

**PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
OF THE
CITY OF LOWELL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2018, 5:30 P.M.**

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

The Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Mike DeVore and City Clerk Susan Ullery called roll.

Present: Councilmembers Greg Canfield, Jeff Phillips, Jim Salzwedel, and Mayor DeVore.

Absent: Councilmember Marty Chambers.

Also Present: City Manager Mike Burns, City Clerk Susan Ullery, Police Chief Steve Bukala, and DPW Director Rich LaBombard.

2. **EXCUSE OF ABSENCES**

IT WAS MOVED BY SALZWEDEL and seconded by PHILLIPS to excuse the absence of Councilmember Chambers.

YES: Councilmember Canfield, Councilmember Phillips, Councilmember Salzwedel, and Mayor DeVore.
NO: None. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

IT WAS MOVED BY CANFIELD and seconded by SALZWEDEL to approve the agenda as written.

YES: Councilmember Canfield, Councilmember Phillips, Councilmember Salzwedel, and Mayor DeVore.
NO: None. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

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

There were no comments.

5. **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S PLACE IN THE CITY.**

City Manager Mike Burns advised he has had a number of meetings with the Chamber about the future plan of the facility they are currently in. Burns explained the Chamber board has approached the City to see if they could buy the facility, noting there is only 1 ½ years left of the lease contract between the Chamber and the City.

Cutter Phillips, Treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce, then spoke in reference to the Chamber building and asked the Council where they see the Chamber in the next year and a half. He also commented on the possibility of the Chamber purchasing the building.

Mayor DeVore stated the Chamber and Liz Baker do so much for the community and believed the Chamber needs to stay where they currently are.

Councilmember Canfield agreed with DeVore. He did not want to take money from the Chamber when the money could be used elsewhere.

Councilmember Salzwedel asked if the Chamber would still request marketing funds from the City if the building were to be sold to them. Chamber of Commerce Director Liz Baker responded yes.

Betsy Davidson explained the Chamber would like to make improvements to the building but because they don't own the building, they are afraid they might just be throwing money away if it gets taken away at some point. Their wish is to add another office and grow.

Burns read Section 13.3(b) The City shall not have the power to purchase, sell, or dispose of any real estate property unless:

- (1) In case of sale, there shall be at least two published advertisements for bids prior to adoption of a resolution for sale or disposal.
- (2) Such action is approved by the affirmative vote of four or more members of the Council, and unless,
- (3) In the case of real estate owned by it, the resolution authorizing the sale, lease, or disposal thereof shall be completed in the manner in which it is finally passed and has remained on file with the Clerk for public inspection for twenty days before the final adoption or passage thereof, and unless,
- (4) It shall be in accordance with [Section 5.12\(a\)](#) of this Charter.

Baker stated the Chamber pays \$2,400 a year in rent, which covers utilities. John Zelinski spoke in reference to the different purchase options that can be taken. He mentioned a land contract which would allow the City to be strict with what happens with the property.

Baker suggested the Chamber board continue to discuss their options.

6. **COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

Councilmember Salzwedel thanked everyone for their input and coming to the meeting. Salzwedel stated he likes that the Council is so open minded and they bring things forward.

Councilmember Canfield thanked the Chamber, noting they have put Lowell on the map. He noted the City will do whatever they can to work with the Chamber.

Mayor DeVore commented the City and the Chamber should consider all the options and then establish another meeting for further discussion.

7. **ADJOURNMENT.**

IT WAS MOVED BY SALZWEDEL and seconded by CANFIELD to adjourn at 6:07 p.m.

YES: 4. NO: None. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

DATE:

APPROVED:

Mike DeVore, Mayor

Susan Ullery, City Clerk