

# CITY OF LEWISTON

CITY COUNCIL

JANUARY 9, 1999

## JOINT MEETING WITH THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL ROOM AT 8:00 A.M.

THE HONORABLE KAILEIGH A. TARA, MAYOR OF LEWISTON PRESIDING.

PRESENT: Councilors Lynch, Kelly, Carignan, Albert, Samson, Putnam and City Administrator Robert J. Mulready.

ALSO PRESENT: School Committee Members Rotundo, Bernier, O'Brien, Shannon, Paradis, Superintendent of Schools Leon Levesque, Gerald P. Berube and Robert Stone.

ABSENT: Councilor Bilodeau, School Committee Members Silva, Handy and St. Pierre.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Moment of Silence.

Mayor Tara greeted the School Committee and City Council.

Gerald Berube led a discussion on two versus three year terms of office. Mr. Berube felt that annual elections, especially when there is a Presidential or gubernatorial election, turned off the voters to municipal issues. The media also gave limited coverage. Spring elections were met with voter apathy.

Other options discussed:

- four year terms with two year staggered elections
- three year non-staggered elections
- maintaining the current two year terms and elections every two years

The Mayor, Chairman Rotundo and Council President Kelly agreed to form a committee to review the issue.

There was a brief discussion on a charter revision commission. Councilors Lynch and Carignan expressed reservations where others wanted the pro's and con's listed.

Gerald Berube was asked to write a history of the current charter and to make recommendations on where the charter needs changes and the best methods to address these changes.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING**

Superintendent Levesque and City Administrator Mulready gave brief presentations on strategic planning.

**FY2000 BUDGET**

City Administrator Mulready and Superintendent Levesque led a discussion on the upcoming budget. Neither had any specific information but discussed the various impacts of budgets that might be funded at 3%, 3.5% and 4% and the affect on the mill rate. Both agreed to bring new data as it becomes available to the next joint meeting.

The local legislative delegation, Senator Berube, Representatives Mailhot, Mendros, Bouffard and Cote, met with the two boards from 11:00 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. discussing the GPA and having a lobbyist.

**VOTE (1)**

Motion by Councilor Albert, seconded by Councilor Carignan:

To adjourn at 12:10 P.M. Passed - Vote 6-0

A true record, Attest:

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Robert J. Mulready  
City Administrator  
Lewiston, Maine