

**PROCEEDINGS  
OF  
CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE  
CITY OF LOWELL  
MONDAY, MAY 06, 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 DeVore and City Clerk Sue Ullery called roll.

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

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Michael Burns, Chief of Police Steve Bukala, City Clerk Sue Ullery and Lowell Light & Power General Manager Steve Donkersloot.

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

- Approval of the Agenda.
- Approve and place on file the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of April 16, 2019 and the minutes of the April 27, 2019 City Council Budget meeting.
- Authorize payment of invoices in the amount of \$260,004.31.

IT WAS MOVED BY SALWEDEL and seconded by CANFIELD to approve the consent agenda as amended adding "item d" under new business: Sale of Showboat Items.

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

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Perry Beachum who resides at 924 Riverside Drive stated that the goal was met for the Oakwood Cemetery project and they plan to install the fence on Saturday, May 18, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. Anyone that would like to volunteer to help is welcome.

4. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **Broadway.**

Brian Vilmont with Prein & Newhoff gave an update on the project, explained the weather has not been cooperating, but they are making progress. All the curbing is in from the railroad tracks down to Ottawa and we have the drive ramps on the west side poured and hope to pour the east side tomorrow if we can avoid the rain. Most of the sidewalk is in and hope to pave the road on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 weather pending. Water services are all set for the ball field. Vilmont thanked Lowell Light & Power for getting the overhead lines out of the way.

b. City Income Tax.

As directed, City Manager Michael Burns gave an update on the funding the City of Lowell would gain if the gas tax was implemented. Burns provided a summary “Fixing Michigan Roads Plan” of the States estimated funding per city. Burns also reviewed a time line for the Charter Amendment.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Fiscal Year 2020 Operating and Capital Budget – Lowell Light & Power.

Lowell Light & Power General Manager Steve Donkersloot stated per the City Charter, Lowell Light & Power’s budget must be presented to the City Council for consideration and approval every year. Donkersloot gave an overview of LL&P’s budget process, their Fiscal Year 2020 operating and Capital Budgets, and the major projects they expect to work on over the course of the next year before the second City Council meeting in May in which all City budgets will be presented to Council for approval.

b. Lease with Lowell Rotary – Resolution 17-19 and Agreement.

City Manager Michael Burns stated the City’s lease with the Lowell Rotary Club expires on June 30, 2019. The Lowell Rotary Club has informed me they would like to continue their lease for another three year term. Rotary will continue to pay a weekly rental of \$75 payable quarterly in advance at the beginning of each calendar quarter based on the number of weeks during the quarter the Council Chambers is used for their meetings. The proposed lease would begin on July 1, 2019 and expire on June 30, 2022.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAMBERS and seconded by YANKOVICH to approve Resolution 17-19 approving and authorizing the execution of a lease agreement between the City of Lowell and the Rotary Club of Lowell.

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

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

c. Set Public Hearing – Fiscal Year 19/20 Budget.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAMBERS and seconded by YANKOVICH to set the Public Hearing for the 19/20 Fiscal Year Budget for the next City Council meeting scheduled for May 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

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

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

d. Sale of Showboat Items.

Councilmember Marty Chambers stated he would like to be able to sell the remaining Showboat items at his Redbarn Consignment and Antique Store in town having all the proceeds placed in the City Showboat fund account.

IT WAS MOVED BY DEVORE and seconded by SALZWEDEL to approve the remaining Showboat items to be sold at the Red Barn Consignment and Antique Store.

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

NO: None. ABSTAINED: Councilmember Chambers. ABSENT: None. MOTION CARRIED.

6. **BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS.**

Councilmember Salzwedel stated the Arbor Board meets on May 13, 2019 at 12:00 p.m.

7. **MANAGER'S REPORT.**

City Manager Mike Burns reported on the following:

- Rich LaBombard has taken the position of City Manager for the City of the Village of Douglas. Burns is very happy for Rich as he is well deserving and wishes him great success. LaBombard's last day will be June 7, 2019. Burns will be posting the position of DPW Director later this week.
- Burns would like to recognize Brian VanVeelan, Todd Phillips and Ralph Brecken. The City of Lowell is a regional winner in the American Water Works Association "Michigan Section Best Tasting Water" in Michigan. The City will compete with four other regions this September at their annual conference. Our water staff does an excellent job in providing high quality H2O for our community and Burns is very proud of them.
- Burns will have the item "Showboat project consultant" on the agenda for the next City Council meeting as there were schedule conflicts tonight.
- About a week and a half ago, Burns, Rich LaBombard, Liz Baker, Carole McGregor and Shannon Parnofiello traveled north to visit Moran Iron Works, saw their facility and watched them constructing another client's boat. They were very pleased with what they saw and feel they are qualified and we made the right decision choosing them to build our showboat.
- There was an article in M-Live last week about Recreational Marijuana. They are anticipating being able to start accepting business licenses later this fall. Once that happens, there will be a process where they will actually start allowing the retail recreational sale of marijuana. There is still a lot of work we need to do for our City Ordinance regarding this and we will continue to work on that.
- Last Thursday, Burns and Mayor DeVore attended the first ever State of the County Event where they highlighted things going on in the County.
- Last Wednesday, Burns attended the training session for Lowell Light & Powers' Board and Staff held through the American Public Power Association, educating the attendees on some of the trends in the public power industry. It was a great meeting for the board and staff at Lowell Light & Power.
- Ware Landfill update. Burns has been in contact with the environmental attorney from Dick Wendt's office and also an engineering firm to start looking at the work plan litigation processes that we have to do for the facility and he has more information, he will come back to the Council with a report.

8. **APPOINTMENTS.**

The Historic District Commission has an appointment opening.

The Construction Board of Appeals has an appointment opening.

The Planning Commission has an appointment opening.

9. **COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

Councilmember Canfield thanked Marty & Laurie Chambers for taking on the showboat items to sell at their Redbarn Consignment and Antique Store. Canfield stated it is a shocker to lose Rich LaBombard who is a very talented guy. We are going to miss him. and he leaves big shoes to fill.

Councilmember Yankovich stated he is bummed about losing Rich LaBombard but happy for him. Reminded everyone to please get out and vote for our school tomorrow.

Councilmember Salzwedel stated he will be working with Rich LaBombard before he leaves as they have been working on a joint project together and he wants to make sure it is all situated and everyone is happy.

10. **ADJOURNMENT.**

IT WAS MOVED SALZWEDEL and seconded by YANKOVICH to adjourn at 7:42 p.m.

DATE:

APPROVED:

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Mike DeVore, Mayor

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Sue Ullery, Lowell City Clerk