



**LACONIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 26, 2012  
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 Ava Doyle 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.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

- **Regular Minutes of November 13, 2012**

Councilor Bolduc moved to approve the regular minutes of November 13, 2012. Seconded by Councilor Hamel. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**CONSENT AND ACTION CALENDAR:**

1. **Temporary Traffic Order 2012-19 Frozen 5K (attached)**

Councilor Bolduc moved to approve Temporary Traffic Order 2012-19 Frozen 5K. Seconded by Councilor Doyle. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:**

Richard Homsy of 84 Summitt Avenue addressed the Council. Mr. Homsy stated that he has come to the Council to request a reduction in the speed limit on Summitt Avenue before the Town of Gilford line to 25 mph; the current speed limit is 35 mph. Mr. Homsy presented each Councilor and Mayor Seymour with a packet containing data and statistical information that he felt would be beneficial to the Council in making an informed decision.

Mr. Homsy reviewed the content of his prepared packet, including a letter of support for Police Chief Chris Adams, accident reports and photographs, letters of support from residents of Summitt Avenue, and results of stealth surveys completed. *(A copy of Mr. Homsy's information has been retained in the permanent legal files and can be accessed at the City Clerk's Office).*

In addition, Mr. Homsy noted that there is not adequate lighting to support a speed limit of 35 mph and there are problems with water collection in the road and on the bridge that make the area more dangerous. The majority of the people traveling on the street are those that live on the street or on Governors Island and know the street and with the feeling of comfort they tend to drive faster. Mr. Homsy explained that “bridge jumping” is also a problem on a daily basis and would be deterred by a reduction in the speed limit.

Mr. Homsy advised the Council that Governors Island maintains a speed limit of 25 mph on all roads on the Island and they have experimented with other speed deterrents, such as speed humps and dips, but have found the impact to vehicles warrants and extensive liability.

Chief Adams commented that Mr. Homsy did a nice job highlighting the issues of concern. Together with Public Works Director Paul Moynihan, Chief Adams has been working with Mr. Homsy to find a resolution to the concerns. This included conducting stealth surveys of the street which concluded that a majority of the traffic is traveling at the posted speed limit but there are dozens of documented variations of as high as the upper 50 mph range. Chief Adams advised the Council that this evening he traveled on Summit Avenue to gage the posted speed limit of 35 mph and stopped accelerating at 28 mph because he felt it wasn't safe.

Chief Adams explained that he believes there is an RSA that would allow a municipality to reduce a speed limit down to 25 mph, but this information should be clarified. It is the recommendation of Chief Adams to reduce the speed limit.

Councilor Lahey asked what the speed limit is on the bridge leading to Governors Island. Chief Adams replied that he is unsure but would assume it is 35 mph, however, traveling over the bridge at that speed would be dangerous.

Councilor Hamel asked if the speed limit on the bridge extends to the Gilford portion of the bridge. Mr. Homsy explained that Governors Island from the Gilford line is 25 mph and the line is on the middle of the bridge. This makes it dangerous for people trying to cross the bridge on foot as well.

Councilor Bolduc stated that if it is dropped the speed limit it was his understanding that it needs to be cleared with the State but if that is not the case than it should be lowered. City Manager Myers stated that he has done some research in this area and would be willing to look into it further.

Councilor Hamel moved to lower the speed limit on Summit Avenue to 25 mph contingent on the authority to do so within State regulations. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Councilor Baer asked the Council to revisit the Temporary Traffic Order approved this evening, particularly the item pertaining to the rerouting of traffic from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on Main Street for the lining up of the race. Councilor Baer received a call this past weekend because Main Street had parking blocked off much earlier than the traffic order called for and an explanation is needed. Chief Adams explained that when parking needs to be cleared on Main Street an hour is a nearly impossible time allowance to remove all of the parked vehicles and in an attempt to keep the road accessible for the Holiday Parade it was partitioned off early. When the concern was brought to the attention of the Police Department Captain Canfield did meet with the business owner and open up parking spaces in front of the business until noon. Moving forward, the Police Department will be working with the Department of Public Works to see if there is a way to accommodate everyone involved.

