

CITY OF LEWISTON

CITY COUNCIL

MAY 15, 2012

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

THE HONORABLE ROBERT E. MACDONALD., MAYOR, PRESIDING.

PRESENT: Mayor Macdonald, Councilors Butler, D’Auteuil, Libby, Christ, Saddlemire, Cayer and Desjardins, City Administrator Edward Barrett, and City Clerk Kathleen Montejo.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Moment of Silence. The Mayor asked everyone to note that it is Police Memorial Week and to keep fallen officers in their thoughts at this time.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE 40TH CHURCH & PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

The Mayor issued a proclamation to Pastor Churchill in recognition of the 40th anniversary of his church and his long-time commitment and dedication as the Pastor in the Lewiston community.

MAYOR’S RECOGNITION – COLLEGE STUDENT NIGHT IN DOWNTOWN LEWISTON

The Mayor presented a certificate of recognition to students from Bates College who coordinated a College Student night in the downtown. He thanked them for working with the Chamber of Commerce to bring business to the downtown area and thanked local businesses for offering special sales for this evening. It was noted that over one hundred students participated in the program.

PRESENTATION OF THE ALFRED A. PLOURDE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Council President Cayer presented the annual scholarship award to Lewiston High School senior Mackenzi Masselli. Mr. Plourde’s widow Janice also present and congratulated Kenzi on this honor.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Al Churchill, 70 Blake Street, addressed the Council and noted he lives at Blake Street Towers and would like to see the College Street bus schedule change to better accommodate the area residents. Mr. Churchill was directed to speak with Deputy City Administrator Phil Nadeau who oversees the bus system. Hilary Dow and Calvin Rink of the Chamber Regional Marketing Committee also addressed the Council and let them know they are working on a Community Branding Initiative to help to better define the area.

PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST PASSAGE REGARDING AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL ASSISTANCE ORDINANCE REGARDING BURIALS AND CREMATIONS

Mayor Macdonald opened the public hearing to receive citizen input and comment. Social Services Director Sue Charron reviewed the proposed ordinance and recent state law changes and

the proposal is to amend the city ordinances to match the new state laws. The funeral homes will now have to cover the cremation costs from the fee they receive from the city. Dee Dee Doucette of 66 Howe Street spoke and does not feel it is fair to ask the funeral homes to provide the cremation costs from their service fee amount and she feels it would create hard feelings between the funeral homes and the city.

Mayor Macdonald then closed the hearing.

VOTE (145-2012)

Motion by Councilor Saddlemire, seconded by Councilor Butler:

That the proposed amendments to the City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 46 “General Assistance”, Section 46-98 “Basic necessities; maximum level of assistance, burial and cremations”, receive first passage by a roll call vote and that the public hearing on said ordinance be continued to the next regular City Council meeting for final passage.

Passed - Vote 7-0

PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF THE FY2013 LEWISTON CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BOND ISSUE

Councilor Cayer noted he supports the school projects in the bond. He said it has been difficult times in the past two years noting the City has had to lay off employees and cut services due to the high debt. He said the high debt is difficult to deal with when there are pressing needs such addressing the issues of blight and needed parking improvements. He also noted the need to bring some schools up to basic standards.

Mayor Macdonald opened the public hearing to receive citizen input and comment. Several members of the public addressed the Council:

- 1) Bruce Damien, Planning Board member - would like to see the full amount for the Comprehensive Plan restored, encouraged full funding for the Riverfront Study as well noting will be the signature piece for the city for the next twenty years.
- 2) Ronnie Paradis – need to dedicate funds to the downtown area to demolish buildings that are beyond repair and are blight; also spoke in favor of the funding for the Middle School project and the July 10 referendum vote
- 3) Dee Dee Doucette – Not in favor of demolishing buildings, there is a lot of history in the buildings and they should be renovated instead.

VOTE (146-2012)

Motion by Councilor Butler, seconded by Councilor Saddlemire:

To remove \$50,000 from the Comprehensive Plan item and \$15,000 from the Armory rehabilitation item and add \$65,000 into the Acquisitions and Demolitions line.

