



**LACONIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 8, 2013
CITY HALL – CONFERENCE ROOM 200A
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER:

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

SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

Councilor Armand Bolduc led the Salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL:

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

ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

- Regular Minutes of March 25, 2013

*Councilor Bolduc moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 25, 2013. Seconded by Councilor Lahey. **Motion passed unanimously.***

CONSENT AND ACTION CALENDAR:

1. Request from Laconia Kiwanis/RVYSEF to raise funds at Opechee Park (Colby Field) on June 2, 2013 from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

*Councilor Lipman moved to approve the request by Laconia Kiwanis/RVYSEF to raise funds at Opechee Park (Colby Field) on June 2, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Lahey. **Motion passed unanimously.***

2. Temporary Traffic Order 2013-04, Bike Week 2013

*Councilor Bolduc moved to approve Temporary Traffic Order 2013-04, Bike Week 2013. Seconded by Councilor Lahey. **Motion passed unanimously.***

3. Temporary Traffic Order 2013-05, July 4th Parade

*Councilor Bolduc moved to approve Temporary Traffic Order 2013-05, July 4th Parade. Seconded by Councilor Lahey. **Motion passed unanimously.***

4. Request for approval to use City Hall parking lot between City Hall and the Post Office for the period of June 15, 2013 through September 28, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. to noon for the Laconia Farmers' Market

*Councilor Bolduc moved to approve the request by the Laconia Farmers' Market to use the City Hall parking lot between City Hall and the Post Office for the period of June 15, 2013 through September 28, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. Seconded by Councilor Lahey. **Motion passed unanimously.***

CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

Jay Lewis addressed the Council. Mr. Lewis expressed concern that the date for Bike Week 2014 has been amended so the event will begin on Father's Day rather than end on it. Mr. Lewis explained that businesses, primarily lodging, make arrangements for the event a year in advance and no one knows about the change.

Mayor Seymour explained that he Council did not direct this change but it would be looked into.

Councilor Bolduc added that there is a meeting of the committee tomorrow and he will bring this up for discussion.

INTERVIEWS: NONE

COMMUNICATIONS NONE

PUBLIC HEARING: NONE

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Laconia Police Department Community Outreach Presentation Concerning Emergency Preparedness – Chief Adams & Capt. Canfield

Chief Adams and Capt. Canfield presented a prepared presentation for the Council (see Attachment #1) followed by a brief video produced by the City of Houston, Texas.

Chief Adams explained that this presentation is available to any business or organization that would like to have it presented and will be presented to the School District and City departments in the near future. The goal of making this presentation is not to make people paranoid or scared but to get the community to think about the possibility and to be prepared.

Capt. Canfield displayed equipment used by law enforcement in an Active Shooter Incident, including helmets, ballistic plate carriers and shields. All of the front line cruisers have this equipment at this time and the sooner equipment will be available to officers at the station as well. This equipment is also used for any call with shots fired, drug raids, and other violent situations.

Mayor Seymour commented that the brochure made available is a great resource and the intent of the video is mimicked well. Mayor Seymour asked where the brochures will be distributed. Chief Adams replied that they will be given out to employees, managers and anyone else who attends a presentation.

Mayor Seymour confirmed that a presentation program will differ from school based to private business. Chief Adams replied that this is correct.

Councilor Lipman stated that there is appreciation for the proactive approach to make the public aware and conscious of the possibility.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Seymour commended those that have provided tips to the Laconia Police Department when they have notice suspicious activities in their neighborhoods. Mayor Seymour encouraged the community to continue being alert and conscious of activities.

The Boys and Girls Club of the Lakes Region has moved to a new location at the St. James Church on North Main Street. Mayor Seymour thanked the Club for their efforts to keep the location local because it is a worthwhile program that helps the children of the community.

Mayor Seymour reminded the community that recycling options are being discussed and input or questions should be directed to your Councilor or City Hall before the Special Council Meeting on April 24, 2013.

Mayor Seymour thanked and congratulated Dennis Sanborn on his retirement from the City after 32 years of service. Mr. Sanborn is a pleasant person and his efforts throughout the years have made the City a better place in many ways.

