



Lowell City Council

Municipal Facilities SC Joint with Lowell School Committee Facilities SC Minutes

Michael Q. Geary
City Clerk

Date: October 9, 2018
Time: 5:30 PM
Location: 375 Merrimack Street, 2nd Floor, Lowell, MA

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were C. Leahy, C. Cirillo, C. Kennedy, SC Doherty, SC Hoey and SC Nutter. Also present were Chief Winward (LFD), James Donilson (DPW), Conor Baldwin (CFO), Heather Varney (Asst. Finance), SC Descouteaux, Supt. Durkin (Lowell Schools), SC Ley, C. Milinazzo, C. Elliott, C. Mercier, Rick Underwood (Lowell Schools), C. Nuon, Manager Donoghue, C. Conway and Jim Green (DPW).

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

C. Leahy called the meeting to order.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

SC Doherty noted the number of work orders as well as a list of priorities developed by the principals in each of the schools. SC Doherty noted the need to present a team effort to address the needs including the fire safety needs in each building. Supt. Durkin noted the needs of the schools in the system along with needs of other municipal buildings that the City has charge over. C. Leahy commented on the Collins Center Study and the need for a team effort approach to resolve those issues outlined. C. Kennedy noted the need to focus on three areas: schedule priorities; reorganize current system and use MSBA funding to assist with any repairs. C. Cirillo commented on the need to have a continued maintenance of effort program. C. Leahy suggested having a dedicated employee to move forward to address noted issues. SC Hoey commented on the history of maintenance in the schools and stated that the DPW and Rick Underwood need coordination of effort. SC Nutter noted the priority must be student and teacher safety. Manager Donoghue noted that Department of Justice grant of \$400,000 over two years was awarded to the City for safe schools. Supt. Durkin commented on the use of the grant money. Manager Donoghue noted the need to utilize the MSBA as well as establishing new protocols for school maintenance. C Leahy noted many issues are not large issues but there are a number of them that need attention. Mr. Underwood commented on the working



process and the lack of manpower. Mr. Green noted the number of shifts that are used by the DPW. SC Hoey commented on timing of workers' shifts. Mr. Underwood commented on existing heat issues in the buildings. C. Kennedy noted the heating failures and questioned the plan to correct them. Mr. Green noted it was contract work and that they would be done within a week. Mr. Underwood noted that all schools have operational sprinkler systems. Mr. Donilson noted 1300 work orders and commented the need to review those orders to see if they are closed or if they go beyond scope to become a project as opposed to a maintenance issue. Mr. Donilson noted the DPW covers all buildings in the City not just the schools. C. Leahy noted the need to review how the staff is being used. C. Cirillo suggested co-op hiring and the use of the vocational school. SC Nutter noted the need to identify the issues and pursue funding from the MSBA. C. Leahy noted some items could be cleared by simple shift in time management. C. Kennedy noted the need to reorganize effort and how system operates and that these issues are not unique to Lowell. **Motion** by C. Kennedy, seconded by C. Cirillo to have City Manager work with school administration and DPW to reorganize departments to increase effectiveness of maintaining school buildings in the City. So vote. Manager Donoghue noted the weekly meetings being held by collectively by the departments and informed the body that there is a consultant reviewing the Collins Center Report to prioritize the work as well as assessing cost to it. SC Doherty noted the lines of communication must remain open.

C. Leahy questioned the status of the fire stations in the City as well as the installation of new washer extractors in the stations. Chief Winward provided status to the washer installations noting they were close to finishing all installations. Mr. Donilson commented on status of roof at Old Ferry Road firehouse. C. Leahy noted the need to move fire prevention out of its current location to a more suitable building.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to recess and adjourn by C. Kennedy, seconded by C. Cirillo. So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

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