

**PROCEEDINGS  
OF  
CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE  
CITY OF LOWELL  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2019, 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 Mike DeVore and City Clerk Susan Ullery called roll.

Present: Councilmembers Greg Canfield, Marty Chambers, Cliff Yankovich, Jim Salzwedel, and Mayor DeVore.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Michael Burns, City Clerk Susan Ullery, and Police Chief Steve Bukala, DPW Director Rich LaBombard, City Attorney Dick Wendt and City Treasurer Sue Olin.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

- Approval of the Agenda.
- Approve and place on file the minutes of the January 7, 2019 Regular City Council meeting.
- Authorize payment of invoices in the amount of \$517,810.96.

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

YES: Councilmember Canfield, Mayor DeVore, Councilmember Salzwedel, and Councilmember Yankovich and Councilmember Chambers.

NO: None. ABSENT: None. MOTION CARRIED.

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

There were none.

4. **OLD BUSINESS.**

There was none.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Public Hearing – Resolution 04-19 Industrial Development District – King Milling.

City Manager Michael Burns explained the purpose of this resolution and Mayor DeVore opened the Public Hearing.

Jim Doyle with King Milling stated King Milling is applying for the tax abatement and in order to do so, they have to establish the district first. King Milling has been fortunate to continue growth and they are

putting in a warehouse packing facility where they will send the flour from the milling process to this new structure where they will then pack the flour into several size bags for shipping.

Councilmember Canfield asked how many jobs this will create.

Jim Doyle stated it will not create any new jobs as they are packing now, just in a cramped facility and those employees will be moving to the new warehouse so it will be retaining their jobs.

Councilmember Chambers inquired if it will be a decrease in jobs. Doyle said it will not.

Councilmember Chambers inquired why they are asking for 41,000 square feet when Planning Commission approved 36,000 square feet.

Doyle explained the levels of floors changes the square footage but the footprint is 31,000 square feet.

Mayor DeVore closed the public hearing.

IT WAS MOVED BY CANFIELD and seconded by SALZWEDEL to adopt Resolution 03-19. A Resolution Establishing an Industrial Development District (Plant Rehabilitation District) for 149 S. Broadway.

YES: Mayor DeVore, Councilmember Salzwedel, Councilmember Yankovich, Councilmember Chambers and Councilmember Canfield.

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

b. Lowell Area Fire Authority Staffing Presentation.

Deputy Fire Chief Shannon Witherell of the Lowell Area Fire Department gave a presentation on the increase in calls for emergency services and their shortage of staff available at the peak times they are needed, generally from 9 to 4. Witherell explained they cover all the City of Lowell, all of Vergennes Township and most of Lowell Township and they have a roster for 28 positions and right now only have 20 positions filled. All of the staff is part time. Witherell explained they are looking at hiring three full time staff that will be available during the peak times and gave the approximate numbers for the increase in the budget. They are looking at filling these positions from within their current staff.

City Manager Michael Burns explained that this proposal will require an increase in revenue in some way and some form. Burns also stated that this is a definite need that will have to be addressed.

c. Striking Taxes.

City Treasurer Susan Olin stated she has exercised due diligence in an effort to collect the personal property taxes listed on exhibit A. Olin tried contacting them by placing phone calls, sending out past due notices and personal calls. I am requesting the amount of \$414.50 (the city and museum portion) be stricken from the rolls.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAMBERS and seconded by CANFIELD to approve striking the 2013 personal property taxes listed on exhibit A from the roll.

YES: Councilmember Salzwedel, Councilmember Yankovich, Councilmember Chambers, Councilmember Canfield and Mayor DeVore.

NO: None.

ABSENT: NONE

MOTION CARRIED.

d. Public Hearing – for Participation in Small Urban Program.

City Manager Michael Burns explained the program and that the grant would be for the construction of Monroe street as it is a federally eligible road. We did get a preliminary estimate from Williams & Works of \$702,000 for Monroe from Fremont to Avery. Estimate is on the conservative end as there is possible underlying grate, sand, water and sewer work to consider. A grant awards a maximum of \$375,000 with a 20% match.

Mayor DeVore opened the public hearing. There were no comments.

Mayor DeVore closed the public hearing. No action was taken.

