



**Council President**

Richard M. Marchand

**Council Vice President**

Gail P. Feckley

**Councillors-at-Large**

John Dombrowski

Claire M. Freda

Susan Chalifoux Zephir

Thomas F. Ardinger

**Ward Councillors**

Ward 1 – Gail P. Feckley

Ward 2 – Pauline M. Cormier

Ward 3 – David R. Cormier

Ward 4 – Mark C. Bodanza

Ward 5 – Richard M. Marchand

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**MINUTES**

**CITY OF LEOMINSTER**

**CITY COUNCIL**

**JUNE 24, 2019**

**JOHN P. MAHAN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**INFORMATION SESSION WITH ROGER BROOKS, 6:00 P.M.**

C-79 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request that the attached Loan Order for \$11,294,000.00 be adopted for finance of an aeration basin and secondary clarifier upgrade project. (*Finance; Regular Course 5/13/2019; PH 5/28/2019 @ 6:13 PM; PH Continued 6/24/2019 @ 6:30 P.M.; Further Time 5/28/2019; 2/3 Vote*)

**Councillor Bodanza opened the information session at 6:00 PM. Sue Chalifoux Zephir recused herself from the information session due to a possible conflict of interest. Roger Brooks explained that this upgrade would be the last portion of the upgrade plan for the treatment plant. It includes technological upgrades and efficiency upgrades. He gave the City Council and the City Clerk a letter that addresses a principle loan forgiveness based off a community's demographics. The total savings would be over 2.5 million dollars. Looking to get a 0% interest rate for the next project as well. Explained that it is a cost-effective method to upgrade the plant. Explained that they try to spread out these upgrades and loans in order to spread out the burden on the rate payer. Councillor Bodanza asked if this could be put off. Roger Brooks explained that it was important to do it now many parts are no longer replaceable. Councillor Pauline Cormier asked what the turnaround time would be. Mr. Brooks explained that the turn in period would be by October 2019. The Public Information Session ended at 6:08 PM.**

**PUBLIC HEARING, 6:15 P.M.**

C-110 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request that \$129,900,000.00 be appropriated to the General Fund Budget as listed in the attached budget. The same amount to be raised by Fiscal Year 2020 Revenue. (*Finance; Regular Course 6/10/2019; Public Hearing 06/24/2019 @ 6:15 PM Majority Vote*)

**The public hearing opened at 6:15 PM.**

**Gary Zimmerman, 47 Lynnhaven Road, spoke against the budget, Leominster is financially sound, but the City will have 30 more million dollars than ten years ago. Taxes are on edge of tripling, not financially sound if still not trying to save money. Pension liability fund, OPEB, Leominster spends 15 million on retirement alone, 12 million of which goes to schools, in 2017 2.4 million spent on early retirement healthcare, he also broke down totals he found on school department break out, he also raised concerns for the ambulance and its profitability, he cited numbers on salaries that seemed substantial to him, suggested auditing street lights, sidewalks, and other cost saving ideas with the council.**

**Dean J. Mazzarella, spoke about the budget process for the city. He explained that there is roughly 15 departments and major budgets. He explained that they are requests because they do not know what the revenue will be. By law we follow prop 2.5 and Leominster has never had an override. Most the time all departments have more requests than can be fulfilled. He explained that Leominster has used overtime in order to save costs from hiring another individual to fulfill that position which would cost more. He explained that the process is big picture.**

**Councillor Bodanza asked three times whether anyone from the public or the Council would like to speak regarding the budget. No one else spoke. The public hearing closed at 6:34 PM.**

**PUBLIC HEARING, 6:16 P.M.**

*C-111 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request that a total appropriation of \$5,878,722.75 be made to the FY 2020 Water Department Budget; the same amount to be raised/offset by Fiscal Year 2020 Receipts as authorized by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44 Section 53E. (Finance; Regular Course 6/10/2019; Public Hearing 06/24/2019 @ 6:16 PM Majority Vote;)*

**The public hearing opened at 6:34 PM. Councillor Bondanza asked three times whether anyone from the public or the Council would like to speak regarding the budget. No one spoke. The public hearing closed at 6:35 PM.**

