

# MINUTES

Lowell City Council  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, April 10, 2017

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sandy Railey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those attending were Councilmember Ken Ervin, Councilmember Candy Funderburk, Councilmember Thomas Gillespie, Councilmember Sam Mitchem Jr., Councilmember Shane Robinson, City Manager Kevin Krouse, City Clerk Beverly Harris, Financial Officer Kevin Haney, Public Works Director Thomas Shrewsbury, Police Chief Scott Bates, and various citizens.

## II. INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Gillespie led the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

## III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

## IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Cato stated his concern for the City Manager's decision to stop funding the Parks & Recreation team's extra-curricular activities like trophies and end-of-season banquets. The City Manager stated these items should be self-funded by the parents. Yvette Broussard stated the mothers of the team members are going to start a Fund-Raising Committee to handle funding these activities going forward.

Pete Aggerwal stated the New Business Spotlight in the newsletter is not fair to all businesses in Lowell. The Council made the decision to table this item after discussion with the Lowell Merchants Association.

## V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### A. Approval of Minutes from the March 13, 2017 City Council Meeting

Councilmember Mitchem made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 13, 2017 Council meeting, followed by a second from Councilmember Ervin. The vote was unanimous.

## VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### A. Update on River Falls Subdivision

Kevin Krouse gave Council an update on the River Falls Subdivision. He stated at the next meeting in May, the final plat will be submitted to Council for review.

B. Discussion of Township Grant Project Options

Kevin Krouse gave Council three different options to consider for the Township Grant funding: Updates to the Community Center; downtown cross walk stamping; and paving the parking lot at Harold Rankin Park. After further discussion, the Council asked staff to explore getting a quote from Shelby Asphalt for paving the Harold Rankin Park parking lot.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Arbor Day Proclamation

Kevin Krouse stated one of the requirements to apply for NC Forestry Grant funding in the future, the City of Lowell would need to be designated in the Tree City USA program. He also stated in order to move forward in this direction, staff recommended approval of a Proclamation to declare April 28 as Arbor Day in the City of Lowell.

Councilmember Ervin made a motion to approve the Arbor Day Proclamation, followed by a second from Councilmember Funderburk. The vote was unanimous.

B. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve a Façade Grant for Allure Salon; 122 E. First St.

Kevin Krouse stated Allure Salon has submitted a façade grant request for 122 E. First Street. Mr. Krouse also stated the Master Planning Committee recommended approval for the City of Lowell to pay half of the cost of the awning.

Councilmember Robinson made a motion to approve the façade grant in the amount of \$1,330 for Allure Salon, followed by a second from Councilmember Funderburk. The vote was unanimous.

C. Discussion of Stormwater Program and Funding

Kevin Krouse stated the City of Lowell is currently operating under a Stormwater Phase II permit. He stated the permit requires the city to implement several programs as well as submit annual reporting to verify the City of Lowell is meeting the EPA requirements. He stated staff recommends a stormwater fee to generate revenue to implement the program requirements. Failure to implement the stormwater permit may result in hefty fines from the EPA.

Councilmember Robinson made a motion to table this item until the rate study is completed, followed by a second from Councilmember Funderburk. The vote was unanimous.

## VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A. Freedom Festival Update

Gail Boyles gave an update on the planning for the upcoming Freedom Festival.

### B. Master Planning Committee Update

Kevin Krouse stated the Master Planning Committee had discussed interest in a possible mural on the back of the Police Department in Lowell. The Council directed staff to have the Master Planning Committee investigate further.

## IX. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

The City Attorney was not present at the meeting.

## X. CITY MANAGER REPORT

The City Manager didn't have anything new to report.

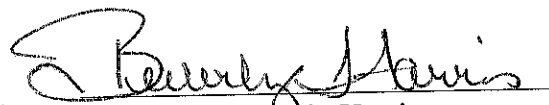
## XI. MAYOR AND COUNCIL GENERAL DISCUSSION

Councilmember Funderburk inquired about the Code Enforcement program.  
Councilmember Robinson inquired about property tax figures and items in the Utility Billing Policy.  
Councilmember Ervin stated he would be working with citizens to form a Veteran's Club and the Council would need to approve any consecutive use of the Community Center for their meetings in the future.  
Mayor Railey thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and supporting the City of Lowell.

## XII. ADJOURN

Councilmember Funderburk made a motion to adjourn the meeting, followed by a second from Councilmember Gillespie. The vote was unanimous. The meeting ended at 8:33 pm.

  
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Mayor, Sandy Railey

  
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City Clerk, Beverly Harris