



**LACONIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 26, 2012
CITY HALL – CONFERENCE ROOM 200A
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER:

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

SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

Councilor Robert Hamel led the Salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL:

City Clerk Reynolds called the roll with the following Councilors present: Councilor Doyle, Lahey, Lipman, Baer, Hamel and Bolduc. Also present City Manager Scott Myers and Finance Director Donna Woodaman.

Mayor Seymour noted that the order of the Agenda will be changed to move Nominations, Appointments and Elections to immediately follow the Interviews.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

• **Regular Minutes of March 12, 2012**

Councilor Bolduc moved to approve the regular minutes of March 12, 2012. Seconded by Councilor Hamel.

Councilor Baer expressed that she did not feel there was enough clarification of what the Council's intent was when discussing the two way traffic in Downtown, although there was in the meeting minutes of February 27. Mayor Seymour asked if Councilor Baer would like to request any amendments; Councilor Baer replied that she would not.

Motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AND ACTION CALENDAR:

- 1. Temporary Traffic Order 2012-02 Laconia Main Street Farmers Market (attached) and request to waive/reduce vendor fees**

Mayor Seymour reviewed the proposed changes to the Temporary Traffic Order. After discussion on the changes, the Council altered section two to read:

“The portion of the municipal lot that fronts Main St. shall be closed **to vendor activity** in the attached pan. ~~The entire area, including the sidewalk between the municipal lot and Main St, will be for the exclusive use of vendors for the weekly Laconia Main Street Farmer’s market. ...”~~

Councilor Lipman moved to approve the Temporary Traffic Order 2012-02 Laconia Main Street Farmers Market as amended. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Councilor Lipman moved to approve the waiving of vendor fees for the Laconia Main Street Farmer’s Market. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. **Motion passed unanimously.**

CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: NONE

INTERVIEWS:

• **Parks & Recreation Commission:** *(2 vacancies)*

1. Don Vachon - seeking appointment as a full member for a 3-year term expiring 2015 (Mr. Vachon was unable to attend the 3/12/12 Council meeting)

Mr. Vachon addressed the Council. Mr. Vachon was able to see the work done by the Parks & recreation Commission during the organizing of the VFW Circus last summer and would like to assist with the Commission. He is now fully retired and has the time to devote to the community.

2. Timothy Ames - seeking appointment as a full member for a 3-year term expiring 2015 (Mr. Ames submitted his application after the 3/12/12 Council meeting)

Mr. Ames addressed the Council. Mr. Ames is a resident in the Lakeport area and finds himself using the park facilities with his small children. Mr. Ames would like to assist in the ongoing efforts to support the parks in the community.

3. Craig Kozens - seeking appointment as a full member for a 3-year term expiring 2015 (Mr. Kozens submitted his application after the 3/12/12 Council meeting)

Mr. Kozens addressed the Council. Mr. Kozens explained that he would like to assist in the continued efforts of the School District and Commission to work together. Mr. Kozens is an employee of the School District and is an avid supporter of stopping childhood obesity through physical fitness.

Councilor Baer asked if it was a conflict of interest to have Mr. Kozens serve on the Commission, as he is a coach for high school athletics and a teacher in the School District. Mr. Kozens replied that he does not think it is and referenced the term of Mary Garside on the Commission while maintaining her position with the School District.

4. David Plourde - seeking reappointment as a full member for a 3-year term expiring 2015 (Mr. Plourde submitted his application after the 3/12/12 Council meeting)

Mr. Plourde addressed the Council. Mr. Plourde expressed that he was not going to seek reappointment but has chosen to do so because he feels there are projects that have not been completed that he would like to see through. Some of these projects include the continued revitalization of the many City parks.

- **Putnam Fund:** *(1 vacancy)*

1. Don Vachon - seeking appointment as a full member for a 5-year term expiring 2017 (Mr. Vachon was unable to attend the 3/12/12 Council meeting)

Mr. Vachon explained that he has a background in entertainment and enjoys what the Putnam Fund does. He would thoroughly enjoy being part of this group.