**PUBLIC HEARING, 6:17 P.M.**

*C-112 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request that a total appropriation of \$5,655,895.44 be made to the FY 2020 Sewer Department Budget; the same amount to be raised/offset by Fiscal Year 2020 Receipts as authorized by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44 Section 53E. (Finance; Regular Course 6/10/2019; Public Hearing 06/24/2019 @ 6:17 PM; Majority Vote)*

**The public hearing opened at 6:35 PM. Councillor Bondanza asked three times whether anyone from the public or the Council would like to speak regarding the budget. No one spoke. The public hearing closed at 6:36 PM.**

## **CDCBG BUDGET PRESENTATION, 6:20 PM**

C-94 Ellen Racine, CDCBG Director, FY20 CDCBG Budget Presentation

**Ellen Racine, CDCBG Director, explained the FY20 CDCBG Budget to the City Council at 6:37 PM. Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor informed the Councillors we are an entitlement community, which means the money comes directly to the city. There are certain categories we must stay and remain in. It is broken down by planning administration, code enforcement, and an economic developer. Do a lot of work for disabled, veterans, and elderly. Spend a lot of funding on things like roofs, and other home improvements for low to moderate income families that can not afford such improvements. He also gave an overview of some of the programs that are run due to this grant.**

**Councillor David Cormier asked when the loan for the sidewalks would be done. Ms. Racine explained that it would be done in 10 years, it was halfway done the 20-year loan period.**

**Councillor Freda informed the council that it is really a Mayor's program and that we are lucky to get the program.**

## **PUBLIC HEARING, 6:30 P.M.**

C-79 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request that the attached Loan Order for \$11,294,000.00 be adopted for finance of an aeration basin and secondary clarifier upgrade project. (*Finance; Regular Course 5/13/2019; PH 5/28/2019 @ 6:13 PM; PH Continued 6/24/2019 @ 6:30 P.M.; Further Time 5/28/2019; 2/3 Vote*)

**The public hearing opened at 6:45 PM. Councillor Bodanza opened the floor to public comment. He asked three times whether anyone had comments for or against the petition. No one spoke. Councillor Bodanza asked whether any councillors had questions or comments. No one spoke. The public hearing closed at 6:46 PM.**

## **PUBLIC HEARING, 6:35 P.M.**

59-19 Teknor Apex Co. located at 31 Fuller Street: Request to amend Flammable Liquids License from 30,000 gallons to 60,000 gallons. (*Legal Affairs: Regular Course 5/28/2019; PH 6/24/2019 @ 6:35 P.M.; Majority Vote*)

**The public hearing opened at 6:46 PM. Rick Leonard, the Environmental Safety Manager, and Clark Sylvester, the Plant Manager, at Teknor Apex introduced themselves. They explained they would like to install a second mineral oil tank at the 31 – 33 Fuller Street facility. Councillor Bodanza asked if there were any members of the public who would like to speak. Dean J. Mazzarella, informed the council that neighbors were present and would like to know the danger of the mineral oil. Mr. Leonard explained that they will be storing a white mineral oil that is combustible, with a flash point of 420 degrees Fahrenheit. Its risk**

is low for flammability and explosion. It has full secondary containment. It is a food grade mineral oil. The mineral oil is used in their primary product which is compounded rubber. They make pellets that they sell to other manufactures that turn it into product. Councillor Dombrowski asked how long they operated at the site. As Teknor, ten years, prior DSM originated there in 1992. Councillor Dombrowski asked what the hours of operation were and how many employees they had. Mr. Leonard explained it was a 24/7 operation and they had 94 employees.

Mr. Prioetti spoke from 26 Lincoln Terrace, felt like it was a much larger scale and had concern due to that.

Councillor Dombrowski asked that they expand their information on safety procedures.

Mr. Leonard explained that most procedures are designed around spill control. The high flash point makes it, so it is not as highly a focus. He explained that there is grounding and bonding to ensure that no electrical shock occurs to spark an explosion.

Councillor Dombrowski asked for the second and third time whether anyone else would like to speak in favor or against the petition. No one spoke.

Councillor Freda asked if there were any issues on this site or other sites. Mr. Sylvester informed that there was no issue at Leominster or other sites with the storage of the mineral oil. Councillor Bodanza confirmed that both tanks had secondary containment, and Mr. Leonard agreed that they did.