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

City Manager Myers requested to hold a Finance Committee meeting immediately following the April 22 regular Council meeting to discuss Sanitary Sewer Fund rates.

*Councilor Bolduc moved to schedule a Finance Committee meeting for April 22, 2013 immediately following the regular Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Lipman. **Motion passed unanimously.***

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
- d) Recycling Proposals

No report on any item in committee

5. LAND & BUILDINGS: (Hamel, Lipman ,Bolduc)

- a) Repair & maintenance of City Buildings

No report on any item in committee

LIAISON REPORTS: NONE

MANAGER'S REPORT:

City Manager Myers reviewed the Recycling Report (see Attachment #2), Project Updates (see Attachment #3) and Financial & Operational Trends Report (see Attachment #4).

With the Recycling Report it was noted that the percentage is up to 16.3%. There are larger toters still available and the public is encouraged to take advantage of the discounted price of \$25.00 each. City Manager Myers also corrected the incorrect perspective that the budget presented is contingent on the Council passing a Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) program; the budget presented is based on a 25% recycling rate regardless of how this number is attained.

City Manager Myers also advised the Council that although the City is over budget in the winter maintenance areas it has been designated as a natural disaster area by FEMA for the blizzard in February which will qualify for funding for the snow removal. There will be a meeting next week and after that time the City Manager will have a better idea of the process and amount the City can expect to receive. In the event the City does not receive adequate reimbursement there is the option to use funds designated in the reserve funding to cover the shortage.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Request from Rich Velasquez Youth Sports Equipment Foundation to raise funds at Opechee Park on August 24, 2013 from 7:00 am to noon

*Councilor Lipman moved to approve the request from Rich Velasquez Youth Sports Equipment Foundation to raise funds at Opechee Park on August 24, 2013 from 7:00 am to noon. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. **Motion passed unanimously.***

- 2. Request by Laconia Police Department to Accept State Highway Safety Grant – Laconia “Join the Clique Seatbelt Campaign”

*Councilor Bolduc moved to approve the request by Laconia Police Department to accept State Highway Safety Grant – Laconia “Join the Clique Seatbelt Campaign”. Seconded by Councilor Lipman. **Motion passed unanimously.***

3. Approval of Hank Risley Field License Agreement and Authorization of City Manager to Sign on Behalf of the City

*Councilor Bolduc moved to approve the Hank Risley Field License Agreement and to authorize the City Manager to sign on behalf of the City. Seconded by Councilor Lipman. **Motion passed unanimously.***

4. Request to schedule four (4) Public Hearings for April 22, 2013 during the regular scheduled Council Meeting as follows:
 - a. A proposed application to the Community Development Finance Authority for up to \$12,000 in Planning Grant Community Development Block Grant funds for a Capital Needs Assessment for The Stafford House (aka The Tavern)
 - b. A proposed application to the Community Development Finance Authority for up to \$12,000 in Planning Grant Community Development Block Grant funds to look into relocating the Laconia Housing Authority’s central offices elsewhere in Laconia and look into converting the current office space into additional housing units.
 - c. The Housing and Community Development Plan
 - d. The Residential Antidisplacement and Relocation Assistance Plan

Councilor Bolduc asked why they don’t have to remain in the building they are in for the service of the people living there. City Manager Myers replied that they are currently taking up space that was previously rental units and the study would determine if there is another space in another property that would be better suited for an office.

*Councilor Lipman moved to schedule four (4) public hearings for April 22, 2013 during the regular scheduled Council Meeting as indicated above. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. **Motion passed unanimously.***

5. Discussion on continuing the practice of collection Christmas Trees throughout the City

Councilor Lipman explained that this topic was brought forward by a constituent as a way to save on labor and equipment cost; we have remote areas to drop off recyclables and it should be feasible to do the same with the Christmas trees.

Councilor Bolduc commented that he feels it would be a good idea and would be time saving and more efficient than having the Public Works employees driving up and down each street multiple times to collect them.

Councilor Lipman asked if there had been any quantified information gathered to demonstrate how much could be saved. City Manager Myers replied that this is not something that has been tracked in the past and the estimated savings of time can be estimated. A suggestion was made to complete projects in key areas of the City with the man hours saved. Councilor Lipman suggested a project in each of the three (3) villages that would be an improvement to the City and would benefit all.

