

# CITY OF LEWISTON

CITY COUNCIL

MAY 15, 2008

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

PRESENT: Mayor Gilbert, Councilors T. Peters, Poulin, Theriault, Bailey, Dube, Reed, City Administrator James Bennett, and City Clerk Kathleen Montejo. Excused/Absent: Councilor N. Peters

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.  
Moment of Silence.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING REAL ESTATE NEGOTIATION

#### VOTE (1)

Motion by Councilor T. Peters, seconded by Councilor Theriault:

To enter into an executive session, pursuant to MRSA Title 1, Section 405 (6) (c), to discuss Real Estate negotiations, of which the premature disclosure of the information would prejudice the competitive bargaining position of the City, regarding the potential sale/lease of the Androscoggin Bank Colisee.

Passed - Vote 6-0 Executive Session began at 6:05pm and ended at 7:00pm.

### UPDATE ON INITIAL SALE OF THE ANDROSCOGGIN BANK COLISEE PROPERTY

At this time, the Council decided to take agenda item number four out of order and to address it at this time. Mayor Gilbert read a prepared statement noting the City is planning to sell the Colisee to Firland Management, a company located in Veazie, Maine with personnel that has been working in the ice rink industry in North American for thirty years. City Administrator Bennett noted the legal paperwork for the sale is still being worked out, and the sale will ensure the facility will remain an ice rink for at least ten years, with the primary focus on youth, the original intent of the facility. He stated that more specific details regarding the deal will be released in the next couple of weeks.

At this time, the Council decided to take agenda item number three out of order and to address it at this time.

### AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER \$225,000 TO LEWISTON URBAN CIVIC CENTER ENTERPRISES

Mayor Gilbert and Councilors Theriault and Reed recused themselves from this matter, noting a conflict of interest since all of them serve on the LUCCE Board of Directors. Mr. Bennett said the City will no longer own the Colisee as of July 1 and will transfer just enough funds to cover

the costs, so there will be a zero fund balance at the time of the sale. It was noted that the utility costs were higher this year than budgeted, such as expenses to run the compressors to make the ice and so forth.

Council President T. Peters opened the floor for public comment. Charles Soule of 170 Bartlett Street said the sale is too fast tracked and he hopes the City is recovering all of the losses at the Colisee with this sale and he may begin a petition process to stop the sale.

Councilor T. Peters noted the Council has studied the details very carefully and as more information becomes available, the public will have a chance to review it. It was noted the City has been working to sell the Colisee since May 2007, so this is not a deal that has been rushed through at all.

**VOTE (2)**

Motion by Councilor Poulin, seconded by Councilor Bailey:

To approve the transfer of funds in the amount up to \$225,000 from the City's undesignated fund balance to the Lewiston Urban Civic Center Enterprises LLC for operational costs for Fiscal Year 2008. Passed - Vote 4-0

**EXECUTIVE SESSION WITH CITY ATTORNEY REGARDING A LEGAL MATTER**

**VOTE (3)**

Motion by Councilor T. Peters, seconded by Councilor Reed:

To enter into an executive session pursuant to MRSA Title 1, Section 405 (6) (e) for consultation with the City Attorney regarding a pending legal matter.

Passed - Vote 6-0 Executive Session began at 7:20pm and ended at 7:45pm.

Councilors took at 15 minute recess at this point. Following the conclusion of the meeting, the Council met in a budget workshop session to review and discuss their proposed adjustments to the FY09 municipal budget.

**VOTE (4)**

Motion by Councilor Reed, second by Councilor Bailey:

To adjourn at 9:35 P.M. Passed - Vote 6-0

A true record, Attest:

Kathleen M. Montejo, MMC  
City Clerk  
Lewiston, Maine