Councilor Hamel clarified that this is a race and is different from a parade. The closure of intersections and streets happens in progression and is not as much of an impact.

**INTERVIEWS: NONE**

**COMMUNICATIONS: NONE**

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

- 1. Declaring City owned property located on Davis Place (Map 412, Block 60, Lot 59 and Map 412, Block 60, Lot 22) as surplus with consideration of sale to the Boys and Girls Club of the Lakes Region.**

Mayor Seymour opened the public hearing at 7:19 p.m. with the reading of the notice posted in the Laconia Daily Sun on November 20, 2012, at City Hall and the Laconia Public Library, as well as a notice to the abutters made by certified mail on November 16, 2012. City Manager Myers clarified that the notice to abutters was not made by certified mail but standard mailing.

Mayor Seymour asked for any comments from the Council and proceeded to the public.

Chief Adams addressed the Council as the Vice President of the Boys and Girls Club of the Lakes Region and the father of two young boys. Chief Adams stated that there is a large group in attendance this evening that are in support of the proposed location for the Boys and Girls Club and they genuinely care about the community and the kids. As a member of the Laconia Police Department for 19 years, Chief Adams explained that he has been fortunate enough to see some great things happen but he has also been exposed to the darker side of what life can bring. He has learned that the family unit can be fragile and prone to many factors, such as substance abuse, violence and economic concerns, and he has seen far too many children living in conditions that aren't acceptable and parents that aren't engaged with them. When you look at these children and wonder what their future is and hope for the best, you know that a lot of them will continue in the vicious cycle that presents the same family name but different children over and over. The Boys and Girls Club can step in and change the lives of these kids and they are a big part of the future for the City. Chief Adams stated that he believes the Davis Place site is a great location for the Boys and Girls Club and would be located in an area that can be beneficial to the kids of the neighborhood.

Chief Adams commented that he did a scan of the police log to find out how many times the department has responded to the Boys and Girls Club in one year. In this scan he noted three (3) calls for service for the Club, which included an officer visiting the Club to say hello to the kids, a motor vehicle accident and one juvenile issue called in by the Club. Chief Adams explained that he is offering this information because he knows some people will be concerned with this type of establishment being in there neighborhood because of concerns they have with potential problems and he wants to assure them that the Club does not have these issues.

Chief Adams hopes the City Council will see this site as suitable for the Boys and Girls Club and see the asset that the Club is to the community.

Superintendent Bob Champlin and School Board Chairman Joe Cormier addressed the Council. Chairman Cormier expressed that the School Board is in agreement that the Boys and Girls Club is an important piece of the community and the School District is always challenged with finding a positive atmosphere for the kids that are outside the school buildings. Anytime there is the opportunity to work with an

organization like the Boys and Girls Club and create a positive atmosphere and show support it will pay off for the community and the youth. By giving the youth a positive venue and programming it will help keep them out of the courts and give them a sense of pride in their community.

Supt. Champlin spoke on regards to the location. This particular location is between the middle and high school and kids could walk there, which is a critical factor in engaging kids immediately after the school day. Between the Director and the Board of the Boys and Girls Club there is so much support that this feels like the right time to capitalize on this opportunity.

Senator Elect Andrew Hosmer addressed the Council. Mr. Hosmer spoke in support of the Boys and Girls Club location. As member of the AutoServ Dealerships, Mr. Hosmer stated that they have taken an active role to ensure a positive future for the Boys and Girls Club because they believe in it. As a Senator Elect, Mr. Hosmer looks forward to working on issues that make our communities better and the Boys and Girls Club is an opportunity to do so by investing in the youth and giving them positive role models and a safe haven.

Cheryl Avery, Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club of the Lakes Region, read a prepared statement from the Executive Director of the Concord Boys and Girls Club, Christopher Emond, in support of the location and gave an example of a similar location in Allenstown that was very successful.

Councilor Lahey asked where the before mentioned facility is located. Ms. Avery replied that there main location is in Concord but the location mentioned is in Allenstown.

