



Lowell City Council

Finance SC Minutes

Michael Q. Geary
City Clerk

Date: August 9, 2023
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: City Council Chamber, City Hall / Zoom(Hybrid)

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were C. Scott and C. Gitschier, 1 absent (C. Robinson). Also present Conor Baldwin (CFO); Austin Ball (Asst. CFO); and Terry Ryan (Parking)

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

C. Scott called the meeting to order noting those in attendance and agenda items.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

C. Scott introduced Mr. Baldwin who made presentation entitled "Garage Enterprise Fund – Discussion RE: Proposed Changes To Ordinance Regarding Parking Rates And Fines". Mr. Baldwin provided a history and update of the ordinance and the needs to address concerns. Mr. Baldwin outlined FY23 Budget and the concerns it raised regarding the revenues to the fund and that it will not be able to sustain itself after next year; thereby turning to the tax levy. Mr. Baldwin provided budget forecasts and comparisons to other communities. Mr. Baldwin outlined the revised proposals pass cards, group billing, downtown resident billing, senior rates, disability rates and LHS student parking rates. Mr. Baldwin outlined the benefits of dynamic pricing on the street and in the garages and further commented on new kiosks in the City. C. Scott commented on dynamic pricing and increasing revenue streams. Mr. Ryan noted that the new kiosks will increase revenue. C. Gitschier noted that enforcement will increase revenue as well noting he was not in favor of raising rates. C. Gitschier noted the need to restructure the placard program and increase cost for on-street parking so that downtown garages are not being unfairly burden. C. Jenness noted that the downtown residents have sustained burden over past years due to Covid and that it would not be fair for them to burden most of the proposed increases. C. Jenness favored the concept of dynamic pricing. Mr. Baldwin noted that each garage could have different rates based on dynamic pricing. Mr. Ryan outlined new program proposals; including following: residential stickers, student, visitors, landlord, contractor, residential, commercial vehicle, health visit and day pass. C. Scott commented on



residents without driveways. C. Gitschier noted priority is to use the driveway and noted that the number of placards will decrease if fees are raised. C. Gitschier questioned if the LPD tracks calls regarding sticker violations. **Motion** by C. Gitschier, seconded by C. Scott to begin implementation of the off-street sticker parking program. So voted.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to Adjourn by C. Scott, seconded by C. Gitschier. So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Michael Q. Geary, City Clerk
