

**City Councillor Joseph A. DelGrosso
City Council Chamber
City Hall
January 07, 2013**

Meeting of the Revere City Council was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

Councillor Zambuto presiding.

Salute to the Flag by the members of the Revere City Council and those in attendance.

Roll Call: Councillors Arrigo, Correggio, Giannino, Guinasso, Haas, Novoselsky, Patch, Penta, Powers, Reardon, Zambuto.

13-1 3. Election of President for the Revere City Council for 2013.

BALLOT No. 1 Councillor Arrigo voting for Councillor Novoselsky, Councillor Correggio voting for Councillor Novoselsky, Councillor Giannino voting for Councillor Novoselsky, Councillor Guinasso voting for Councillor Novoselsky, Councillor Haas voting for Councillor Novoselsky, Councillor Novoselsky voting for Councillor Novoselsky, Councillor Patch voting for Councillor Novoselsky, Councillor Powers voting for Councillor Novoselsky, Councillor Reardon voting for Councillor Novoselsky, Councillor Zambuto voting for Councillor Novoselsky, Councillor Penta voting for Councillor Novoselsky.

Result of vote taken: 11 Votes for Councillor Novoselsky

As a result of the vote taken Councillor Ira Novoselsky was elected to serve as President of the Revere City Council in 2013.

Oath of Office was administered to President Elect Novoselsky by City Clerk Ashley Melnik.

President Ira Novoselsky now presiding.

13-2 4. Election of Vice President of the City Council for 2013.

BALLOT No. 1 Councillor Arrigo voting for Councillor Giannino, Councillor Correggio voting for Councillor Giannino, Councillor Giannino voting for Councillor Giannino, Councillor Guinasso voting for Councillor Giannino, Councillor Haas voting for Councillor Giannino, Councillor Novoselsky voting for Councillor Giannino, Councillor Patch voting for Councillor Giannino, Councillor Powers voting for Councillor Giannino, Councillor Reardon voting for Councillor Giannino, Councillor Zambuto voting for Councillor Giannino, Councillor Penta voting for Councillor Giannino.

Result of vote taken: 11 votes for Councillor Giannino

As a result of the vote taken, Councillor Jessica Giannino was elected to serve as Vice-President of the City Council of 2013.

The President now moved for a moment of silence in memory of the late Ward 5 City Councillor William Flynn who passed away last week.

The following Resolution of Condolence was read into the record:

Resolution of Condolence

Whereas: Former City Councillor William C. Flynn, has rendered conspicuous, faithful and honorable public service to the citizens of the City of Revere; and

Whereas: Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called former City Councillor William C. Flynn to his eternal reward; and

Whereas: The sad calling from our midst of former City Councillor William C. Flynn leaves a vacancy in the official family of the City of Revere that will be difficult to fill, and a memory that will long be cherished;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the members of the Revere City Council extend to the family of former City Councillor William C. Flynn, on behalf of the Citizens of Revere, our heartfelt sympathy and sincere regrets on their profound loss; and

Be It Further Resolved, that in recognition of former Councillor Flynn's service to the citizens of the City of Revere that the City Council pay sincere tribute to his memory by spreading upon the official records of the Revere City Council, a copy of this Resolution of Condolence.

This Resolution of Condolence was ordered on a Roll Call: Councillors Arrigo, Correggio, Giannino, Guinasso, Haas, Patch, Penta, Powers, Reardon, Zambuto, and Council President Novoselsky voting in the affirmative.

13-3 5. Pursuant to Council Order #12-312, 13-03, Mayor Daniel Rizzo delivered his State of the City Address to City Council and those in attendance for FY 2013.

**The Honorable
Mayor Daniel Rizzo
State of the City**

Mr. President, honorable members of the City Council and Revere School Committee, (other Elected and/or former Elected) - Thank you for joining me. It is such a pleasure to come together this evening in the City of Revere.

Before I begin, I would like to recognize and thank my wife Jane, my Mother and Father, and my brother Paul- without all of their love and support, this work we were able to get done during this past year just would not have been possible.