County Commissioner Ed Philpot addressed the Council. Commissioner Philpot expressed that in Belknap County there is a lot of planning on how to keep kids out of the corrections system and be preventative. One way to do this is to protect the community from negative influence and get the kids in a positive environment with good role models, such as the Boys and Girls Club of the Lakes Region. The proposed location is ideal and it is the hope of Commissioner Philpot that the Council will support the request.

Attorney Robert Hemeon addressed the Council. Atty Hemeon acknowledged that there are problems on the streets of Laconia and they won't get any better unless we show interest in the children and show them that they have some place to go. Without something like this they will be looking for the next thrill in the wrong place. The lessoned learned from the Boys and Girls Club of the Lakes Region are more practical and we need these kids to be responsible citizens. Other steps have been taken, such as the Huot Technical Center renovation, to ensure a positive outcome for the kids and the Boys and Girls Club is another way to ensure there is a place for the kids to go.

Executive Director Cheryl Avery, accompanied by two members of the Boys and Girls Club, addressed the Council. Ms. Avery expressed her pride in the staff and the kids that attend the Club. Over the last year there has been progress and positive reception from the community.

Emma, 2012 Youth of the Year, addressed the Council. Emma told the Council that she appreciates the staff at the Boys and Girls Club being "on the ball" and making a connection with the kids that go to the Club. They are great with homework help and she adores the respect that is shown, as well as the expectation of respect that is upheld.

Sarah, a member of the Boys and Girls Club, told the Council that without the Boys and Girls Club she would be out on the streets. Before she joined the Club she was hanging out with the wrong crowd and was persuaded to go to the Club by a friend. It was a choice that has had a positive impact on Sarah's life

and has become like a second home. Sarah expressed that she has learned good life habits and received encouragement to follow her dreams to achieve goals. Sarah has gained confidence from her time at the Boys and Girls Club.

Norm Gilbert, Program Director of the Boys and Girls Club of the Lakes Region, addressed the Council. Mr. Gilbert has been at the Club since April and has implemented many new activities that are available through the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, including life skills programs, homework help and athletic programs.

Russ Thibeault, President of Applied Economic Research, addressed the Council regarding the feasibility and impact if the proposed location. Mr. Thibeault explained that he is a prospective Board Member of the Boys and Girls Club and wanted to make that clear to the Council.

Regarding the proposed location, Mr. Thibeault explained that a facility like the Boys and Girls Club works best in a mixed use location rather than a residential neighborhood, industrial park, or busy roadway. This neighborhood is mixed use and contains a light manufacturing facility, some single family homes and an apartment facility. Mr. Thibeault encouraged the Council to support the location.

Judge James Carroll addressed the Council. Judge Carroll explained that he perceives himself to be a child advocate and always has been and reviewed the history of how the Boys and Girls Club of the Lakes Region was developed. After the murder of Robbie Mills in 1998, Judge Carroll and Supt Champlin created a forum on Saturday mornings at Woodland Heights that considered violence in the community and what was needed and at that time the overwhelming need voted on by the community was to have a community center for the children. This became the Teen Center which has transformed into the Boys and Girls Club of the Lakes Region. The Club is a well run facility that addresses the needs of the children that may not feel that they belong in other activities throughout the community. Judge Carroll expressed that he feels it is important for the health of the community that we ensure opportunities for each and every child. Each child in this community deserves every opportunity for wholesome, safe, healthy activities with guidance to make those children the good citizens that we want in our community that are responsible, responsive and active in the community. Judge Carroll stated that we can only do this if we support this institutions livelihood, strength and commitment to the future. Lloyd Wylie, a resident on Davis Place for 42 years, addressed the Council. Mr. Wylie stated that he applauds everyone who has spoken and agrees that the Boys and Girls Club is a great thing but he doesn't think it is the right location. Mr. Wylie believes that the property was given to the City on the condition that it would be used as overflow parking for the Normandin Apartments and was supposed to be green space and a park. Mr. Wylie believes that there is already too much traffic on Davis Place and at this time the property is being used and maintained by Stewart Properties and this is not a good location. Other locations, such as the old Messer Street sand shed lot or the FW Webb building, would be better suited.

