City of Concord

City Council

Meeting Minutes - Final

Monday, June 8, 2026 | **7:00 PM** | **City Council Chambers, 37 Green Street, Concord, NH 03301**

A non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A: 3, II (a)-(c) to discuss the City Manager's Evaluation and/or compensation followed by a non-meeting in accordance with RSA 91-A: 2, I (a) to discuss collective bargaining strategies and a non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A: 3, II (d) to discuss property acquisition to begin at 5:30 p.m.

1. Mayor Champlin called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Roll Call.

   Present: 15 - Councilor Stacey Brown, Mayor Byron Champlin, Councilor Mark Davie, Councilor Nathan Fennessy, Councilor Jeff Foote, Councilor Amanda Grady Sexton, Councilor Michele Horne, Councilor Aislinn Kalob, Councilor Fred Keach, Councilor Jennifer Kretovic, Councilor Judith Kurtz, Councilor Jim Schlosser, Councilor Kris Schultz, Councilor Ali Sekou, and Councilor Brent Todd

5. Approval of the Meeting Minutes.

   May 11, 2026 City Council Draft Meeting Minutes.

   Action: Councilor Schultz moved to approve the May 11, 2026 City Council Draft Meeting Minutes. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Todd and passed unanimously.

6. Agenda overview by the Mayor.

Consent Agenda Items

Action: Councilor Todd moved approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Schultz. Mayor Champlin noted that Items 12, 13, and 14 were pulled from the Consent Agenda. Councilor Kretovic indicated that she would be voting no on item 15.

The motion passed by majority vote.

Referral to the Traffic Operations Committee

7. Communication from Alexandra Stewart requesting that consideration be given to the installation of additional crosswalks on South Street in Concord.

Action: The communication was referred to the Traffic Operations Committee.

Items Tabled for July 13, 2026 Public Hearings

8. Resolution appropriating the sum of $55,580 in the Traffic Signals and Traffic Operations Improvements Project (CIP #283) for the installation of traffic signal improvements at various intersections related to the Legislative Parking Garage project and accepting the sum of $55,580 in funds from the State of New Hampshire for this purpose; together with a report from the Transportation Engineer.

Action: Resolution moved to set for a public hearing.

9. Resolution appropriating the sum of $28,800 in the Merrimack River Greenway Trail (MRGT) Rail Lease Payment grants and donations subproject for the maintenance and associated property tax payments for the lease area encompassing 3.3 miles of the MRGT rail corridor including a parking area on Sewalls Falls Road and accepting the sum of $28,800 in lease payments for this purpose; together with a report from the Director of Special Projects and Strategic Initiatives.

Action: Resolution moved to set for a public hearing.

Consent Reports

10. Diminimus gifts and donations report from the Library Director requesting authorization to accept gifts and donations totaling $1,628.08, as provided under the pre-authorization granted by City Council.

Action: Consent report approved.

11. Diminimus gifts and donations report from the Director of Special Projects & Strategic Initiatives requesting authorization to accept a monetary gift totaling $430, as provided under the pre-authorization granted by City Council.

Action: Consent report approved.

12. Report from the City Manager on the status of FY 2026 Event Arts Grant Awards. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Brown.)

Action: Item was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

13. Report from the Assistant Finance Director regarding Annual Comprehensive Financial Report award notification. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Fennessy.)

Action: Item was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

14. Report from the Director of Special Projects & Strategic Initiatives, on behalf of the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee, announcing the Committee's intent to launch a Weatherize Concord campaign. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Horne.)

Action: Item was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

15. Report from the Senior Planner requesting the City Manager be authorized to amend the agricultural lease for Sunfox Farm LLC to allow limited public and vendor parking during permitted events, as recommended by the Conservation Commission.

Action: Consent report approved.

Councilor Kretovic voted no on this item.

16. Concord Fire Department 2025 Annual Report from the Fire Chief.

Action: Report approved.

17. Concord Police Department 2025 Annual Crime Report.

Action: Report approved.

Consent Resolutions

18. Resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit an application to the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency as outlined in its current grant program; together with a report from the Deputy Chief of Police.

Action: Consent resolution approved.

19. Resolution rescinding the appropriation of $100,000 in the Merrimack River Greenway Trail project (CIP #543), rescinding the authorization to accept $80,000 in Federal Grant Funding, and deauthorizing the issuance of $20,000 in General Obligation Bonds and Notes for this purpose; together with a report from the Director of Office of Management and Budget.

