



## Lowell City Council *Regular Meeting Agenda*

**Date:** August 22, 2023

**Time:** 6:30 PM

**Location:** City Council Chamber, 375 Merrimack Street, 2nd Floor, Lowell, MA / Zoom (Hybrid)

### 1. ROLL CALL

### 2. MAYOR'S BUSINESS

#### 2.1. Communication Remote/Zoom Participation:

Meetings Will Be Held In Council Chamber With Public Welcome And By Using Remote Participation As Follows: Members Of The Public May View The Meeting Via LTC.Org (On-Line; Live Streaming; Or Local Cable Channel 6). Those Wishing To Speak Regarding A Specific Agenda Item Shall Register To Speak In Advance Of The Meeting By Sending Email To City Clerk Indicating The Agenda Item And A Phone Number To Call So That You May Be Issued Zoom Link To The Meeting. Email Address Is [MGEARY@LOWELLMMA.GOV](mailto:MGEARY@LOWELLMMA.GOV). If No Access To Email You May Contact City Clerk At 978-674-4161. All Request Must Be Done Before 4:00 PM On The Day Of Meeting. For Zoom - [HTTPS://SUPPORT.ZOOM.US/HC/EN-US/ARTICLES/201362193-JOINING-A-MEETING](https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-joining-a-meeting)

2.2. Proclamation - Opioid Awareness Day - August 31, 2023.

2.3. Citation - Megan House Foundation.

2.4. Introduction - Selepak Khmer And Angkor Dance Troupe.

### 3. CITY CLERK

3.1. Minutes Of City Council Meeting July 25th Continued To August 8th; City Council Finance SC August 9th, For Acceptance.

Documents:

[2023 JULY 25 AUGUST 8 CC M INUTES1 \(1\).PDF](#)  
[2023 AUGUST 9 FIN SC MINUTES.PDF](#)

## 4. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY MANAGER

### 4.1. MOTION RESPONSES

Motion Responses:

- A. Motion Response - City Real Estate Portfolio and Surplus Properties (WITH ATTACHMENT)
- B. Motion Response - Superior Courthouse and Restorative Center
- C. Motion Response - Plan for Enforcement of Chapter 176-2 (WITH ATTACHMENT)
- D. Motion Response - Non-Union Contracts on City Website
- E. Motion Response - Bookmobile Launch Update
- F. Motion Response - Boards and Commissions Associate Membership
- G. Motion Response - Letter of Support for the Veterans Equal Access Act
- H. Motion Response - Financial Status Update on the Residential Trash Program

Documents:

- (A) MOTION RESPONSE - CITY REAL ESTATE PORTFOLIO AND SURPLUS PROPRERTIES (WITH ATTACHMENT).PDF
- (B) MOTION RESPONSE - SUPERIOR COURTHOUSE AND RESTORATIVE CENTER.PDF
- (C) MOTION RESPONSE - PLAN FOR ENFORCEMENT OF CHAPTER 176-2 (WITH ATTACHMENT).PDF
- (D) MOTION RESPONSE - NON-UNION CONTRACTS ON CITY WEBSITE.PDF
- (E) MOTION RESPONSE - BOOKMOBILE LAUNCH UPDATE.PDF
- (F) MOTION RESPONSE - BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP.PDF
- (G) MOTION RESPONSE - LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE VETERANS EQUAL ACCESS ACT.PDF
- (H) MOTION RESPONSE - FINANCIAL STATUS UPDATE ON THE RESIDENTIAL TRASH PROGRAM.PDF

### 4.2. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Informational Reports

- A. Informational Report - Lowell Forward Housing Production Plan Update (NMCOG)
- B. Informational Report - LRWWU Sewer System Smoke Testing

## Program

### Documents:

- (A) INFORMATIONAL REPORT - LOWELL FORWARD HOUSING PRODUCTION PLAN UPDATE (NMCOG).PDF
- (B) INFORMATIONAL REPORT - LRWWU SEWER SYSTEM SMOKE TESTING PROGRAM.PDF

### 4.3. PETITION RESPONSES

#### Petition Responses:

- A. Petition Response from DPD - Business Request for Exclusive Parking Rights - Petition dtd. 5-9-2023

