



Lowell City Council

Neighborhoods SC

Michael Q. Geary
City Clerk

JOINT WITH FINANCE SC

Date: May 6, 2025
Time: 5:30 PM
Location: City Council Chamber, City Hall, Lowell, Ma. / Zoom

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were C. Gitschier, C. Belanger and C. Jenness (Neighborhoods SC); C. Scott, C. Descoteaux, C. Jenness (Finance SC). Others present were C. Mercier, C. Nuon, C. Yem, Yovani Baez-Rose (DPD), Conor Baldwin (CFO), Austin Ball (Asst. CFO) and Dylan Ricker (DPD)

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

C. Gitschier called the meeting to order noting those in attendance and agenda items regarding Community Preservation Act (CPA) surcharge changes and funding recommendations.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Ms. Baez-Rose reported on the funding recommendations and noted that there were no applicants for open space funding. Ms. Baez-Rose provided information on following project who were recommended for funding:

Housing Projects: 138 Cross Street (\$220,000); Mass Mills IV (\$125,000); Suffolk Place (\$200,000); and East End Club (\$20,000). C. Descoteaux questioned reduction of requested amount for the East End Project. Ms. Baez-Rose noted that there were improper requests. C. Belanger commented on Suffolk Place and the importance of the project and questioned how buyers are selected.

Historic Preservation: Turbine Building (\$125,000); 573-579 Lawrence Street (\$59,000); St. Anne's (\$256,000); Wannalancit Mills (\$96,500); 484 Merrimack (\$200,000); and 32 Bridge Street (\$75,000). C. Descoteaux questioned location of 32 Bridge Street. Patrick Tighe (New Royal, LLC) provided presentation regarding development of 484 Merrimack Street outlining process and benefits to the community. C. Scott noted approval of all projects and the efforts of the commission. C. Yem noted the projects and were located in the Acre. C. Mercier noted the efforts of the commission to vet the



projects and make recommendations, commenting on the use of taxpayer funds.

Motion by C. Scott, seconded by C. Jenness to recommend approval of funding for each project to full Council for approval. Adopted per Roll Call vote 5 yeas (C. Scott, C. Descoteaux, C. Belanger, C. Jenness, C. Gitschier). So voted. C. Descoteaux noted that the funds had been exhausted except for open space applicants. C. Belanger noted more open space funding would be available next round and recognized the developers for their involvement. C. Robinson noted that there is plenty of projects for open space funding.

The second item of proposed surcharge changes were introduced by C. Gitschier. C. Nuon outlined the reason for his motion regarding possible changes. C. Scott noted that there were options for changes. Mr. Baldwin outlined the options available and effect using different percentages. Mr. Baldwin noted that any changes would need Council approval and a referendum by voters. **Motion** by C. Scott, seconded by Jenness to provide report to full Council with referral to proper subcommittee. So voted.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to Adjourn by C. Scott seconded by C. Jenness. So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Michael Q. Geary, City Clerk
