



City of Lawrence

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

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CITY COMMISSION

MAYOR
MIKE AMYX

COMMISSIONERS
LESLIE SODEN
STUART BOLEY
MATTHEW J. HERBERT
LISA LARSEN

November 3, 2015

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Lawrence met in regular session at 5:45 p.m., in the City Commission Chambers in City Hall with Mayor Amyx presiding and Commission members Boley and Larsen present. Vice Mayor Soden and Commissioner Herbert absent.

A. RECOGNITION/PROCLAMATION/PRESENTATION:

1. None

B. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Boley, seconded by Commissioner Larsen, to approve the consent agenda as below. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Receive minutes from various boards and commissions:

Board of Zoning Appeals meeting of 09/03/15
Historic Resources Commission meeting of 08/20/15
Mechanical Board of Appeals meeting of 10/01/15

2. Approve claims to 185 vendors in the amount of \$1,341,399.45.
3. Approve licenses as recommended by the City Clerk's Office.

Drinking Establishment

Tokyo Sushi
Tokyo Dream Sushi LLC
619 Massachusetts St.

Expiration

New License

4. Approve appointments as recommended by the Mayor.
5. Bid and purchase items:
 - a) Set a bid opening date of November 24, 2015, for Bid No. B1555 – PVC Pipe for watermain installations, rehabilitation and replacement.
 - b) Waive staff estimates and award bids for the 2015 Weatherization Program as follows:
 - i) Bid No. B1549 - Storm Windows to Ziegler Glass for \$19,796.21;
 - ii) Bid No. B1550 - Weather-Stripping of Doors to Taylor Made Exteriors for \$3,865.59; and



- iii) Bid No. B1551 - Attic Insulation to Green Globe Improvements for \$8,740.00.
 - c) Waive staff estimate and award Bid No. B1552 - Comprehensive Rehabilitation program at 1014 Lawrence Avenue, to T & J Holdings, Inc. in the amount of \$27,530.
6. Adopt on second and final reading, the following ordinances:
- a) Ordinance No. 9154, rezoning (Z-14-00552) 51.85 acres from RS7, RM12, and PUD to RM24-PD Overlay, located at 1800, 1809, and 2021 Crossgate Dr.
 - b) Ordinance No. 9155, for Special Use Permit (SUP-15-00389) for *Active Recreation* uses in the Alvamar Planned Development, 1800 and 1809 Crossgate Drive.
7. Authorize the Mayor to sign a Subordination Agreement for Andrea Pitt, 1713 Bullene Avenue.

C. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Diane Stoddard, Interim City Manager, presented the report regarding the October Sales Tax Report and September Financial Report; Ousdahl Road Watermain Replacement Project; City Employee Survey Conducted; City Twitter Account Reaches 10,000 Followers; and, an overview of the New Hampshire Waterline project.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Milton Scott:

I wish to speak in regards to the City Manager candidate process. I was encouraged when I saw and read in the brochure, the different qualities that we were looking for, for the ideal candidate and there were a number of things that were listed there. Two of them I wanted to mention today that I think are critical too. The first one is that it is important to listen and to connect to people, regardless of their background and the second one was Lawrence values diversity and the incoming City Manager must be culturally competent and appreciate the value that diversity adds. Lawrence is a great City to live in and we need to make sure that we attract the best possible candidate to fill the position of our next City Manager. With that then said, I hope that we have done a lot to encourage or to attract a diverse pool of candidates that represent a wide range of candidates including minorities and women. We will all benefit if we hire someone who would engage the entire community and who possess a broad wealth of knowledge and experience to help make Lawrence an even better place to live, but we are better off when everyone feels that they have a voice and when that diverse voices of Lawrence are represented by the City Commission and our staff. Thank you

Mayor Amyx: Mr. Scott, thank you very much for those comments. Believe me we had a lot of help obviously, with that brochure and I think it speaks to exactly the feelings that each member of this governing body has. Thank you very much for your time. Other general public comment?

Paul Bosk: Paul Bosk I understand the need for replacing the waterline. I own a plumbing company. I understand and talked with Mike a little bit here, how it's more efficient for the City, for the utilities, for the speed of the process to go on the other side of the street. I guess my general concern was why this snow balled so quickly without the neighborhood knowing about it. The only reason I found out about it, is because Commissioner Boley called me and said, "Hey, you really need to come to this meeting Tuesday night because they're putting a watermain through your yard." I said, "What do you mean they're putting a watermain through my yard." He said "Yeah, they're going to start December 1st and I was like "Oh." So I need to go to a meeting. I feel being a property owner, a tax payer, extremely out of the loop that the whole process was done, stamped, signed, and delivered, without even notification. I understand it remains in bad shape and needs to be replaced. You know, a knock on the door, a phone call, "hey, guess what, we're putting a main in." These guys do good work. It will go smoothly. It will be efficiently done and everybody will be happy come April and we'll all grow our grass back and everything will be fine, but it's just one of those things that I felt a pretty big, I don't want to use the word "bomb" because it's just a waterline. It's not that big of a deal, but you get kind of blindsided by it. That's all I have.

