

CITY OF LEWISTON

CITY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 7, 1999

REGULAR MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL ROOM AT 7:00 P.M.

THE HONORABLE KAILEIGH A. TARA, MAYOR, PRESIDING.

PRESENT: Councilors Kelly, Carignan, Albert, Samson, Bilodeau, Putnam, City Administrator Robert J. Mulready, Student Representative Karen Gagnon and City Clerk Kathleen Montejo

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Moment of Silence.

The City Administrator suggested the Council move agenda items 6 and 7, which pertain to the selection process for the Administrator's position, to the end of the meeting in order to facilitate discussion with the presenters.

VOTE (1)

Motion by Councilor Samson, seconded by Councilor Kelly:

To amend the meeting minutes of August 17 for vote number 14 to reflect a vote of 6-0-1 with Councilor Carignan abstaining, and to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the August 17 and 30, 1999, meetings and to accept as amended and place them on file as prepared by the City Clerk.
Passed - Vote 6-0

BOND ISSUE FOR SCHOOL ASBESTOS ABATEMENT PROJECT

VOTE (2)

Motion by Councilor Albert, seconded by Councilor Carignan:

ORDERED, That \$127,000 be appropriated for financing the local share of the \$290,900 McMahon Elementary School Asbestos Abatement Project;

FURTHER ORDERED, That to meet this appropriation \$127,000 shall be raised by a bond issue through the Maine Municipal Bond Bank and the Revolving Renovation Fund Program;

FURTHER ORDERED, That the Maine Municipal Bond Bank application shall be signed by the Finance Director.
Passed - Vote 6-0

POND ROAD UPDATE

Public Works Director Chris Branch and representatives from Gorrill-Palmer Associates, engineering consultants, provided the Council with a report on the Pond Road truck study addressing areas from Webster Street to Sabattus Street. City staff have been meeting with members of the Pond Road neighborhood to receive their concerns regarding the increase in truck traffic and the speed of the vehicles. Numerous potential recommendations were presented to the Council. Main topics include education such as larger speed limit signs, enforcement of speed limits and engineering changes regarding the road layout. Several residents expressed concerns about speeding and heavy truck traffic on a daily basis. This issue was presented as a discussion only, recommendations for implementation will be brought before the Council at future meetings.

Councilor Lynch arrived at this time.

LIBRARY ENDOWMENT POLICY

Librarian Rick Speer made a presentation to the Council regarding the need for the investment policy. He noted the City Finance Director has reviewed the policy and agrees with the concepts outlined in the policy.

VOTE (3)

Motion by Councilor Carignan, seconded by Councilor Bilodeau:

To approve the Lewiston Public Library Endowment and Investment Policy. Passed - Vote 7-0

ORDER TO VACATE BRENT STREET

VOTE (4)

Motion by Councilor Samson, seconded by Councilor Lynch:

That the Order to vacate the proposed "paper" street known as Brent Street, located between Montello Street and Sabattus Street, be adopted with the understanding that all costs associated with the transfer of ownership of the street be the responsibility of Stephen Roop. Passed - Vote 7-0

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH

MAINE ASSOCIATION OF POLICE

VOTE (5)

Motion by Councilor Samson, seconded by Councilor Carignan:

To ratify the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Lewiston and the Maine Association of Police, said agreement being for the period of July 1, 1998 to June 30, 2001, and to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement on behalf of the City of Lewiston. Passed - Vote 7-0

DISCUSSION OF FUNDING STUDENT TRIPS

Mayor Tara lead a discussion regarding the numerous requests the City receives from local students who will be participating in various educational related trips. Many Councilors inquired about similar policies from other communities, as well as the school department's policy when handling such requests. Mayor Tara also noted the National League of Cities has a youth component and the city has not sent a representative to participate in this conference in the past.

VOTE (6)

Motion by Councilor Samson, seconded by Councilor Lynch:

To table discussion on this issue to the next meeting to allow staff time to draft a proposed policy and to check with other towns on their procedures. Passed - Vote 7-0

PERMITS FOR SHAKER'S RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

VOTE (7)

Motion by Councilor Bilodeau, seconded by Councilor Kelly:

To authorize the City Clerk's Office to approve the liquor license application and Special Amusement Permit for Dancing and Entertainment for Shakers Restaurant & Lounge, 875 Lisbon Street. Passed - Vote 7-0

DRUG FORFEITURE FUNDS

VOTE (8)

Motion by Councilor Bilodeau, seconded by Councilor Kelly:

That pursuant to Title 15, Maine Revised Statutes Annotated, Section 5824(3) and Section 5826(6) the City Council hereby acknowledges and approves of the transfer of \$460.00 in the case of State of Maine vs. Shane Elder, Superior Court, Docket Number CR-99-192. Being funds forfeited pursuant to court process. It is further acknowledged that these funds shall be credited to the 'City of Lewiston Drug Enforcement Program', funds to be deposited in Account No.0291-65752 at People's Heritage Bank. Passed - Vote 7-0

REQUEST TO HANG BANNER

VOTE (9)

Motion by Councilor Bilodeau, seconded by Councilor Kelly:

To authorize the Sisters of Charity Health System to hang a banner at the Lewiston pump station from September 10 - October 3 to promote the Children's Harvest Festival. Banner must be installed per requirements of the Public Works Department. Passed - Vote 7-0

REPORT FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Councilor Albert stated the School Committee is looking forward to the start of the new school year and he will check to see if the school department has a policy regarding student requests to fund educational trips.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Samson requested updates at the next Council meeting on three topics - the demolition of buildings, a proposed ordinance requiring pet owners to clean up after their dogs and an update on the third floor redesign.

Councilor Carignan complimented City Arborist Steve Murch on his recent work with Bates College students and their community service "Into the Streets" program. He noted the students planted numerous trees and worked at Franklin Pasture.

Assistant City Administrator Phil Nadeau distributed to the City Council the names of citizens recommended to serve on the city administrator selection committee, names which were nominated by individual councilors. He also stated a Canadian film crew will be in town September 18-21 filming a documentary on Lewiston.

A resident inquired about the status of the Animal Control

officer position. Staff will review the issue.

VOTE (10)

Motion by Councilor Carignan, second by Councilor Putnam:

To enter into executive session to discuss economic development issues. Passed - Vote 7-0

Executive session began at 9:15pm. The session ended at 9:35pm.

DISCUSSION OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR SELECTION PROCESS

Human Resources Director Denis Jean and School Committee Chairperson Margaret Rotundo made presentations to the Council regarding selection processes they have been involved with in the past. Mr. Jean reviewed the City's procedure from the 1989 hiring of an Administrator and Ms. Rotundo outlined the steps taken last year for the selection of the School Superintendent. Ms. Rotundo stated the school committee worked closely with a consultant from the Maine School Board Association and found this connection to be very beneficial.

VOTE (11)

Motion by Councilor Kelly, second by Councilor Lynch:

To contact the Maine Municipal Association, or an equivalent organization, regarding their available resources and potential assistance with the city administrator selection process. Passed - Vote 7-0

VOTE (12)

Motion by Councilor Carignan, second by Councilor Kelly:

To adjourn at 10:15 P.M. Passed - Vote 7-0

A true record, Attest:

Kathleen M. Montejo, CMC
City Clerk
Lewiston, Maine