



# Lowell City Council

Michael Q. Geary  
City Clerk

## *Neighborhoods SC Joint with Public Safety SC Minutes*

**Date:** May 17, 2022  
**Time:** 5:30 PM  
**Location:** Council Chamber, City Hall / Zoom(Hybrid)

### **PRESENT:**

Present on Roll Call were for Neighborhoods SC members C. Mercier, C. Gitschier, and C. Jenness; present on Roll Call for Public Safety SC were C. Nuon; 2 absent (C. Rourke, C. Scott). Others present were Acting Supt. Barry Golner (LPD); Maryann Manzi; C. Yem; and Capt. Michael Kilmartin (LPD).

### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

C. Mercier called the meeting to order noting those in attendance and the discussion regarding back Central Street neighborhood.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

C. Mercier noted the motion of C. Jenness and the detailed motion response from the police. C. Mercier commented on prior incident in the area when a monument and flag were vandalized and outlined the efforts of the City to repair same. C. Mercier commented on issue in the Cherry Street area. C. Gitschier commented on the efforts of the police and the corrective action taken and noted that there are many areas in the City affected in a similar manner. C. Jenness noted that the actions have made a difference in the area but there is a need for constant attention. C. Jenness recognized the report and commented on future plans. Acting Supt. Golner updated statistics and outlined policing the area. Acting Supt. Golner detailed current arrests in the area; assistance of Middlesex Sherriff's Mobile Unit; use of grant funding; shifting of patrols; and communication with neighbors. Capt. Kilmartin noted agencies offer services in that area and the conflicts with their efforts. Capt. Kilmartin commented on a vacant property at 32 Union Street which is a major attraction for the group. C. Mercier noted how vacant properties destroy neighborhoods and they should be dealt with quickly. Acting Supt. Golner noted property had be cleared prior but is back in disrepair and has been vacant for decades. Acting Supt. Golner noted that the vacant Superior Court House has also become an attraction and that they should put lighting up to deter use. Acting Supt. Golner also noted that reorganizing the task force that combed



neighborhoods for issues would be a benefit. C. Mercier noted the various neighborhood groups are always available to assist. C. Noun commented on the report and areas need to be addressed and noted it was an ongoing process. C. Gitschier noted that police precincts in the area are useful if there is a big physical presence. Acting Supt. Golner noted preliminary discussions with the Lowell Housing Authority regarding use of space for that purpose. C. Mercier was informed that the City has a fully operational gang unit. C. Gitschier noted other pressing issues in the neighborhoods which include fireworks and the use of dirt bikes. C. Mercier lauded the efforts of the CO-OP Team. C. Mercier opened meeting up to public and Mr. Keith Rudy addressed the body. **Motion** by C. Jenness, seconded by C. Gitschier to address the maintenance issues at 32 Union Street. Adopted per Roll Call vote, 3 yeas. So voted.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:22 PM.

Michael Q. Geary, City Clerk

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