

Council President

David R. Cormier

Council Vice President

Pauline M. Cormier



Councillors-at-Large

Thomas F. Ardingier
Susan Chalifoux-Zephir
Todd M. Deacon
Claire M. Freda

Ward Councillors

Ward 1 – William A. Brady
Ward 2 – Pauline M. Cormier
Ward 3 – David R. Cormier
Ward 4 – Mark C. Bodanza
Ward 5 – Peter A. Angelini

MINUTES

AGENDA

CITY OF LEOMINSTER

CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 13, 2023

JOHN P. MAHAN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

RECEIVED
LEOMINSTER CITY CLERK
2023 APR 25 AM 8:09

INTERVIEWS, 6:35 P.M.

Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request the appointment of the following individuals to the Zoning Board of Appeals, terms to expire April 15, 2026.

Mark Piscione 35 Oakwind Hollow Road Leominster, MA

Suzanne Koehler 541 Merriam Avenue Leominster, MA

The interview began at 6:35 PM. Mr. Piscione was not present. It was recommended that his interview be given further time and occur at the next meeting.

Suzanne Koehler was present. Councillor Pauline Cormier asked Ms. Koehler to provide an overview of her experience and inform the Council as to why she is interested in the position.

Ms. Koehler informed the Council that she was previously on the School Committee for 28 years. She is a Leominster Lion and has worked for Sterilite. She informed the Council that she felt the best way to get to know your community is to get involved. She has also been studying up on the position and understands she would be serving on a board of unpermitted uses. She looks forward to learning more and assisting the community in this role.

Councillor David Cormier, Angelini, Freda, Ardinger, and Chalifoux-Zephir commended Ms. Koehler for her previous work, ability, and reliability, and thanked her for her willingness to serve.

INTERVIEWS, 6:40 P.M.

Dean J. Mazarella, Mayor: Request the appointment of the following individual to the Leominster Housing Authority. Term to Expire 4/15/2026.

Yaw Asante Addow 20C Crossman Avenue Leominster, MA

(Ways & Means; Regular Course 02/27/2023; Interview 03/13/2023 @ 6:40 PM; Majority Vote)

The interview of Yaw Asante Addow began at 6:40 PM. Councillor Pauline Cormier asked Mr. Addow to provide the Council with an overview of his experience and qualifications. Mr. Addow informed the Council that he moved to the United States, from Ghana, in 1993. He has worked as a janitor, for the DPW, and has done other various jobs. He is a tenant in a unit under the housing authority. He looks forward to helping get whatever work is necessary done.

Councillor Ardinger asked how Mr. Addow feels the housing development could be improved. Mr. Addow stated that working on reducing the noise levels would help the residents and improve safety.

The City Council thanked Mr. Addow for his willingness to serve.

INTERVIEWS, 6:45 P.M.

Dean J. Mazarella, Mayor, Request the appointment of the following individual to the Cultural Commission. Term to expire 4/15/2026.

Matthew Valeri 92 Keeneland Circle Leominster, MA

(Ways & Means; Regular Course 02/27/2023; Interview 03/13/2023 @ 6:45 PM; Majority Vote)

The interview of Matthew Valeri began at 6:51 PM. Councillor Pauline Cormier asked Mr. Valeri to provide the Council with an overview of his experience and qualifications. Mr. Valeri informed the Council that he has loved the arts since high school. He and his wife have founded Stageworks, a local stage and acting group that performs locally. They have put on shows in Leominster and are currently using the Saint Bernard's auditorium for their shows. He

hopes to use his love and passion for the arts as part of the Cultural Commission.

The City Council thanked him for his efforts and willingness to serve.

PUBLIC HEARING, 6:50 P.M.

20-23 Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid requests permission to locate poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way:

Litchfield St - National Grid to install 1 SO Pole on Litchfield St beginning at a point approximately 630' feet southwest of the centerline of the intersection of Elm Hill Ave and continuing approximately 20' feet in a western direction. Install 1, 45ft class HI Pole to support a load break switch to deenergize the primary conductor in the location of the upcoming culvert construction by the Leominster DPW.

Location approximately as shown on plan attached.

