

CITY OF LEWISTON

CITY COUNCIL

APRIL 1, 2003

REGULAR MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL ROOM AT 7:00PM

THE HONORABLE LAURIER T. RAYMOND, JR., MAYOR, PRESIDING.

PRESENT: Councilors Philippon, Bernier, O'Brien, Jean, Mason, Paradis, Rousseau, City Administrator James Bennett and City Clerk Kathleen Montejo

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Moment of Silence.

UPDATE FROM YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

The members are working with Great Falls Community Television to prepare a 30 second Public Service Announcement for awareness of noise pollution. A local television station is airing a special about the war and youth reactions to the war, and two members of the Youth Advisory Council have been invited to participate in the panel discussion. Paul Brunetti, a member of the Maine Legislative Youth Council met with members of YAC on behalf of Senator Rotundo to hear their responses to proposed changes in the laws governing drivers licenses.

PRESENTATION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT "GOOD DEEDS" COMMEMORATIVE COIN

Chief Welch presented each Councilor with the new Police Department Good Deeds Commemorative Coin which is used by police officers to recognize and thank citizens for good deeds in the community and for going above and beyond the norm in their actions.

AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT TRANSFER OF FORFEITURE FUNDS

VOTE (92-2003)

Motion by Councilor Philippon, seconded by Councilor Paradis:

That pursuant to Title 15, Maine Revised Statutes Annotated, Section 5824(3) and Section 5822(4)(A), the City Council hereby acknowledges and approves of the transfer of \$14,900.00, or any portion thereof, in the case of State of Maine vs. Amir Radhi, No. CE-03-0020 Criminal Forfeiture. Being funds forfeited pursuant to court process. It is further acknowledged that these funds shall be credited to the 'City of Lewiston Drug Enforcement Program', funds to be deposited in Account No. 590-3514050 at People's Heritage Bank.

Passed - Vote 7-0

VOTE (93-2003)

Motion by Councilor Philippon, seconded by Councilor Paradis:

That pursuant to Title 15, Maine Revised Statutes Annotated, Section 5824(3) and Section 5822(4)(A), the City Council hereby acknowledges and approves of the transfer of \$508.00, or any portion thereof, in the case of State of Maine vs. Michael Squillace, No. CR-02-469 Criminal Forfeiture. Being funds forfeited pursuant to court process. It is further acknowledged that these funds shall be credited to the 'City of Lewiston Drug Enforcement Program', funds to be deposited in Account No. 590-3514050 at People's Heritage Bank.
Passed - Vote 7-0

REQUEST TO HANG BANNER

VOTE (94-2003)

Motion by Councilor Philippon, seconded by Councilor Paradis:

To authorize the Sabattus Elementary PTA to hang a banner at the Lewiston pump station from October 5 - October 18, 2003, to promote their upcoming fundraiser. The banner must be installed per requirements of the Public Works Department. Passed - Vote 7-0

**CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR AMENDMENT TO LAND USE
CODE REGARDING DEVELOPMENT REVIEW PROCEDURES**

VOTE (95-2003)

Motion by Councilor Rousseau, seconded by Councilor Mason:

To continue the public hearing for Final Passage, regarding amendments to the Land Use Code concerning changes to the Development Review process to streamline the review procedures, to the Council meeting of May 6, 2003. Passed - Vote 7-0

SPECIAL AMUSEMENT PERMIT FOR CJ'S SPORTS PUB

Mayor Raymond opened the public hearing. No members of the public spoke for or against this issue. Mayor Raymond then closed the hearing.

VOTE (96-2003)

Motion by Councilor Mason, seconded by Councilor Rousseau:

To grant a Special Amusement Permit for Dancing and Entertainment to CJ's Sports Pub, 703 Sabattus Street. Passed - Vote 7-0

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

Many Councilors spoke in support of the adoption of this Resolution and the need to support the military troops currently in Iraq and other parts of the world.

