

**PROCEEDINGS  
OF  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
OF THE  
CITY OF LOWELL  
MONDAY, MAY 03, 2021, 7:00 P.M.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; ROLL CALL.**

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor DeVore and City Clerk Sue Ullery called roll.

Present: Councilmembers' Cliff Yankovich, Marty Chambers, Leah Groves, Jim Salzwedel and Mayor DeVore.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Michael Burns, City Clerk Susan Ullery, DPW Director Dan Czarnecki, Chief of Police Chris Hurst and via zoom City Attorney Jessica Wood.

2. **CONSENT AGENDA.**

- Approval of the Agenda as amended adding: Setting the date for the public hearing for Budget hearing under new business.
- Approve and place on file the minutes of the April 19, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting.
- Authorize payment of invoices in the amount of \$127,478.93.

IT WAS MOVED BY YANKOVICH and seconded by GROVES to approve the consent agenda as amended.

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

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

There were no comments.

4. **OLD BUSINESS.**

a. Covid 19.

City Manager Michael Burns stated City Hall opened last week Monday, April 26, 2021. Federal Law had required us to provide 80 hours of sick leave for Covid which expired March 1, 2021. For our city employees, it will be ending June 1, 2021 and I will be sending a notice out regarding this.

b. Showboat.

City Manager Michael Burns gave an update stating they will be turning the boat this week to work on the other side. We should get the bathroom quote by the end of this week, question will be whether or

not we can afford it. We have a showboat committee meeting on Wednesday, May 7, 2021. Chris Chamberlin is putting together a maintenance plan for the boat once Wolverine is done.

Salzwedel updated Council on the fundraising committee stating the final meeting was last week. At this point they are between \$2,000-\$4,000 short of their fundraising goal, but pretty sure they will surpass that with the Gala event coming up which the Committee is now focused on. The Gala Event that will be held June 11, 2021. No tax dollars have been spent on the Showboat.

c. Downtown Traffic Control.

Chief of Police Chris Hurst provided an update. The City has no jurisdiction along Main Street as that is set by the State. Hurst provided suggestions like more speed signs and more narrow lanes. Will begin monitoring the time of day that is best for an officer to sit there at next week. Burns will email the state about additional speed signs.

5. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Ordinance 21-03 Special Land Use Light Industrial District.

City Clerk Sue Ullery stated at their meeting March 8, 2021, the Planning Commission reviewed a request from Chris Nelson for a vehicle towing service at 211 S. Washington Street SE. Subject to a Zoning Ordinance text amendment also considered at this meeting, vehicle towing services would be permitted in the I-L Light Industrial district only with a special land use approval.

IT WAS MOVED BY SALZWEDEL and seconded by YANKOVICH that the Lowell City Council approve Ordinance 21-03 as written.

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

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

b. Detective Bureau Vehicle.

City Manager Michael Burns read his memo stating the current vehicle for the police detective is in very poor condition to the point it appears we are chasing good money after bad as the cost for repairs are becoming more than the value of the vehicle. Detective Lauren performs salvage inspections for One Way Auto and has come across a 2015 GMC Acadia in good shape and relatively low miles. Blue book on it is around \$22,000.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAMBERS and seconded by GROVES that the Lowell City Council allow the Lowell Police Department to trade the 2011 Chevrolet Impala and the 2001 Sonoma to One Way Auto and utilize \$10,000 from the Salvage fund to purchase the 2015 Acadia for the detective use.

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

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

c. Memorial Day Events.

City Manager Michael Burns stated if you recall from last year, the Memorial Day events were modified to accommodate the COVID 19 pandemic. I received a request from Dirk Ritzema at the American Legion asking for permission to have the same event as they did last year; a small presentation at Oakwood Cemetery to honor fallen soldiers from the Lowell area. They followed all social distancing guidelines and intend on doing so this year. There will be no parade.

IT WAS MOVED BY DEVORE and seconded by SALZWEDEL that the Lowell City Council allow the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion to hold their presentation at Oakwood Cemetery on Memorial Day.

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

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

d. Garden Sale.

Councilmember Chambers stated Tonia North owner of North Star Antiques would like to hold her annual garden sale again this year so is requesting closing off a portion of the parking lot within the 200 block of W. Main Street. The event would run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 22, 2021.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAMBERS and seconded by GROVES that the Lowell City Council approve the partial closure of the parking lot within the 200 block of W. Main Street for the garden sale.

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

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

e. Set Public Hearing for Budget Hearing.

City Manager stated we just need to set the Public Hearing date for the Budget for Monday, May 17, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

It was a general consensus by all the City Councilmembers.

6. **BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS.**

Mayor DeVore stated that the Fire Authority met with Lou Bender with 50% attendance.

7. **BUDGET REPORT.**

There was nothing to report.

8. **MANAGER'S REPORT.**

City Manager Michael Burns went over a couple items:

- Today we had a pre-construction meeting for Foreman Street. Tentative date to start Foreman Street project is June 7, 2021 with 35 calendar days for completion. C & L Trucking was awarded the contract. They are also doing Alden Nash and Jane Ellen projects, so they will be coordinating all their jobs. C & L Trucking also bid on Amity.
- Bids for Amity will be opened tomorrow, May 4, 2021.
- Jane Ellen project is scheduled to plan sometime after July 1, 2021.
- Dan Czarnecki has already started sidewalk inspections and he will come back and explain the plan.
- Currently in the process of putting together a 7-year road plan.
- Darrin Docherty became our new DPW Sexton and started today.
- Eileen DeVries also started today in the Police Department.

Burns then turned it over to City Attorney Jessica Wood who gave a brief update on the USDA Rural Development Financing and the bonding involved. Still a few moving items but getting nearer to completion.

9. **APPOINTMENTS.**

Leah Groves submitted an application for the Arbor Board appointment.

It was a general consensus to appoint Leah Groves to the Arbor Board.

Mayor DeVore resigned from the Historic District Committee.

10. **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Groves stated there are several boards with open seats, so if you would like to be involved with the City, come join us.

Councilmember Chambers enjoyed Lew Bender the other day and good job to all involved on the budget.

Councilmember Yankovich also appreciated the great job everyone did who worked on the budget.

Mayor DeVore stated we are really lucky to have so much talent in the City.

11. **ADJOURNMENT.**

IT WAS MOVED BY SALWEDEL and seconded by CHAMBERS to adjourn at 7:34 p.m.

YES: 5.                      NO: None.                      ABSENT: None.                      MOTION CARRIED.

DATE:

APPROVED:

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Mike DeVore, Mayor

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Sue Ullery, Lowell City Clerk