Wherefore it prays that after due notice and hearing as provided by law, it be granted a location for and permission to erect and maintain poles and wires, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as it may find necessary, said poles to be erected substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked - Litchfield St - Leominster - Massachusetts. No.# 30378259 February 9, 2023.

Also for permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables, and wires in the above or intersecting public ways for the purpose of making connections with such poles and buildings as each of said petitioners may desire for distributing purposes.

Your petitioner agrees to reserve space for one cross-arm at a suitable point on each of said poles for the fire, police, telephone, and telegraph signal wires belonging to the municipality and used by it exclusively for municipal purposes. *(Public Service Committee; Regular Course 02/27/2023; Public Hearing 03/13/2023 at 6:50 PM; Majority Vote)*

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:00 PM. Councillor Chalifoux-Zephir informed the City Council that the applicant requested to continue the hearing to the next meeting, as they were unable to be present due to the snowstorm. Councillor Chalifoux-Zephir asked three times if anyone from the public wanted to speak regarding the petition. No one spoke. The public hearing was continued to March 27, 2023 at 6:45 PM.

PUBLIC FORUM, 6:55 P.M.

The public forum is an opportunity for any member of the audience to speak on a matter specifically listed on the Council Agenda. Speakers will be asked to come to the microphone and state their formal name and address along with identifying the specific item(s) they wish to address. Each speaker is respectfully asked to keep their comments within a two (2) minute time frame. The Council will not be responding or answering any questions; however, at the discretion of the Council President, clarification may be given.

Council President David Cormier opened the public forum at 7:05 PM. Wendy Wiiks, Grant Administrator, spoke in support of C-48 and C-49. She informed the Council that the City would receive grant money to build the road. The engineering firm is also present, as well as the property owner, to speak or answer questions if the Council chooses.

Matt, the engineer from Bohler Engineering, introduced himself and offered his expertise if questions occurred for C-48 and C-49.

The public forum closed at 7:09 PM.

I. REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL, 7:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the City Council opened at 7:00 PM. Councillor Chalifoux-Zephir made a motion to recess. Councillor Bodanza seconded the motion. By a vote of 9-0 the motion carried unanimously. The meeting went into recess at 7:02 PM and reconvened at 7:10 PM.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL OF COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE

Council President David Cormier, Council Vice-President Pauline Cormier, Councillor Bodanza, Councillor Ardingier, Councillor Angelini, Councillor Brady, Councillor Chalifoux-Zephir, Councillor Deacon, and Councillor Freda present.

Others present: Katelyn Huffman, City Clerk and Maribel Perez, Assistant City Clerk.

IV. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

- January 23, 2023- **These meeting minutes were approved and placed on file.**
- February 27, 2023- **Councillor Freda requested an amendment be made to the meeting minutes. These minutes will be placed on the next agenda after the amendment has been made.**

V. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Money Orders

C-53 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Request that an appropriation of \$250,000.00 be made to the Fire Department Public Safety Overtime Account; the same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance Committee; Regular Course 03/13/2023; Majority Vote)*

This communication was given regular course.

C-54 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Request that an appropriation of \$400,000.00 be made to the following accounts:

Snow & Ice Expense Account: \$250,000.00
Snow & Ice Overtime Account: \$150,000.00

(Finance Committee; Regular Course 03/13/2023; Majority Vote)

This communication was given regular course.

C-55 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Request that an appropriation of \$409,033.54 be made to the Treasurer Expense Account; the same amount to be transferred from Excess and Deficiency. *(Finance Committee; Regular Course 03/13/2023; Majority Vote)*

This communication was given regular course. Councillor Freda requestes more information regarding this communication and asked where the responsibility lies on this issue. Councillor Bodanza informed the Council that he would acquire the information and report back at the next meeting.

C-56 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Request that an appropriation of \$10,998.83 be made to the Disability Commission Parking Fines Expense Account; the same amount to be transferred from Excess and Deficiency. *(Finance Committee; Regular Course 03/13/2023; Majority Vote)*

This communication was given regular course.

