

**PROCEEDINGS
OF
CITY COUNCIL
OF THE
CITY OF LOWELL
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2014, 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 Deputy City Clerk Susan Ullery and roll was called.

Present: Councilmembers Jeff Altoft, Jim Hall, Sharon Ellison and Mayor Jim Hodges.

Absent: Councilmember Chris Schwab.

Also Present: City Manager Mark Howe, Deputy City Clerk Susan Ullery, Police Chief Steve Bukula, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Mark Mundt, Police Dispatcher Theresa Mundt, Police Sergeant Chris Hurst, City Attorney Richard Wendt, Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Brian Van Veelen, DPW Employee Joe Baker, Chairman of the Light and Power Board Greg Canfield, LCTV Endowment Boardmembers Dennis Kent and Barb Zandstra, Planning Commissioner Jim Salzwedel and Light and Power General Manager Greg Pierce.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.**

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and seconded by HALL to approve the agenda as corrected.

YES: 4. NO: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

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

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and seconded by HALL to approve the regular minutes of the March 3, 2014 meeting as written.

YES: 4. NO: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and seconded by HALL to approve the closed session minutes of the March 3, 2014 meeting as written.

YES: 4. NO: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

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

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

YES: Councilmembers Altoft, Hall, Ellison and Mayor Hodges.

NO: 0. ABSENT: Councilmember Schwab MOTION CARRIED.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (03/17/2014)

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| General Fund | \$23,535.99 |
| Major Streets Fund | 623.55 |
| Local Streets Fund | 623.54 |
| Downtown Development | 783.95 |
| Airport Fund | 190.50 |
| Wastewater Fund | 7,438.89 |
| Water Fund | 22,822.25 |
| Data Processing Fund | 44.00 |
| Current Tax Collection | 11,047.68 |

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

Bill Thomas of 220 Valley Vista Drive commented on the sewer backup he had in the past. He also spoke regarding the recent water main break.

6. **OLD BUSINESS.**

A. Strategic Plan Update. City Manager Howe reviewed the 2014 Strategic Goals Report.

7. **NEW BUSINESS.**

A. LCTV Grant Resolutions. City Attorney Richard Wendt explained the resolution that is recommended for approval. This will correct an error that was made in a previously approved resolution. Wendt went on the review the timeline concerning the establishment of the LCTV Endowment Board.

Barb Barber of 318 King Street voiced her opinion on how the funds available should be used. She did not believe funds should be used for street repair and maintenance. Peggy Covert of 982 N. Washington read a letter into record from Kent McKay which referred to establishment of the LCTV. Covert voiced her opinion regarding the LCTV Endowment Board and the original criteria set forth in granting funds.

Tyler Kent of 1700 Faith Drive believed LCTV funds should be used for streets as well. Jim Salzwedel of 505 N. Jefferson also believed funds should be used for streets.

Greg Canfield of 403 N. Washington agreed the roads are in terrible shape. He believed spending some of the LCTV funds on the roads is a good idea.

City Attorney Richard Wendt read the Resolution Clarifying Composition of LCTV Endowment Board.

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and seconded by ALTOFT to adopt the resolution adopt the 2014 Strategic Plan.

YES: Councilmembers Hall, Altoft, Ellison and Mayor Hodges. NAY: 0.

ABSENT: Councilmember Schwab. MOTION CARRIED.

- B. LCTV Grant Recommendations. The LCTV Endowment Fund Board met and made the following recommendations for the 2014 LCTV Endowment grants. City Manager Howe recommended approval as presented.

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and seconded by HALL to approve the LCTV Endowment Fund Board grant recommendations.

YES: 2. (Councilmember Ellison and Mayor Hodges) NO: 2. (Councilmember Altoft and Hall) ABSENT: Councilmember Schwab. MOTION FAILED.

- C. 2014 – 2015 Comprehensive Tree Plan. The Arbor Board reviewed and recommended adoption of the 2014-2015 Comprehensive Tree Plan as presented.

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and seconded by ALTOFT to adopt the 2014 – 2015 Comprehensive Tree Plan as presented.

YES: 4. NO: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

8. COUNCIL COMMENTS.

Councilmember Altoft asked if Councilmember Hall could attend the DDA meeting in his place until further notice. Altoft attend the Airport meeting. There are many good future plans.

Councilmember Hall stated the Planning Commission approved the site plan for O'Reilly's. Lowell Area Recreational Authority did not have a meeting.

Hall commented on his vote for the LCTV Fund. He believed this is City money and belongs in the City.

Councilmember Ellison stated the Arbor Board has been working hard on the 2014-2015 Comprehensive Tree Plan. The LCTV Board met and made their recommendations. The Historic District Commission will meet the end of the month.

Mayor Hodges stated Lowell Light and Power Board met last week. The biodigester is underway. The Chamber of Commerce will hold EXPO and the Lowell High School. The Fire Department will host its annual pancake breakfast. The LOOK Memorial Fund will meet in May.

9. MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Happy Saint Patrick's Day.
2. City Clerk Betty Morlock has returned to work on a part-time basis. We are happy to see her at city hall again and stand behind her as she begins her new journey.
3. The City of Lowell will have a booth at the Lowell Community Expo, March 22, at Lowell High School where we will have initial conceptual designs for public input on the stage/showboat planning process that is underway.

4. We have scheduled a table top exercise to review our plans in case we have another flood in the City of Lowell. Kent County Emergency Management will help us facilitate the meeting while Ionia County Emergency Management will also be attending.

10. **APPOINTMENTS.** The Arbor Board still has a vacancy.

11. **CLOSED SESSION.**

A. Union Negotiations

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and seconded by HALL to move to closed session at 8:00 p.m. as allowed under the Open Meetings Act MCL 15.268(c) to discuss union negotiations.

YES: Councilmembers Altoft, Hall, Ellison and Mayor Hodges.

NO: None. ABSENT: Councilmember Schwab. MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and seconded by HALL to return to open session at 8:15 p.m.

IT WAS MOVED BY ELLISON and seconded by HALL to adjourn at 8:17 p.m.

DATE:

APPROVED:

James W. Hodges, Mayor

Susan S. Ullery, Deputy City Clerk