

**PROCEEDINGS  
OF  
CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE  
CITY OF LOWELL  
MONDAY, JULY 1, 2013, 7:00 P.M.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; ROLL CALL**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Hodges and City Clerk Morlock called the roll.

Present: Councilmembers Jim Hall, Andrew Schrauben and Mayor Jim Hodges.

Absent: Chris Schwab and Sharon Ellison.

Also Present: City Clerk Betty Morlock, City Treasurer Sue Olin, Department of Public Works Director Dan Desjarden and Chief of Police Barry Getzen.

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL and supported by SCHRAUBEN to excuse the absence of Councilmembers Chris Schwab and Sharon Ellison.

YEA: 3. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 2. MOTION CARRIED.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL and supported by SCHRAUBEN to approve the agenda as presented.

YEA: 3. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 2. MOTION CARRIED.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)**

A. June 17, 2013 – Regular Meeting

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL and supported by SCHRAUBEN to approve the regular minutes of the June 17, 2013 meeting as corrected.

YEA: 3. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 2. MOTION CARRIED.

B. June 17, 2013 – Closed Session

IT WAS MOVED BY SCHRAUBEN and supported by HALL to approve the closed session minutes of the June 17, 2013 meeting as written.

YEA: 3. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 2. MOTION CARRIED.

4. **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL and supported by SCHRAUBEN that the bills and accounts payables be allowed and the warrants issued.

YEA: Councilmembers Hall, Schrauben and Mayor Hodges.

NAY: 0. ABSENT: 2. (Schwab and Ellison) MOTION CARRIED.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (07/01/2013)

GENERAL FUND	\$46,938.40
MAJOR STREET FUND	14,223.50
LOCAL STREET FUND	7,315.83
DOWNTOWN DEVELOP	1,430.07
DESIGNATED CONTR	9,182.00
RIVERFRONT DEVEL	5,394.97
AIRPORT FUND	3,187.32
WASTEWATER FUND	75,906.66
WATER FUND	9,991.02
CABLE TV FUND	3,600.00
DATA PROCESSING	640.11
EQUIPMENT FUND	898.43

5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

No comments were received.

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **PENDING COUNCIL PROJECTS REPORT**

Police Chief Getzen reported there were no new updates at this time.

B. **ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 13-02: CHAPTER 19 – STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES**

The final ordinance for adoption of the changes to Chapter 19 that have been discussed during several prior meetings was presented and discussed.

IT WAS MOVED BY SCHRAUBEN and supported by HALL to adopt Ordinance No. 13-02, Chapter 19 – Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places.

YEA: Councilmembers Hall, Schrauben and Mayor Hodges.

NAY: 0. ABSENT: 2. (Schwab and Ellison) MOTION CARRIED.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **AUDIT PROPOSAL**

The city is in the final year of a five-year agreement with Rehman to conduct the city's annual audit. An email was received from the principal at Rehman stating that they would have to increase the original fee quoted to us because they did not anticipate additional work that we have been asking them to do related to the audit. The current fee for the 2012-13 fiscal year would have been \$11,700.

Peter Haefner of Vredeveld Haefner LLC currently conducts the audit for Lowell Light & Power. Staff had met with him to obtain a proposal to extend the L&P audit for three years and also conduct the city's audit for a three-year period. The proposal was provided to council showing a reduced rate for Light & Power and \$200 less for the city. It should be noted that the city is also contracting with Bill Tucker of Abraham and Gaffney to provide some accounting assistance to the city so the overall expense for financial services, including the audit, will be higher during the next fiscal year. This was anticipated and included in the adopted budget.

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL and supported by SCHRAUBEN to authorize a three-year agreement with Vredeveld Haefner LLC to conduct an audit of city finances for the fiscal years ending 2013, 2014 and 2015 at a rate of \$11,500 each year.

YEA: 3. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 2. MOTION CARRIED.

B. **AIRPORT GRANT**

Last year we completed additional tree removal and negotiated an easement to allow the city to continue to keep trees out of the airspace at the Lowell City Airport on a parcel of property. This particular easement was not done through grant funds but with the hope that grant funds would be available to reimburse the Airport Fund for the easement and related expenses.

Staff was able to successfully negotiate an agreement for reimbursement of the funds with the State of Michigan for this project which was executed through a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation.

IT WAS MOVED BY SCHRAUBEN and supported by HALL to approve the contract for Land Acquisition Costs Parcel E16 with the Michigan Department of Transportation for reimbursement of the total project cost of \$25,000.

YEA: 3. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 2. MOTION CARRIED.

8. **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Hall noted the Planning Commission approved a six month extension for the O'Reilly Auto Parts project at 1427 W. Main and the site plan for Lake Michigan Credit Union at 1400 West Main Street is on hold. The Downtown Historic District Commission did not meet this month.

Councilmember Schrauben noted the Airport Board will be meeting next week. The Parks and Recreation Commission met at Stoney Lakeside Park and discussed the Capital Improvement Plan and in July will

meet at Creekside Park. The Lowell Area Recreation Authority did not meet but they are putting up signage along the trails. Schrauben also noted his son, Henry, will be two years old on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and wished him a Happy Birthday.

Mayor Hodges noted Light and Power and the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors have not met and the Look Memorial Fund will not meet until November. Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> the 126 Army Band will be performing on the Riverwalk and there will be no fireworks in the City of Lowell after the concert. The Riverwalk Festival is July 11<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup> and Mark Weaver, Superintendent of the National Parks Service will be at the dedication of the LowellArts' mural featuring the North Country Trail and Trail Town on Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

9. **MANAGER'S REPORT.**

- A. A pre-construction meeting was held for the Riverwalk Extension project. A construction time table will be distributed in the next week or so, however, we do know that construction will begin on July 15.
- B. City of Lowell offices will be closed on Thursday to observe the Fourth of July holiday.

10. **APPOINTMENTS.**

By general consensus, the Council reappointed Rachael Schwab to the Planning Commission to a term that expires June 30, 2016.

IT WAS MOVED BY SCHRAUBEN to adjourn at 7:17 p.m.

DATE:

APPROVED:

---

James W. Hodges, Mayor

---

Betty R. Morlock, City Clerk