As I've said many times before, and undoubtedly will say many times again, the City of Revere is an incredible place to live, work, and raise a family. Named after one of America's most renowned patriots, Paul Revere, we are a city that has built a rich history based on hard work and fostering community

spirit. It is this hard work and community spirit that has allowed us to flourish in the past and it is what will continue to bring us together to accomplish great things. We're a diverse urban community with the feel of a small town - a community that knows the value of coming together to unite in common purpose.

But we are still faced with challenges. One year ago, I stood before you and made a promise – a promise to improve the quality of life for the members of our community.

I made a promise to work diligently to ensure that the streets of our city are places which our children, family members, and neighbors feel safe to walk.

A promise to ensure that our children receive the quality education that they need and deserve.

A promise to work as hard as I could to make sure that every Revere resident who wanted to work and needed a job had that opportunity and that local businesses feel confident that the City of Revere is a place they can succeed.

A Promise to make sure our residents voices are heard, and that their tax dollars are being used efficiently and effectively.

We have worked day in, and day out, in partnership with local community organizations, elected officials, economic stakeholders, and members of our community to find solutions.

Together, we've worked to address the many issues and challenges we all face and I believe, have made significant strides in delivering on these promises.

Since last year, under the leadership of Chief Joseph Cafarelli, the Revere Police Department has increased foot patrols along our central business districts to make sure that the busiest stretches of our city remain safe and attractive for members of our community to gather. My administration has worked in collaboration with surrounding towns to apply for funding that will bolster drug enforcement in the region, and I am working to allocate more resources to Revere's drug unit to ensure our community is adequately protected.

Within the next 30 days, we plan on opening a new Police Sub-Station on Pleasant St., just across the street from the former Police station, and through a reallocation of existing financial resources, and in conjunction with information gathered using our new Citistat model, we have identified funding that will allow us to hire 5 new police officers effective immediately.

I've also worked hand in hand with Fire Chief Gene Doherty to strengthen the City's Emergency Management Committee to ensure that we have comprehensive resources in place when confronting natural disasters.

In the coming year, I will continue to work with Chief Doherty to strengthen our fire department's ability to respond effectively to emergencies, explore more cost-effective quality emergency management transport services, and partner with the Revere Police Department to make sure that assignment

distribution and city ordinances are promoting a positive environment for our officers and firefighters alike.

When I spoke to you last year, the City of Revere was facing critical problems following unexpected growth to our student population.

Our children are the lifeblood and future of our city, and we share an equal obligation as a community to give each and every child the best possible chance for success in life. I've worked hand-in-hand with Superintendent Dr. Paul Dakin and members of the Revere School Committee and School Department to make sure our children will indeed have these opportunities. As evidence to the success our students are achieving, MCAS scores were second only to Cambridge in the entire Urban School district. This is a real tribute to our dedicated teachers and results driven administrators.

The new McKinley, soon to be renamed the Sgt. James J. Hill School, will be the final piece to an original 10 year plan to build 5 new schools. This new state of the art facility will service 690 children and will be funded at 80% by the Massachusetts School Building Authority. The children, parents, and faculty have waited long enough to see this new school come to fruition and I am excited to see it now falling into place.

I would be remiss if I did not mention another bit of news that will go hand in hand with this new school building. Sports and recreational opportunities, particularly for the 7000 or so school aged children is important to me. I have appointed a new Director of Parks and Recreation, Michael Hinojosa who will do his utmost to see to it that these opportunities exist to every extent possible. One tool he will have at his disposal is a long awaited new track and football field. The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs has awarded the city of Revere \$2.72 Million for the reconstruction of Della Russo Stadium. This will be a brand new state of the art facility that will serve the needs of our community for decades to come.

This will be formally announced at a press conference at Harry Dello Russo Stadium on February 5th at 10:30AM

One last point I'd like to highlight with regards to our school department is the creation and implementation of a newly formed JROTC Program. This was made possible through the hard work of many, but no doubt the driving force was Revere High School Principle, Dr. Lourenco Garcia, and our Veteran's Affairs Agent, Nick Bua.