Action: Consent resolution approved.

20. Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Municipal Work Zone Agreement (MWZA) with the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) concerning proposed pavement improvements along US Route 4 (Hoit Road); together with a report from the City Engineer.

Action: Consent resolution approved.

End of Consent Agenda

Public Hearings

21A. Resolution appropriating the sum $36,502 for the Beaver Meadow Golf Course Club House & Buildings project (CIP #107), accepting the sum of $14,472 in donations from SkiTheBeav, and authorizing the use of $22,030 from the Recreation Reserve for this purpose; together with a report from the Deputy City Manager - Finance. (Public testimony received.)

Action: City Manager Aspell indicated an additional donation was received from SkitheBeav in the amount of $14,472 to support the project. He explained that during excavation of the water line that serves the pond used for winter skating, it was determined that the existing line requires replacement. He further indicated this work also necessitates the installation of a backflow preventer within a heated facility. As a result, a new water line must be routed to the utility room in the new clubhouse and then extended back to the pond. He explained that completing this work concurrently with the ongoing project is advantageous and will help avoid future disruptions.These improvements were not included in the original project design and scope and will result in an additional cost of $22,030. City Manager Aspell indicated staff recommended funding this expense from the Recreation Reserve.

Mayor Champlin opened the public hearing.

Sam Evans-Brown, Chair of Ski The Beav, indicated that the organization has

donated $20,000 for this project.

City Council held a brief discussion which included further details about the requirements of the project, and the purpose of the additional funds being donated over the $14,472. Councilor Brown asked if the backflow preventer would require annual inspection, and Deputy City Mayor Finance Brian LeBrun agreed.

There being no further testimony, Mayor Champlin declared the public hearing closed.

21B. Resolution appropriating the sum of $10,000 in the Parks & Recreation Grants and Donations Skate Park subproject for the construction of the Skate Park at Kiwanis Park and accepting the sum of $10,000 as a donation from the Concord Skate Park Association for this purpose; together with a report from the Parks and Recreation Director.

Action: Mayor Champlin opened the public hearing.

Chris Harrington, President of the Concord Skate Park Association, and member Arthur Anderson, presented a check in the amount of $10,000, and provided an update on the organization's progress over the past year. They noted that approximately $26,000 has been raised to date and that fundraising efforts continue through community events and sponsorships from local businesses. They expressed appreciation for the City's ongoing support and indicated they look forward to a broader discussion later this year regarding future plans and initiatives. They also noted that the Concord Skate Park will be participating in the New Hampshire Gives fundraising event.

City Council asked if fundraising and business sponsorships was the main avenue for raising funds, and what was the best way to donate.

Mr. Harrington agreed that 100% of their funds have been received through sponsorships and fundraising efforts. He outlined several ways community members can support the project. Donations may be made directly through the Parks and Recreation Department. Contributions can also be made through the project's ongoing GoFundMe campaign, accessible through the organization's website at concordskatepark.com. In addition, a donation option through New Hampshire Gives was recently launched, providing another convenient avenue for supporters who prefer to contribute through that platform.

Roy Schweiker, resident, noted that the City had previously accepted a $10,000 donation and authorized the expenditure of $10,000 to hire a consultant. He stated that he recalled statements from previous meetings that indicated if the organization did not raise the full $500,000 needed for the project, all donated funds would be returned and no City funds would be used. He asked for clarification regarding how the consultant's costs would be paid if the fundraising goal was not met and the donated funds were returned. Specifically, he questioned whether City funds would be required to cover the consultant expense and requested an explanation of the funding source for the $10,000 expenditure under those circumstances.

James Dockham, resident, expressed support for the Concord Skate Park Association, commending its community-led fundraising efforts and the positive recreational opportunities it provides for residents. He encouraged the City to reconsider its level of support for the project.

There being no further testimony, Mayor Champlin declared the public hearing closed.

Public Hearing Action

22. Resolution appropriating the sum $36,502 for the Beaver Meadow Golf Course Club House & Buildings project (CIP #107), accepting the sum of $14,472 in donations from SkiTheBeav, and authorizing the use of $22,030 from the Recreation Reserve for this purpose; together with a report from the Deputy City Manager - Finance. (Public testimony received.)

Action: Councilor Fennessy moved approval of the resolution. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Keach.

