

**PROCEEDINGS
OF
CITY COUNCIL
OF THE
CITY OF LOWELL**

For the Regular Meeting of MONDAY, **AUGUST 21, 2006**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Mathews and City Clerk Betty Morlock called Roll.

Present: Councilmembers, Pfaller, Shores and Mayor Pro Tem Mathews.

Absent: Mayor Myers and Councilmember Hodges.

Also Present: City Manager David Pasquale, City Clerk Betty Morlock, DPW Director Dan DesJarden, Lowell Light and Power/Cable TV General Manager Tom Richards, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Mark Mundt and Planning Commission Chairman Clark Jahnke.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by PFALLER to excuse the absences of Mayor Myers and Councilmember Hodges.

YEA: 3. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 2. MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY PFALLER and seconded by SHORES to approve the minutes of the August 7, and August 15, 2006 regular and special meetings as written.

YEA: 3. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 2. MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by PFALLER that the bills and accounts payable be allowed and the warrants issued.

YEA: Councilmember Pfaller, Shores, and Mayor Pro Tem Mathews.

NAY: None. ABSENT: 2. MOTION CARRIED.

<u>BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (08/21/06)</u>	
GENERAL FUND	\$95,346.47
MAJOR STREET FUND	1,353.25
LOCAL STREET FUND	1,522.57
DDA FUND	78.09
WASTEWATER FUND	27,175.38
WATER FUND	47,231.26
EQUIPMENT FUND	681.39
CURRENT TAX FUND	147,601.70

Item #1. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

- A. 242 S. Hudson (northwest corner of S. Hudson and Grand) – Donald and Connie Reedy – variance to allow a lot split – public hearing, adjourn to the 9/5 meeting.
At its July 24, 2006 meeting, the Planning Commission reviewed the application to

allow a lot split so that an additional home can be built at 242 S. Hudson. The Commission recommended against the variance because it was felt the established criteria was not met.

The property, which has an existing home, is 101.64 x 132'. In order to be split (R-3 zoning), a 132 feet of width is necessary. The parcel lacks over 30 feet.

Because the new State zoning laws require a full 15 days of notice prior to a decision from the Board, action on the variance will be delayed until the September 5 meeting.

City Clerk Morlock read a letter into record from Ronald and Patricia Ripley of 230 S. Hudson, opposing the requested variance.

Chairman Pfaller adjourned the public hearing until September 5, 2006.

Item #2. **REQUEST TO REMOVE STREET LIGHT AT 315 SHERMAN - UPDATE.** City Manager Pasquale indicated there has been no further information from Dan McGillicuddy of McGill Builders to remove the line, pole and street light in conjunction with the construction of a new house, immediately east of 315 Sherman and west of North Washington. Police Chief Valentine indicated there are six streets which intersect Washington and Monroe. Of those, only two have mid block lights. Valentine did not believe the light was necessary when the majority of the other streets with similar blocks do not have mid block street lights.

The issue was deferred until the next meeting.

Item #3. **ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE 2006 EDITION – SET PUBLIC HEARING (9/18).** In an effort to assist in upgrading exterior building deficiencies, rental housing and general yard clean up, the Property Maintenance Code will provide the Building Inspector and City staff an added tool. The ordinance adopts the code by reference.

IT WAS MOVED BY PFALLER and seconded by SHORES to establish September 18, 2006 for a public hearing to consider the ordinance adopting the International Property maintenance Code 2006 edition.

YEA: 3. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 2. MOTION CARRIED.

Item #4. **MONTHLY REPORTS.** No comments were received.

Item #5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS.** John Sterly, property owner of 451 Grand, referred to 242 S. Hudson. He was concerned about the frontage on Hudson being inadequate. However, he was

pleased to see how the issue is being handled.

Veronica Blough 3035 Nila Drive, was present to follow up on the letter she sent to the City Council as well as the editor of the Lowell Ledger expressing her concern regarding tree cutting authorized through Light and Power. Mayor Pro Tem Mathews noted the Council and Lowell Light and Power will be holding a meeting.

Item #6. **COUNCIL COMMENTS.** Councilmember Shores commented on all the great events throughout Lowell. Shores also noted the first annual Christian Music Festival will be held on August 26, 2006. Impact Church will be hosting the free event.

Mayor Pro Tem Mathews thanked Morgan Jarema of the Grand Rapids Press for her great article concerning Mayor Myers. He also thanked her for the article she wrote regarding the Boy Scout Cabin.

Item #7. **MANAGER'S REPORT.** City Manager Pasquale reported on the following:

1. For your information, the following boards and commissions meetings minutes are provided:
 - Airport Board meeting of July 11, 2006
 - Chamber of Commerce meeting of July 12, 2006
 - Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of July 15, 2006
 - Look Memorial Committee meeting of May 17, 2006
 - Grand Valley Metro Council – Transportation Policy Committee meeting of June 21, 2006
2. The City will receive a federal Surface Transportation Program – Small Urban Grant administered through MDOT to complete the reconstruction of Gee Drive. The cost of the road (approximately 1900 feet to east of Alden Nash) is \$424,000. The grant provides 80% of the construction cost or \$339,200.

We will also be applying to the State for Local Jobs Today grant funding which could secure the local share of the project.

3. Because of observance of Labor Day, the Council will next meet on Tuesday, September 5, 2006.

Item #8. **APPOINTMENTS.** By general consensus, the Commission reappointed Maryalene LaPonsie to the Planning Commission with a term expiring June 30, 2009.

IT WAS MOVED BY PFALLER to adjourn at 8:11 p.m.

DATE:

APPROVED:

Charles R. Myers, Mayor

Betty R. Morlock, Clerk