Major Debra Bowker and Sergeant Major Rob Calender have provided incredible leadership as the stewards of this program; I applaud their aggressive community involvement during in only their first four months of existence. As a Veteran, I know the importance of service, discipline, and commitment. I am proud of the over 100 students that have already volunteered for this esteemed program and look forward to see this program and these young cadets continue to grow and flourish.

My administration has worked tirelessly to showcase investment opportunities and bring much needed commercial growth to our city by building and instilling confidence in local, regional, and national interests.

I have personally worked at forging a strong bond between City Hall and our Revere Chamber of Commerce. Business growth and development is important to us because we know it is critical to create a stable tax base and viable local economy for our residents. As a coastal community located just minutes from Logan International Airport and downtown Boston, Revere has much to offer. This past October, the City of Revere, under the guidance of our Economic Development Director John Festa, along with the help of our City Planner Frank Stringi, our new Manager of Healthy Community Initiatives Cate Blackford, and Economic Development Consultant Paul Rupp held the city's first ever Economic Development Summit.

I should also acknowledge Bob Button and John Doherty of CDM Smith and Howard Cook and his talented team at Sound and Vision Media for their help in the preparation and delivery of this first class presentation which highlighted the various investment opportunities that exist within the confines of the city's 10 square miles. Over 150 private and corporate developers attended the summit and toured the many potential sites we felt ripe for development and/or redevelopment. I am pleased to say that follow up conversations with many of these participants are ongoing.

My office will continue to nurture these budding business relationships and incentivize new investments whenever possible to help spur job creation, foster a business-friendly environment, and ensure that Revere is an economically stable city for generations to come.

I have always said that I believe that Revere will always do well based on our own natural resources and attributes, however, I feel compelled to talk about an issue that could potentially transform this city overnight by virtue of its massive potential for job growth as well as tens of millions of dollars in new revenues; I'm talking about the proposal to build a brand new \$1 Billion Resort Style Casino at Suffolk Downs.

Since virtually my very first day in office, conversations have been ongoing with Suffolk Downs as well as with members of our community to put together a mitigation package that would eventually lead to a signed host community agreement with Suffolk Downs and their partners. This has been an arduous and at times, frustrating process. However, I am very pleased to say that I do believe we are very close, possibly just a few weeks away, from bringing this agreement to fruition.

It is important to me and my negotiating team that we have an agreement that is fair to the developer as to not put them out of business before they open, but also, fair to our residents that will live with this agreement and its subsequent impacts for the next 15 years or more. I have a responsibility as the Mayor of this city that our interests are protected and that our residents will benefit from this project- not be hurt by it.

Throughout my campaign last year, I made a promise to manage our City's finances with a clear vision for the future that emphasizes and prioritizes two things; transparency and accountability.

In an effort to realize these promises, my office has been committed to making fiscal decisions that will drive our financial planning system towards performance-based budgeting. This will ensure that Revere's goals are

consistently being met in an effective and efficient manner. The City of Revere was fortunate to receive not one, but two separate grants to implement a CitiStat Program. These grants will fund interns from both the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and the Collins Center at the University of Massachusetts to launch CitiStat; a leadership strategy that employs data-driven management systems to monitor and improve the performance of city departments to produce clearly specified and goal-oriented results.

I am proud of our finance team led by our Director of Finance George Anzuoni, our City Auditor Laurie Giardella, and our entire Board of Assessors including Chairman Andy Iovanna, John Verrengia, and Dana Brangiforte, and thank them for their input and cooperation as we undertake these very different, but important changes on how we look at the budgetary process. We will launch the full CitiStat program this April that will produce budgets that allow our City to thrive and grow.

Finally, with regards to performance based budgeting and in keeping with our theme of maximizing our return on tax dollars being spent, I must mention our Public Works Department under the leadership of Superintendent Don Goodwin. It is no secret to us in local government just how shorthanded this department is, yet, in spite of this deficiency in manpower, the members of this department are out there each and every day doing their best at keeping our streets clean, responding to water and sewer main breaks, and performing other duties such as repaving streets and sidewalks, maintaining our parks and playgrounds, and cutting down erroneous branches and uprooted tree limbs.

