



Lowell City Council

Neighborhoods SC

Michael Q. Geary
City Clerk

Date: March 6, 2023
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: Dom Polski Club, 10 Coburn Street, Lowell, Ma.

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were C. Mercier, C. Gitschier, and C. Jenness. Others present were C. Robinson, C. Nuon, Jack Sheehan (LPD) and Letecia Marquez (Neighborhood Liaison).

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

C. Mercier called the meeting to order noting those in attendance.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

The items for discussion were put forward by the Centralville Neighborhood Action Group (CNAG) chaired by George Procope. The Lowell Police Department provided and incident report covering last thirty days.

Discussion regarding condition of the City streets and general areas as being substandard especially regarding potholes. C. Mercier commented generally on the condition. C. Gitschier noted that sealing will prevent pothole issues and that the Engineer's Department would handle the sealing of streets. C. Gitschier noted the trash pickup was delayed due to weather and that was noted through the City app and website.

Discussion regarding zoning issues and Zoning Board of Appeals issuing so many variances. C. Robinson commented on those decisions and that development will happen in the City but it must be the right kind of development. Discussion regarding St. Louis property was opened noting people were not represented fully regarding same. C. Robinson noted that development was well vetted and the final project would suit the area.

Discussion regarding parking of commercial vehicles on City streets was opened noting the issue with violations and enforcement. C. Mercier noted ordinances are useless unless enforced. C. Gitschier noted nuances of the laws and ordinances commenting



that applies to vehicles over 12,000 pounds. Discussion regarding parking turned towards parking close to intersections. C. Gitschier noted the way to get to extent of the issue is to request how many violations have been issued.

Discussion of speeding and traffic calming measures was brought forward. C. Jenness outlined new ordinance regarding speed limit in the City dropping to 25MPH and how that will be brought forward. C. Jenness noted regarding loudness of mufflers in the City that the police will be equipped with sound meters to monitor the situation. C. Gitschier noted that different areas in the City will have speed bump program C. Jenness commented on the engineering needed for speed bumps and that rubber bumps would be best equipment. C. Robinson noted traffic calming measures are studied then implemented if prove to be successful. C. Gitschier noted street lining is being done which will assist with reducing speeding as well as giving a cleaner appearance.

Discussion of McPherson Park ensued noting the issue of parking during the many events held there as well as cleanliness of the area. C. Gitschier noted the costs of permits is not covering the cost of the use and maintenance needed in the parks.

C. Nuon noted there are many issues in running a City and they are addressed over time and that the use of ARPA funds will enhance the process. C. Nuon noted work of Public Safety SC in establishing new speed limit. C. Mercier noted her support of Manager Golden, Jr. C. Gitschier noted the requirement of CDL licenses will assist with work force as well as an increase in pay. C. Mercier noted the role of a subcommittee is to report to full Council and the Manager. C. Gitschier noted information he receives are part of motion request to the City Manager. C. Robinson noted compensation adjustments and some reorganization will add to efficiency. C. Robinson noted means to report violations on absentee landlords.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Michael Q. Geary, City Clerk
