

CITY OF LOWELL
MICHIGAN
CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA

FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, MAY 2, 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 APRIL 18, 2011 MEETING
4. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
5. CITIZENS' COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA
6. OLD BUSINESS
7. 2011-2012 BUDGET – SET PUBLIC HEARINGS (5/16 AND 6/6)
8. STREET CLOSURE – MERCER BETWEEN HUDSON AND RIVERSIDE – SATURDAY, JUNE 11 FROM 5 P.M. TO 12 MIDNIGHT
9. ORDINANCE FOR SIDEWALK INSPECTION AND COMPLIANCE UPON SALE OR TRANSFER OF ABUTTING PROPERTY – TABLED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING
10. LOWELL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
 - A. REQUEST TO CLOSE AVERY FROM RIVERWALK PLAZA TO WASHINGTON STREET – THURSDAY, JULY 7 TO SATURDAY, JULY 9
 - B. BUILDING RENOVATION
11. COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS
12. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
13. APPOINTMENTS
14. 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, May 2, 2011 Meeting

1. Call to order, pledge of allegiance, roll call.
2. Approval of the Agenda.
3. Approval of the regular minutes of the April 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. The Council will consider the sidewalks improvements ordinance upon sale of property at the May 2 meeting after tabling the issue. The Council also lifted the moratorium requirement sidewalk improvements at their March 21 meeting.
 - b. Wastewater Treatment update – To schedule door to door surveys to determine where sump pumps are located, certified mail has been sent to a list of residents who the City knows are pumping ground water. Ads in the Ledger, Buyers Guide, Cable TV and City web site will be provided. Four residential meters to monitor flow have been established.
 - c. East Riverbank renovations – A 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 recommended purchase of the amphitheater property from Lowell Area Schools for \$25,000. Also, the amphitheater riverfront design was approved along with an allocation of \$50,000 toward the project. At its January 11, 2011 meeting, the Lowell Area Community Fund provided \$50,000 in addition to this task. The Council, at its February 22 meeting approved the purchase of Lowell Area Schools property within the amphitheater area at a cost of \$25,000 as recommended by the DDA.

An application for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund grant of \$300,000 has been submitted to the State. A LCTV Endowment Fund grant application of \$50,000 has been completed and being considered by the LCTV Board.
 - d. Consumers Energy – sidewalk report – under review.

e. Video coverage of public meetings – The Council will discuss camera options at the May 9 work session. Meetings to be videoed are the Planning Commission and Downtown Development Authority.

7. 2011-2012 Budget – set public hearings (5/16 and 6/6). The Council has scheduled a work session on Monday, May 9 to review the proposed budget. The General Fund draft summary has been updated. Also, the Downtown Development Authority budget (to be considered at the DDA meeting of May 5) is included.

A copy of the final proposed 2011-2012 Budget will be presented to the Council prior to the work session. In order to be timely with final approvals, I recommend the Council conduct public hearings on May 16 and June 6 before adoption.

8. Street closure – Mercer between Hudson and Riverside – Saturday, June 11 from 5 p.m. to 12 midnight. Amy Hayes (624 Riverside Drive) has requested that Mercer Street be closed between 5 p.m. to 12 midnight on Saturday, June 11 for a graduation open house.

Council consideration is requested at this time.

9. Ordinance for sidewalk inspection and compliance upon sale or transfer of abutting property – tabled from previous meeting. A proposed ordinance would require an inspection and subsequent improvement if necessary upon sale. This is looked upon as a means to provide sidewalks which are in compliance with City standards.

The Council discussed the ordinance at length. By consensus, the issue was tabled until Mayor Hodges could be present at the meeting to determine a direction.

10. Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce.

A. Request to close Avery from Riverwalk Plaza to Washington Street – Thursday, July 7 to Saturday, July 9. As noted in Liz Baker's letter of April 26, the Riverwalk Festival is scheduled for Thursday, July 7 to Saturday, July 9. As part of new planned activities, Avery Street has been requested by the Chamber to close during that time from the Riverwalk Plaza to Washington Street.

B. Building renovation. The Chamber will be adding additional space to their floor plan. This space would be provided by adding into the garage (see attached drawing). The renovation will start within a few weeks.

11. 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 Downtown Historic District Commission
 Representatives: Construction Board of Appeals
 Building Authority
 Local Officers Compensation Commission

12. City Manager's Report. Attached.

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

Board of Review		<u>Terms Expires</u>
Alternate Position	appointment	

14. Adjournment.