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS & ELECTIONS:

- **Building Code Board of Appeals:** *(4 at-large vacancies; Planning Department is hoping to reinstate this Board this year)*

1. Robert Durfee - seeking reappointment as a full member for a 5-year term expiring 2017
2. Dennis Robitaille - seeking appointment as a full member-at-large for a 5-year term expiring 2017

Councilor Lahey moved to appoint Robert Durfee as a full member of the Building Code Board of Appeals for a five year term expiring in 2017. Seconded by Councilor Hamel. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Councilor Lahey moved to appoint Dennis Robitaille as a full member-at-large of the Building Code Board of Appeals for a five year term expiring in 2017. Seconded by Councilor Doyle. **Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Zoning Board of Adjustment:** *(3 alternate vacancies)*

1. Dennis Robitaille - seeking appointment as an alternate for a term expiring August, 2012

Councilor Hamel moved to appoint Dennis Robitaille as an alternate to the Zoning Board of Adjustments for a term expiring in August 2012. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. **Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Putnam Fund:** *(1 vacancy)*

1. Charles Bradley - seeking reappointment as a full member for a 5-year term expiring 2017 (Mr. Bradley was interviewed by the Council on 3/12/12; he will be out of the country and unable to attend the Council's 3/26/12 meeting)
2. Don Vachon - seeking appointment as a full member for a 5-year term expiring 2017

Councilor Hamel moved to appoint Charles Bradley as a full member of the Putnam Fund for a five year term to expire in 2017. Seconded by Councilor Baer. **Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Parks & Recreation Commission:** *(2 vacancies)*

1. George Hawkins - seeking reappointment as a full member for a 3-year term expiring 2015
2. Don Vachon - seeking appointment as a full member for a 3-year term expiring 2015
3. Timothy Ames - seeking appointment as a full member for a 3-year term expiring 2015
4. Craig Kozens - seeking appointment as a full member for a 3-year term expiring 2015
5. David Plourde - seeking reappointment as a full member for a 3-year term expiring 2015

Councilor Hamel moved to appoint George Hawkins as a full member of the Parks & Recreation Commission for a three year term expiring in 2015. Seconded by Councilor Doyle. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Councilor Bolduc moved to appoint David Plourde as a full member of the Parks & recreation Commission for a three year term expiring in 2015. Seconded by Councilor Baer. **Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Trustee of Trust Funds:** (1 vacancy)

1. Jon Nivus - seeking reappointment as a full member for a 3-year term expiring 2015
2. Richard Breton - seeking appointment as a full member for a 3-year term expiring 2015 (Mr. Breton was previously interviewed by the Council on 2/27/12)

Councilor Hamel moved to appoint Richard Breton as a full member of the Trustee of Trust Funds for a three year term expiring in 2015. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. **Motion passed unanimously.**

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE

PUBLIC HEARING: NONE

PRESENTATIONS: NONE

MAYOR'S REPORT: NONE

CITIZEN REQUESTS TO COMMENT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **FINANCE:** (Lipman, Hamel, Baer)
 - a) WOW Trail Fund
 - b) Special Item Budget Requests Procedural Review
 - c) Huot Center

No report on any item in committee

2. **PUBLIC SAFETY:** (Baer, Doyle, Lahey)
 - a) Fair St./Court St. traffic problems and accidents

No report on any item in committee

3. **GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & ORDINANCES:** (Doyle, Bolduc, Lahey)
 - a) Energy Committee
 - b) Vending and Licensing Fees
 - c) Chapt. 119, Building Construction regarding signed architectural plans for residential units

