



Issue January 2018

#### City Council

Mike DeVore, Mayor  
Greg Canfield, Mayor Pro Tem  
Marty Chambers, Councilmember  
Jeff Phillips, Councilmember  
Jim Salzwedel, Councilmember

#### City Hall

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#### City Clerk

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#### City Treasurer

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#### Police Department

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#### Police Chief

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#### Public Works Department

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#### DPW Director

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## Snow Joke

Department of Public Works on snow removal

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is on alert whenever snow is in the forecast. When snow is expected, whether it's an inch or half a foot, someone is on call to determine what resources are needed to deal with the weather.

A plan of action is developed with each ice or snow event individually as no event has the same conditions. The amount of precipitation, duration, time of day or night, and temperature are some of the things considered.

DPW's plan is similar to that of a homeowner who must clear snow. However, the City must also take into consideration the safety of those traversing the streets and parking in city lots.

Regardless of the severity of conditions, main roads, hills, and school routes are cleared first, followed by a concentration on roads going in a north-south direction where there is more likely to be drifting and blowing. One plow can handle removing and salting when an inch of snow or less is expected. But with higher amounts, both plows will be used, typically with one focusing on the east side of the city and one taking care of the west side.

The model years of the plow trucks are 2008 and 2016 respectively. They both have a blade under the truck as well as wing blades, which fold up. A third truck has plowing ability with an underbelly scraper, but cannot salt. Other smaller vehicles are available to assist where needed.

A plow, fully loaded with a two to one salt and sand mixture, can typically take care of half the city streets and still have a little of the mixture left over. The City of Lowell oversees snow removal on 7 miles of major streets and 14 miles of local or side streets. As an example of how long it takes to deal with a snow event, for a storm total of four inches, it would take five employees 6-8 hours to clean up streets, parking lots, and sidewalks without having to tend to any equipment failure.



### **Gilda's Club Living with Grief Series**

Gilda's Club Lowell will host a four-week educational series for people impacted by grief. Participants are encouraged to attend all four weeks, but can begin at any time. Master of Social Work Program Intern Laura Vogelsang will lead the discussion. The series takes place on Tuesdays January 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> and February 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm and is free of charge.

### **LowellArts Music Takes the Stage**

James and the Giant Peach will be performed at the Lowell Performing Arts Center on Thursday and Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm and Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm.

Directed by Teresa Goldner, the 18 member cast consists of youth, teens, and adults. General admission tickets can be purchased for \$7 by calling LowellArts or visiting their webpage.

LowellArts House Concerts will be held January 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Visitors will be able to explore the gallery's visual arts while listening to musical artists. Tickets can be purchased by calling LowellArts or visiting their webpage. Approximately two concerts per month will continue through May.

### **2017 Pink Arrow Fund Distribution**

During Gilda's Club of Lowell's annual holiday party in December, a check was given to the organization in the amount of \$72,000 to be used for the programs they offer. Lowell Community Wellness received \$42,000, which is used as monetary gifts to those dealing with cancer. In 2017, nearly 100 people received a monetary gift, which is the largest single year of recipients to date.

And finally, the Lowell Community Wellness Education Foundation, Dr. Gerard Scholarship, and Kathy Talus Scholarship received a combined \$8,500.

### **Spotlight on Marty Chambers**

Marty Chambers was sworn in as a member of City Council on September 5, 2017 after being appointed following a resignation on the Council. His term will expire in 2019.

Chambers is no stranger to happenings within the city. As a business owner of Red Barn Consignments and Antiques, he has a finger on the pulse of economic development. He has also served on the Planning Commission and Lowell Light & Power Board, which he remains as the council representative.

He sees roads as an important topic to discuss, but views the Lowell Area Fire Department as a higher priority, feeling a handful of full-time employees during the day, would benefit the area the department serves.

Chambers remains eager to hear the ideas, concerns, and praise for Lowell during his time serving on City Council.

### **City Council and Boards/Commissions Appointments**

During their first meeting in January, members of City Council will select a Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem. As stated in the City Charter, the first meeting of a new year following an election, the board shall choose these positions from within the five member group.

There are also openings on the following boards and commissions. Those interested should contact City Hall to obtain a form to fill out and return, showing interest.

Planning Commission – two seats  
Parks and Recreation – one seat

#### **January Meetings**

Jan. 2	at 7:00 am	Lowell City Council Meeting
Jan. 4	at 12:00 pm	Downtown Development Authority
Jan. 6	at 8:00 am	Coffee with Council
Jan. 8	at 12:00 pm	Arbor Board
	at 3:30 pm	Fire Authority
	at 7:00 pm	Planning Commission
Jan. 10	at 6:00 pm	Lowell Area Recreation Authority
	at 7:00 pm	Airport Board
Jan. 11	at 6:00 pm	Lowell Light & Power Board
Jan. 15	at 7:00 pm	Lowell City Council Meeting
Jan. 16	at 6:00 pm	Parks & Recreation Commission
Jan. 23	at 6:00 pm	Historic District Commission