

CITY OF LEWISTON

CITY COUNCIL

AUGUST 18, 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 Gelinas, City Administrator Denis D'Auteuil and City Clerk Kathleen Montejo.

UPDATE ON CITY ACTIONS REGARDING COVID-19 PANDEMIC SITUATION

Deputy City Administrator Dale Doughty noted the staff is still monitoring and limiting the number of customers per floor at City Hall and having customers enter at the Park St door and exit at the Pine St door. Staff is also assessing the impacts to city services with the opening of schools in the hybrid model.

VOTE (197-2020)

Motion by Councilor Rea, seconded by Councilor Pettengill:

To dispense with the reading of the minutes of the meeting of August 4, 2020 and to accept and place them on file as prepared by the City Clerk. Passed - Vote 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Wesley Warren of 110 Ash Street said that body cameras for police officers are not necessary for Lewiston police officers. He said he has lived here for 18 months and his interactions with police have shown them to be professional. Mr. Warren noted there are far more pressing problems to spend limited funds on such as the public health issues of opioids/substance abuse, mental health and homelessness.

**TRAFFIC SCHEDULE AMENDMENT FOR PARKING AND STREET REGULATION
CHANGE ON LAFAYETTE CIRCLE**

VOTE (198-2020)

Motion by Councilor Lajoie, seconded by Councilor Jensen:

To approve the proposed Traffic Schedule amendment to prohibit parking around the traffic island on Lafayette Circle. Passed - Vote 7-0

**TRAFFIC SCHEDULE AMENDMENT FOR PARKING AND STREET REGULATION
CHANGES FOR 33 TAMPA STREET**

VOTE (199-2020)

Motion by Councilor Jensen, seconded by Councilor Rea:

To approve the Traffic Schedule Amendment to prohibit on-street parking at 33 Tampa Street. Passed - Vote 7-0

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CITY CLERK TO CAST THE CITY’S BALLOT FOR THE MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION’S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND VICE-PRESIDENT

VOTE (200-2020)

Motion by Councilor Khalid, seconded by Councilor Pettengill:

To approve the slate of candidates as presented on the Maine Municipal Association’s ballot and to authorize the City Clerk to cast the City’s ballot for the Maine Municipal Association’s Executive Committee and Vice-President. Passed - Vote 6-1 (Councilor Clement opposed)

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL AMUSEMENT PERMIT FOR LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FOR SPARETIME RECREATION, 24 MOLLISON WAY

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 (201-2020)

Motion by Councilor Gelinas, seconded by Councilor Clement:

To grant a Special Amusement permit for live entertainment to Sparetime Recreation, 24 Mollison Way. Passed - Vote 7-0

PUBLIC HEARING ON RELOCATION APPLICATIONS FOR LIQUOR LICENSE AND A SPECIAL AMUSEMENT PERMIT FOR MIDTOWN ATHLETIC CLUB TO 875 LISBON STREET

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 (202-2020)

Motion by Councilor Jensen, seconded by Councilor Pettengill:

To authorize the City Clerk’s Office to approve relocation applications for a liquor license and a special amusement permit for Midtown Athletic Club to 875 Lisbon Street. Passed - Vote 7-0

PUBLIC HEARING FOR APPROVAL OF AN OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT FOR A MUSICAL CONCERT IN KENNEDY PARK

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 (203-2020)

Motion by Councilor Pettengill, seconded by Councilor Lajoie:

To conduct a public hearing on an application for an outdoor entertainment event in Kennedy Park, and to grant a permit for an Outdoor Entertainment Event, as required by the City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Article 1, Section 10-3, for an outdoor music concert to be held at Kennedy Park on Saturday, August 22, contingent upon positive recommendations from the Police Department, Fire Department, Code/Health Officer and Land Use Inspector regarding compliance with all regulations and compliance with all City ordinances.

Passed – Vote 4-3 (Councilors Khalid, Rea, and Jensen opposed)

ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A CONSENT OF LENDER ASSOCIATED WITH THE SECTION 811 PROJECT RENTAL ASSISTANCE USE AGREEMENT BETWEEN MAINE HOUSING AND THE HARTLEY BLOCK, LP

VOTE (204-2020)

Motion by Councilor Lajoie, seconded by Councilor Rea:

To adopt the Order Authorizing the City Administrator to execute a Consent of Lender associated with the Section 811 Project Rental Assistance use Agreement between MaineHousing and The Hartley Block, LP:

Whereas, The Hartley Block began having tenancy in May 2019; and

Whereas, as part of the financing for the project The Hartley Block, LP agree to serve as demonstration project for the Section 811 Project Rental Assistance; and

Whereas, as part of that agreement The Hartley Block, LP agreed to rent 5 one bedroom apartments to low income tenants with physical or cognitive disabilities, and in return, to receive project based rental assistance for a like number of units that limits the amount the tenant pays for rent to 30% of their income; and

Whereas, MaineHousing recently determined that their project file for The Hartley Block did not include a Consent of Lender for the program from the City;

Now, therefore, be it ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the City Administrator is hereby authorized to execute the attached Consent of Lender related to the Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Use Agreement between MaineHousing and The Hartley Block, LP and to provide the same to MaineHousing.

