

MINUTES

Lowell City Council

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 12, 2019, 7:00 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Sandy Railey

Mayor Sandy Railey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those attending were Councilmember Phil Bonham, Councilmember Ken Ervin, Councilmember Candy Funderburk, Councilmember DeWayne Chitwood, Councilmember Thomas Gillespie, City Attorney Jim Windham, City Manager Kevin Krouse, City Clerk Beverly Harris, Police Chief Scott Bates, Development Services Administrator Scott Attaway, and various citizens.

II. INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Gillespie gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING

Councilmember Ervin made a motion to adopt the agenda for the meeting, followed by a second from Councilmember Gillespie. The vote was unanimous.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ryan Mefford and Tim Cook had concerns with a builder in Lauren Woods neighborhood and the Police Department's response to the problems.

Larry Simonds questioned if the builder in Lauren Woods had a building permit for work being done in Lauren Woods.

Lisa Mefford was concerned with people speeding around town.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. January 8, 2019 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Ervin made a motion to approve the January 8, 2019 meeting minutes, followed by a second from Councilmember Gillespie. The vote was unanimous.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proclamation to Recognize February as Black History Month in the City of Lowell

Councilmember Ervin made a motion to approve the proclamation to recognize February as Black History Month in the City of Lowell, followed by a second from Councilmember Funderburk. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Railey read the proclamation to the citizens.

B. Discussion and Possible Action to Set Public Hearing for March 11, 2019 to Consider an Amendment to the City Charter

Kevin Krouse explained that a public hearing would need to be set to consider an amendment to the City Charter changing the terms to four years for the City Council and Mayor.

Councilmember Ervin made a motion to move forward with setting the Public Hearing, followed by a second from Councilmember Bonham. The vote was unanimous.

C. Discussion of Historical Marker Project in the Joe Hudson Park Area

Councilmember Gillespie discussed the possibilities of a historical marker project for the Joe Hudson park area.

Councilmember Gillespie made a motion to refer this project to the CIA committee, followed by a second from Councilmember Funderburk. The vote was unanimous.

D. Discussion of Fall Festival and Light Up Lowell Location in Downtown

There was discussion between Council members regarding the locations in downtown for the Fall Festival and Light Up Lowell Festival. Whether they should remain where they are now or move them to Harold Rankin Park.

Chief Bates addressed the Treat Walk and his safety concerns for the parents and children. He and Cristy Cumming felt the Treat Walk should not cross so many intersections in the future and be routed on one side of the road.

VII. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Jim Windham did not have anything to report.

VIII. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Kevin Krouse gave updates on the following items:

- African American Museum and Cultural Center opening soon in Loray Mills.
- Recycling Center opening March 12. Hours of operation will be Tues & Thurs 12-6pm, Sat 10-6pm.
- Reminder for March 15 budget workshop.
- Upcoming newsletter.

Scott Attaway stated the City has received development site plans from Classic Volkswagen, Lowell Woods Subdivision, and True Homes.

IX. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL GENERAL DISCUSSION

Councilmember Ervin thanked staff for the jobs they are doing. He also authorized the City Manager to start gathering information on new signage for the City of Lowell.

Councilmember Chitwood commented on the citizens' concerns regarding Lauren Woods and stated he felt the Lowell Police Department does a good job with the number of officers they currently have in place.

Councilmember Funderburk asked for updates on the following items: Volunteer dinner; Community Center updates; Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Boys & Girls Club; and a street light at W First St & Phillips St. She also would like to see a hiring contract or agreement put in place for future police officers in Lowell.

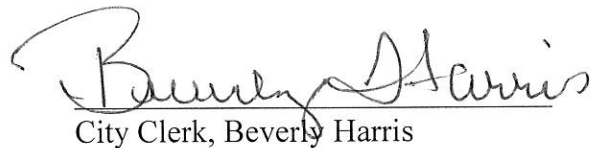
Mayor Railey thanked the citizens for coming to the meeting. She stated she would like to see the Lowell Police Department to be more aggressive with ticketing speeders.

X. ADJOURN

Councilmember Ervin made a motion to adjourn the meeting, followed by a second from Councilmember Chitwood. The vote was unanimous. The meeting ended at 8:15 pm.



Mayor, Sandy Railey



City Clerk, Beverly Harris