

CITY OF LEWISTON

CITY COUNCIL

JUNE 17, 2014

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

THE HONORABLE ROBERT E. MACDONALD, MAYOR, PRESIDING.

PRESENT: Mayor Macdonald, Councilors Dubois, D'Auteuil, Libby, Christ, Cloutier, Cayer and Lachance, City Administrator Edward Barrett and City Clerk Kathleen Montejo.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

VOTE (201-2014)

Motion by Councilor Dubois, seconded by Councilor Cayer:

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 6:15pm and ended at 6:37pm.

VOTE (202-2014)

Motion by Councilor Dubois, seconded by Councilor D'Auteuil:

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 6:37pm and ended at 6:55pm.

THE HONORABLE ROBERT E. MACDONALD, MAYOR, PRESIDING.

PRESENT: Mayor Macdonald, Councilors Dubois, D'Auteuil, Libby, Christ, Cloutier, Cayer and Lachance, City Administrator Edward Barrett and City Clerk Kathleen Montejo.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Moment of Silence. The Mayor asked that this Moment of Silence be held in memory of Gerard Deborgoshian who recently passed away and was very active with local veterans organizations.

**SPIRIT OF AMERCIA AWARD RECOGNITION FOR HOPE HAVEN
GOSPEL MISSION**

The Mayor presented this year's Spirit of America Award to Pastor Robbins and his wife who established the Hope Haven Gospel Mission many years ago. He noted their contributions to Lewiston residents in need over the years have been extraordinary. They operate one of the largest gospel missions in New England.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Melissa Dunne of 45 ½ Jefferson Street addressed the Council regarding the undocumented residents of Lewiston and the potential of limiting their support from the General Assistance program. She noted many are here from war-torn countries and are now residents of this city who need and deserve support.

PUBLIC HEARING ON A NEW LIQUOR LICENSE FOR MARCHE KITCHEN & WINE BAR, 40 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.

VOTE (203-2014)

Motion by Councilor Christ, seconded by Councilor Cloutier:

To authorize the City Clerk's Office to approve a new liquor license application from Marche Kitchen & Wine Bar, 40 Lisbon Street. Passed - Vote 7-0

PUBLIC HEARING FOR AN OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT FOR THE LIBERTY FESTIVAL

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.

VOTE (204-2014)

Motion by Councilor Libby, seconded by Councilor Cayer:

To conduct a public hearing on an application from the Independence Day Committee for outdoor musical concerts to be held at Veteran's Memorial Park and Simard Payne Park on July 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, as part of the Liberty Day Festival, and to authorize a permit for an Outdoor Entertainment Event, as required by the City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Article 1, Section 10-3, to the Independence Day Committee for the outdoor music concerts, contingent upon positive recommendations from the Recreation Department, Police Department, Fire Department, Code/Land Use Officer and Code/Health Officer regarding compliance with all regulations, and compliance with all City ordinances. Passed - Vote 7-0

ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES PLAN BETWEEN THE CITY OF LEWISTON, THE LEWISTON AUBURN ECONOMIC GROWTH COUNCIL AND THE CITY OF AUBURN

VOTE (205-2014)

Motion by Councilor Libby, seconded by Councilor Christ:

To approve the Order authorizing the City Administrator to execute an Agreement to establish an Economic Development Services Plan between the City of Lewiston, the Lewiston Auburn

Economic Growth Council and the City of Auburn:

Whereas, the City of Lewiston, City of Auburn, and LAEGC have historically been the model for collaborative economic development in Maine and have had past success through this effort; and

Whereas, to continue that success, this economic development approach must become more adaptive to rapid change while competing globally in an environment of unknowns and limited predictability and will need to identify and adopt new models and services; and

Whereas, over the last year, the Cities and LAEGC have reviewed various ideas and concepts, in concert with other stakeholders, regarding the appropriate scope of services to guide the operations of LAEGC and the cities for future years; and

Whereas, a working group was charged with completing this review, developing a plan, and outlining the plan's priorities with a view toward its implementation; and

Whereas, with the assistance of a consultant, this working group has reached a consensus on a scope of services as outlined in the Economic Development Services Plan for Lewiston-Auburn Economic Growth Council Final Report May 19, 2014; and

Whereas, the cities and LAEGC have also developed an agreement that would adopt this plan and assist in moving it toward implementation.

Now, therefore, be It Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the City Administrator is hereby authorized to Execute an Agreement to Establish an Economic Development Services Plan between the City of Lewiston, the Lewiston Auburn Economic Growth Council and the City of Auburn in a form substantially as attached hereto.