Exemptions

- C-57 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Request that Angela Velez be exempt from the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 267A, (20B) Conflict of Interest. Ms. Velez is currently employed by the City of Leominster's Assessor's Office and will be taking a position as a Warden for the election. (Ways & Means; Regular Course 03/13/2023; Majority Vote)

VI. PETITIONS FIRST TIME ON THE AGENDA

- 22-23 Deghan Inc, DBA Hannoush Jewelers: Request to renew license to deal secondhand articles at 100 Commercial Road, Leominster, MA. (*Ways & Means; Regular Course; 03/13/2023; Majority Vote*)

This communication was given regular course.

- 23-23 George' Fine Jewelers, Inc: Request to renew license to deal secondhand articles at 255 North Street, Leominster, MA (*Ways & Means; Regular Course; 3/13/2023; Majority Vote*)

This communication was given regular course.

- 24-23 Crowne Jewelers: Request to renew license to deal secondhand articles at 12 Lindell Avenue, Leominster, MA (*Ways & Means; Regular Course; 3/13/2023; Majority Vote*)

This communication was given regular course.

- 25-23 George's Fine Jewelers, Inc DBA House of Relics: Request to renew license to deal secondhand articles at 1292 Main Street, Leominster, MA. (*Ways & Means; Regular Course; 3/13/2023: Majority Vote*)

This communication was given regular course.

- 26-23 Everything Cutie, Inc.: Request to renew license to deal secondhand articles at 901 Central Street, Leominster, MA. (*Ways & Means; Regular Course 03/13/2023: Majority Vote*)

This communication was given regular course.

27-23 Everything Cutie, Inc, Request to renew license to deal secondhand articles at 1021 Central Street, Leominster, MA. *(Ways & Means; Regular Course 03/13/2023: Majority Vote)*

This communication was given regular course.

28-23 Ginny's Helping Hand Inc, Request to renew license to deal secondhand articles at 52 Mechanic Street, Leominster, MA *(Ways & Means; Regular Course 03/13/2023: Majority Vote)*

This communication was given regular course.

VII. MATTERS BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL

VIII. FINANCIAL REPORT – THE BALANCE OF THE STABILIZATION FUND WAS \$20,900,427.

IX. FINANCE

C-47 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request an appropriation of \$12,000.00 be made to the City Council Advertising Account; the same to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 02/27/2023; Majority Vote)*

The Finance Committee recommended that the City Council GRANT the communication. By a vote of 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.

ORDERED: By a vote of 9-0 the order was ADOPTED.

C-50 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request an appropriation of \$4,000,000 be made to the Stabilization Fund; the same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account (Undesignated Fund Balance). *(Finance; Regular Course 02/27/2023; Majority Vote)*

The Finance Committee recommended that the City Council GRANT the communication. By a vote of 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.

ORDERED: By a vote of 9-0 the order was ADOPTED.

C-51 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request an appropriation of \$382,351.90 be made to the Water Department Capital Outlay Expense Account. The same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 02/27/2023; Majority Vote)*

The Finance Committee recommended that the City Council GRANT the communication. By a vote of 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.

ORDERED: By a vote of 9-0 the order was ADOPTED.

C-52 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request an appropriation of \$902,226.56 be made to the Sewer Department Capital Outlay Expense Account; the same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 02/27/2023; Majority Vote)*

The Finance Committee recommended that the City Council GRANT the communication. By a vote of 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.

ORDERED: By a vote of 9-0 the order was ADOPTED.

X. LEGAL AFFAIRS

C-41 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request that the council authorize the appropriate department(s) to research, develop and participate in a contract, or contracts, to aggregate the electricity load of the residents and businesses in the City and for other related services, independently, or in joint action with other municipalities, and authorize the Mayor to execute all documents necessary to accomplish the same. *(Legal Affairs; Regular Course 01/23/2023; Further Time 02/13/2023; 02/27/2023; 03/13/2023; Subcommittee Meeting 03/15/2023 @ 6:00PM; Majority Vote)*

The Legal Affairs Committee recommended that the City Council grant the communication FURTHER TIME, as a subcommittee meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2023 to discuss this. By a vote of 9-0 the communication was given FURTHER TIME.