Councilor Lipman asked if an ordinance amendment is needed to discontinue. City Manager Myers replied that it is just a practice of the City and an ordinance amendment is not needed.

Mayor Seymour asked for the consensus of the Council. The Council expressed that they would like to discontinue this practice.

6. Discussion of Consultants Report of Fire Department from Municipal Resources, Inc. and proposed motion to reconsider acceptance of Fire SAFER Grant

City Manager Myers explained that after the presentation made at the last Council meeting by Municipal Resources, Inc (MRI) it was suggested to add four (4) additional fire fighters with a goal of improving response time and allowing for additional apparatus to be utilized. Additional recommendations included managing overtime and adding personnel by two (2) per year over the next two (2) years to bring the shift capacity to 10 on duty. It was indicated by Councilor Hamel that if the information was available at the time the SAFER grant was presented the decision to accept or deny the grant may have been made differently.

It was further explained that if the Council would like to reconsider the SAFER grant, which it is not known at this time if the funding is available, they would need to suspend Council Rule 20, regarding reconsideration of a motion, with a 2/3 majority vote of the Council.

Councilor Bolduc recommended having the full Council present. Councilor Lahey replied that time is important with this matter. Councilor Baer noted that there is a quorum present so the item should be taken up.

Councilor Baer asked if the motion is reconsidered and not given will four (4) additional fire fighters be hired anyway on the basis of the report. City Manager Myers replied that the vote would be to authorize the City Manager and Fire Chief to reach out to FEMA to see if the SAFER grant is still available and to accept it if it is available.

Councilor Baer asked if this would result in a decrease in overtime. City Manager Myers emphasized that this grant is not geared at decreasing overtime it is designed to increase response to incidents. A reduction in overtime would result from a policy change within the Fire Department.

*Councilor Lipman moved to suspend Rule 20 of the Council Rules and Procedures for the purpose of reconsidering the acceptance of the SAFER Grant. Seconded by Councilor Doyle. **Motion passed unanimously.***

Councilor Lipman moved to accept the SAFER Grant should it still be available to the City. Seconded by Councilor Baer.

Councilor Lipman commented that this is being considered on the basis of receiving a grant. If the City is not successful in receiving the grant the action of increasing personnel would not move forward. Additionally, Councilor Lipman commented that the majority of the Council voted against this initially because of concerns to have a sustainable plan in place at the conclusion of the grant.

Councilor Lipman stated that he is reconsidering this because of the risk trade off that was indicated in the report as well as being prepared to work with the Fire Department to come up with a plan to finance the continuation of the personnel at the conclusion of the grant.

City Manager Myers noted that Chief Erickson and Deputy Chief Pendergast are in attendance should the Council have any questions.

Councilor Bolduc agreed with Councilor Lipman.

*Mayor Seymour called the question. **Motion passed unanimously.***

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Milfoil Treatment Funding Request
2. WOW Trail
3. Master Plan
4. EPA Update
5. Sewer & Water Master Plan
6. Single Stream Recycling/Concord Co-Op/Solid Waste Disposal Cost Reduction
7. Strategic Planning/Goal Setting

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS & ELECTIONS: **NONE**

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilor Bolduc advised the residents of Ward Six that Belvidere Street, from School Street to Jefferson Street, will be repaved this coming summer. Also, Mechanic Street, from Clinton Street to Stark Street, will also be repaved.

Councilor Lipman commended the Fire Department and Police Department for their great work in the last few weeks. The Police Department has completed a successful drug raid and the Fire Department has saved two (2) buildings during substantial fires.

Councilor Bolduc encouraged Ward Six to continue their recycling efforts that have been demonstrated over the last few weeks.

Councilor Doyle asked about the Marshmallow Man fundraiser that has been mentioned in local media. Chief Adams explained that it is being organized by Detective Swift and more information will be coming forth as the event isn't until August.

NON - PUBLIC SESSION: **NONE**

ADJOURNMENT:

*Councilor Lipman moved to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. **Motion passed unanimously.***

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary A. Reynolds
City Clerk