts for and it would be helpful to get the information to the Finance Committee to understand what the limitations should be.

Councilor Pappalardo stated she is not trying to hand cuff the Mayor but feels \$25,000 dollars is fair.

Councilor Zanni stated he would volunteer as the third member for the Finance Committee

ADJOURN

MOTION BY: Councilor Zanni seconded by Councilor Uliano to adjourn.

UPON VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm

I do hereby certify that at a meeting of which a quorum was present, the foregoing minutes were adopted by the Methuen City Council by a unanimous vote on March 15,2010

Diane Lasonde/Council Secretary