

CITY OF LEWISTON

CITY COUNCIL

APRIL 3, 2018

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

THE HONORABLE SHANE D. BOUCHARD, MAYOR, PRESIDING.

PRESENT: Mayor Bouchard, Councilors Pettengill, Rea, Lajoie, Cloutier, Beam and Marcotte, City Administrator Edward Barrett and City Clerk Kathleen Montejo. Excused/Absent: Councilor Lysen. Note – Per the City Charter, the Mayor may cast a vote in the absence of a City Councilor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

VOTE (91-2018)

Motion by Councilor Pettengill, seconded by Councilor Lajoie:

To enter into an Executive Session pursuant to MRSA Title 1, Section 405 (6) (E) to discuss a legal matter. Passed - Vote 7-0

Executive Session began at 6:00pm and ended at 6:15pm.

The Council then held a Budget Workshop following the Executive Session.

At this time, the Council took Agenda Item 11 out of order and addressed it at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

VOTE (92-2018)

Motion by Councilor Pettengill, seconded by Councilor Lajoie:

To enter into an Executive Session pursuant to MRSA Title 1, Section 405 (6) (A) to discuss a personnel matter. Passed - Vote 7-0

Executive Session began at 6:42pm and ended at 6:50pm.

Regular Meeting started at 7:00pm.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MAYOR'S PRESENTATION

The Mayor recognized Assistant City Clerk Erica Soiett for earning her state certification. He presented her with a certificate of achievement.

VOTE (93-2018)

Motion by Councilor Lajoie, seconded by Councilor Cloutier:

To dispense with the reading of the minutes of the meeting of March 20, 2018 and to accept and place them on file as prepared by the City Clerk. Passed - Vote 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Charles Soule, 135 Bartlett Street, stated that he will be voting “no” on the School Budget, stating he is opposed to the city bond issues.

RESOLVE ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM THE STEPHEN & TABITHA KING FOUNDATION TO REPLACE OUTDATED AUTOMATIC DEFIBRILLATORS (AEDs) FOR THE FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS

VOTE (94-2018)

Motion by Councilor Lajoie, seconded by Councilor Cloutier:

To approve the Resolve Accepting a grant from the Stephen & Tabitha King Foundation to replace outdated Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) for the Fire and Police Departments:

Whereas, the City currently deploys 12 Automatic External Defibrillators in Police and Fire emergency response vehicles; and

Whereas, these units are outdated and in need of replacement; and

Whereas, the Stephen & Tabitha King Foundation has awarded the City \$15,000 to replace these units and to purchase related ancillary equipment; and

Whereas, no local match is required under this grant;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the City Council hereby accepts a grant from the Stephen & Tabitha King Foundation in the amount of \$15,000 for the purpose of replacing 12 outdated Automatic External Defibrillators and to purchase related ancillary equipment. Further, the City Council hereby expresses its thanks and appreciation, and that of our residents, to the Foundation for its support.

Passed - Vote 7-0

AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT TRANSFER OF FORFEITURE FUNDS

VOTE (95-2018)

Motion by Councilor Lajoie, seconded by Councilor Cloutier:

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 \$2,538.00 and one Remington Rifle, Model 7600, Serial Number 835736, or any portion thereof, in the case of the State of Maine vs. Steven Pelletier, CR-17-3171 Court Records, being funds forfeited pursuant to the court process. It is further acknowledged that these funds shall be credited to the ‘City of Lewiston Drug Enforcement Program’ account. Passed - Vote 7-0

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2019

Mayor Bouchard opened the public hearing to receive citizen input and comment regarding the proposed FY2019 municipal budget. Charles Soule, 135 Bartlett Street, asked what the overall city budget increase is proposed to be. The City Administrator noted the city expenses and county taxes represent a 3.7% increase over last year's budget and the school budget is a 12% increase compared to last year. The Mayor then closed the hearing.

