

AGENDA

SPECIAL MEETING

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION/INFORMATION SYSTEMS

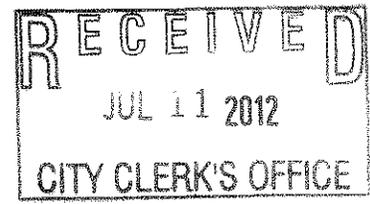
July 31, 2012

**Aldermen Greazzo, O'Neil,
Shea, Katsiantonis**

5:00 p.m.

**Aldermanic Chambers
City Hall (3rd Floor)**

1. Chairman Greazzo calls the meeting to order.
2. The Clerk calls the roll.
3. Communication from Alderman Roy regarding a Charter amendment for a special November election ballot.
Gentlemen, what is your pleasure?
4. There being no further business, a motion is in order to adjourn.



CITY OF MANCHESTER
Board of Aldermen

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

FROM: Jim Roy *JR*
Alderman – Ward 4

DATE: July 9, 2012

RE: Charter Amendment for Special November Election

Date: 7/17/12
On motion of Ald. Roy
Seconded by Ald. Greazzo
Voted to refer to the Committee on
Administration/Information Systems.

Matthew J. Starnes
City Clerk

After observing the difficulties the Board of Mayor and Aldermen experienced during our budget deliberations with the Manchester School District, it is my belief that now is the time to make the school district a department of the City of Manchester. I firmly believe that this amendment to the City Charter will better provide our board with an ability to properly analyze and hopefully assist in solving the difficult financial obligations the schools will face in the coming fiscal years.

My recommendation is that the following language be placed on a special election ballot to coincide with the State General Election on November 6, 2012:

Summary/Explanation: To amend the Charter of the City of Manchester, New Hampshire to provide that the City of Manchester, a municipal corporation, shall constitute a single school district, administered by the Board of School Committee as a department of the City of Manchester and that the mayor shall have control over the form and procedures for preparation and adoption of the school department budget.

Effective Date: January 1, 2013

This language reflects the identical language that was placed on the November 2001 ballot that passed by a majority of Manchester voters but was later ruled invalid by the courts due to a conflict with state law. That conflict has since been corrected and now is the time to send the question back to the citizens of Manchester.

I appreciate your consideration and support.

Amend the Charter of the City of Manchester, New Hampshire to provide that the school district shall be a department of the City and that the mayor shall have control over the form and procedures for preparation and adoption of the school department budget.

Article IV. School and School Committee, section 4.01 school district shall be amended to read as follows:

The school district is hereby incorporated as a department of the City of Manchester. The City of Manchester, a municipal corporation, shall constitute a single school district. The Board of School Committee shall administer the school department. Except as otherwise provided by law the school department shall be subject to the same duties, responsibilities, ordinances and regulations as other city departments. Wherever this charter refers to the school district, school district shall also mean school department.

Article VI. Budgets and Appropriations, section 6.03 (a) Budget Formulation, Submission and Message shall be amended to read as follows:

The mayor shall establish the form and organization of procedures for preparation and adoption of the annual budget, including the school department budget, the capital improvement budget, and other budget instruments and plans for future fiscal periods as the mayor deems appropriate and which shall conform to all city ordinances concerning budgets and fiscal matters. Such procedures shall require that all budgets include all proposed expenditures according to general objects of expenditure and the proposed use and all anticipated revenue.

Article VI. Budgets and Appropriations, section 6.06 School District Budget shall be amended to read as follows:

The school committee shall prepare and submit its budget proposal. The budget shall be subject to the approval of the board of mayor and aldermen. The budget shall be submitted in accordance with the budget form, organization of procedures and schedule established by the mayor under Section 6.03 (a). The board of mayor and aldermen shall accept such budget as submitted, or reject it and return it to the school committee along with the explanation for rejection and the maximum dollar amount which the board of mayor and aldermen will approve. The school committee shall then submit a revised budget which shall not exceed the maximum dollar amount established by the board of mayor and aldermen. The school committee shall administer, expend and account for the funds approved by the board of mayor and aldermen and shall have the exclusive authority to transfer funds among line items in the school budget.

Article VI. Budgets and Appropriations, Section 6.08 shall be amended to read as follows:

The board of mayor and aldermen may provide by ordinance any additional procedures for administering of the budget, including the budget of the school department.