VOTE (97-2003)

Motion by Councilor Mason, seconded by Councilor Jean:

To adopt the Resolution to show Support for Our Troops:

Whereas, the United States Armed Forces, our own Maine State National Guard, and other Reserve Forces who reside in the State of Maine, have been activated to participate in this war with the nation of Iraq and in other theaters of this global war on terrorism, and

Whereas, the men and women of the United States military put their lives on hold, leave their families, jobs and postsecondary education in order to serve their country and do so with great pride, courage and distinction, and

Whereas, we acknowledge that our citizens serving in the United States Armed Forces, Reserve Forces and National Guard must leave their families and their homes for anywhere from six months to three years, deployed to countries and theaters far from the shores of the United States, to protect our freedoms and securities, and

Whereas, we acknowledge that when our service personnel are absent for six months to three years from family, friends and home, it is very demanding both on the soldier and their families who need our support during any mobilization, and

Whereas, the Lewiston City Council recognizes that members of our municipal family are currently serving in the Armed Forces as soldiers and military support personnel in the Middle East, and many of the City's employees have family members serving overseas, and

Whereas, we recognize that our military troops fight to defend and protect our values of freedom and civil liberties, and work to uphold those beliefs that are the core foundation of our country, and

Whereas, the ability of the Armed Forces to successfully perform their mission requires the support of their nation, community and families,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, by the City Council of the City of Lewiston Maine, that the City Council does hereby express our unequivocal support and appreciation to the brave men and women serving our county in the Armed Forces during this time of war, who are carrying out their missions with excellence, patriotism and bravery, and furthermore, pledge our support and solidarity to their families who are left behind while we pray and worry with them for their safe return home.

Passed - Vote 7-0

RESOLUTION DECLARING APRIL IS “COMMUNITY BUILDING MONTH”

VOTE (98-2003)

Motion by Councilor Paradis, seconded by Councilor Jean:

To adopt the Resolution to declare the month of April as “Community Building Month” in Lewiston:

Whereas, The City of Lewiston’s greatest strength is it’s people. Our diverse population, in regards to both ethnicity and culture, provides our community and the State of Maine with a powerful energy and ability to view ourselves from various perspectives, and

Whereas, Lewiston’s success depends on empowering it’s citizens to participate in the decisions that impact their lives. Together, we can build the kind of future we desire for all our citizens and for future generations, and

Whereas, There are numerous positive actions already being taken to counter intolerance, citizens must be given every opportunity to assume personal responsibility to do whatever they can to foster community attitudes that more fully, and wholeheartedly, celebrate our differences and our similarities as human beings and as citizens, and

Whereas, The Community Building Committee has recently concluded it’s efforts to develop a set of recommendations as to what our community can do to develop such opportunities for a better understanding of our evolving cultural and social environment, and

Whereas, Citizens are encouraged to consider and subsequently embrace the Committee’s recommendations endorsed by the City Council and to commit themselves to the principles of inclusion, mutual respect, and social justice,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston, Maine that the City Council hereby declares April 2003 as “Community Building Month” within the City of Lewiston and urges all citizens to observe this month by participating in community dialogue towards encouraging and fostering the development of positive, respectful attitudes within this great city.

Passed - Vote 7-0

BUDGET WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Councilors reviewed the proposed budget workshop schedule. It was noted that the date of May 20 for budget adoption needs to be adjusted since the City Administrator will be out of town that week. The date of May 27 was recommended, although it was noted that the budget adoption date may be changed to May 13 or even May 6, depending upon the discussions that will occur during the budget workshop review sessions.

VOTE (99-2003)

Motion by Councilor O'Brien, seconded by Councilor Jean:

To set the date for the final budget public hearing and the adoption of the budget for Tuesday, May 27, 2003. Passed - Vote 7-0

VOTE (100-2003)

Motion by Councilor Paradis, seconded by Councilor Mason:

To adopt the budget workshop schedule as presented, with the dates of April 8, 22, 29 and May 13 as budget workshop dates, April 22 as the first budget public hearing date and May 27 as the final budget public hearing and final budget adoption. Passed - Vote 7-0

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

City Administrator Jim Bennett stated the City is tracking the recent legislation regarding the various tax reform proposals. Councilor O'Brien mentioned that Lewiston would be in the area of one of the Governor's proposed Pine Tree Zones for economic development. Councilor O'Brien also stated that with the current redistricting proposal the City will lose one seat in the House of Representatives.

REPORT FROM THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Councilor Bernier stated the Committee is currently reviewing the establishment of a school dress code.

OTHER BUSINESS

The City Administrator stated that the Mayor's portraits have been hung in the first floor hallway. The frames have been refurbished and the portraits are now again on display, after a four year hiatus. He also mentioned the Councilors received their budget notebooks this evening which contain the background and supporting budget documents.

Councilor Bernier stated she would like to see additional community involvement and input regarding the budget issues. Mr. Bennett asked that Councilors provide his office with any ideas and suggestions for a citizen budget information outreach program.

VOTE (101-2003)

Motion by Councilor Jean, second by Councilor Mason:

To adjourn at 7:25P.M. Passed - Vote 7-0

A true record, Attest:

Kathleen M. Montejo, CMC
City Clerk
Lewiston, Maine