LEGAL AFFAIRS, continued

C-48 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request that the City Council accept Orchard Hill Park Extension. See "Leominster City Council Orchard Hill Park Drive Extension" as attached. *(Legal Affairs; Regular Course 02/27/2023; Majority Vote)*

Councillor Freda made a motion to recess. Councillor Pauline Cormier seconded the motion. By a vote of 9-0 the meeting went into recess at 7:21 PM and reconvened to regular session at 7:35 PM.

While in recess, Greg Liscotti, property owner, Boehler Engineering, and Wendy Wiiks, presented communications C-48 and C-49 to the City Council. Mr. Liscotti explained that the plans for this project have been approved previously, and that the City has been offered a 2,000,000 dollar grant to finish the road. Mr. Liscotti paid to have the engineering done to ensure the timeline for the grant was met.

Councillor Bodanza asked if a damages waiver had been signed. Mr. Liscotti informed the Council that a damages waiver has been signed.

Councillor David Cormier asked whether or not trees, sidewalks, curbing, and other facets were included in the plan. Mr. Liscotti informed that Council that these facets were included in the plan.

Councillor Brady asked if there would be buffering. Mr. Liscotti informed the Council that there would be buffering.

Councillor Freda stated that over the past 20 years the development of this property has been significant.

It was also stated that the bid for the project should occur in the Spring if this is approved.

The Legal Affairs Committee recommended that the City Council GRANT the street acceptance. By a vote of 9-0 the street acceptance was GRANTED.

C-49 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request that the City Council grant the Order of Taking in relation to the extension of Orchard Hill Park Drive. See "ORDER OF TAKING" as attached. *(Legal Affairs; Regular Course 02/27/2023; 2/3 Vote)*

Councillor Freda made a motion to recess. Councillor Pauline Cormier seconded the motion. By a vote of 9-0 the meeting went into recess at 7:21 PM and reconvened to regular session at 7:35 PM.

While in recess, Greg Liscotti, property owner, Boehler Engineering, and Wendy Wiiks, presented communications C-48 and C-49 to the City Council. Mr. Liscotti explained that the plans for this project have been approved previously, and that the City has been offered a 2,000,000 dollar grant to finish the road. Mr. Liscotti paid to have the engineering done to ensure the timeline for the grant was met.

Councillor Bodanza asked if a damages waiver had been signed. Mr. Liscotti informed the Council that a damages waiver has been signed.

Councillor David Cormier asked whether or not trees, sidewalks, curbing, and other facets were included in the plan. Mr. Liscotti informed that Council that these facets were included in the plan.

Councillor Brady asked if there would be buffering. Mr. Liscotti informed the Council that there would be buffering.

Councillor Freda stated that over the past 20 years the development of this property has been significant.

It was also stated that the bid for the project should occur in the Spring if this is approved.

The Legal Affairs Committee recommended that the City Council GRANT the street acceptance. By a vote of 9-0 the street acceptance was GRANTED.

19-23 William Brady, Ward 1 Councillor: Request to Amend Chapter 13 entitled "Motor Vehicles and Traffic", Section 13-34 "No parking on certain streets" by inserting the following:

*"No parking on Lock Drive, on both sides, for the entirety of the street"
(Legal Affairs; Regular Course 02/27/2023; Further Time 03/13/2023;
Public Hearing 03/27/2023 at 6:50 PM; Majority Vote)*

Councillor Angelini recused himself due to a possible conflict of interest.

The Legal Affairs Committee recommended giving this petition FURTHER TIME and set a public hearing for March 27, 2023, at 6:50 PM. By a vote of 8-0-1(Councillor Angelini abstained) the

communication was given FURTHER TIME and the public hearing was set.

XI. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE

20-23 Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid requests permission to locate poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way:

Litchfield St - National Grid to install 1 SO Pole on Litchfield St beginning at a point approximately 630' feet southwest of the centerline of the intersection of Elm Hill Ave and continuing approximately 20' feet in a western direction. Install 1, 45ft class HI Pole to support a load break switch to deenergize the primary conductor in the location of the upcoming culvert construction by the Leominster DPW.

Location approximately as shown on plan attached.

Wherefore it prays that after due notice and hearing as provided by law, it be granted a location for and permission to erect and maintain poles and wires, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as it may find necessary, said poles to be erected substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked - Litchfield St - Leominster - Massachusetts. No.# 30378259 February 9, 2023.

