



**LACONIA CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
JUNE 30, 2011
CITY HALL – CONFERENCE ROOM 200A
7:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Michael Seymour called the meeting to order at the above date and time.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Seymour led the Salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL:

City Clerk Reynolds called the roll with the following Councilors present: Councilor Doyle, Lahey, Lipman, Hamel, Baer and Bolduc. Also present Acting City Manager Pam Reynolds.

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2011-2012 BUDGET:

Mayor Seymour opened the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m.

Councilor Lipman requested to have Acting City Manager Reynolds review the detailed addendum to the presented Budget, which includes an \$85,000 surplus from the School side that will be applied to the Huot Technical Center funding and withdrawing \$107,000 to reinstate a Police Officer, Sidewalk Repairs and the Wyatt Park Upgrade. This would not increase the amount to be raised by taxes more than the previously stated \$.23, or 1.2%. (See Attachment #1).

Mayor Seymour invited members of the public to address the Council.

Pam Jolivette from the Belknap/Merrimack County Community Action Program Elder Services addressed the Council. Ms. Jolivette thanked the City for the support of the Laconia Senior Center, which is utilized by over 500 seniors in Laconia. The contributions from the City directly impact the operating costs of the Center; without the contributions and volunteers the Center would not be successful.

Ginny Schneider from the Belknap/Merrimack County Community Action Program Transportation Services addressed the Council. Ms. Schneider thanked the City for the support of the Winnepesaukee Transit Service and reviewed the grant funding, accomplishments in the last year and goals for the upcoming year.

With no further comments from the public, Mayor Seymour closed the Public Hearing at 7:40 p.m.

BALANCE TRANSFER:

Mayor Seymour explained the request to transfer \$33,000 for the repair of the Traffic Control Equipment at the intersections of Court St and Union Ave.

Councilor Hamel moved to transfer \$33,000 from account 01-431-343-0000 Contingency to account 01-497-500-0027 Traffic Control Equipment. Seconded by Councilor Baer. **Motion passed unanimously.**

APPOINTMENT OF CITY MANAGER:

Mayor Seymour reviewed the timeline of events leading up to this evening for the benefit of the public, as well as the qualifications of the Councils chosen candidate, Scott Myers. (See Attachment #2).

Councilor Lahey moved to appoint Scott Myers of Dover, NH as the City Manager of the City of Laconia and approve the contract in the form presented. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc.

Councilor Baer expressed her opposition to the motion, stating that this is not a personal opposition and reading a prepared statement (See Attachment #3).

Councilor Lahey stated that he was very impressed with Mr. Myers quality of presentation and that he is the right for the City and its goals. With the initial response to Mr. Myers interview, the majority of Councilors agreed that there was a need for the expansion of economic development in the City and Mr. Myers has a record of these accomplishments. In addition, Councilor Lahey has heard many comments about Mr. Myers work ethic and drive; what is lacked in experience as a City Manager will be made up for in other areas.

Councilor Lipman stated that on paper, the second choice candidate was more impressive; upon meeting Mr. Myers in the interview process it was clear that he was impressive in other areas.

Councilor Hamel admitted to having reservations about this appointment initially; after doing research on his own and speaking to personal acquaintances of Mr. Myers, Councilor Hamel concluded that the City will be very happy with Mr. Myers.

Councilor Bolduc commented that he was very impressed with Mr. Myers interview and agrees that he is the type of person the City needs in this position.

Mayor Seymour called the question. **Motion passed with five (5) Councilors in favor and Councilor Baer opposed.**

City Clerk Reynolds administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Myers, whom immediately joined the Council at the meeting table.

MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor Seymour acknowledged that this is the final day with the City for Acting City Manager/Finance Director Pam Reynolds. Mayor Seymour praised the work Ms. Reynolds has done for the City and the commitment she has had over her time here. In addition, Mayor Seymour acknowledged that Ms. Reynolds has agreed to stay with the City on a limited basis until her replacement is appointed, for which the City is grateful.

Councilor Hamel stated that he will miss having Ms. Reynolds; she has saved the personnel in the City with her hard work and will be greatly missed. Councilor Hamel wished Ms. Reynolds success in her retirement.

Councilor Baer noted that when she came to the Council six years ago, she didn't know anything about the finances of the City. Councilor Baer thanked Ms. Reynolds for teaching her and making herself available to the Council at all times.

Councilor Lipman echoed the previous comments and added that the success of someone in their position can be seen by the cultivated path they leave behind and this has been done by Ms. Reynolds.

Councilor Lahey commented that the good ones make it look easy, and that is Ms. Reynolds. Councilor Lahey thanked Ms. Reynolds for all of her hard work for the City.

Councilor Bolduc thanked Ms. Reynolds for everything she has done for the City stating that if it wasn't for Ms. Reynolds we would not be in the good position we are in today.

Councilor Doyle thanked Ms. Reynolds.

Mayor Seymour concluded with stating that like a fine athlete, Ms. Reynolds was able to make everyone around her better with the work she did.

The Mayor and Council presented Ms. Reynolds with a bouquet as a token of appreciation for her service, friendship and kindness to the Council.

Councilor Lipman requested to schedule a Joint Finance Committee meeting with the School Board to discuss the direction of the Budget and the options of the Huot Technical Center.

Councilor Bolduc moved to schedule a Joint Finance Committee meeting with the School Board on July 8, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 200-A at City Hall. Seconded by Councilor Hamel. **Motion passed unanimously.**

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Bolduc moved to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Hamel. **Motion passed unanimously.**

A True Record Attest:

Mary A. Reynolds
City Clerk