No report on any item in committee

4. PUBLIC WORKS: (Bolduc, Baer, Lahey)

- a) Ordinance Amending Chapter 221, Vehicles and Traffic/Parking on Sublawns
- b) Proposed ordinance regarding vehicles over 18,000 lbs. and engines idling between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m.
- c) Proposed ordinance regarding large vehicles parked on City streets and sidewalks

No report on any item in committee

5. LAND & BUILDINGS: (Hamel, Lipman, Bolduc) (Report on item b from meeting of 3/26 at 6:30 p.m.)

- a) Repair & maintenance of City Buildings
- b) Former Laconia Police Department Building

Councilor Hamel reported on the meeting of this evening. The Downtown TIF Advisory Board has presented a list of projects that are considered priority. The Committee has given the Advisory Board direction to get estimates for the projects and to report back to the Committee. A tentative date was set for April 23rd, but a meeting is not being scheduled at this time.

Councilor Lipman asked if there was a schedule for the budget sessions. City Manager Myers advised that the initial presentation will be taking place on April 9, with the department presentations being held on April 23, May 14 and May 29.

Councilor Bolduc moved to schedule department budget presentations for 6:00 p.m. on April 23, May 14 and May 29. Seconded by Councilor Doyle. **Motion passed unanimously.**

LIAISON REPORTS:

Mayor Seymour asked if there was a start date for the Joint Building Committee (JBC) for the Huot Technical Center. A date has not been determined but the consensus of the Council is that sooner is better than waiting.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Myers reviewed the Monthly Economic Development Report (see Attachment #1) and the Recycling Challenge (see Attachment #2). City Manager Myers also explained the recent informal decision by the City of Concord to remove them from the single stream recycling project.

Councilor Lipman asked if there have been any efforts to reach out to the City of Concord regarding their recent decision or to look at the numbers with a different financing plan. City Manager Myers replied that his understanding was that they are concerned with the amount being borrowed and the risk exposure. The belief is that this will be looked at differently and other opportunities will be looked at.

Councilor Baer asked if there is an anticipated decrease in the CPIU. City Manger Myers explained that the CPIU is fixed for budget purposes.

Councilor Hamel recalled that it was stated that the single stream recycling project could be paid for with cash. Councilor Lipman replied that the financing plan had changed and added the risk to the end users and that is what is causing the inhibition by the City of Concord.

Councilor Hamel asked if the City could look at the cost to haul recyclable materials themselves. City Manager Myers replied that the City could look at the scenario.

Councilor Baer asked how much longer is left on the recycling contract with Bestway Disposal. Ann Saltmarsh replied that there are two and one half years remaining.

City Manager Myers advised the Council that Lenny Miner has been reappointed as a full member of the Board of Assessors.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Temporary Traffic Order 2012-03 Laconia Little League Opening Day Parade

Councilor Hamel moved to approve Temporary Traffic Order 2012-03 Laconia Little League Opening Day Parade. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. **Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Proposed Ordinance to Amend Chapter §221-36 Winter Parking

City Manager Myers explained that with the unusual weather this season it has been brought to light that there is no provision in the Ordinances to suspend the Winter Parking Ban set by Chapter §221-36, which bans all parking until May 1. City Manager Myers referred to two options for the Council to consider.

Option A would keep the end date of the parking restriction of May 1 but add the provision to allow the Police Chief to release the restriction early, after consulting with the Public Works Director and the City Manager. Option B would change the parking restriction date to April 1 and also allow for the release by the Police Chief.

Councilor Hamel expressed his comfort with keeping the release date as May 1 and allowing for early release.

Councilor Bolduc commented that he was pleased to see the decision would not be made by one individual, but rather a small group.

With no further recommendations, the Council requested to move forward with Option A. City Manager Myers will have a final draft prepared for the Council.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Council membership on the CIP Committee
2. Milfoil Treatment Funding Request
3. WOW Trail
4. Master Plan
5. EPA Update
6. Sewer & Water Master Plan
7. **Single Stream Recycling/Concord Co-Op/Solid Waste Disposal Cost Reduction**
 - **Discussion on Solid Waste Rates and Chapter 194 (§194-2 A, B & C and §194-5)**

City Manager Myers explained that for the purpose of building a solid budget the Council will need to make a decision regarding the cost of solid waste being brought to the transfer station as well as the number of receptacles, and the description of the receptacles. Ann Saltmarsh was also available to answer questions.