Mayor Amyx: Thanks for your comments. We're going to take a moment. We're going to step back and Michael's going to explain the whole deal to everybody and it's going to work out. You know, here's one of the beauties of waterlines. If it's any consolation, I find out about it about 4 days before you did. It kind of moves ahead in the process like that.

Paul Bosk: Sure, I mean, it is what it is.

Mayor Amyx: We're going to take some time and make sure it's done right and everybody understands the reason and need for it.

Paul Bosk: Absolutely. You know our biggest concern, you know, like I said, we can fix sprinkler systems, we can grow grass again. That's not a lewd point; it's just the safety of the kids. You know, we walk our son to school every day and there's a gentleman with a disable child that they walk down the sidewalk everyday to Schwegler and we walk with them sometimes. That little guy has a walker and it's not like he can push that thing through the mud. Anyway, that's all I have.

Mayor Amyx: We've got to look after one another.

Paul Bosk: That's right. Thank you.

Mayor Amyx: Other public comment. K.T.

K.T. Walsh: I'm representing only myself, but we were saying if we could only get as many people to vote in the municipal election as we got to vote last night. I picked a slow meeting. I have some really small housekeeping details to bring up that get talked about a lot among activist people in town and they might need a little tweaking and there is no blame at all in what I'm going to say. Megan has tried to help me put what they need on the advisory boards at the back of the Commission agenda and on the City website because some of the advisory boards have specific roles, like they need a realtor or they need a plumber or a historian or whatever. Apparently, our City computer program won't allow us to do that and so should there be an upgrade at some point? It would be lovely to be able to put that out there. We encourage people to join those advisory boards and it would be great to give them the info right off the bat. So that's one thing. When people send in their applications to be on an advisory board, it would be lovely to have a specific address because right now, it sort of goes up to the 4th floor and maybe to Bobbie, it's sort of unclear and then we hear a month, couple months later, did they get it, who did go to. Eventually, it goes to the Mayor. There's just been a little disconnect, and I'm not sure why so. Maybe if there was as specific address that went to. That's a solution someone suggested.

Commissioner Boley: K.T., I have a question

K.T. Walsh: Yes Sir

Commissioner Boley: Is there no acknowledgement that the application has been received?

K.T. Walsh: That's what I've heard. I haven't experienced that, but that's hearsay.

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager I think we can do a better job of that and so I'll visit with our staff about making sure that we have an acknowledgement that is sent out because I have heard similar.

Commissioner Boley: I think it's important to acknowledge people when they step up.

K.T. Walsh: Yeah, it's nobody's fault. It's also unclear to a lot of people that deadline for when we should submit to you for the Tuesday meeting to make it in your packet or a letter. It seems like you can get some things in at 4:00 p.m. Tuesday. It would be just nice to know like when you have to get stuff in or if it's loose let

us known, just so we know, so maybe if that was front and center. Okay those are just those things so then I'm looking forward to Mark Thiel's report on snow training because he is a guy who respects brick streets and stone curbs and I know one of City employees invented a special blade just for that. So thank you Mark.

Mayor Amyx: Diane, do we have a time that is the final time that we'll consider adding items to the agenda?

Diane Stoddard:
Interim City Manager

What we have tried to do is if we have had any updates completed by 2:00 p.m. If the citizen sends some correspondences and request it to be added to the agenda, and it is before 2:00 p.m., we try to accommodate that. If it's after 2:00 p.m., what we do is we will generally print that and then put that in front of you all so that you can make sure to have that, but it gets a little bit tough on Tuesday, to be able to do some of those updates so that's the reason, but I think we can also be a little more clear and perhaps on the agenda itself, maybe state something about that 2:00 p.m. deadline and make it a little easier for people to understand that.

Mayor Amyx: Okay. Other general public comment.

Jim Woods:

Mayor and Commissioners, I think, the word Paul was looking for was transparency. At the last break I talked to guy down in the hole. I asked, "When are you going to replace this thing?" "Well, it's on the list for next year" and all of a sudden it's next year, I guess. I think we're trying to accommodate K.U. and not thinking about all of the foot traffic that uses that sidewalk and the vehicle traffic that uses Ousdahl. Could it not wait till summer when the traffic is down and the foot traffic are minimal?

Mayor Amyx: Go ahead

Jim Woods: That's it.

Mayor Amyx: I suppose we could wait till it blows up too.

Jim Woods: It blows up all the time, Mike.

Mayor Amyx: Well, Jim, I think it's wise that we look at it right now.

Jim Woods: So, why were the guys told next year?

Mayor Amyx: Which guys?

Jim Woods: The guys in the hole, your employees.

Mayor Amyx: Okay, we will talk to those guys. Thank you for bringing that up.

Mayor Amyx: Any other general comment. Okay, thank you all.