### Documents:

- PETITION RESPONSE - BUSINESS REQUEST FOR EXCLUSIVE PARKING RIGHTS - PETITION DTD. 5-9-2023.PDF

### 4.4. Communication - Reappointment Of Kerry Jenness To Historic Board

#### Documents:

- COMMUNICATION - REAPPOINTMENT OF KERRY JENNESS TO HISTORIC BOARD.PDF

### 4.5. Communication - City Manager Request Out Of State Travel (2) LPD.

#### Documents:

- 2023 AUGUST 22 2 OST LPD.PDF

## 5. **VOTES FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

### 5.1. Vote - Accept/Expend \$75,000 MCC Grant - LMA

#### Documents:

- VOTE - ACCEPTEXPEND 75,000 MCC GRANT - LMA.PDF

### 5.2. Vote - Authorize CM Confirm A 3 Year 4 Month Contact With UpNext LLC

#### Documents:

- VOTE - AUTHORIZE CM CONFIRM A 3 YEAR 4 MONTH CONTACT WITH UPNEXT LLC.PDF

### 5.3. Vote - Authorize CM To File Special Legislation

#### Documents:

[VOTE - AUTHORIZE CM TO FILE SPECIAL LEGISLATION.PDF](#)

5.4. Vote - Transfer \$102,000 - Elections

Documents:

[VOTE - TRANSFER 102,000 - ELECTIONS.PDF](#)

5.5. Vote - Transfer \$60,000 - Cemetery

Documents:

[VOTE - TRANSFER 60,000 - CEMETERY.PDF](#)

**6. CONSTABLE BONDS**

6.1. Communication - City Mgr. Request Approval Of Constable Bond For Jason Burke.

Documents:

[2023 AUGUST 22 CONST BOND BURKE.PDF](#)

**7. REPORTS (SUB/COMMITTEE, IF ANY)**

**8. PETITIONS**

8.1. Claims - (3) Property Damage; (1) Personal Injury.

8.2. Misc. - Norma Von Fricken Request Discussion Regarding Model City.

Documents:

[2023 AUGUST 22 VAN FRICKEN MODEL CITY.PDF](#)

8.3. Misc. - Michael Tembo (Lady Maria Hair Design) Request Removal Of "15 Minute" Parking Sign At 688 Merrimack Street (Brothers Pizza).

Documents:

[2023 AUGUST 22 MICHAEL TEMBO C\\_O LADY MARIE HAIR DESIGN REQ REMOVAL OF 15 IN PARKING SIGN LOCATED 688 MERRIMACK ST.PDF](#)

8.4. Misc. - A.G. Hutchinson Request Discussion Regarding Soliciting, City Buildings And Police Response.

Documents:

[2023 AUG 22 A.G. HUTCHINSON REQ TO ADDRESS CC RE CANVASSING-SOLICITING, RENOVATION OF CITY BLDGS, POLICE RESPONSE.PDF](#)

- 8.5. Misc. - Ken Harkins Request Discussion Regarding Budget, Cemetery, Mark One And Homelessness.

Documents:

[2023 AUGUST 22 HARKINS BUDGET CEMETARY ETC.PDF](#)

- 8.6. Misc. - Elizabeth Patino Request Installation Of A Handicap Parking Sign At 239 School Street (Apt. 2).

Documents:

[2023 AUGUST 22 ELIZABETH PATINO REQ HP SIGN 239 SCHOOL ST.PDF](#)

- 8.7. National Grid - Request Installation Of Handhole And Underground Conduit At Appleton And Gorham Streets.

Documents:

[2023 AUGUST 22 NATL GRID HANDHOLE CONDUIT APPLETON AGENDA.PDF](#)

- 8.8. Boston Gas D/B/A National Grid - Request Installation Of Concrete Pad (Support SCADA Box) And Conduit At Intersection Of Bradley Street And 1st Street.

Documents:

[2023 AUGUST 22 BOST GAS DBA NAT GRID PAD AND CONDUIT BRADLEY ST AGENDA.PDF](#)

## **9. CITY COUNCIL - MOTIONS**

- 9.1. C. Gitschier - Req. City Mgr. Provide The City Council With The Police Department Policy On Driving To Endanger Unregistered, Off-Road Vehicles And Bicycles In The Roadways.
- 9.2. C. Gitschier - Req. City Mgr. Update The City Council On The Status Of The Computers In Police Vehicles And Precincts Since The Cyber-Attack.
- 9.3. C. Rourke - Req. City Mgr. Contact The State Delegation And MassDOT Concerning Landscaping Along Riverside Street; Varnum Avenue; And Pawtucket Boulevard (Rt. 113 Highway).
- 9.4. C. Rourke/C. Yem - Req. City Mgr. Look Into Free Parking For Veterans With Noted Indicator On Vehicle License Plate.
- 9.5. C. Scott - Req. City Mgr. Provide A Report Form Appropriate Department Regarding Improvements That Can Be Made To Improve Flooding Issues Around South Lowell.
- 9.6. C. Scott - Req. City Mgr. Work With Appropriate Department To Develop Regulations Around Health And Cleanliness Of Feeding Programs For The

Homeless.

