

**PROCEEDINGS  
OF  
CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE  
CITY OF LOWELL  
MONDAY, JUNE 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, City Treasurer Sue Olin, Department of Public Works Director Dan DesJarden and Police Officer Blair Kacos. Barry Getzen.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and supported by HALL to approve the agenda as amended.

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

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

A. May 20, 2013 – Regular Meeting

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL and supported by SCHRAUBEN to approve the regular minutes of the May 20, 2013 meeting as corrected.

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

B. May 20, 2013 – Closed Session

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL and supported by SCHRAUBEN to approve the closed session minutes of the May 20, 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.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (05/20/2013)

GENERAL FUND	\$24,397.07
MAJOR STREET FUND	395.55
LOCAL STREET FUND	395.55
DOWNTOWN DEVELOP	391.90
AIRPORT FUND	800.00
WASTEWATER FUND	44,962.93
WATER FUND	2,818.84
DATA PROCESSING	1,142.66
EQUIPMENT FUND	382.86
CURRENT TAX COLL	519.26
LOOK FUND	7,300.00

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

LeAnn Field (1699 Faith Drive) stated her concerns with the location of the Community Garden, which is directly behind her home.

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **PENDING COUNCIL PROJECTS REPORT**

City Manager Howe reported a pre-construction meeting for the sidewalk project is being scheduled and should be underway in the next few weeks. All property owners involved in the sidewalk project will receive a letter notifying them when the town meeting will be scheduled regarding sidewalks.

Howe also noted Wastewater Treatment will be addressed later in this agenda to clean and televise lines in the flood impacted areas. This will provide valuable information to begin formulating a plan to remove inflow and infiltration in these areas.

The bids for the Riverwalk Extension are due on June 14<sup>th</sup> and a recommendation will be brought to Council at the next meeting.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **SEWER MAIN CLEANING AND TELEVISION**

The city had a sewer line collapse at Washington Street near Kent Street as a result of the recent record flood. Staff is concerned that other sewer lines may have been compromised in the flood areas.

Therefore bids have been secured from three companies to clean and televise all of the lines in these

areas. Based on our specifications, including lineal feet of line and size of the pipe, the following bids were received:

Pollution Control Services	\$12,044
Ryan's Modern Sewer Cleaning	\$12,540
Plummer's Environmental Services	\$22,860

The low bid is from PCS who has worked with the City in the past with favorable results.

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL and supported by SCHRAUBEN to approve the bid from Pollution Control Services of \$12,044 for sewer line cleaning and televising.

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

**B. RESOLUTION TO REVOKE INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE NOS. 41-55-72-011-459 AND 41-57-72-011-459 FOR JICE PHARMACEUTICALS**

The Council had previously approved Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificates for taxes for Jice Pharmaceuticals. Since Jice was not able to proceed with construction and meet the terms of the certificate, it is recommended the city revoke these previously approved certificates.

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and supported by HALL to approve the resolution to Revoke Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate Nos. 41-55-72-011-459 and 41-57-72-011-459 for Jice Pharmaceuticals.

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

**8. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Schwab noted the Lowell Area Fire and Emergency Services Authority will meet in two weeks.

Councilmember Hall noted the Planning Commission had a special meeting on May 28<sup>th</sup> to review a site plan for Dollar Tree at 1120 West Main Street. The plan was approved contingent on the drive from West Street remains open. A public hearing regarding signs will be held at the June 10<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting. The Downtown Historic District Commission reviewed the sign proposal from the Lowell Area Historic Museum, will be seeking funding for projects within the HDC as well as welcomed new commission member Brian McLane.

Councilmember Schrauben noted the Airport Board will meet tomorrow, June 4<sup>th</sup>. The Parks and Recreation Commission will be meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup> at Stoney Lakeside Park and will be discussing the Capital Improvement Plan. It was also requested that Council direct them as to what they are in charge of; and what is their definition of a park. The Lowell Area Recreation Authority will meet on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Schrauben has not received any information about a meeting of the Kent County Parks and Recreation Workgroup.

Schrauben also extends his condolences to the Nugent family in the passing of Terry Nugent as well as Maryalene LaPonsie and her family in the passing of her husband, Tom LaPonsie.

Councilmember Ellison noted the Arbor Board will meet on June 10<sup>th</sup> and noted an article in the Grand Rapids Press that mentioned the City of Lowell as a trail town. She too extends her condolences to Maryalene LaPonsie and her family.

Mayor Hodges noted Light and Power board will meet on June 13<sup>th</sup> and the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors will meet on June 11<sup>th</sup>. The Chamber building was struck by lightning last week as well as there is still a leak in the ceiling that needs to be fixed. Hodges thanked Dave Thompson and the members of the VFW for a successful Memorial Day parade and events at the cemetery. Hodges also thanked City Manager Howe on the city newsletter and gave his condolences to Maryalene LaPonsie and her family with the passing of her husband, Tom.

9. **MANAGER'S REPORT.**

- A. Howe was notified that the state lawmakers have agreed to a 4.8 percent increase in our EVIP payments (formerly state revenue sharing) and an increase to constitutional revenue sharing as well.
- B. The city received the report from the structural engineer on the showboat and has some repairs that will need to be made before it can be opened for the summer season. Staff are working with a local builder and plans to pull together some volunteers to make the repairs as soon as possible. In the meantime, we will need to work with King Milling and the DEQ to lower the water level in the fall to inspect the underside of the boat.

Howe thanked John Sterly, Dan DesJarden, Mark Mundt, Jake Baker, Doug McGregor and Liz Baker for their help this past Saturday making some repairs on the showboat.

- C. The left turn signal at Main and Hudson is scheduled to be installed between June 18 and July 1.
- D. Howe also mentioned on May 31<sup>st</sup> a meeting between the city and IBEW was held and a proposed contract from the City was given to IBEW and it was rejected without a counter offer. The union has filed for fact finding.

10. **APPOINTMENTS.**

No appointments were made.

11. **CLOSED SESSION**

- A. Union Negotiations

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and supported by SCHWAB to move to closed session at 7:29 p.m. as allowed under the Open Meeting Act MCL 15.268 (c) to discuss union negotiations and a personnel issue.

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

NAY: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

Council returned to open session at 9:42 p.m.

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and supported by SCHRAUBEN to approve the revised City Manager Employment Agreement.

YEA: 4. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 1. (Schwab) MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON to adjourn at 9:43 p.m.

DATE:

APPROVED:

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James W. Hodges, Mayor

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Betty R. Morlock, City Clerk