Mayor Seymour asked if any other abutters were in attendance and would like to speak. There were no requests to speak.

Al Posnick, President of the Board of the Boys and Girls Club of the Lakes Region, addressed the Council. Mr. Posnick thanked the Council for having the Club in attendance and thanked everyone that has spoken in support of the proposed location and the Club. Mr. Posnick stressed that the Club is supported by volunteers and thanked them for their dedication to the children. Mr. Posnick noted that there are certain moments when you need to take a leap of faith for a vision and this is that moment for the kids of the City and hoped that the Council will move this vision forward and that in a few years

when the kids of the Boys and Girls Club are cutting the ribbon to open the facility that the neighbors will be standing behind them in support.

Mayor Seymour asked for any Councilor comments.

Councilor Lipman asked if there are any restrictions on the property, such as those expressed by Mr. Wylie. City Manager Myers replied that he has looked into the history of the parcels and the current use, which is overflow parking. Some of the overflow parking will continue overnight and the Laconia Housing Authority and Boys and Girls Club have been in contact and there is understood support from the Laconia Housing Authority. City Manager Myers further explained that he is not aware of any deed restrictions on the property, such as those implied.

Councilor Lahey asked what the setbacks of the location would be and how close the facility would be to the residents. Planning Director Shanna Saunders replied that there would be required setbacks off the water and the street but not necessarily from the houses of up to 25 feet from the front and an undetermined distance from the water.

Councilor Lahey asked how far the residences the facility is planned to be. Chuck Moran, from ACM Management replied that, if looking from the street, on the left the facility abuts Jewett Brook and on the right there is a large easement to accommodate the Wylie property and this property. That easement moves the proposed building to the left side of the property and the setbacks will be large from both sides. The facility will be closer to the street and the setback from the water will be dramatic. Councilor Lahey asked how far the facility will be from the houses. Mr. Moran replied that approximately 100 feet on the right side and 50 feet from the neighbor on the opposite side of Jewett Brook.

Councilor Lahey asked if the easement could be used as part of the setback. Mr. Moran replied that he doesn't believe so but the engineer would need to answer.

Councilor Hamel asked if the 250 feet setback rule from the State is applicable. Director Saunders replied that she is unsure if this property is subject. Mr. Moran replied that this is the Downtown Riverfront District and this would not pertain but the structure will be dramatically off the water.

Councilor Lahey asked Mr. Thibeault if the location will have a negative effect on property values. Mr. Thibeault replied that categorically no. The actual impact on property value is set high and is relative to amount of change the neighborhood shows because of the change and new use. The neighborhood is decidedly mixed use now and is primarily dominated by the Normandin Apartments. Mr. Thibeault stated that there will be additional traffic in the neighborhood but not to the level that will impact values like it would in a predominantly single family neighborhood. Councilor Lahey commented that he has reservations with having this in a residential neighborhood. Mr. Thibeault replied that his neighborhood is a mixed use neighborhood with manufacturing, multifamily units and single family residential homes.

Councilor Bolduc asked that fencing be considered on both sides of the property to ensure the kids attending the facility do not encroach on the neighbors. This could make the neighbors more acceptable of the location.

Councilor Hamel asked if the Boys and Girls Club has considered the FW Webb property as a possible location. Mr. Posnik indicated they had not.

With no additional members of the public wishing to speak Mayor Seymour closed the public hearing at 8:01 p.m.

Mayor Seymour requested direction from City Manager Myers on how to proceed if the Council is favorable. City Manager Myers replied that this item would need to be placed on the agenda for December 10, 2012 and the City Manager would need direction to negotiate the Purchase and Sales Agreement.

Councilor Baer asked if a sale price has been established. City Manager Myers noted that the Letter of Intent to Purchase contained a sum of \$100,000. It was cautioned that additional information would need to be discussed in a non-public session.

Mayor Seymour asked for the appraised value of the property. City Manager Myers replied that he was unsure of the exact figure but believes it was approximately \$91,000.