City Manager Michael Burns will submit the grant.

e. Set Public Hearing for February 4, 2019 – Consider Removing a Portion of Riverside Park from the Park & Recreation Master Plan.

Councilmember Canfield stated that Todd Schaal came to a Parks & Rec meeting to gather some endorsements and support and there were 3 or 4 members in attendance that showed concern and feels that we really need to see the full plan for this project.

Perry Beachum spoke and stated the Parks & Recreation Commission just want clear definitions and straight answers before the project will get their support.

Councilmember Canfield stated he thinks everybody supports the project, it is going to be a great project and it will happen.

Councilmember Yankovich stated his concern is with the possible loss or lack of boat access. We need to get everything of concern answered and spelled out at the City Council meeting on February 4, 2019.

IT WAS MOVED BY YANKOVICH and seconded by CANFIELD to set a Public Hearing for February 4, 2019 – to consider removing a portion of Riverside Park from the Park & Recreation Master Plan.

YES: Councilmember Chambers, Councilmember Canfield, Mayor DeVore, Councilmember Salzwedel and Councilmember Yankovich.

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

f. Resolution 05-19 – First Addendum to Employment Agreement with Michael T. Burns.

Attorney Dick Wendt summarized the addendum to the existing employment agreement between the City Manager and the City.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAMBERS and seconded by Salzwedel to approve Resolution 05-19 – First Addendum to Employment Agreement with Michael T. Burns.

YES: Councilmember Canfield, Mayor DeVore, Councilmember Salzwedel, Councilmember Yankovich and Councilmember Chambers.

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

g. Discussion on Council Representation to our Boards and Commissions.

By general consensus, the board agreed to represent for the following Boards and Commissions:

Chairman ZBA – Marty Chambers (09/18/2017)

Representative to Airport Board – Canfield (01/22/2019)

Representative to Arbor Board – Salzwedel (11/06/2017)

Representative to Chamber of Commerce – Yankovich (01/22/2019)

Liaison to Downtown Development Authority – DeVore

Representative to Historic District Commission – Yankovich (01/22/2019)

Representative to LARA Board – Canfield (08/21/2017)

Representative to LCTV Endowment Fund – Salzwedel (03/06/2018)

Liaison to Light and Power – Chambers (11/06/2017)

Representative to Look Committee – Yankovich (01/22/2019)

Representative to Lowell Area Fire & Emergency Services Authority – DeVore (11/06/2017)

Representative to Parks & Recreation Commission – Canfield

Representative to Planning Commission – Chambers (11/06/2017)

6. **BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS.**

Councilmember Canfield stated unfortunately there was a miscommunication about the LARA meeting and three of us were a week late but he will be there next month.

Councilmember Salzwedel stated the first Arbor Board meeting went well. Chairman Reagan will be presenting the Comprehensive Tree Plan in March. LCTV Endowment grants are due by February 8, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Mayor DeVore stated we just covered most of the Fire Authority meeting with their presentation today and the public area that will be addressed at the City Council meeting on February 4, 2019 will be most of what we covered at the DDA meeting.

7. **MONTHLY REPORTS.**

There were no comments.

8. **MANAGER'S REPORT.**

City Manager Mike Burns reported on the following:

- Doctor Lew Bender will be here Wednesday, January 30, 2019 from 5 to 9 at the Fire Station for facilitation training.
- Next Council meeting February 4, 2019, there will be a presentation from Public Works about their staffing issues.

9. **APPOINTMENTS.**

Mayor Devore stated still no applications for Construction Board of Appeals.

By general consensus, appointments were approved for Mike Sprenger, Eric Wakeman and Julie DeVoe for the Downtown Development Authority.

Also, by general consensus, Council approved the addition of Brian Doyle to the feasibility study committee for the Park & Recreation Committee.

10. **COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

Councilmember Yankovich stated he learned a lot about the wastewater treatment plant last Monday and had a really good meeting yesterday with Bob Rogers who is spearheading the Lowell Community Center effort and feels they are really serious and want to get it done.

11. **ADJOURNMENT.**

IT WAS MOVED SALZWEDEL and seconded by CHAMBERS to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

DATE:

APPROVED:

---

Mike DeVore, Mayor

---

Susan Ullery, City Clerk