We have introduced a work order management system to track the progress of these requests. I am so proud of how they have not only accepted this new way of carrying out their day to day obligations, but how they've embraced it. Their work often goes unnoticed by many of us throughout the community but the work they do no doubt adds significantly to the quality of life we all enjoy.

The same holds true for our Building and Inspectional Services Department led by our Director of Inspectional Services Nick Catinazzo. Nick and his department are charged with enforcing our city's many building, zoning, and health code ordinances.

To maintain order, they must often times do their job with a pen and citation book; however, more times than you'd think, they enforce these ordinances by virtue of a helpful recommendation, or caring and thoughtful instruction as to what is to be expected. Their collaboration with officials from our Police and Fire Departments in launching our newly formed Safe Housing Initiative has been tremendous. Their collective work in ensuring that homes throughout the city are free from over crowdedness and unsafe conditions will without question, lead to healthier, more stable neighborhoods.

Lastly, while we as an administration have been trying to fulfill the many promises we made at this time last year, I believe that the most important promise that I personally made was not one centered around safety, education, jobs or the economy – at least not directly.

One year ago today, I told you that I wanted to make sure that the City of Revere is built on a foundation of community input – one that listens to the suggestions, criticism, ideas, and beliefs of its constituents, and allows residents to have a voice in the policy process. And that’s what we’ve done.

In addition to the many organizations that were already doing great work such as the Revere Beautification Committee, the Revere Beach Partnership, the Beachmont Improvement Committee and the many designated Crime Watch Groups across the city, we’ve created many more opportunities for residents and concerned citizens to provide input. We created the Revere Neighborhood Advisory Council and the Broadway Advisory Council to allow for collaboration between residents and government in the policy-building process. We’ve maintained our commitment to create an Office for New Revere Residents that welcomes new community members to our neighborhoods and provides them with the information they need to succeed and find happiness in our town.

By providing residents with the opportunity to get involved, we’re ensuring that the needs of the community are met, and that the priorities of our friends, family, and neighbors are what come first. My office will continue to promote these initiatives and honor this commitment in the years to come.

We’ve made measurable progress as we work to find efficient, effective, and sustainable solutions for many challenges that we face together – a process that has been catalyzed by the continued input of our elected officials, small businesses, social, charitable, and civic organizations, and – of course – from our neighbors and community leaders.

We all have a role to play in building our future – neighborhood by neighborhood, block by block. Each day, I am reminded how blessed I am to serve a City that places such value on the members of our community, and feel honored to have the opportunity to represent our interests in the region and across the Commonwealth. Thank you for your trust and for your continued support.

God Bless all of you, the men and women of our armed forces, and God Bless the City of Revere.

13-4 6. Motion presented by Councillor Zambuto: That Ashley E. Melnik be reappointed to the position of City Clerk of the City of Revere in accordance with Chapter 17 of the Acts of 2012.

Motion presented by Councillor Zambuto was declared Ordered on a Roll Call: Arrigo, Correggio, Giannino, Guinasso, Haas, Patch, Penta, Powers, Reardon, Zambuto and Council President Novoselsky voting yes.

Oath of Office was administered to City Clerk Ashley Melnik, by Council President Ira Novoselsky.

13-05 7. Motion presented by Councillor Powers: That the Mayor request Inspectional Services to request the owner of the property at 1233 North Shore Road to relocate the dumpster at the rear of the property in the interest of public safety The present location of the dumpster compromise the

view of on-coming traffic from North Shore Road to Shawmut and Sagamore Streets.

Motion was declared Ordered.

Ordered on a Motion of Councillor Zambuto: That the City Council now stands adjourned to meet on Monday, January 28, 2013, at 6:00 P.M.

Ordered adjourned at 7:24 PM

Attest:

**Ashley E. Melnik
City Clerk**