Councilor Lahey suggested that the Purchase and Sales Agreement contain specific requirements such as screening for the neighbors and setbacks.

Mayor Seymour thanked everyone that spoke this evening and those in attendance for support.

It was the consensus of the Council to place this item on the agenda of December 10, 2012 for action.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**1. Adopt-A-Spot Awards**

Mayor Seymour, accompanied by Administrative Assistant Ann Saltmarsh and Parks & Recreation Director Kevin Dunleavy, presented the following awards:

**Best Barrels**

LaBelle's Shoe Repair  
Patrick Wood Law Office  
Laconia Savings Bank  
Altrusa Club at Hector's

**Best Planters**

The Lakeport Association

**Landscape Recognition Awards**

Garden Artisans for Rotary Park  
Opechee Garden Club for the Belknap County Court House  
Belknap Landscape for Stewart Park  
CBH Landscape for the Gale Memorial Library

**Special Recognition/Profile of Excellence Award**

River Crew Art /Richard Smith & Elaine Morrison (former) Laconia Police Station/Church Street

Each recipient was presented with a cobblestone from Main Street engraved with 1904 to note the year it was placed.

## **2. Zoning Board of Adjustments Update to Zoning Ordinances – Suzanne Perley**

Ms. Perley and Planning Director Shanna Saunders addressed the Council.

Ms. Perley explained that the Zoning Board of Adjustments (ZBA) has been looking at an update to the ordinances pertaining to zoning. To achieve this ZBA would like to establish a committee of volunteers to review the ordinances and identify areas in need of updating including typographical errors, definitions, and revisions to individual articles.

Councilor Hamel stated that he is hopeful there will be an amendment to the article relating to electronic signs that would indicate that they need to be dimmed in the evenings. Ms. Perley agreed that this is a section that needs to be addressed.

Mayor Seymour asked for Council consensus and there was no objection to the ZBA proceeding.

Councilor Lipman asked that rather than having everything presented at once that they prioritize the items that have been brought forward as issues and work on them and bring resolution forward sooner. Director Saunders replied that they will do so.

Councilor Hamel also recommended bringing one article forward at a time rather than all of them at once. Director Saunders replied that they may need to cross article in some instances but they will do the best they can. Ms. Perley stated that they will bring it forward in a manner that works well for everyone with the understanding that it is a large document.

Councilor Bolduc also noted that a change time needs to be placed in the sign ordinance as well. Ms. Perley advised that they are aware of an issue with time change signs and they will be looking at this issue as well.

## **3. Master Plan Update – Shanna Saunders**

Director Saunders reviewed a prepared presentation. (See Attachment #1)

Councilor Hamel asked if a professional is being hired to work with the City regarding signage. Director Saunders replied that this is accurate. This was brought forward by the traffic analyst that assisted with the two way traffic study and includes street signage and parking lot signage.

Councilor Bolduc asked why we need a consultant to tell us where to place bicycle racks. Director Saunders replied that this was a recommendation brought forward during conversations with two way traffic and it doesn't imply that we need someone to tell us where they should be placed but it is a funding issue. Councilor Bolduc replied that there were bicycle racks in the past. Director Saunders will check into this because Public Works may still have them in storage.

Councilor Lahey commented that there needs to be a deeper discussion regarding Downtown because it involves the TIF district and it looks like it needs to have an update of the EPA report. It seems like two

way traffic and the flow of Main Street are important to the stake holders and what is left needs to be investigated. Director Saunders replied that a new Master Plan process will show us what needs to be concentrated on. The prior Master Plan has seen a lot accomplished in the last five years and it is time to take another look and decide how to move forward. Councilor Lahey asked if it is possible to make a conceptual plan for the Downtown area to show the pieces left to be done. Director Saunders replied that it is within the Master Plan and can be done for the villages and Union Ave using the current plans as a starting point.