- 9.7. C. Scott - Req. City Mgr. Provide The Plan And Timeline For Replacing The Drain Line Under Lawrence Street From The Cemetery.
- 9.8. C. Jenness/C. Scott - Req. City Mgr. Provide A Report On Any Plans By The LRTA To Provide Bus Services On Sundays And To Keep The Full Lowell Senior Center Weekend Foodservice Available.
- 9.9. C. Jenness/C. Scott - Req. City Mgr. Have The Proper Department Report On Traffic Safety Improvement Options And Implementation Plan For The Intersection Of Elm & Chapel Streets To Combat The Recent Rise In Traffic Accidents At This Location.
- 9.10. C. Jenness/C. Gitschier - Req. City Mgr. Have The Proper Department Explore The Possibility Of Developing A Program To Partner With Local Artists To Utilize Utility Boxes On City Property Around The City As Locations For Public Art As Is Done In Other Communities.
- 9.11. C. Jenness - Req. City Mgr. Have The Proper Department Develop And Implement An Outreach And Education Campaign To Address Bicycles Being Ridden On City Sidewalks.
- 9.12. C. Jenness - Req. City Mgr. Have The Proper Department Develop And Implement Signage Along The Riverwalk Noting Prohibition Of Motorized Vehicles.
- 9.13. C. Jenness - Req. City Mgr. Provide Detailed Report (Address, Permit Issue Date, Permit Closed Date, HERS Rating) On Residential Building Permits Issued Since January 1, 2023; Including Those Issued In Accordance With The Stretch Regulations In 225 CMR 22 & 23 As Promulgated 12/9/2022; And For Permits That Have Been Closed Out, Provide List Of HERS Ratings Obtained.
- 9.14. C. Jenness - Req. City Mgr. Provide Update On The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Extension Project.
- 9.15. C. Robinson/C. Scott - Req. City Mgr. Have The Proper Department Provide The Council With A Report On What Options We Have To Regulate Harm Reduction Services In Our Community.
- 9.16. C. Robinson - Req. City Mgr. Explore The Creation Of A Voluntary DPW/Public Health Department Syringe Response Team To Enhance Current City Efforts.
- 9.17. C. Robinson - Req. City Mgr. Explore The Feasibility Of Creating A Pot Of "Soft Money" Aimed At Attracting An Increase Of Housing Production.
- 9.18. C. Robinson - Req. City Mgr. Have Transportation Engineer Examine Grandview And 13th Streets To Prioritize Corrective Measures, If Possible.
- 9.19. C. Robinson - Req. City Mgr. Provide The Council With A Detailed Report On Lowell's Allocations And Commitments From The Attorney General's Statewide Opioid Settlement Funding Stream.
- 9.20. C. Nuon - Req. City Mgr. Have Homelessness Coordinator Report On

## Lessons Learned And Next Steps Proposed From The Summit.

- 9.21. C. Nuon - Req. City Mgr. Provide An Update On Where Garden Road Is On The Re-Paving List.
- 9.22. C. Nuon/C. Drinkwater - Req. City Mgr. Work With DEI Officer To Clearly Define The Role And Goals Of The New Position; Look At City Hiring Practices With DEI Lense; Assure DEI Education And Awareness Are Brought To All Employees In All Departments; And Assess DEI Work In Other Cities And Towns And Adopt As Appropriate For Lowell.
- 9.23. C. Mercier - Req. City Mgr. Find Ways And Means To Keep The Senior Center Open On The Weekends.
- 9.24. C. Leahy - Req. City Mgr. Have Law Department Provide An Opinion Regarding As To Why An Elected Official Can Not Receive Their Stipend If They Work For A Local Municipality. Receive
- 9.25. M. Chau - Req. City Mgr. Have Proper Department Investigate Having More Lighting In Cambodia Town.
- 9.26. M. Chau - Req. City Mgr. Have The Proper Department Explore Use Of Reduction Tracks (Speed Bumps) On Waite Street At The Beginning Of Powell Street.

## 10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## 11. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Office of the City Clerk - 375 Merrimack Street - Phone: 978.674.4161**