RESOLVE RESCINDING THE BALANCE OF THE CONNORS SCHOOL PROJECT BOND AUTHORIZATIONS

VOTE (96-2018)

Motion by Councilor Cloutier, seconded by Councilor Rea:

To approve the Resolve Rescinding the Balance of the Connors School Project Bond Authorizations:

Whereas, on June 20, 2017, the City Council approved issuing \$49,749,244 of General Obligation Bonds to construct and equip the Robert V. Connors School and the issuance of \$2,151,360 of General Obligation Bonds to expand the capacity of the gymnasium, fully air condition the building, and install an artificial turf surface; and

Whereas, the project bids came in well under budget, and the bonds were sold for the combined reduced amount of \$44,721,394; and

Whereas, the remaining combined authorization of \$7,179,210 is no longer needed and should be rescinded;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that \$7,132,611 in authorized bonds for constructing and equipping the Robert V. Connors School and \$46,599 in authorized bonds to expand the capacity of the gymnasium, fully air condition the building, and install an artificial turf surface are hereby rescinded.

Passed - Vote 7-0

APPROVAL OF ELECTION WARRANT CALLING FOR A SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2018 FOR THE SCHOOL BUDGET VALIDATION REFERENDUM AND A SPECIAL SCHOOL REFERENDUM, AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CITY CLERK/REGISTRAR OF VOTERS ON ACTIONS NECESSARY TO CONDUCT SAID ELECTION

VOTE (97-2018)

Motion by Councilor Rea, seconded by Councilor Cloutier:

Be It Ordered by the City Council that the Election Warrant be issued for the Special Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 for the purpose of voting for the School Budget

Validation Referendum, and to approve the following recommendations from the City Clerk/Registrar of Voters on actions necessary to conduct the Special Municipal Election :

A. That the hours for acceptance of registrations in person only, prior to the May 8th election, as required by MRSA Title 21A, sec. 122, 6A(2), be set at 8:30am to 4:00pm, April 18 through May 7, 2018.

B. That the names of those persons who register during the closed session for registration shall be recorded in accordance with MRSA Title 21A, sec. 122, subsec. 7B.

C. Pursuant to Title 21A, sec 759(7), absentee ballots will be processed at the polling place at 7:00am and any and all remaining shall be processed at 8:00pm, if necessary.

D. To appoint the City Clerk as the City's Election Warden and the Assistant City Clerk as the City's Ward Clerk, for the May 8 election.

Passed - Vote 7-0

ORDER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT NUMBER EIGHT TO THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LEWISTON AND EDWARD A. BARRETT

Councilor Marcotte stated he would be voting against this item because he is opposed to the compensation package.

VOTE (98-2018)

Motion by Councilor Cloutier, seconded by Councilor Rea:

To approve the Order Authorizing the Mayor to execute Amendment Number Eight to the Employment Agreement between the City of Lewiston and Edward A. Barrett:

Whereas, the City entered into an agreement with Edward A. Barrett on December 1, 2009 under which he assumed the position of City Administrator; and

Whereas, the Council wishes to adjust extend the term of the agreement until June 30, 2019 under the existing terms and conditions;

Now, therefore, be It Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the Mayor is authorized to execute an eight amendment to the employment agreement with Edward A. Barrett, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Passed - Vote 6-1 (Councilor Marcotte opposed)

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO REVIEW APPLICATION SUBMITTED UNDER TITLE 36, SECTION 841 (2)

VOTE (99-2018)

Motion by Councilor Pettengill, seconded by Councilor Cloutier:

To enter into an Executive Session to review an application submitted under MRSA Title 36, Section 841 (2). Passed - Vote 7-0

Executive Session began at 7:12pm and ended at 8:03pm.

**REQUEST FOR ABATEMENT OF PROPERTY TAXES FOR APPLICATION
SUBMITTED UNDER TITLE 36, SECTION 841 (2)**

VOTE (100-2018)

Motion by Councilor Cloutier, seconded by Councilor Lajoie:

To postpone action on this matter to the May 1 City Council meeting, to allow for additional time for material to be obtained and reviewed. Passed – Vote 7-0

REPORTS AND UPDATES

Councilor Rea reported that the School Committee is conducting their final budget review tomorrow night and they voted to not enter into the Regional Service Center agreement with area school districts.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was presented at this time.

VOTE (101-2018)

Motion by Councilor Rea, seconded by Councilor Cloutier:

To adjourn at 8:06P.M. Passed - Vote 7-0

A true record, Attest:

Kathleen M. Montejo, MMC
City Clerk
Lewiston, Maine