

**PROCEEDINGS
OF
CITY COUNCIL
OF THE
CITY OF LOWELL
MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2016, 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 Jeff Altoft and City Treasurer Suzanne Olin called roll.

Present: Mayor Jeff Altoft, Councilmembers Mike Devore, Jim Hodges, Jeff Phillips and Alan Teelander.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Interim City Manager Dave Pasquale, City Treasurer Sue Olin, Interim DPW Director Ron Woods and Police Chief of Steve Bukala.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.**

IT WAS MOVED BY HODGES and seconded by DEVORE to approve the agenda as written.

YES: 5 NO: None. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PRECEDING REGULAR AND/OR SPECIAL MEETINGS.**

IT WAS MOVED BY DEVORE and seconded by TEELANDER to approve the regular minutes of the April 4, 2016 meeting as written.

YES: Councilmember DeVore, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Phillips, Councilmember

Teelander and Mayor Altoft. NO: None. ABSENT: None. MOTION CARRIED.

4. **APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE.**

<u>BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (04/18/2016)</u>	
General Fund	\$48,153.39
Major Street Fund	\$988.03
Local Street Fund	\$608.38
Downtown Development Fund	\$4,771.12
Designated Contributions	\$2,929.57
General Debt Service	\$223,822.51
Airport Fund	\$1,148.10
Wastewater Fund	\$46,533.73
Water Fund	\$10,367.28
Data Processing Fund	\$6,204.74
Equipment Fund	\$14,119.61
Current Tax Collected	\$322.98

IT WAS MOVED BY TEELANDER and seconded by HODGES to approve the accounts payable as presented.

YES: Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Phillips, Councilmember Teelander, Mayor Altoft and Councilmember DeVore. NO: None. ABSENT: None. MOTION CARRIED.

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

Many citizens spoke regarding their concerns of the Council.

DPW Employee Joe Baker believed City Mechanic Ralph Brecken should be given a chance in becoming the DPW Director.

There was also some discussion about Lowell Light and Power and it was asked that they be put on the next council agenda.

Dave Thompson of the American Legion, spoke regarding Memorial Day and having the City pay for the use of police officers to close any necessary streets for the tribute to veterans. This year the event is being run by the Boy Scouts and they do not have any money. Councilmembers Phillips and Teelander both offered to donate \$100 each to the cause.

6. **OLD BUSINESS.**

a. Strategic Goals Report.

Nothing new to report.

b. Pending Council Projects Report.

Nothing new to report.

c. Council Training and Information Schedule.

Nothing new to report.

d. Strategic Plan Overview.

Nothing new to report.

7. **NEW BUSINESS.**

a. Department of Public Works Director.

Due to personal reasons, Scott Poyer tendered his resignation as Public Works Director. An offer of employment has been provided to another candidate.

Interim City Manager Pasquale spoke about the differing opinions on who should hold this position and reminded everyone that the interview team has done their due diligence on interviewing candidates and that they are selecting those people who they feel would be best fit for the position. He also reminded everyone that the City Charter is very specific in stating that the City Manager hires the Director for the Department of Public Works.

b. Preliminary Budget Review 2016-17.

A preliminary budget was given to council for review and discussion and Pasquale went over some of the main items.

Dave Pasquale thanked City Treasurer Sue Olin for all of her hard work on the budget.

c. Honeywell Municipal Guaranteed Savings Services.

Interim DPW Director Ron Woods presented the Council with a memo that highlighted the key components of the program.

Honeywell provides a program for energy and operational services savings. With no out-of-pocket expenses for the City, program costs per year are less than or equal to the energy and operational costs per year.

8. **BOARD/COMMISSIONS REPORTS.**

Councilmember Phillips stated that the Historic District Commission will be meeting on April 26 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Councilmember Teelander spoke about a meeting he attended at Lowell Light and Power. He said they are doing some great things there and thanked them for welcoming him into the meeting.

He also attended the Planning Commission meeting where they discussed overlays and floodplains. There were some concerned citizens regarding rezoning the floodplain district.

Councilmember DeVore stated that Mayor Altoft sat in on the LARA meeting for him as he was out of town. Their next meeting is May 11. Parks and Recreation's meeting will be on Tuesday, April 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Councilmember Hodges reminded everyone that the Look Memorial Fund grant applications are due Friday, April 29 at 4:00 p.m.

The Arbor Day tree planting will take place on April 29 at noon at 835 W. Main Street.

Mayor Altoft attended the LARA meeting but had to leave early. He stated that there was discussion about the joint trail that the townships want to do from Gee Drive to Main Street. He said it is within the DDA and thought that the DDA may be able to contribute a small portion to that project.

Altoft also attended the Airport Board meeting that same night. They welcomed the new mechanic that evening. The airport is at capacity and every hanger is filled. They are looking at maybe building some new

ones in the future. There will also be a clean-up effort happening later this month.

9. **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS.**

There is an opening on the Light and Power Board and they will be taking applications for it.

10. **MANAGER'S REPORT.**

1. Jeff Bowne prepared an analysis of the City's budget as well as some other cities. A comparison is being completed between the City of Lowell and the City of Portland. There is some question about what the true numbers are. Pasquale and City Treasurer Sue Olin intend to speak to the City Manager and Treasurer of Portland to compare "apples to apples". There will be also a Mayor Exchange with the City of Portland on Thursday, May 26 for them to come here. The City of Lowell will be going there probably later in June – a date has not yet been set for that.
2. The Parks and Recreation Commission have requested that a joint work session be held with the Council. The next meeting is on Tuesday, April 19 at 6:00 p.m.
3. The Downtown Development Authority's next meeting is April 21 at 12:00 noon.

11. **COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

Councilmember Hodges had no further comments.

Councilmember Phillips had no further comments.

Councilmember Teelander stated that he felt humbled and is enlightened by a lot of the things that are going on and the comments. He plans on learning and doing better for his community.

Councilmember DeVore had no further comments.

Mayor Altoft made an apology for getting angry at some people. Most of his frustration comes from the past couple of years where when he wanted information, he never received the true information.

He also suggested having a meeting to discuss the budget and the sidewalk policy.

12. **ADJOURNMENT.**

IT WAS MOVED BY HODGES and seconded by DEVORE to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.

DATE:

APPROVED:

Jeff Altoft, Mayor

Susan Ullery, City Clerk