Councilor Lipman stated that one of the key anchors to Downtown is the Bank of NH and when discussing two way traffic we need to keep in mind that it would have a negative impact on their business. Looking at a larger picture and making priorities when discussing improvements needs to be done because one of the largest concerns with the idea of having public restrooms in Downtown met opposition because of unspoken concerns with homelessness but because we weren't looking at the larger picture it wasn't discussed. Director Saunders replied that the Downtown TIF Advisory Board will be presenting at the next meeting a more detailed proposal and that would be a great time to discuss this. Additionally, the pocket parks and the restrooms are part of the Master Plan and it's a matter of the stake holders changing their minds and opinions which is all part of the process.

Councilor Baer stated that the Main Street Bridge project will take two years and that is going to have an impact on the ability to forecast what would be best to be done. There is concern from the Downtown merchants regarding the time it will take and the signage needs. Councilor Baer also noted that there are many statements in the Master Plan that are no longer viable and Downtown may not be able to withstand a two year closure of access. Director Saunders replied that at no point will Main Street be closed but there will be some closure of connecting streets but unfortunately we can't avoid the project because the funding is available now. The City has been working very hard to make sure the bridge stays open at all times and there is access and we will work with the businesses regarding the temporary patterns. City Manager Myers expressed that he will address this in his report this evening.

Councilor Lahey asked if that when the TIF Advisory Board comes back they could give the Council an idea of how it will fit into the overall plan. Director Saunders replied that they will do this and bring examples of how these types of projects bring value to Downtown. Mayor Seymour reiterated that the Council appreciates all of the work that has gone into the proposals but they would like to see how it will all fit into the larger plan.

Councilor Hamel stated that he would like the TIF Advisory Board to look into what can be done with the parking garage to increase its use. The parking garage is key to Downtown and the access needs to be improved to promote the use; the City has done cleanup and installed security cameras. Director Saunders replied that they will work on this as well.

City Manager Myers advised the Council that it is the goal to have Director Saunders come before the Council a few times each year to give them an update. It was also noted that the Council position on the Planning Board is vacant if anyone would like to fill it.

Councilor Lipman asked that the TIF Advisory Board think about not only what is in Downtown now but how it can be used to be attractive. Director Saunders explained that there are two aspects that need to be looked at, the planning and infrastructure and the community development; both areas need to work together to be successful.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Seymour reminded that the Weirs Beach Sand Migration Study will be discussed this Thursday evening at the Weirs Community Center beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Seymour thanked Bob Dassatti for his nine (9) years of service on the Laconia School Board. Mr. Dassatti is the former Chairman and will be continuing his role on the Joint Building Committee.

A strategic planning update will need to be scheduled after the holidays.

Mayor Seymour thanked Councilor Baer and the Wyatt Park Association, Director Kevin Dunleavy, the Laconia Police Department and the Parks & Recreation Commission for all of their efforts to move the Wyatt Park plan forward. The neighborhood and Wyatt Park Association have unified to move the park in a positive direction and the City looks forward to a positive outcome.

#### **CITIZEN REQUESTS TO COMMENT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

Jon Moriarty, President of the Laconia Main Street Initiative and as an investor in Downtown, addressed the Council. Mr. Moriarty commended the Laconia Main Street Initiative for their energy and focus. The conversations that have been had recently with the Planning Department and Councilors Lipman and Baer regarding the needs to Downtown have been encouraging. On a local level the Initiative considers themselves a tool for the Council and invited the Council to use them as a spring board to achieve common goals.

As Lakes Region Acquisitions LLC, Mr. Moriarty stated that they made the investment in Downtown with the hopes to change the feeling of Downtown. The group is very driven by numbers and it appears that planning plays a big role in the success of Downtown. Mr. Moriarty encouraged the Council to consider economic development as a need to the success of Downtown and pointed out that the stake holders have changed; previously Downtown consisted of property owners owning property for the sake of running a business and now the majority of the businesses in Downtown are leased spaces with the property owners operating as landlords only.

#### **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)**

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

**No report on any item in committee**

**LIAISON REPORTS:      NONE**

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

City Manager Myers reviewed the Recycling Report (see Attachment #3) and the Monthly Economic Development Report (see Attachment #4). The recycling totes have been delivered and many have been picked up by residents that ordered them. There are many left and the cost is \$25.00 each. The hope is that the totes will increase the recycling volume because of the convenience.