Councilor Horne stated she would not support the proposal, noting previous discussions that anticipated significant private and corporate contributions to the project. She expressed the view that the City has already demonstrated its support through investments in the clubhouse and parking lot and that additional funding should now come from the business community and other private donors.

Councilor Brown stated she would not support the proposal, citing concerns about the cost of the golf course irrigation system and the newly identified need for a backflow preventer. She also expressed opposition to using Recreation Reserve funds for the project, noting that the Golf fund does not contribute to that reserve.

Councilor Kurtz stated she would support the proposal, noting that the City has

committed to investing in and improving the golf course property for the benefit of the public. She emphasized that Ski The Beav's efforts help expand public recreational use of the property and added that addressing the backflow prevention issue is the City's responsibility.

Councilor Horne followed up and emphasized that the issue was not opposition to the project itself. She expressed concern that unforeseen costs should be addressed through project contingencies or by reallocating funds within the overall project budget. She also noted that requesting additional funding shortly after adoption of the City budget was difficult to support.

Councilor Kurtz noted that she doesn't object to any enhanced fundraising efforts that any of the organizations would take on. She also clarified for the public that this issue that City Council is voting on tonight is not going to impact the tax rate in any way.

Councilor Kretovic moved the question. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Keach. The motion passed with one dissenting vote.

The original motion passed with the required two-thirds majority.

23. Resolution appropriating the sum of $10,000 in the Parks & Recreation Grants and Donations Skate Park subproject for the construction of the Skate Park at Kiwanis Park and accepting the sum of $10,000 as a donation from the Concord Skate Park Association for this purpose; together with a report from the Parks and Recreation Director.

Action: Councilor Fennessy moved approval of the resolution. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Grady Sexton.

Councilor Fennessy acknowledged the significant fundraising goal and expressed appreciation for the Concord Skate Park group's work. He noted that these larger contributions can help raise awareness and that participation in New Hampshire Gives may further support their efforts.

Councilor Grady Sexton asked City staff to confirm if both of the donations had been received.

Deputy City Manager Finance Brian LeBrun stated that both donations have been received.

Councilor Todd encouraged continued fundraising efforts, acknowledging the difficulty of meeting the goal. He referenced past City projects where public fundraising fell short and the City ultimately provided funding after extended efforts. He expressed support for their ongoing efforts and offered appreciation for their work, and wished the group success with New Hampshire Gives.

The motion passed by the required two-thirds majority.

Mayor Champlin moved to recess at 7:32 p.m. Mayor Champlin called the meeting back to order at 7:34 p.m.

Reports

24. Full Measure & List Revaluation Project Update Report (CIP #639) from the Director of Assessing.

Action: City Manager Aspell invited Director of Assessing, John Rice to present an updated report for the full measure and list revaluation project. Director of Assessing, John Rice, Deputy Assessor, Joe Devarenne, and Steve Wayland, project manager, Vision Government Solutions, presented.

Director Rice provided a project update, including distribution of the revised schedule for the full measure and list revaluation. He noted this is the third revision of the schedule, reflecting delays related to staffing and weather. Despite these challenges, the project remains on track and the anticipated completion date remains unchanged, with final revaluation figures expected by August 1, 2026.

Director Rice also reported that residential property values are currently under review following two rounds of analysis. Preliminary results are favorable, with statistical indicators showing strong performance. A significant volume of sales data is available, which supports the accuracy and reliability of the valuation process. He further noted that commercial and industrial properties are intentionally behind the residential schedule, as priority has been given to completing residential valuations first. Analysis of commercial and industrial properties has not yet been completed but is expected to begin shortly and progress quickly.

A long discussion ensued, with City Council focusing on the potential impact of the revaluation on property owners, expressing concerns regarding public anxiety about anticipated increases in assessed values, particularly for manufactured homes, condominiums, multifamily properties, and apartment complexes.

Director Rice explained that increases in assessed values do not directly translate into equivalent increases in property taxes, as the tax rate is adjusted based on the overall tax base and municipal budget. He noted that while some property owners may experience tax increases, others may see little change or even a decrease, depending on how individual property values change relative to the citywide average.

Questions were raised regarding manufactured housing communities and resident-owned communities. Director Rice explained that individual manufactured homes are assessed as residential properties, while the underlying land in manufactured housing parks may be assessed separately as a commercial property.

