

CITY OF LEWISTON

CITY COUNCIL

JANUARY 19, 2016

REGULAR MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL ROOM AT 6:00 P.M.

THE HONORABLE ROBERT E. MACDONALD, MAYOR, PRESIDING.

PRESENT: Mayor Macdonald, Councilors Lysen, Lajoie, Golden, Bouchard, Beam and Lachance, City Administrator Edward Barrett and City Clerk Kathleen Montejo.

Absent/Excused: Councilor Cloutier. Note – Under the City Charter, the Mayor is entitled to cast a vote in the absence of a City Councilor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

VOTE (18-2016)

Motion by Councilor Lysen, seconded by Councilor Lachance:

To enter into an Executive Session, pursuant to MRSA Title 1, section 405 (6) (c), to discuss Acquisition of Property, of which the premature disclosure of the information would prejudice the competitive bargaining position of the City. Passed - Vote 7-0

Executive Session began at 6:00pm and ended at 6:50pm.

Regular Session:

THE HONORABLE ROBERT E. MACDONALD, MAYOR, PRESIDING.

PRESENT: Mayor Macdonald, Councilors Lysen, Lajoie, Golden, Bouchard, Beam and Lachance, City Administrator Edward Barrett and City Clerk Kathleen Montejo.

Absent/Excused: Councilor Cloutier. Note – Under the City Charter, the Mayor is entitled to cast a vote in the absence of a City Councilor.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Moment of Silence.

VOTE (19-2016)

Motion by Councilor Bouchard, seconded by Councilor Lysen:

To dispense with the reading of the minutes of the meeting of January 5, 2016 and to accept and place them on file as prepared by the City Clerk. Passed - Vote 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public offered comment at this time.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON SPECIAL AMUSEMENT PERMIT FOR THE ELKS
LEWISTON LODGE, 1675 LISBON STREET**

Mayor Macdonald opened the public hearing to receive citizen input and comment. No members of the public spoke for or against this issue. The Mayor then closed the hearing. Citing a conflict of interest, the Mayor recused himself from this item.

VOTE (20-2016)

Motion by Councilor Lysen, seconded by Councilor Lachance:

To grant a Special Amusement permit for live entertainment to the Elk's Lewiston Lodge #371, 1675 Lisbon Street. Passed - Vote 6-0-1 (Mayor abstained.)

**PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST PASSAGE FOR RE-ZONING OF THE PROPERTY
AT 2-4 AVON STREET**

Mayor Macdonald opened the public hearing to receive citizen input and comment. Robert Faunce, a land use planner representing the property owners, presented background information to the Council on this item. The Mayor then closed the hearing.

VOTE (21-2016)

Motion by Councilor Lachance, seconded by Councilor Bouchard:

That the proposed amendment to re-zone a portion of the property at 2-4 Avon Street from the Resource Conservation (RC) District to the Urban Enterprise (UE) District, receive first passage by a roll call vote and that the public hearing on this issue be continued to the next regular City Council meeting for final passage. Passed - Vote 7-0

**AMENDMENTS TO THE FACILITY USE POLICY REGARDING THE PROHIBITION
OF HOVERBOARDS AND OTHER SIMILAR DEVICES IN CITY BUILDINGS**

VOTE (22-2016)

Motion by Councilor Golden, seconded by Councilor Lysen:

To approve the proposed amendments to the Facility Use Policy, Policy Manual Number 28, as recommended by the City Administrator and the Recreation Division. Passed - Vote 6-1 (Councilor Lachance opposed)

**RESOLVE ENDORSING ANDROSCOGGIN, OXFORD & COOS COUNTIES
RAIL COALITION**

Richard Grandmaison of 51 Jean Street said that he has attended every meeting since the Coalition was established and Lewiston needs to be at the table in an official capacity. He noted Rail is coming to western Maine one way or the other and Lewiston needs to be involved.