Passed - Vote 7-0

VOTE (147-2012)

Motion by Councilor Butler, seconded by Councilor Saddlemire:

To adopt the FY2013 Lewiston Capital Improvement Program Bond Issue Order as amended:

ORDERED, That \$22,796,400 be appropriated for financing the following projects in the Lewiston Capital Improvement Program:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Acquisition & Demolition	215,000
Comprehensive Plan	100,000
Vehicle Wash Facility	180,000
Library Building Improvement	60,000
Police Department Sidewalk Replace.	50,000
Social Services Expansion	200,000
Armory Rehab.	60,000
GIS Photogrammetric Update	75,000
General Street Rehab.	607,000
Russell Street Overlay	71,000
Main Street (Pettingill to Bearce)	120,700
RT. 196/Lisbon Street Project	142,700
Total General Fund	1,881,400
McMahon Addition	5,500,000
LMS Improvements	9,165,000
Montello Lockers	125,000
Total School Department	14,790,000
L/A Water Treatment Program	530,000
Distribution Main Replacement	1,770,000
Total Water Fund	2,300,000
Oak Street Sewer Separation	550,000
Jepson Brook Sewer Separation	1,000,000
Interceptor Inspection & Rehab.	200,000
Sanitary Line Rehabilitation	325,000
Total Sewer Fund	2,075,000
Oak Street Stormwater Separation	550,000
Hart Brook Water Quality Imp	100,000
Jepson Brook Drainage Channel Study	100,000
Jepson Brook Stormwater Separation	1,000,000
Total Stormwater Fund	1,750,000
GRAND TOTAL	<u>22,796,400</u>

FURTHER ORDERED, since the Lewiston Middle School Project exceeds the charter required 15% of the 2012 tax levy, the project will be sent to referendum on July 10, 2012 for voter approval;

FURTHER ORDERED, as the general property tax based debt of \$16,671,400 exceeds the debt limitation of \$5,792,278, this Council order requires five affirmative votes for passage;

FURTHER ORDERED, That to meet this appropriation, \$22,796,400 shall be raised by Public Improvement Bond Issue(s);

FURTHER ORDERED, That the City Council instruct the Finance Director to advertise for bids for \$22,796,400, or increments thereof, of Public Improvement Bonds; to award the loan; and to employ Palmer & Dodge to furnish the legal opinion for the same; provided that in the alternative, the Finance Director is authorized to award the loan to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank;

FURTHER ORDERED, That the bonds shall be signed by the City Treasurer and Mayor;

FURTHER ORDERED, That the date, maturities, denominations, interest rate or rates, place or places of payment, form or other details of the bonds and of the provisions for the sale thereof shall be determined by the Finance Director;

FURTHER ORDERED, That bonds issued hereunder may be subject to call for redemption on such terms as may be determined by the Finance Director.

FURTHER ORDERED, On or before the call date, the Finance Director is authorized to refund/advance refund this bond series if a net present value benefit is derived.

Passed - Vote 7-0

ADOPTION OF MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST

VOTE (148-2012)

Motion by Councilor Libby, seconded by Councilor Christ:

To suspend Section 1,(a) of the Rules Governing the City Council, and to only hold one regular meeting during the month of July, said meeting to be held on Tuesday, July 17th at 7:00pm and to hold only one regular meeting during the month of August, said meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 14th at 7:00pm. Passed - Vote 7-0

**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CITY CLERK/REGISTRAR OF VOTERS ON
ACTIONS NECESSARY TO CONDUCT THE STATE CANDIDATE PRIMARY
ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2012**

VOTE (149-2012)

Motion by Councilor Butler, seconded by Councilor Cayer:

A. That the hours for acceptance of registrations in person only, prior to the June 12th election, as required by MRSA Title 21A, sec. 122, 6A(2), be set at 8:00am to 4:30pm, May 23 through June 11, 2012; and additional hours until 7:00pm on Thursday, June 7, 2012.

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 central polling place at 4:00pm, 7:00pm and any and all remaining shall be processed at 8:00pm, if necessary.

Passed - Vote 7-0

REPORTS AND UPDATES

City Administrator Ed Barrett introduced Noel Madore who will be serving as a summer intern in the Administrator's Office until August. Mr. Madore is a senior at the University of Maine.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was presented at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

VOTE (150-2012)

Motion by Councilor Cayer, seconded by Councilor Butler:

To enter into an Executive Session pursuant to MRSA Title 1, section 405 (6) (D) to discuss Labor Negotiations regarding the Maine Association of Police - Patrol Unit.

Passed - Vote 7-0 Session began at 8:25pm and ended at 8:44pm.

VOTE (151-2012)

Motion by Councilor Butler, second by Councilor D'Auteuil:

To adjourn at 8:45P.M. Passed - Vote 7-0

A true record, Attest:

Kathleen M. Montejo, MMC
City Clerk
Lewiston, Maine