Director Rice then outlined the next steps in the revaluation process, noting that preliminary assessment notices are expected to be mailed around June 22, 2026. Property owners will have an opportunity to review their preliminary assessments and request informal hearings if they believe property information is inaccurate or additional information should be considered. Mr. Wayland indicated hearing options will include in-person, telephone, and online scheduling. Examples of information that may be relevant during the review process include property condition, structural changes, unfinished or finished areas, additions, garages, pools, sheds, or other features affecting value. Staff indicated that inspections may be conducted to verify information when necessary.

Director Rice anticipated a significant increase in assessment appeals compared to typical years due to the magnitude of valuation changes resulting from the citywide revaluation. Deputy City Manager Finance Brian LeBrun advised that the revised assessments will be reflected in tax bills issued following the setting of the tax rate, which typically occurs in late October or early November.

Questions were also raised regarding property inspections. Director Rice noted that interior inspections are conducted when possible and that Concord's inspection rate has historically exceeded industry standards.

Mr. Wayland confirmed that assessment information is public record and that updated property values for all property types will be available through the city's revaluation webpage and Vision Government Solutions' online database beginning

around June 22, 2026. The website will also include sales data used in the valuation process.

The discussion also addressed tax exemptions and credits. Staff explained that filing periods vary by program and noted that the city's Tax Exemption Policy Committee will review elderly exemption levels to ensure they remain aligned with current property value trends before tax bills are issued.

New Business

Unfinished Business

25. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances; Title II, Traffic Code; Chapter 18, Parking, Article 18-1, Stopping, Standing and Parking, Section 18-1-6, Schedule I, to modify no parking restrictions on Church Street between Bradley and Rumford Streets; together with a report from the Assistant Director of Community Development. (Referred back to the Parking Committee at the May 11, 2026 City Council meeting.)

Action: Item remains tabled.

26. Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances; Title II, Traffic Code; Chapter 18, Parking, Article 18-1, Stopping, Standing and Parking, Section 18-1-7.1, Parking Prohibited During Certain Hours and Months in Designated Places, Schedule IX; to modify parking requirements on School Street between Pine and Liberty Streets; together with a report from the Assistant Director of Community Development. (Action on this item tabled at the August 11, 2025 City Council meeting.) (Public comments received.)

Action: Item remains tabled.

27. Resolution appropriating the sum of $84,000 to support efforts by Concord's Plan to End Homelessness and authorizing a transfer in from the Community Improvement Reserve in the sum of $84,000 for this purpose; together with report from Councilor Jim Schlosser. (Action on this item tabled at the April 14, 2025 City Council meeting.)

Action: Item remains tabled.

28. Presentation on the Memorial Field Master Plan from the Parks and Recreation Director. (Presentation given at the November 10, 2025 City Council Meeting.)

(Action on this item tabled at the November 24, 2025 City Council Meeting.) (Communication from Concord School District received.) (Petition and public testimony received.)

Action: Item remains tabled.

Consideration of Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda

12. Report from the City Manager on the status of FY 2026 Event Arts Grant Awards. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Brown.)

Action: Councilor Todd moved approval of the report. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Kurtz.

Councilor Brown noted that funding for the Hoopla digital library service was eliminated during the budget process and expressed interest in exploring potential budget adjustments to restore the program, citing its value in supporting literacy and accessibility within the community.

Councilor Kretovic expressed appreciation for the concern and reported that she had recently contacted a potential external funding source to support reinstatement of the program. She indicated a preference to pursue that option before considering reductions elsewhere in the budget.

The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

13. Report from the Assistant Finance Director regarding Annual Comprehensive Financial Report award notification. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Fennessy.)

Action: Councilor Todd moved approval of the report. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Fennessy.

Councilor Fennessy acknowledged Assistant Finance Director Audrey Masters and the Finance and Accounting Department for their continued excellent work with the City's financial statements and reporting. He recognized the team for receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 31st consecutive year. He noted that the award reflects the City's longstanding commitment to financial transparency and high-quality reporting which contributes positively to the City's bond ratings and overall financial standing.

City Manager Aspell added that this represents the longest continuous record of achievement of its kind in New Hampshire.

The motion passed unanimously.

Action: consent report approved.

14. Report from the Director of Special Projects & Strategic Initiatives, on behalf of the Energy & Environment Advisory Committee, announcing the Committee's intent to launch a Weatherize Concord campaign. (Pulled from consent by Councilor Horne.)

Action: Councilor Todd moved approval of the report. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Kurtz.

