



Lowell City Council

Environment & Flood SC

Michael Q. Geary
City Clerk

Date: October 23, 2018
Time: 5:30 PM
Location: City Council Chamber
Lowell City Hall, Lowell, Ma.

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were Chairperson, C. Cirillo and C. Kennedy. 1 absent (C. Elliott)

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Cirillo called the meeting to order.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

C. Cirillo noted the impact on the environment by discarded plastic straws and commented on negative effect plastic has on the environment and wildlife. Meeting was open to public: Andrew Kollar and Geoffrey Koetsch addressed the body. Mr. Kollar noted he was speaking as an individual and not a member of the Sustainability Council in Lowell. Mr. Kollar outlined following issues regarding plastic straws and banning them: 1. Banning straws is more symbolic as they are not a major pollutant; 2. Exemption should be in place for medical use of straws; 3. Fines should be reasonable; and 4. Note effect on local business. Mr. Koetsch noted that the focus should be controlling plastic pollution crisis and that there needs to be a new way to produce items as well as a change in how people use items. C. Kennedy recommended that approach at this point should be educational with an eye to discouraging use of plastic straws. **Motion** by C. Cirillo, seconded by C. Kennedy to refer to DPD to develop a program designed to discourage the use of plastic straws in the City. Adopted per Roll Call vote 2 years, 1 absent (C. Elliott). So voted.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by C. Kennedy, seconded by C. Cirillo. So Voted.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM

Michael Q. Geary, City Clerk