Passed - Vote 7-0

RESOLVE AUTHORIZING A 2.58% INTEREST RATE, THIRTEEN YEAR LOAN OF \$1,100,000 FROM THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND TO THE AUBURN-LEWISTON AIRPORT FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE NOBILITY HANGER

VOTE (206-2014)

Motion by Councilor Libby, seconded by Councilor Cloutier:

To approve the Resolve authorizing a 2.58% interest rate, thirteen year loan of \$1,100,000 from the City's General Fund to the Auburn-Lewiston Airport for the purchase of the Nobility hanger:

Whereas, the Auburn-Lewiston Airport is a joint agency between the Cities of Lewiston and Auburn; and

Whereas, the Airport Board recommended that a buyout option associated with a hangar leased by the Airport be exercised to reduce operating costs; and

Whereas, the operational savings resulting from the lease buyout is estimated to be \$2.83 million; and

Whereas, operational savings will directly benefit the Cities of Lewiston and Auburn through offsetting a portion of annual airport operating appropriations;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that a 2.58% interest rate, thirteen year loan of \$1,100,000 is hereby authorized from the City's General Fund to the Auburn-Lewiston Airport for the purchase of the Nobility hanger. The loan will be repaid in thirteen annual payments of \$201,348 beginning the effective date of the purchase in fiscal year 2015 and annually thereafter.

Passed - Vote 7-0

**ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ACQUIRE THE
PROPERTY AT 10 COLLEGE STREET**

VOTE (207-2014)

Motion by Councilor Libby, seconded by Councilor Christ:

To approve the Order authorizing the City Administrator to acquire the property at 10 College Street:

Whereas, on March 20, 2012, the City Council took action against Deutsche Bank AG, New York, owner of the property at 10 College Street, condemning a multifamily structure located there; and

Whereas, the building was subsequently demolished and a special tax placed against the property for back taxes, utilities, attorney's fees, and demolition of the structure; and

Whereas, Deutsche Bank has paid this special tax and has inquired, through the City Attorney, whether the City would be interested in acquiring the now vacant land for \$1.00; and

Whereas, this property consists of approximately 4,200 square feet with 55' of frontage and is located in the Downtown Residential (DR) district; and

Whereas, administration and various staff departments are supportive of acquiring the property; and

Whereas, the Planning Board has made a positive recommendation as to the City's acquisition of this lot;

Now, therefore, be It Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the City Administrator is authorized to take the necessary steps to acquire the property at 10 College Street for a nominal amount.

Passed - Vote 7-0

**RESOLVE ESTABLISHING A COMMITTEE TO REVIEW PUBLIC WORKS’
SERVICE LEVEL STANDARDS**

VOTE (208-2014)

Motion by Councilor D’Auteuil, seconded by Councilor Dubois:

To amend the Composition and Committee Structure to insert “of which three of the 5 public members must be residents”. Passed – Vote 7-0

VOTE (209-2014)

Motion by Councilor Cayer, seconded by Councilor Christ:

To approve the Resolve establishing a Committee to review Public Works’ Service Level Standards:

Whereas, on several occasions, the City Council has discussed and expressed an interest in forming a Committee to review the City’s Public Works Department in an effort to develop recommendations that would reduce costs and improve services; and

Whereas, at a recent workshop, the City Council reviewed and supported a proposal outlining the purpose, composition, term, and expected work product of such a committee;

Now, therefore, be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that there is hereby established a Committee to Review Public Works’ Service Level Standards in accordance with the attached committee mission and organization.

Passed – Vote 7-0

REPORTS AND UPDATES

No reports or updates were presented at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS

General Assistance – The City Administrator provided an update on the issue of General Assistance aid to residents who are classified as “asylum seekers” and explained the contradicting information from the Governor’s Office and the State Attorney General’s office. The Governor’s Office is informing municipalities they will not be able to seek state reimbursement for financial assistance provided to asylum seekers and the AG’s Office is stating the municipalities must apply all GA eligibility standards to all applications for GA and issue the financial assistance if they are qualified to receive it. The Maine Municipal Association has asked the court system to make a determination about the reimbursement status.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

VOTE (210-2014)

Motion by Councilor Dubois, seconded by Councilor Libby:

CITY COUNCIL

JUNE 17, 2014

To enter into an Executive Session pursuant to MRSA Title 1, section 405(6)(D) to discuss Labor Negotiations regarding the International Association of Firefighters, Local 785.

Passed - Vote 7-0

Executive Session began at 8:25pm and ended at 8:50pm.

VOTE (211-2014)

Motion by Councilor Dubois, seconded by Councilor Christ:

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

A true record, Attest:

Kathleen M. Montejo, MMC
City Clerk
Lewiston, Maine