VOTE (23-2016)

Motion by Councilor Lysen, seconded by Councilor Lajoie:

To adopt the Resolve Endorsing Androscoggin, Oxford & Coos Counties Rail Coalition:

Whereas, the St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railway Corridor is comprised of workers, entrepreneurs, small businesses, and large employers whose prosperity shapes the northern border region's character and quality of life; and

Whereas, this region's citizens expect their elected representatives and officials to explore the benefits of regional collaboration to be gained through relationships among states, municipalities, and other units of government; and

Whereas, representatives from the communities of Androscoggin, Oxford, and Coos Counties have been meeting regularly since 2010 for the purpose of exploring opportunities for collaboration in the restoration of passenger rail to this region; and

Whereas, the work of the Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce sub-committee for Transportation has achieved significant results, including organizing the Sept. 14, 2011 Bethel Rail Rally and adoption of recommendations from the Rally for advocacy for restoration of rail service on the St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railway Corridor;

Now, Therefore, Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the above-referenced county municipalities, working with the staff of the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments and Community Concepts Finance Corporation, will meet on a regular basis as the Androscoggin, Oxford and Coos Counties Rail Coalition for the purpose of identifying, exploring, and implementing opportunities for regional collaboration in restoration of passenger rail for economic development; and

That the report September 14, 2011 Rally for Rail and its recommendations for action, are hereby adopted as the scope of work for the Committee, with modifications and updates by the Committee as necessary; and

That the bylaws of the Androscoggin, Oxford and Coos Counties Rail Coalition will be adopted as the operating structure for the Committee.

Adopted by the Governing Body of the City of Lewiston on the 19th Day of January, 2016.

Passed - Vote 5-2 (Councilors Lajoie and Lachance opposed)

**ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO DISPOSE OF THE
PROPERTY LOCATED AT 168 BLAKE STREET**

VOTE (24-2016)

Motion by Councilor Lysen, seconded by Councilor Golden:

To approve the Order authorizing the City Administrator to dispose of the property located at 168 Blake Street:

Whereas, the City condemned and demolished a structure on this 5,000 square foot lot some time ago; and

Whereas, subsequently, a tax lien matured and the City took possession of the lot; and

Whereas, staff was recently approached by an individual expressing potential interest in acquiring this property to provide parking for his nearby building; and

Whereas, staff has determined that the City has no need to retain this property; and

Whereas, the Planning Board has reviewed and recommended that it be sold through a bid process with a minimum bid requirement of \$10,000;

Now, therefore, be it ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the City Administrator is hereby authorized to dispose of the property at 168 Blake Street through the bid process with a minimum bid requirement of \$10,000 and in accordance with the recommendation of the Planning Board.

Passed - Vote 7-0

RESOLVE EXPANDING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

VOTE (25-2016)

Motion by Councilor Bouchard, seconded by Councilor Beam:

To approve the Resolve expanding the membership of the Public Works Committee:

Whereas, at the recent new Council orientation meeting, there was discussion of recycling and solid waste issues and how they might best be addressed – either through the existing Public Works Committee or the creation of a new committee; and

Whereas, this conversation continued at the Public Works Committee at its meeting of January 7th; and

Whereas, during that discussion, interest was expressed in expanding the membership of the Committee to bring on board additional members who might have either expertise or a strong interest in solid waste systems and recycling; and

Whereas, at the request of the Chair of the Committee, an amendment has been prepared to the charge of the Committee that would expand its membership by two and explicitly include in it solid waste and recycling issues;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the attached organizational charter and charge of the Committee to Review Public Work's Service Level Standards is hereby approved.

Passed – Vote 7-0

UPDATE FROM THE LEWISTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

Councilor Cloutier was absent from the meeting so no report was presented at this time.

REPORTS AND UPDATES

No reports or updates were presented at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS

The City Administrator stated he will work with the Council to schedule their annual planning and goal-setting retreat for a Saturday in February or March.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

VOTE (26-2016)

Motion by Councilor Lysen, seconded by Councilor Bouchard:

To enter into an Executive Session pursuant to MRSA Title 1, section 405 (6) (D) to discuss Labor Negotiations regarding the city's six employee unions - International Association of Firefighters, Local 785; Maine State Employees Association, Local 1989; Maine Association of Police; Lewiston Police Supervisory Command Unit; Lewiston Professional Technical Unit, Local 3855 and Lewiston Public Works Unit, Local 1458. Passed - Vote 7-0

Executive Session began at 7:45pm and ended at 8:50pm.

VOTE (27-2016)

Motion by Councilor Bouchard, seconded by Councilor Lachance:

To adjourn at 8:50P.M. Passed - Vote 7-0

A true record, Attest:

Kathleen M. Montejo, MMC
City Clerk
Lewiston, Maine