

CITY OF LEWISTON

CITY COUNCIL

APRIL 21, 2020

REGULAR MEETING HELD ONLINE VIA THE ZOOM MEETING WEBSITE 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 Edward Barrett and City Clerk Kathleen Montejo.

NOTE: Due to the public health pandemic, this meeting was conducted remotely and all members participated electronically.

The Budget Workshop scheduled for 6pm ended early so the City Council conducted their Executive Session at 6:30pm instead of at the end of the meeting as scheduled on the agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

VOTE (108-2020)

Motion by Councilor Khalid, seconded by Councilor Clement:

To enter into an Executive Session, pursuant to MRSA Title 1, Section 405 (6) (c), to discuss Disposition 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 6:32pm and ended at 7:08pm.

UPDATE ON CITY ACTIONS REGARDING COVID-19 PREPARATIONS AND ACTIONS

Deputy City Administrator Denis D'Auteuil stated Androscoggin County now has confirmed "community spread" of COVID-19, a temporary wellness shelter has been established at the Lewiston Armory to serve local homeless residents, the Bates College food service program will be providing meals for the shelter, funding for the shelter is provided by Maine State Housing and not the City, CCI is providing administrative and staff support for the shelter, the American Red Cross provide cots and many local businesses have donated supplies and equipment to help establish the shelter.

VOTE (109-2020)

Motion by Councilor Clement, seconded by Councilor Lajoie:

To dispense with the reading of the minutes of the meetings of April 9, 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.

**RESOLVE, AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR AND ACCEPTING A
CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENT FUNDING GRANT FROM THE U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

VOTE (110-2020)

Motion by Councilor Clement, seconded by Councilor Rea:

To approve the Resolve, Authorizing Application from and Accepting a Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Grant from the U. S. Department of Justice:

Whereas, the U.S. Department of Justice is seeking applications for Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding; and

Whereas, these funds may be awarded to communities that are recipients of the Edward Byrne memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program; and

Whereas, if approved, the City would qualify for up to \$85,314 in funds that must be utilized to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the submission of an application for funding from a U.S. Department of Justice Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Grant is hereby authorized and, if received, these funds are appropriated for allowable purposes identified by the grant.

Passed - Vote 7-0

**ORDER, AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN
AGREEMENT TO CONVEY THE PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 91 PINE STREET, 111
BARTLETT STREET, 114 BARTLETT STREET, AND 320 BATES STREET TO THE
LEWISTON AUBURN AREA HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORP.**

VOTE (111-2020)

Motion by Councilor Lajoie, seconded by Councilor Rea:

To approve the Order, Authorizing the City Administrator to enter into an Agreement to convey the properties located at 91 Pine Street, 111 Bartlett Street, 114 Bartlett Street and 320 Bates Street to the Lewiston Auburn Area Housing Development Corp.:

Whereas, on October 15, 2019 the Lewiston City Council approved the conveyance of these 4 properties to LA Community Housing, a development corporation of Community Concepts, Inc. that has been a co-applicant and partner with of the City in developing a transformation plan for the residential neighborhood adjacent to downtown Lewiston through the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Choice Neighborhood program; and

Whereas, these four parcels make up a portion of a housing replacement site targeted for redevelopment and a site for homeownership development; and

Whereas, the focus of the Choice Neighborhood effort has shifted from developing the Choice Neighborhood Plan, *Growing our Tree Streets*, to preparing to apply for a Choice Neighborhood Implementation Grant which could bring as much as \$30 million of additional federal investment into Lewiston; and

Whereas, it is more advantageous to have the Lewiston Housing Authority be the lead applicant on the Choice Implementation Grant with the City as a co-applicant in that doing so will make the community eligible for Choice funding set aside only for applications submitted by housing authorities in addition to being eligible for the broader Choice funding; and

Whereas, the Lewiston Housing Authority has taken over the lead role on the redevelopment of the targeted housing replacement sites and, as part of that effort, has created the Lewiston Auburn Area Housing Development Corp to play the role previously played by LA Community Housing;

Now, therefore, be it Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the rights and obligations related to the conveyance of 91 Pine St, 111 Bartlett St, 114 Bartlett St, and 320 Bates St to LA Community Housing, approved by the City Council on October 15, 2019, is hereby assigned to the Lewiston Auburn Area Housing Development Corp; and

Furthermore, the City Administrator is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Lewiston Auburn Area Housing Development Corp to convey by donation these properties in order to support and advance the redevelopment plan outlined in the Choice Neighborhood Transformation Plan and to execute a Declaration of Affordable Housing Covenant, which would allow the reversion of the real estate to the City if sufficient progress is not made on redeveloping the parcels as outlined in the Choice Neighborhood Plan.

Passed - Vote 7-0

**RESOLVE, AMENDING THE COMPOSITION OF THE AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON
RECYCLING AND WASTE REDUCTION**

VOTE (112-2020)

Motion by Councilor Jensen, seconded by Councilor Khalid:

To approve the Resolve, Amending the Composition of the Ad-hoc Committee on Recycling and Waste Reduction:

Whereas, the City Council established the Ad-hoc Committee on Recycling and Waste Reduction in July 2019; and

Whereas, the composition of that committee restricted elected official representation on that committee to one; and

Whereas, a member of the School Committee has been serving as a liaison between the Committee and the School Department; and

Whereas, a request has been made that the composition of the committee be amended to allow for an additional elected official to be appointed;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the composition of the Ad-hoc Committee on Recycling and Waste Reduction is hereby amended as follows:

Composition and Appointment

The Committee shall be composed of a minimum of 7 voting members to be appointed by the Mayor from among the residents of the City who are knowledgeable or interested in recycling and/or other waste reduction programs. No more than ~~one~~two member shall be an elected municipal officials.

Passed - Vote 5-2 (Councilors Pettengill and Clement opposed)

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PANDEMIC FUNDING

The City Council reviewed and discussed the proposed allocation of additional community development block grant pandemic funding.

REPORTS AND UPDATES

Councilor Rea reported the School Committee met last evening and reviewed the sick leave and personal leave policies as well as the high school graduation requirements. At this point, 75% of the high school senior class is eligible to graduate and the school will be offering remedial work to assist students who are interested in the program. The Board is hoping to make a decision by May 11 regarding the process for graduation. They have another budget meeting scheduled for April 22.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was presented at this time.

VOTE (113-2020)

Motion by Councilor Clement, seconded by Councilor Khalid:

To adjourn at 8:02 P.M. Passed - Vote 7-0

A true record, Attest:

Kathleen M. Montejo, MMC
City Clerk
Lewiston, Maine