

**PROCEEDINGS
OF
CITY COUNCIL
OF THE
CITY OF LOWELL
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2015, 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 roll was called by City Treasurer Suzanne Olin.

Present: Councilmembers Jeff Altoft, Jim Hall, Matt Mayer and Mayor Jim Hodges.

Absent: Councilmember Ellison.

Also Present: City Treasurer Suzanne Olin, DPW Director Dan DesJarden and City Clerk Betty Morlock.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYER and seconded by HALL to excuse the absence of Councilmember Ellison.

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

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.**

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL and seconded by ALTOFT to approve the agenda as modified.

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

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

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL and seconded by ALTOFT to approve the regular minutes of the March 16, 2015 meeting as written.

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

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL and seconded by MAYER to approve the minutes of the closed session meeting of March 16, 2015 as written.

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

IT WAS MOVED BY ALTOFT and seconded by HALL to approve the work session minutes of the March 23, 2015 proceedings as written.

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

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

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL and seconded by ALTOFT to approve the accounts payable as presented.

YES: Councilmember Altoft, Mayer, Hall and Mayor Hodges.

NO: None.

ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (04/06/2015)

General Fund	\$21,189.31
Major Street Fund	\$1,292.67
Local Street Fund	\$1,152.70
Downtown Development	\$5,904.10
Airport Fund	\$790.42
Wastewater Fund	\$4034.22
Water Fund	\$5,885.32
Data Processing Fund	\$2,446.61
Equipment Fund	\$1,068.86
Current Tax Fund	\$19,898.38

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

No comments were received.

6. **OLD BUSINESS.**

A. Strategic Goals Report. No further updates were provided.

A. Pending Council Projects Report. No further updates were provided.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Public Hearing – Zoning Board of Appeals – 1580 Carol Lynne Drive. Mayor Hodges explained Brian Darling submitted a request for a front yard setback variance in connection with a proposed attached garage addition onto his existing residence at 1580 Carol Lynne Dr.

Zoning Board Chair Hall opened the public hearing, and read the criteria for the appeal.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYER and seconded by ALTOFT to approve the variance application at 1580 Carol Lynne Drive.

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

The meeting was turned back over to Mayor Hodges.

8. **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Mayer stated the Fire Authority did meet on March 9 and they will meet again on Monday April 13, 2015.

Councilmember Altoft stated he had not attended any meetings. However, he mentioned he received an email that the City is no longer redoing Donna Drive. He also stated the State is not working on M-21 this year. He requested the Council to think about changing the focus and hold off on the Avery project near

City Hall and to concentrate on Donna Drive. He further suggested that sidewalks will soon be inspected. He stated there are locations of sidewalk along Main Street that need to be addressed.

Commissioner Hall mentioned the Planning Commission recently approved a small grocery store and deli to be located on Main Street and N. Center. Also, the parking lot at 200 S. Main was discussed. He added there will not be a Planning Commission meeting in April. Hall added he worked the LARA booth at the Lowell expo and there are several people interested in trails. He also plugged proposal 1 to be voted on in May. He said in approximately 2 – 3 years, the city could receive \$170,000 in monies for the State that could go a long way.

Mayor Hodges said the Light and Power Board will meet next week. He added Look will meet later in April and that the Lowell Expo was fantastic. Congratulations to the Lowell Chamber of Commerce for their event.

9. **CITY MANAGER REPORT.**

- A. An individual will begin as Interim DPW Director on April 20. Ron Woods comes to the City as the recently-retired director from the City of Kentwood. Ron has extensive experience in the water/wastewater fields both in Kentwood and working for the State of Michigan. The plan is to have him here six months to a year giving us time to run a thorough search for a new director.
- B. The City is continuing work on two street projects this year: Donna Street and Avery Street from Monroe to Jackson including the sections of Monroe, Washington, Jefferson and Jackson between Avery and Main. It is anticipated Donna will be a late spring/early summer project and the Avery project will be done in September. DesJarden noted Donna Street went out for bid today, April 6, 2015.
- C. The City has initiated the process of declaring the house and property at 318 Lincoln Lake to be unsafe and plan to move forward with having the house demolished and the property cleaned up. Bank of America has committed to paying, up front, the expense of the contractor.

10. **APPOINTMENTS.**

Mayor Hodges reported on the following appointments

Board of Review
Alternate Vacancy -

Construction Board of Appeals
Vacancy –

IT WAS MOVED BY HALL and seconded by ALTOFT to adjourn at 7:27 p.m.

DATE:

APPROVED:

James W. Hodges, Mayor

Susan S. Ullery, Deputy City Clerk