1. **Conduct public hearing to consider the vacation of the 10' utility easement on the south and west sides of Lot B of a replat of the south half of lots one and two, located on 801 North 7th Street, as requested by property owner Megan Willesen.**

Mayor Amyx opened the public hearing and asked if there was any public comment on this item. (There was no public comment)

Moved by Commissioner Larsen, seconded by Commissioner Boley, to approve the vacation of the 10' utility easement on the south and west sides of Lot B of a replat of the south half of lots one and two, located on 801 North 7th Street. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Receive presentation on Public Works Annual Snow Training.**

Mark Thiel, Public Works Director, presented the staff report.

Commissioner Larsen: I had the opportunity to do a big tour with Mark this last week, there entire facilities. One thing that sticks out especially, when we're talking about snow is on slide number 11, which shows your brine system. I didn't realize we make all of our own brine. If you'll look at that slide, right there in the upper right hand corner, our guys built that from scratch. We built the whole thing and I thought that was great use of resources. I was really impressed. Thank you.

Commissioner Amyx: Thank you

Commissioner Boley: My question is kind of a follow up. Tell us about this brick street that you've got.

Mark Thiel: Assistant Public Works Director	We certainly appreciate the brick street resource that we have in this community, it's very valuable. The typical, modern, steel, plow blade has a carbide bit on it and it's not very user friendly for bricks. We have equipped one of our blades with a rubberized blade that we use when we plow brick streets now, much more friendly to bricks.
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Commissioner Boley: How many miles of brick streets do we have?

Mark Thiel: I think we have approximately 23 lane miles of brick streets.
Assistant Public Works

Director

Mayor Amyx: So consider, as you said the valuable resource that it's there. You start pulling up bricks it's not a pretty sight.

Mark Thiel:
Assistant Public Works
Director And like I mentioned about manholes and water valves, anything that we damage when we're clearing snow is just more work for us that we shouldn't of needed to have to do. Our guys are smart, they figure things out.

Commissioner Boley: Well, thank you very much.

Commissioner Larsen: Yeah, thank you.

Mayor Amyx: Mark, it goes without saying, we all appreciate the work that you, Mike, and Chuck do, in making sure that this gets done. I remember, I think, I say this every year too, it seems like when I was a kid, you know that we kind of get out and maybe do the main roadways the best we could, because we just didn't have the equipment then, I suppose, to do a number of those things. Over the last 30 years that we have made good investments to make sure people are able to get to work, get to school, do all the things that they need to do and we realize that this day and time, that you shut down for snow, the economic loss in the community like ours is pretty big and so getting out and getting the town back up into business. It works out very well so I appreciate all the work that you do there. It wouldn't be right without saying, at this time, I think it was yesterday, Diane, you notified us that we lost our former Public Works Director, George Williams. I had the opportunity, as many people did, of being able to serve on the Commission when George was Public Works Director, way back when. It was the amount of work that was done with the equipment that we had and we did a lot of work, but our special thoughts go to Mr. Williams and the entire Williams family. It's something to see how we have improved, over time, and realize those lane miles. I think, when I first started, it was about 400 miles. We kind of grew up. It takes a lot to make sure that we're able to get people out and going. So anyway, thank you and thanks to all your staff, so public comment, anybody?

The City Commissioner received the presentation.

Consent agenda item No. 3 was moved to the end of the agenda.

F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Diane Stoddard, Interim City Manager, outlined potential future agenda items.

G: COMMISSION ITEMS:

Commissioner Boley:

I had an opportunity to go back out to the compost facility on East 11th Street. I think it is and the folks out there, Carl, showed me how the screener works. That's the second piece of big machinery that I've been able to see out there and it's really great to see them working. I really appreciate the hospitality and the work they do is really interesting and provides wonderful alternative to tipping fees for all the yard waste and we get to reuse it. They've got a big pile of compost out there that we need to figure out what to do with. Hopefully, we'll be able to figure that out.

H: CALENDAR:

Diane Stoddard, Interim City Manager, reviewed calendar items

I: CURRENT VACANCIES – BOARDS/COMMISSIONS:

Existing and upcoming vacancies on City of Lawrence Boards and Commissions were listed on the agenda.

3. ***At the conclusion of the regular meeting, the City Commission should recess November 3, 2015, City Commission meeting until 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, November 8, 2015, in the City Manager's Conference Room on the 4th Floor of City Hall at which time the City Commission will reconvene into executive session for the purpose of discussion of non-elected personnel matters. The justification for the executive session is to protect the privacy of non-elected personnel. The City Commission will resume its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m., November 8, 2015 in the City Commission Room, and will adjourn the meeting.***

Moved by Commissioner Boley, seconded by Commissioner Larsen, to recess meeting until 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, November 8, 2015 at 6:56, at which time the City Commission will reconvene into executive session for the purpose of discussion of non-elected personnel matters and resume its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m., November 8, 2015 in the City Commission Room to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION ON JANUARY 19, 2015.



Brandon McGuire, Acting City Clerk