Passed - Vote 7-0

RESOLVE AUTHORIZING PUBLIC WORKS TO APPLY FOR THE 2020 RECREATIONAL TRAIL PROGRAM

VOTE (205-2020)

Motion by Councilor Rea, seconded by Councilor Pettengill:

To approve the Resolve Authorizing Public Works to apply for the 2020 Recreational Trail

Program with a proposal to utilize Public Works and volunteer in-kind services as the required local share:

Whereas, the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands announced a Recreational Trails Program Grant program available to qualifying projects and the grant application deadline is September 25, 2020; and

Whereas, the application requires a resolution of the City Council supporting the usage of the grant should it be awarded; and

Whereas, the City of Lewiston has two trails within the Garcelon Bog. One trail is located between Marguerette St and Warren Ave. Another trail is a boardwalk starting at Russell St., near Bushy Circle, and ending in an open wooded area. A proposed trail and other improvements have been identified that would link these two trails, providing recreational opportunities for five neighborhoods and could serve local schools and municipal recreational programs; and

Whereas, the primary recreational activity would be hiking/walking and snowshoeing; however, the environment within the bog would also serve great for birding and various educational opportunities; and

Whereas, 80% of the costs would be provided through the Recreational Trails Program of the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. These are federal funds and require a 20% local match.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that Lewiston Public Works is authorized to submit an application to the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to construct a connecting trail and other improvements between two existing trails in the Garcelon Bog Conservation Area. The local match will be proposed as in-kind services eligible under this program.

Passed - Vote 7-0

RESOLVE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING A \$212,160 GRANT FROM KEEP MAINE HEALTHY 2020 MUNICIPAL COVID-19 AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ROUND II

VOTE (206-2020)

Motion by Councilor Clement, seconded by Councilor Lajoie:

To approve the Resolve Accepting and Appropriating a \$212,160 Grant from Keep Maine Healthy 2020 Municipal COVID-10 Awareness Campaign Round II:

Whereas, the City has been working diligently since the start of the COVID pandemic to provide information to our residents on this disease and the actions they should take to prevent its spread; and

Whereas, as the Governor has implemented various phases of the state's reopening plan, we have

also worked with businesses as they implement social distancing efforts including expanding into outside areas; and

Whereas, as the City has reopened its facilities, it has also been necessary that we make certain physical changes and provide signage, disinfection, and personal protective equipment to allow the public to safely use our facilities; and

Whereas, the COVID-19 virus continues to spread in our community, requiring continuing and expanding public education efforts; and

Whereas, toward that end, the State of Maine offered its municipalities the opportunity of applying for a second round of Keep Maine Healthy Grants; and

Whereas, we have been notified that we have been awarded \$212,160 to address public education and prevention and physical distancing in both city and private business facilities;

Now, therefore, be it Resolved that the a Grant from the State's Keep Maine Healthy 2020 Municipal COVID-19 Awareness Campaign Round II is hereby accepted in the amount of \$212,160 and is appropriated for the purposes set forth in the City's grant application, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Passed - Vote 7-0

REPORTS AND UPDATES

Councilor Rea reported that School Committee met on August 10, approved Superintendent's contract, set start date for school on Sept. 14 and will commence with a hybrid model. They also met on August 17 for a personnel matter and will meet on August 24. Councilor Rea also reported on the Androscoggin County Budget Committee and noted the County Commission budget meetings started on August 12. The county administrator and department heads are proposing a 3.6% tax increase for the upcoming fiscal year. County budget commission meetings begin on Sept 9 and she will keep the City Council informed during the process this fall. Councilor Lajoie reported on the progress of the Fire Department substation on North Template Street, noting it is going well, the land has been cleared, the foundation pours and the walls are going up.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Rea inquired how the city was accommodating staff with childcare issues now that school will be in session soon. The City Administrator noted he is polling department managers at this week's staff meeting.

VOTE (207-2020)

Motion by Councilor Clement, seconded by Councilor Rea:

To adjourn at 7:48P.M. Passed - Vote 7-0

CITY COUNCIL

AUGUST 18, 2020

A true record, Attest:

Kathleen M. Montejo, MMC
City Clerk
Lewiston, Maine