Councilor Lahey asked what should be done with the small green buckets that were previously used. City Manager Myers replied that they can be returned to the City if they are not longer needed. They will still be available for those with smaller household needs.

It was reported that the 2012 tax rate has been set at \$21.00 per thousand. City Manager Myers explained that this is over the Council objective of \$20.71 but is attributed to the decrease in Assessed Value by approximately \$30 million. The overall increase was 1.4% over the goal.

City Manager Myers presented the Council with RSA 79-E, Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive, for consideration. The basic theory of the statute is to encourage economic development of a particular area without imposing the tax increase that would be customary to building improvements. The process to implement the statute would be two step; the Council would need to adopt the provisions of the statute and the property owner would need to meet the requirements of the statute. City Manager Myers stated that he believes this could be a tool for the City and by adopting the provisions the City would have the option to use it.

Councilor Baer asked if it is similar to the Economic Revitalization Zone (ERZ). City Manager Myers explained that the ERZ designation deals with the Business Profits Tax rather than local property tax.

Councilor Lipman asked what the process would be for adopting the provisions. City Manager Myers replied that he would recommend posting a public hearing to allow for public input and if the Council then chooses to adopt the provisions it would do so by ordinance.

Councilor Baer asked if there are penalties if the improvements are not completed. City Manager Myers replied that there are conditions with the relief and the property owner would need to comply with the plan submitted.

Councilor Baer asked if there are any towns that may have used this process. Councilor Lahey replied that the City of Concord has.

Councilor Lipman moved to begin the process as recommended by City Manager Myers. Seconded by Councilor Baer. **Motion passed unanimously.**

City Manager Myers advised he will have this item on the next agenda.

Regarding the Main Street Bridge Project, there was a meeting with the State of NH about 10 days ago to review the preliminary approval for the design and another meeting will take place in the middle of next week. The expectation is to have the final design approval at that time to have the bid requests out by the end of December.

City Manager Myers explained that there was a meeting at the end of September with the Downtown property owners to discuss the impact this will have. The bridge needs to remain open to two way traffic at all times and to achieve this construction will be done in four phases with a projected completion time of 10 to 12 weeks each. City Manager Myers reviewed the phases of the project and which areas would be closed as well as the revised traffic flows with each phase. There has been a concerted effort to work with the Downtown merchants and the City will continue to do so as the project is ongoing to ensure traffic flow does not become an issue.

Councilor Baer asked how the tractor trailers will navigate through the rerouting. City Manager Myers replied that the thought is that any truck that can currently come down Pleasant Street and turn on Main Street in the existing set up will be able to make a turn in the proposed temporary shifts. There will be some outreach to the businesses in the industrial park on Lexington Drive to advise them of the possible need to seek another route for the extra long trailers. There will be an education process for each segment with continued outreach.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Request to Schedule an Airport Appointive Agency Meeting for December 10, 2012 at 6:45 p.m.**

Mayor Seymour advised the Council that this meeting needs to be scheduled but because there are no applicants at this time it may be cancelled.

Councilor Lahey moved to schedule and Airport Appointive Agency meeting for December 10, 2012 at 6:45 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. **Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Funding for Landscape and Engineering Design Services for Laconia Downtown TIF District Improvements
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

8. Strategic Planning/Goal Setting

**NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS & ELECTIONS:**                    **NONE**

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilor Bolduc stated that Christmas Village will be opening this Thursday and Friday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Additional hours for the elderly will be Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and for the handicapped on Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**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 Baer.

Mayor Seymour advised that there will be no business conducted after the non-public session.

On a roll call vote of the Council it was entered into non-public session at 9:32 p.m.

Councilor Bolduc moved to come out of non-public session at 9:46 p.m.

Councilor Hamel moved to seal the minutes of the non-public session for two (2) years. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilor Hamel moved to adjourn at 9:47 p.m. Seconded by Councilor Bolduc. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary A. Reynolds  
City Clerk