Councilor Doyle expressed that she is in agreement with the changes that were previously presented, particular the reduction in barrels from 10 to seven for commercial establishments, but would like to see a slower roll out so the businesses can be made aware. In the Weirs Beach area particularly, many business owners are not back for the summer and will not be for at least another month. They have not had the opportunity to express their concerns with this change. In addition, Councilor Doyle stated that the vendors for events, such as Motorcycle Week, need to be made aware of changes as well.

Councilor Baer commented that she feels a decrease from five to two barrels for residents is an extreme reduction. It was explained that the idea of reduced receptacles is to encourage recycling, because the more you recycle the less you will have in trash, without mandating.

Mayor Seymour advised that we need direction so we can begin the process. Councilor Doyle asked if we needed the input of the public before we start something like this. Mayor Seymour replied that we can gather that information.

Councilor Hamel commented that the program we are in right now is not working; the recyclables have increased, but not to the point they need to. In his outlook, this is a last resort and if this does not work we will need to go with the Pay As You Throw (PAYT) program. The City has tried everything to increase the tonnage of recyclables and it isn't anywhere close to what it needs to be. Councilor Hamel encouraged that the Council take another step toward the program and look at the needs to implement the PAYT program, such as where bags can be sold, how they will be distributed and other necessities.

Councilor Lipman commented that if we end up going to that point than it was agreed that there would be some adjustment in the budget so tax payers would not feel like they are being double charged for a service. Councilor Hamel confirmed that was his understanding as well.

Councilor Doyle gave the idea of a hybrid system; people could put out a limited number of bags and everything extra would have to be a paid bag. Councilor Hamel replied that everything is up for discussion. Councilor Doyle replied that she would like to see people eased into a change. Councilor Hamel related PAYT as paying for water usage; your neighbor doesn't pay for your water and they wouldn't be paying for your trash. Councilor Doyle did not disagree, but would like to see people given time to adjust to the impending change.

City Manager Myers explained that the Council could assign a different number of receptacles if they choose. This evening they need to make a defining timeframe so the budget can be built around that timeframe.

Councilor Lipman recommended using a target date of October 1, 2012 to allow for acceptable public hearing time and notice. It was decided that a public hearing could be held at the last meeting in June. City Manager Myers offered adopting the fees for tonnage at the transfer station and making these two separate issues. Councilor Lipman suggested keeping everything together.

Councilor Hamel asked if the City Manager would be incorporating the new fees. Councilor Lipman stated that half of the year would be, at the figures proposed.

Councilor Hamel asked if the price listed in the proposal for electronic waste reflects an increase. Mrs. Saltmarsh replied that the rates accurately reflect the cost of disposal. The price has not changed since 2007 and the ordinance reflects actual cost.

8. Strategic Planning/Goal Setting

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilor Baer commented that the metal roof at the Memorial Park House is almost done and looks great.

NON - PUBLIC SESSION:

Councilor Bolduc moved to enter into non-public session according to RSA 91-A:3, II: (d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community. Seconded by Councilor Lahey.

On a roll call vote of the Council it was entered into non-public session at 8:01 p.m.

On a motion by Councilor Bolduc and seconded by Councilor Lahey, the Council came out of non-public session at 8:34 p.m.

Councilor Bolduc moved to seal the minutes of the non-public session for two years. Seconded by Councilor Lahey. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Councilor Hamel moved to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. **Motion passed unanimously.**

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilor Hamel moved to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. **Motion passed unanimously.**

A True Record Attest:

Mary A. Reynolds
City Clerk