



Lowell City Council

Economic/Downtown Dev. SC

Michael Q. Geary
City Clerk

Date: May 25, 2021
Time: 5:00 PM
Location: City Council Chamber/Zoom

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were Chairman Elliott, C. Drinkwater and C. Chau. Also present Manager Donoghue, C. Nuon, C. Conway, C. Rourke, C. Mercier, Christopher Hayes (DPD) and Christine McCall (DPD).

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairman Elliott called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM noting motions referred to subcommittee.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

C. Elliott noted that there would be a presentation before the body regarding boathouse proposal on Merrimack River. Ms. McCall noted that Mr. Hayes would be making the presentation. Mr. Hayes made following presentation entitled "Merrimack River Boathouse DPD Proposal" which discussed following items; goals, current water recreation, issues with lot size and location, rowing club needs, proposed solutions, alternatives analysis, about site located at 1190 Pawtucket Blvd., possible site plan and renderings. Mr. Hayes noted the project was open to all bidders. C. Elliott noted excitement about the proposal and possible development. C. Elliott noted it was open to public bid process and that there were issues to be addressed which include parking and traffic issues in the neighborhood. C. Elliott noted it was a proactive approach to shape the waterfront. C. Chau noted it was a good presentation which would enhance a valuable asset in the City which is the river. C. Chau was interested in partnerships to develop the area. C. Conway noted the opportunity to develop the site as it is a unique parcel. C. Conway noted public bidding process and the chance for community to be involved with resolving any issues. C. Mercier noted proposal adds to recreation in the City and questioned process moving forward. C. Elliott outlined possible process. Mr. Hayes commented on UMass-Lowell Boathouse operations and possible development of plans. C. Rourke noted proposal would enhance the area and that City could benefit with revenue from sale of land and from collection of taxes. C. Rourke noted concern for safety on river and



congestion. Manager Donoghue requested Council feedback and noted it would be developed for the best interest of the City. Manager Donoghue noted land could be transferred with conditions attached. **Motion** by C. Drinkwater, seconded by C. Chau to recommend to Council support and moving forward on the proposal. Adopted per Roll Call vote 3 yeas. So voted.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by C. Chau, seconded by C. Drinkwater "To Adjourn". So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.

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