



# Lowell City Council

## *Environment & Flood SC*

Michael Q. Geary  
City Clerk

**Date:** October 2, 2018  
**Time:** 5:30 PM  
**Location:** City Council Chamber  
Lowell City Hall, Lowell, Ma.

### **PRESENT:**

Present on Roll Call were Chairperson, C. Cirillo, C. Kennedy and C. Elliott. Also present were C. Leahy, Craig Thomas (DPD), M. Samaras, C. Mercier and C. Conway.

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

Chairperson Cirillo called the meeting to order.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

C. Mercier noted that the Sustainability Council would be making a presentation regarding solar energy. Jay Mason (Chair- Sustainability Council) made the following presentation entitled "Solarize Lowell Presentation". Mr. Mason recognized other members involved in making and featuring the presentation as Mikaela McCarthy, Cormac McCarthy and James (rep of solar vendor Revision). Ms. McCarthy provided overview of program which was aided by Mass Clean Energy Center grant and volunteer efforts. The program outlines the attempt to increase the use of solar power in the City; goals (educate, simplify process and highlight benefits), program benefits (savings, reusable energy), Solarize Plus (Lowell Plan savings), partners, volunteers, time frames and solar incentives (tax benefits and production of renewable energy). C. Elliott question equipment that is being used. James noted units are much more efficient machines that heat and cool and he also outlined application procedure. Mr. Mason noted the vendor, Revision, was selected to run program and he outlined the selection process as well as noting many discounts available to consumers. Mr. McCarthy commented on team formed to move project forward and the savings to the consumers. C. Elliott questioned the difference between Solarize Plan and Solarize Plus Plan. Ms. McCarthy noted the plus plan included equipment beyond just panels. Mr. McCarthy commented on state and federal tax credits. Ms. McCarthy noted that there can be several rounds to the program being presented to the community. C. Kennedy questioned the number of rounds as well as spacing the rounds. Mr. Mason noted incentives are much greater during first round. C. Cirillo questioned the number of individuals



signed up for the program. Mr. McCarthy outlined the statistics and the efforts being done to increase enrollment. James provided cost example of an average home in the City. C. Elliott questioned the number of panels that would be needed. C. Kennedy questioned the dimension of the solar panels. James noted that system would pay for itself in four years with credits and discounts and that system is warranted for twenty-five years. C. Cirillo questioned the time needed for installation. C. Kennedy questioned ownership of the panels and if they can go beyond single family homes. James noted that they are not leased but are owned and that they can be used in any home as well as commercially. C. Kennedy questioned marketing efforts. Mr. Mason commented on the effort and the partners involved. C. Kennedy recommended use of the City website and mass mailing to assist with marketing efforts. C. Leahy questioned status of roof that would be needed, pump needs and associated costs. C. Elliott questioned commercial use of the units and maintenance of the units. C. Cirillo questioned protection of the units on the roof.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM

Michael Q. Geary, City Clerk