Councilor Horne highlighted the relaunch of the Weatherize Concord initiative, a public education effort led by the City's Energy and Environment Advisory Committee. The program is designed to help residents reduce energy costs and improve energy efficiency through available resources and incentives.
The initiative includes a partnership with Resilient Buildings Group to provide free, no-obligation energy audits. Residents may qualify for rebates and other incentives through New Hampshire Saves and participating utility providers, with certain income-qualified households eligible for assistance covering up to 100% of project costs. Additional information is available through the Weatherize Concord program website, weatherizationconcord.org.

The motion passed unanimously.

Comments, Requests by Mayor, City Councilors

Action: Councilor Todd noted that this year on the New Hampshire Ice Cream Trail, stop number 61 in the Merrimack Valley region is our own Sweet Dreams on Village Street. He hoped this would bring additional exposure to our Penacook downtown area and its local businesses. He hightlighted History Fest, which is taking place this coming Saturday, June 13, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Penacook Historical Society is hosting this free event for all ages. The event also ties into the Celebrate America 250 and Concord 300 commemorations. The Penacook Historical Society recommends visiting the 1774 House, the oldest standing house in Penacook Village. Refreshments will be provided by Sweet Dreams. A rain date is scheduled for Sunday, June 14, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Councilor Horne further promoted the Weatherize Concord program will take place on Wednesday, June 24, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the City Wide Community Center. Participants will be able to meet and speak with representatives from

NHSaves and RBG, learn more about the initiative, and schedule their home energy audits. She encourage everyone around this table to help spread the word, noting the goal is to have 100 homes audited before the end of the year.

Councilor Kretovic explained on behalf of our Semiquincentennial and Tricentennial Committee, the City is about to begin Civic Season as part of the Celebrate America 250 and Concord 300 commemorations. She noted that tomorrow at the Capitol Center for the Arts, there will be a sold-out event featuring Ken Burns and a discussion of the American Idea. It serves as the launch of the many programs and activities taking place over the next month throughout the city. Nonprofit organizations and community groups will participate in highlighting what Concord means to us and the importance of the United States Constitution.

Juneteenth will be observed on June 19. On June 20, the Concord Historical Society will host Liberty and Legacy from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on North Main Street. There will be commemorative toast to the Constitution in remembrance of June 20, 1787, when New Hampshire delegates resolved their differences concerning the Constitution and Bill of Rights. The following day, June 21, they ratified the Constitution. Concord, New Hampshire, has the unique distinction of being the place where the United States officially came into being.

Mayor Champlin asked Councilor Kretovic to explain that significance? He questioned if it is because nine states were required to ratify the Constitution and New Hampshire was the ninth?

Councilor Kretovic agreed. The State of NH became the required two-thirds majority among the original thirteen states. As the ninth state to ratify the Constitution, New Hampshire's action officially brought the United States of America into existence.

From June 25 through June 27, Concord Market Days will take place downtown. On June 27 at noon, we will hold the traditional public reading of Frederick Douglass's speech, What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July? It is a powerful one-hour presentation delivered by members of our diverse community. Its message remains as relevant today as when Douglass first delivered it.

July 4th will be a major celebration throughout the city. She stated that she hopes everyone stays in town and participates. The Committee has planned a parade on Main Street beginning at approximately 9:00 a.m. The State of New Hampshire will

open the State House public tours on that Saturday. State dignitaries will be speaking, Lafayette reenactors will be present, and there will even be a cannon demonstration.

The New Hampshire Historical Society museum will also be open. Parks and Recreation will host an old-fashioned baseball game at Memorial Field at 2:00 p.m. The Nevers Band will perform, and the Committee hopes everyone stays for the evening fireworks. One additional item added to the agenda is the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen's exhibit, Legacy of Craft, which runs from June 11th through August 28th at its downtown gallery. The exhibit highlights crafts and traditions from the era in which our community and nation were first formed.

Finally, Councilor Kretovic noted the Wings and Wheels event in September, as this year marks the 100th anniversary of Concord Airport.

Councilor Davie wished a Happy Pride Month to all who celebrate.

Councilor Schultz announced that the Concord State Representatives Delegation will hold its fourth town hall of the year on Wednesday, June 10, at 6:30 p.m. at Penacook Elementary School, and thanked the Clerk's Office for its work assisting individuals filing for office, noting positive feedback on the process. She stated she had contacted Executive Councilor Karen Liot Hill regarding state-level "downshifting" of costs to municipalities and expressed interest in inviting her to a future City Council meeting to share her perspective. She also addressed concerns raised during budget discussions regarding homelessness, emphasizing that homelessness is not a monolithic condition, noting that approximately one-quarter of individuals experiencing homelessness are children, cautioning against broad generalizations.

