

CITY OF LEWISTON

CITY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

REGULAR MEETING HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM AT 7:00 P.M.

THE HONORABLE MARK A. CAYER, MAYOR, PRESIDING.

PRESENT: Mayor Cayer, Councilors Khalid, Pettengill, Rea, Lajoie, Jensen, Clement and Gelinias, City Administrator Denis D'Auteuil and City Clerk Kathleen Montejo.

UPDATE ON CITY ACTIONS REGARDING COVID-19 PANDEMIC SITUATION

Deputy City Administrator Doughty reported city staff is reviewing the new state CDC guidelines for masks and building capacity and will be implementing the changes accordingly at City Hall.

VOTE (218-2020)

Motion by Councilor Gelinias, seconded by Councilor Rea:

To dispense with the reading of the minutes of the meeting of September 1, 2020 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.

ORDER, AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO SELL THE CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AT 17 WHITE STREET

VOTE (219-2020)

Motion by Councilor Lajoie, seconded by Councilor Clement:

To approve the Order, Authorizing the City Administrator to take the necessary steps to sell the city-owned property at 17 White Avenue:

Whereas, the City acquired ownership of this property on the basis of matured property tax liens; and

Whereas, this property is a vacant lot; and

Whereas, a request for bids was issued for the sale of this property, which resulted in no offers to purchase it from residents of abutting properties; and

Whereas, the winning bidder for 76 Switzerland Street has expressed an interest in purchasing it as a new abutter; and

Whereas, the Planning Board has reviewed this property and has recommended that the City dispose of it without a required minimum bid;

Now, therefore, be It Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the City Administrator is authorized to sell the City-owned property at 17 White Avenue to National Capital Holdings, LLC. for \$100 plus all closing costs. Amounts received from this sale will be credited to the General Fund toward taxes previously owed to the City.

Passed - Vote 7-0

AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT FORFEITURE OF DRUG FUNDS

VOTE (220-2020)

Motion by Councilor Lajoie, seconded by Councilor Clement:

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 \$2,097.25 or any portion thereof, in the case of the State of Maine vs. David Levesque, CR-20-665 Court Records, and the transfer of \$1,485.00 or any portion thereof, in the case of the State of Maine vs. Haji Mgaza Haji, CR-20-1006 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

APPOINTMENTS TO THE MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION’S LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

VOTE (221-2020)

Motion by Councilor Lajoie, seconded by Councilor Clement:

To appoint City Administrator Denis D’Auteuil as a full member of the Maine Municipal Association’s Legislative Policy Committee and to appoint the Deputy City Administrator and the City Clerk as alternate members from Lewiston. Passed - Vote 7-0

ADOPTION OF MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

VOTE (222-2020)

Motion by Councilor Lajoie, seconded by Councilor Clement:

To suspend Section 1(a) of the Rules Governing the City Council, to cancel the November 3, 2020 City Council meeting due to the conflict with Election Day and to hold one regular meeting during the month of November on Tuesday, November 17th. Passed - Vote 7-0

PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPLICATION FROM DANA’S GARAGE, 193 CROWLEY ROAD, FOR AN AUTOMOBILE GRAVEYARD/JUNKYARD PERMIT

Mayor Cayer opened the 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 (223-2020)

Motion by Councilor Rea, seconded by Councilor Jensen:

To grant an Automobile Graveyard/Junkyard permit to Dana’s Garage, 193 Crowley Road, subject to the condition of no more than 1,000 tires may be stored on the property.

Passed - Vote 7-0

**PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPLICATION FROM MAINE HEAVY EQUIPMENT,
1445 SABATTUS STREET, FOR AN AUTOMOBILE
GRAVEYARD/JUNKYARD PERMIT**

Mayor Cayer opened the 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 (224-2020)

Motion by Councilor Rea, seconded by Councilor Jensen:

To grant an Automobile Graveyard/Junkyard permit to Maine Heavy Equipment, 1445 Sabattus Street. Passed – Vote 7-0

**PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPLICATION FROM GRIMMEL’S INDUSTRIES, 50
RIVER ROAD, FOR AN AUTOMOBILE GRAVEYARD/JUNKYARD PERMIT**

Mayor Cayer opened the 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 (225-2020)

Motion by Councilor Clement, seconded by Councilor Pettengill:

To grant an Automobile Graveyard/Junkyard permit to Grimmel’s Industries, 50 River Road, subject to the following conditions:

- 1) The hours of operation shall be limited to 7:00am to 5:00pm, Monday through Saturday
- 2) Maintain screening from the Maine Turnpike

Passed - Vote 7-0

**PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPLICATION FROM LEWISTON PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT, 424-482 RIVER ROAD, FOR AN AUTOMOBILE
GRAVEYARD/JUNKYARD PERMIT**

Mayor Cayer opened the 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 (226-2020)

Motion by Councilor Clement, seconded by Councilor Rea:

To grant an Automobile Graveyard/Junkyard permit to the Lewiston Public Works Department, 424-482 River Road. Passed - Vote 7-0

PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPLICATION FROM REENERGY LEWISTON, LLC, 38 ALFRED A. PLOURDE PARKWAY FOR AN AUTOMOBILE GRAVEYARD/JUNKYARD PERMIT

Mayor Cayer opened the 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 (227-2020)

Motion by Councilor Clement, seconded by Councilor Gelinias:

To grant an Automobile Graveyard/Junkyard permit to ReEnergy Lewiston, LLC, 38 Alfred A. Plourde Parkway, subject to approved conditions providing the conditions are acceptable to city staff. Passed - Vote 7-0

CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE LAND USE CODE AND MAP REGARDING THE REVISED SITE PLAN REVIEW AND DESIGN GUIDELINES AND THE DESIGN LEWISTON PROJECT

VOTE (228-2020)

Motion by Councilor Rea, seconded by Councilor Pettengill:

To continue the public hearing of the proposed amendments to the Land Use Code and Map regarding the Revised Site Plan Review and Design Guidelines to the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting. Passed - Vote 7-0

PUBLIC HEARING AND APPROVAL FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL ASSISTANCE POLICY FOR ANNUAL AUTHORIZATION OF ELIGIBILITY AMOUNTS

Mayor Cayer opened the 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 (229-2020)

Motion by Councilor Khalid, seconded by Councilor Rea:

That the maximum amounts allowed for general assistance and the maximum amounts allowed for food, housing, personal/household supplies, utilities, heating fuel, clothing, transportation and funeral expenses in the General Assistance Policy, for persons eligible to receive assistance in accordance with the standards of eligibility, be adopted as presented, in accordance with HUD guidelines and the current Thrifty Food Plan. Passed - Vote 7-0

REPORTS AND UPDATES

Councilor Rea reported the School Committee voted last week to appoint Jake Langlais as the

Superintendent. He has been serving as Acting Superintendent since July. The Committee also received an update on the Special Education audit.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was presented at this time.

VOTE (230-2020)

Motion by Councilor Rea, seconded by Councilor Clement:

To adjourn at 7:33 P.M. Passed - Vote 7-0

A true record, Attest:

Kathleen M. Montejo, MMC
City Clerk
Lewiston, Maine