Also for permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables, and wires in the above or intersecting public ways for the purpose of making

connections with such poles and buildings as each of said petitioners may desire for distributing purposes.

Your petitioner agrees to reserve space for one cross-arm at a suitable point on each of said poles for the fire, police, telephone, and telegraph signal wires belonging to the municipality and used by it exclusively for municipal purposes. (*Public Service Committee; Regular Course 02/27/2023; Public Hearing 03/13/2023 at 6:50 PM; Majority Vote*)

The Public Service Committee recommended that the City Council give this petition FURTHER TIME and continue the public hearing until March 27, 2023, at the petitioners request. By a vote of 9-0 the petition was given FURTHER TIME and the public hearing was continued until March 27, 2023.

XII. WAYS & MEANS

Appointments

Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Request the appointment of the following individuals to the Zoning Board of Appeals, terms to expire April 15, 2026.

Mark Piscione 35 Oakwind Hollow Road Leominster, MA

Suzanne Koehler 541 Merriam Avenue Leominster, MA

The Ways and Means Committee recommended that the City Council give the appointment of Mark Piscione FURTHER TIME. By a vote of 9-0 the appointment of Mark Piscione was given FURTHER TIME.

The Ways and Means Committee recommended that the City Council CONFIRM the appointment of Suzanne Koehler. By a vote of 9-0 the appointment of Suzanne Koehler was CONFIRMED.

Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Request the appointment of the following individual to the Leominster Housing Authority. Term to Expire 4/15/2026.

Yaw Asante Addow 20C Crossman Avenue Leominster, MA

(Ways & Means; Regular Course 02/27/2023; Interview 03/13/2023 @ 6:40 PM; Majority Vote)

The Ways and Means Committee recommended that the City Council CONFIRM the appointment of Yaw Asante Addow. By a vote of 9-0 the appointment of Yaw Asante Addow was CONFIRMED.

Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor, Request the appointment of the following individual to the Cultural Commission. Term to expire 4/15/2026.

Matthew Valeri 92 Keeneland Circle Leominster, MA

(Ways & Means; Regular Course 02/27/2023; Interview 03/13/2023 @ 6:45 PM; Majority Vote)

The Ways and Means Committee recommended that the City Council CONFIRM the appointment of Matthew Valeri. By a vote of 9-0 the appointment of Matthew Valeri was CONFIRMED.

Second Hand Dealers

21-23 Peyton's Flea Market: Request to renew license to deal secondhand articles at 107 Union Street. (Ways & Means; Regular course; 02/27/2023; Majority Vote)

The Ways and Means Committee recommended that the City Council GRANT the secondhand dealers license for Peyton's Flea Market. By a vote of 9-0 the secondhand dealers license for Peyton's Flea Market was GRANTED.

Election of City Clerk

Election of City Clerk- Katelyn Huffman – term to expire April 15, 2028 (Ways & Means; Regular Course 03/13/2023; Majority Vote)

The Ways and Means Committee recommended the reelection of the current City Clerk, Katelyn Huffman.

Councillor Pauline Cormier Acknowledged the current City Clerk's proficiency, knowledge, and training. She noted that she has elevated the office and managed to navigate the Council and other city departments through COVID to ensure meetings were held appropriately.

Councillor Chalifoux-Zephir recommended undergoing a different process. She felt that due to the importance of the job, as with other departments heads like the Superintendent and Library Director, they are each evaluated every year, and this should occur for the City Clerk as well. She also stated that she hoped and proposed to treat the City Clerk the same way. She stated the position is highly paid. She has had very good experience working with the current City Clerk. She stated that an evaluation would look at all the good, and then the pieces where improvement could be sought, and point out training opportunities and improve systems. She stated that this process would be a benefit to the city and should not be seen as a criticism. She recommended having a subcommittee meeting to prepare an evaluation and therefore improve services.

Councillor Pauline Cormier stated that an evaluation and contract did not make sense for the position. Salary, time off, and other aspects are statutory and cannot be negotiated with the City Clerk. There isn't enough time to set up an evaluation as this process can take months. She stated if this were to occur, it could be worked on for the next appointment, or to take place even next year. HR would need to

be involved and it could take a long time. She did not want to wait past the appointment's expiration date. She stated there has been no past precedent for this type of evaluation or contract for any other City Clerk.