She stated she continues to stand by a previously authored op-ed and acknowledged the public frustration reflected in it. She reflected on upcoming national observances, including the Fourth of July and the nation's 250th anniversary, and shared personal memories of the 1976 Bicentennial as shaping her sense of patriotism, while acknowledging that current challenges make it difficult for some residents to feel national pride. She cited concerns about limited municipal authority due to the absence of home rule in New Hampshire, noting that many decisions are made at the state level, limiting local flexibility. She concluded by stating she would share additional remarks on social media, and emphasized that

despite disagreements, she believes all council members are committed to serving the community, expressing appreciation for shared empathy, compassion, and dedication to constituents, and apologizing if her remarks suggested otherwise.

Councilor Fennessy wished everyone an early Happy Fourth of July.

Councilor Schlosser announced that on Tuesday, June 16, at 7:00 p.m., there will be a Ward 7 residents' meeting at the West Street Ward House. Prior to that meeting, at 6:00 p.m. at the same location, Community Concordia-a neighborhood engagement group that has been forming in the South End-will also meet.

Councilor Sekou expressed his sincere gratitude to everyone who reached out following the tragic shooting in San Diego. He especially thanked faith leaders, including Rabbi Robin Nafshi and Pastor Hopkins, along with members of the Concord Council of Churches and other community members, for their support and concern. In addition, he also thanked the first responders whose actions prevented an even greater tragedy. While the loss of three lives remains heartbreaking, the outcome could have been significantly worse without their efforts.

Councilor Sekou also thanked the Concord Police Department for the support they provided to our community following the incident. He noted residents are fortunate to live in a community that cares about the safety and well-being of all residents.

Councilor Brown highlighted Arts in the Park, which had a successful June event. The program takes place in Rollins Park from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the second Saturday of July, August, September, and October. She also highlighted that there is a true crime book club that meets on the third Tuesday of every month at the library. The Ultimate Book Nerd program is another excellent opportunity for readers to connect with authors and fellow book enthusiasts. In the spirit of the Fourth of July, she encourage everyone to stay engaged in civic life and remain active in advocating for their values.

Councilor Foote acknowledged the recent passing of two remarkable women from East Concord: Mary Blaisdell and Mary McGillivray. Mary Blaisdell volunteered extensively with the Lamplighters and also served on the School Board. Mary McGillivray was likewise a longtime Lamplighters volunteer and someone whose advice he greatly valued before running for office. Their passing is a significant loss for East Concord.

He also recognized Mary and Chris Miller for their value in volunteerism, noting that anyone exiting at Exit 16 and approaching the roundabout has likely noticed how beautiful the landscaping looks. That is largely due to their volunteer efforts and financial contributions. Their work deserves recognition and appreciation.

Councilor Foote also spoke about Exit 13, following community cleanup efforts that took place in April, where it became clear that portions of the area required professional assistance. He noted that he has since worked with the New Hampshire Department of Transportation and recognized the substantial improvements, including brush removal and cleanup work. He thanked Vinny Benacasa, who played a leading role in those efforts.

Beginning tomorrow, New Hampshire Gives will support many important organizations. Two that stood out during Budget and Finance Committee discussions were Riverbend Community Mental Health and Thrive. Even modest donations can help these organizations continue their valuable work.

Mayor Champlin noted that the American Revolution was fundamentally about taxation without representation. One of the lasting lessons from that period is the importance of representative democracy.

Comments, Requests by the City Manager

Adjournment

Action: Councilor Keach moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Kurtz passing unanimously.

Information

Inf1 February 17, 2026 Traffic Operations Committee Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf2 February 26, 2026 Transportation Policy Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf3 April 28, 2026 Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf4 April 29, 2026 Joint City/School Memorial Field Committee approved Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf5 May 4, 2026 Concord Public Library Board of Trustees Draft Meeting Minutes.

Inf6 May 14, 2026 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf7 May 14, 2026 Golf Course Advisory Committee Draft Meeting Minutes.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf8 Parks and Recreation Departments Summer and Fall Brochure.

Action: Information item received and filed.

Inf9 Letter from NH Department of Transportation regarding Outdoor Dining in Highway Rights-of-Way.

Action: Information item received and filed.

A true copy, I attest:

Deborah Tuite
Deputy City Clerk