

**PROCEEDINGS
OF
CITY COUNCIL
OF THE
CITY OF LOWELL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 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 Chris Schwab, Jim Hall, Andrew Schrauben, Sharon Ellison and Mayor Jim Hodges.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Mark Howe, City Clerk Betty Morlock, Department of Public Works Director Dan DesJarden, Chief of Police Barry Getzen and Light and Power General Manager Greg Pierce.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

YEA: 5. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

A. August 19, 2013 – Regular Meeting

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and supported by SCHRAUBEN to approve the regular minutes of the August 19, 2013 meeting as presented.

YEA: 5. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

B. August 19, 2013 – Closed Session

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL and supported by SCHWAB to approve the closed session minutes of the August 19, 2013 meeting as written.

YEA: 5. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

4. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

YEA: Councilmembers Schwab, Hall, Schrauben, Ellison and Mayor Hodges.
NAY: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

<u>BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (09/03/2013)</u>	
GENERAL FUND	\$35,141.35
MAJOR STREET FUND	4,018.83
LOCAL STREET FUND	2,105.83
DOWNTOWN DEVELOP	780.65
DESIGNATED CONTR	375.00
AIRPORT FUND	25.00
WASTEWATER FUND	6,530.69
WATER FUND	16,251.59
CABLE TV FUND	4,000.00
EQUIPMENT FUND	2,121.56
CURRENT TAX COLL	504,078.24
LOOK FUND	1,830.00

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

No comments were received.

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **PENDING COUNCIL PROJECTS REPORT**

The sidewalk replacement project continues into the west side of town. In addition, the Ridgeview Trail connector is currently under construction. Letters will be sent to property owners who were part of the replacement sidewalks project this year informing them that grant funds were used for this project and it is now up to them to keep their sidewalk in safe repair.

On Thursday, September 5th City Manager Howe, DPW Director DesJarden and Waste Water Treatment Plant Supervisor Mundt will be interviewing four engineering firms that sent proposals in response to our request for qualifications.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **LARKIN'S RESTAURANT - AMERICAN LEGION/VFW CHILI COOK-OFF SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT**

Once again, Larkin's Restaurant, representing the American Legion/VFW, is requesting the use of city property for a special event on October 12, 2013. They are requesting to close Broadway Street from south of the Post Office to Main Street from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. The proceeds will go toward the restoration of the Cannon for Oakwood Cemetery. Police Chief Barry Getzen reviewed the application and recommends issuance of approval contingent upon Larkin's Restaurant provide a copy of an

insurance rider naming the city of Lowell as a second insured in the amount of \$2,000,000.00 prior to the event.

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and supported by SCHWAB to approve the Special Event Permit for Larkin's Restaurant-American Legion/VFW to close Broadway Street from south of the Post Office to Main Street on October 12, 2013, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. contingent upon providing a copy of an insurance rider naming the city of Lowell as a second insured in the amount of \$2,000,000.00 prior to the event.

YEA: 5. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

8. **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Schwab stated that the Lowell Area Fire and Emergency Services Authority will be meeting later this month and life is good.

Councilmember Hall noted the Planning Commission approved the site plan for the BP Gas Station on the corner of Main and Hudson and it will be a great improvement to that location. Hall missed the Downtown Historic District Commission meeting but they approved a new door at 216 West Main for the Flat River Condo Association and the City Hall project that will be done next spring. He also announced that he was diagnosed with cancer and it has been removed but he will be receiving chemo treatment. Hall and his wife Beverly are both fighting cancer and both plan to succeed.

Councilmember Schrauben had nothing to report on his committees but noted it is great to see the progress at the amphitheater. His two year old Henry loves watching the big equipment.

Councilmember Ellison had nothing to report on her committees but did note that today was the first day of school and it went well. She reminded everyone not to forget to pickup your Pink Arrow t-shirt for Friday, September 6th Pink Arrow football game.

Mayor Hodges had nothing to report on his committees but noted that Monday, September 23rd will be the Strategic Plan Review Workshop for all the boards and commissions in the City of Lowell. Hodges also stated he received a letter from Kent County requesting names of interested persons in the City who would like to serve on a County board or commission. If you are interested, please contact him for further information. Hodges received a copy of the city newsletter in his water bill and thanked Susan Maxwell Stevens for the good job she is doing.

MANAGER'S REPORT.

1. The Sibley Street reconstruction project is in the design phase and we hope to have it out to bid in September in order to complete construction by mid-November.
2. The Riverwalk Extension project is moving along quickly, with substantial completion expected in mid-October.
3. The Bowes Road reconstruction project will be bid by MDOT on November 1. We are expecting construction between April 14 and June 26 next year.

4. We have completed a 131-page proposal to the General Services Administration to lease a portion of the former cable television building to the National Parks Service.
5. Letters went out to all the boards and commissions of the City inviting them to the first annual Strategic Plan Review Workshop that is scheduled for Monday, September 23rd at 6 p.m. A follow up letter will go out a few weeks before the meeting to remind them of it as well as a copy of the adopted Strategic Plan for their review.

9. **APPOINTMENTS.**

No appointments were made.

10. **CLOSED SESSION**

A. Union Negotiations

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and supported by HALL to move to closed session at 7:17 p.m. as allowed under the Open Meeting Act MCL 15.268 (c) to discuss union negotiations.

YEA: Councilmembers Schwab, Hall, Schrauben, Ellison and Mayor Hodges.

NAY: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

Council returned to open session at 8:15 p.m.

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL to adjourn at 8:16 p.m.

DATE:

APPROVED:

James W. Hodges, Mayor

Betty R. Morlock, City Clerk