



# Lowell City Council

## *Zoning SC Meeting Minutes*

Michael Q. Geary  
City Clerk

**Date:** May 22, 2018  
**Time:** 5:30 PM  
**Location:** City Council Chamber  
375 Merrimack Street, 2nd Floor, Lowell, MA

### **PRESENT:**

Present on Roll Call were Chairman Milinazzo, C. Nuon and C. Kennedy. Also present were Eric Slagle (Inspectional Services), Gary Gordon (Asst. City Solicitor), Manager Donoghue, C. Elliott, M. Samaras, C. Conway, C. Mercier, and C. Cirillo.

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

Chairman Milinazzo called the meeting to order at 5:00PM in the Council Chamber and recognized various neighborhood groups.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

Mr. Slagle referenced handouts which summarized the remaining items from the department towards amending various ordinances: 1) Accessory Dwelling Unit, Microbusiness, and Tourist Homes; 2) Air BNB regulations; 3) Definition of "Boarding Houses" and "Family" – State Statutes. C. Kennedy noted there is an attempt to resolve issue of investors coming into City and changing character of neighborhoods and a way to do that is to prevent them from being in single family home districts. Atty. Gordon noted that they would research to see if an ordinance can be more stringent than a state law. C. Kennedy noted the issue is the renting of rooms as opposed to entire dwellings. Mr. Slagle noted his department receives many complaints around this issue. C. Kennedy commented that an in-law apartment should be revoked once the reason for such an apartment no longer exists. Mr. Slagle noted in-law apartments per se are not allowed under the Code. C. Kennedy questioned if ordinance focusing on enforcement were necessary. C. Nuon noted that there is a current list of all boarding houses in City. C. Elliott noted it was a significant problem and commented that as UML expanded it put more housing pressure on the City. C. Elliott noted rental units are regularly inspected by the City. C. Cirillo noted that as UML grew the City did not keep up with their responsibility and now the City needs to make adjustments and be proactive. Meeting was opened to public and following addressed the body: Deb Forgione; John Hamblet; Ann



Marie Page; Jim O'Brien and Tom Flynn. C. Milinazzo noted ordinance changes are first step in resolving issues and moving towards restrictions. Mr. Slagle noted current ordinances addresses different issues. C. Milinazzo noted the use of US Mail as an investigative tool for people living at certain addresses. **Motion** by C. Kennedy, seconded by C. Noun to request City Manager have Law Dept., Inspectional Services and DPD develop an ordinance that will prevent Boarding Houses (Stealth Dorms) and In-Law apartments from being allowed in single family zoning districts as well as addressing any parking issues around these developments. Adopted per Roll Call vote, 3 yeas. So voted. C. Milinazzo commented on future Zoning SC meetings.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion** to adjourn by C. Kennedy, seconded by C. Milinazzo. So Voted.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30PM

Michael Geary, City Clerk