

CITY OF LOWELL
MICHIGAN
CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA

FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011, 7:30 P.M.

AT
LOWELL CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SECOND FLOOR
301 EAST MAIN STREET

1. CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL
2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
3. APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 18, 2011 MEETING
4. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
5. CITIZENS' COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA
6. OLD BUSINESS
7. APPROVAL OF PAWSITIVE WALK – SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1–2:30 P.M. BY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, SHOWBOAT
8. SNOW PLOW OPERATORS PERMIT – FURTHER REVIEW AND DISCUSSION
9. EXTENSION OF STREET SWEEPING CONTRACT ONE YEAR WITH SANISWEEP, INC.
10. RESOLUTION COMMITTING LOCAL FUNDS FOR THE LOWELL AREA RECREATION AUTHORITY PHASE I TRAILWAY
11. ORDINANCE – PLACING PROPERTY LIEN ON UNPAID ELECTRIC PAYMENTS – SET PUBLIC HEARING (2/22)
12. LIGHT AND POWER CREDIT CARD SERVICES
13. COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS
14. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
15. APPOINTMENTS
16. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: Any person who wishes to speak on an item included on the printed meeting agenda may do so. Speakers will be recognized by the Chair, at which time they will be required to state their name and will be allowed five (5) minutes maximum to address the Council. A speaker representing a subdivision association or group will be allowed ten (10) minutes to address the Council.

To: Mayor Hodges and the Members of the City Council

From: David M. Pasquale

SUBJECT: Agenda for Monday, February 7, 2011 Meeting

1. Call to order, pledge of allegiance, roll call.
2. Approval of the Agenda.
3. Approval of the regular minutes of the January 18, 2011 meeting.
4. Approval of the Accounts Payable
5. Citizens' comments for items not on the agenda.
6. Old Business
 - a) Streets, sidewalks plan – City Council work session was held last Monday, January 31.
 - b) Wastewater Treatment update – To schedule door to door survey to determine where sump pumps are. Certified mail has been sent to a list of residents who City knows are pumping ground water. Ads in the Ledger, Buyers Guide, Cable TV and City web site will be provided.
 - c) Amphitheater renovations – Parks and Recreation Master Plan update was completed and approved by the State to qualify for grant assistance. A survey delineating ownership has also been finished. A design charette (getting citizen input) for riverbank improvements was successfully carried out by Design Plus, Inc. on Thursday, January 13. At the Downtown Development Authority meeting of February 17, the Boardmembers will consider ownership of the amphitheater property as well as have a presentation from Design Plus.
 - d) Website upgrade – ten website proposals have been received. On January 25 the committee had three web site firms provide presentations. The Committee met on February 1 and is scheduled for an added session on February 8.
 - e) Consumers Energy – sidewalk report – under review.
 - f) Video coverage of public meetings – update.
7. Approval of Pawsitive Walk – Saturday, February 12, 1–2:30 p.m. by Chamber of Commerce, Showboat. In an effort to raise funds for the Kent County Human Society, a Pawsitive Walk is being organized. As noted in the attached, a dog walk is scheduled for Saturday, February 12, 1–2:30 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce by the Showboat riverwalk. Since it is city owned property, Council approval is requested.
8. Snow plow operators permit – further review and discussion. At its November 15, 2010 meeting, the Lowell City Council adopted a resolution establishing a license term and fees for snow plow operators as well as an amended permit application (an ordinance was adopted on September 7, 2010). Several snow plow drivers attended the City Council meeting on January 3, 2011 expressing their concerns about the process involving an amber light, company name display, list of consumers and workers compensation.

On January 11, 2011 several drivers met with Police Chief James Hinton and City Clerk Betty Morlock. A memo is enclosed that summarizes the meeting.

At this meeting, the Council has the opportunity to further review the issue with the snow plow operators.

9. Extension of street sweeping contract one year with Sanisweep, Inc. At the March 15, 2010 City Council meeting, the Council approved the bid from Sanisweep, Inc. for the sweeping of City streets with an option of a one year extension for the 2011 sweeping season. The cost for this service will remain the same as last year which includes 5 sweeps at \$3,636 per sweep and \$23 per ton for disposal of the debris plus trucking fees.

DPW Director Dan DesJarden recommends the extension.

10. Resolution committing local funds for the Lowell Area Recreation Authority Phase I railway. The Lowell Area Recreation Authority has been in the midst of securing funding for the first phase of the railway project which begins at the future Lowell-Greenville rail trail following Foreman Road west past Cherry Creek Elementary School to the Safe Routes to School Trail on Gee Drive north to the east side of Alden Nash Road connecting west to Lowell High School and finishing by crossing Vergennes Road to the Wittenbach-Wege Agriscience and Environmental Center.

As proposed, the total cost of construction is \$899,960 with funding applications to the Federal Transportation Enhancement Funds of \$273,318, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund of \$398,000 and \$228,642 from the Lowell Area Recreation Authority.

As part of the application process, for the Transportation Enhancement Grant administered by MDOT, the City of Lowell must certify the local share is secured, available and committed for use in constructing the project. The attached resolution provides this.

11. Ordinance – placing property lien on unpaid electric payments – set public hearing (2/22). In an effort to collect delinquent payments to Light and Power, an ordinance is proposed to allow placement of these charges on the property tax roll. This is similar for water and sanitary sewer billing delinquencies currently in effect.

A public hearing should be established for the February 22, 2011 Council meeting for consideration (see attached proposed ordinance).

12. Light and Power Credit Card Services. As noted in Greg Pierce's memo of February 3, 2011, Lowell Light and Power has requested standard credit card services be continued for utility payment as begun several months ago under a pilot project. Council approval is petitioned.

In discussing this with City Treasurer Sue Olin, she is satisfied with "Official Payments" processing two to three transaction a day for water/sewer, property taxes and airport fee payments. If the City would utilize standard credit cards, it is recommended the customer absorb the cost.

13. Council Reports and Comments.

Andrew Schrauben Lowell Airport Board
Parks and Recreation Commission
Lowell Area Recreation Authority

Maryalene LaPonsie	Planning Commission Zoning Board of Appeals Lowell Area Fire and Emergency Services Authority
Jeff Altoft	Board of Review Downtown Development Authority
Sharon Ellison	Arbor Board LCTV Endowment Board
Jim Hodges	Lowell Light and Power Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Look Memorial Fund
Commissions without Representatives:	Downtown Historic District Commission Construction Board of Appeals Building Authority Local Officers Compensation Commission

14. City Manager's Report. Attached.

15. Appointments. The following boards or commissioners positions need appointment or reappointment.

		<u>Terms Expires</u>
Board of Review		
To fill in for Jim Wood's position	appointment	06/30/2013
Alternate Position	appointment	
Planning Commission		
Vacancy (Barb Brown's resignation)	appointment	06/30/2013
Vacancy (Amy Hayes' resignation)	appointment	06/30/2011
LCTV Endowment Fund Board		
Vacancy (Dan Brubaker's resignation)	appointment	12/31/2013

16. Adjournment.