Councillor Brady asked what the rush was. He stated they were not being fair to taxpayers.

Councillor Brady stated that all department heads in the City need to be interviewed before taking a position. He did not want to rush the process. He supported Councillor Chalifoux-Zephir's recommendation. He stated that for an investment of over a half million dollars, it was not fair to the tax payers to rush this. He states that he read the charter and the rules and ordinances and appointments all need the same process.

Councillor David Cormier state that an opinion from KP law on 07/13/2022 stated that the Election of the City Clerk and Assistant City Clerk was not considered a measure, and therefore did not qualify to receive regular course, as it is an executive power of the City Council. He stated that the City Clerk's appointment is treated differently from all other department heads.

Councillor Chalifoux-Zephir stated that the Library Director is appointed by the Board of Trustees and is evaluated and under contract. She compared the position as similar to that of the City Clerk and sees it as a plus, and stated that it would be good for people.

Councillor Ardinger stated that the City Clerk's performance is evaluated every two weeks by the Council. That the Clerk has been doing a good job. An evaluation can take 2 months or more to prepare, he felt it would take too much time to complete.

Councillor Bodanza stated that he is prepared to move forward with the Election of the City Clerk. COVID was difficult but the Clerk managed it well, the clerk has also helped the City with IT and other matters. He has no reservations. He states that the clerk is dedicated and works hard, not a lot of people around with her skillset, and that this is the type of employee you want to keep around.

Councillor Angelini stated that the clerk is always easily accessible, even on the weekends. She has worked well with COVID, helped with IT, and handled many personnel related matters. She still found time to help update the fee schedule. In the private sector, you find a good employee and you keep them. He felt it was best to move forward with the confirmation.

Councillor Chalifoux-Zephir stated that she did not know all the things that the City Clerk did, and that an evaluation would review this and bring out these things. That this is not a criticism. It is an opportunity, why evaluate one department head but not the others.

Councillor Bodanza stated that every department is different. This instance is under executive authority, you cannot compare the City Clerk to other department heads, as the way they are appointed is different.

Councillor Freda stated that it is no secret that she is a process person. She is not looking to replace or find another Clerk. The issue she had is that it is not under matters for the first time with Regular Course. She did not get any information regarding this opinion, why cannot it not be given regular course tonight.

Councillor David Cormier informed Councillor Freda that as past practice, the Regular Course would be to immediately refer it to Ways and Means for a recommendation and vote within the same night. That the legal opinion was provided to all Councillors previously via email on 07/13/2022 and that all Councillors have access to it. He also has past meetings and minutes in which this process was used for previous clerks, so it is consistent with historical practice as well.

Councillor Freda asked why there was a rush. She stated other appointments get a two week wait, and interview. She understands it is a different situation. She has only heard good things about the Clerk. It is more of a transparency issue. She wants the process to work. She understands the Council has the power to do it, and does not want to vote no because of the process, not because she does not want to reappoint her.

Councillor Bodanza asked if any other clerks have been evaluated in the past. He stated that the answer is no. He made a motion to move the question.

The Ways and Means Committee recommended that the City Council CONFIRM the election of Katelyn Huffman, as City Clerk, for a term to expire 04/15/2028.

By a roll call vote of 6-3 (Councillor Brady, Councillor Chalifoux-Zephir, Councillor Freda NAY), the election of Katelyn Huffman, City Clerk, was CONFIRMED with a term to expire 04/15/2028.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

Councillor Brady started that he would like to move secondhand dealer licenses, bowling licenses, and theater licenses to the Licensing Commission.

Councillor David Cormier stated that Councillor Brady could put together a petition proposing this, and that KP Law would look at it and the Council could go from there.

XIV. OLD BUSINESS

XV. COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Councillor David Cormier informed the public that there is a parking ban in effect due to the snowstorm. He also informed the public that there will be a one-day trash delay. It was also stated that free parking is available at the train station during the storm.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Councillor Angelini made a motion to adjourn. Councillor Bodanza seconded the motion. By a vote of 9-0 the meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

- Katelyn Huffman, City Clerk