Councillor Chalifoux Zephir asked the applicants to explain what secondary containment was. Mr. Leonard explained that it is a standard that is required for holding combustible material and the whole facility is surrounded by a fence with a 24/7 gate. Councillor Chalifoux Zephir asked how the mineral oil is piped in. Mr. Leonard explained that it is pumped above ground into piping. There are no floor drains or risk of getting it into the stormwater system once in the plant.

Councillor Pauline Cormier asked how often the tanks are inspected. Mr. Leonard explained they are inspected annually by a third-party consultant.

Councillor Freda asked if they planned to expand the company. Mr. Sylvester explained that they have within the current company and footprint.

Councillor Feckley asked if any of the material spilled, how would it be cleaned and if it would be considered hazardous. Mr. Leonard explained it is not hazardous and that they have a special procedure with counter measure to counteract such an instance.

Mr. Pioletti asked if there was any smell associated with it. Mr. Leonard informed them that there are no smells associated with it. The mineral oil itself is odorless. The public hearing closed at 7:03 PM.

## **PUBLIC HEARING, 6:40 P.M.**

60-19 Georgia-Pacific Consumer Operations LLC for Dixie Consumer Products located at 149 Hamilton Street: Request to amend Flammable Liquids License from 17,067 gallons to 21, 967 gallons. (*Legal Affairs; Regular Course 5/28/2019; PH 6/24/2019 @ 6:40 P.M.; Majority Vote*)

**The public hearing opened at 7:04 PM. Kaleb Hyatt, Site Manager, and Steve Schmidt the Reliability Manager, appeared before the Council on behalf of Georgia-Pacific. Mr. Hyatt explained that they make plastic cutlery. The reason for the increase in flammable storage is due to a safety audit and maintenance. They discovered that their existing facility can hold more than what was originally thought. Mr. Hyatt explained that there is FR-3 Fluid, an environment friendly mineral oil, and hydraulic fluid. Mr. Schmidt explained that each machine has a tank that holds the fluid and they are filled with a transfer cart from a 1,000-gallon storage tank, these tanks are inside the building within a secondary containment. Nothing is stored outside. Councillor Dombrowski asked how the fluid is transferred to the machines. Mr. Schmidt explained that a coupling directly attaches to the machines.**

**Councillor Dombrowski asked three times whether any member of the public would like to speak for or against the petition.**

**Councillor Dombrowski noted that the fire and health departments recommended approval.**

**Councillor Marchand asked if this would be the last time, or with every equipment change, would they need to request a change in their permit. Mr. Hyatt explained that in the future they may need to come back.**

**Councillor Feckley asked how many people they employ. They informed them that it is over 200.**

## **PUBLIC FORUM, 6:45 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 timeframe. The Council will not be responding or answering any questions; however, at the discretion of the Council President, clarification may be given.

**Nona Ojala, of the School Committee, 320 Pleasant Street, spoke about the budget. She had mixed feelings about the budget. She was happy for all departments that were receiving what they requested. Disheartened that the school department did not get what they requested. She said that the Mayor promised more money to go to the school department. Concerned with using other money to finish paying off transportation costs. She questioned the large amounts of money in stabilization and asked why it could not go to the schools.**

**Gary Zimmerman, 47 Lynnhaven Road, spoke about the budget. Shared an idea that maybe the school should go to a full year school system. Wants people to think about these things which the taxpayers pay for.**

**Melissa Bible, 178 Fifth Street, requested that the school budget be voted on as presented. She explained that the budget for schools was cut while other departments were not. She explained that there could be a budget cut, but if a cut was made then it should cut something from all departments.**

**Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor asked that Department Heads who did not get everything they requested, raise their hands. A large portion of the department heads raised their hands.**

**The Mayor explained that the budget for the schools had an increase and has in the past. This does not include the money coming from the State Legislature which would be additional revenue. The Mayor explained that salary and wages were fully funded. 3.8 million additional money will be given in additional funds to the schools. Prior issues due to poor management and were still over. Most other communities have level service budgets.**

**Michael Stassen, 893 Main Street, has mixed feelings on budget. C-99, pointed out that 200,000 have been recorded as net school spending.**

**John Richard, City Comptroller and chairman of the retirement board, runs group insurance program, for general public knowledge wants to explain that there is no such thing as a 1/12<sup>th</sup> budget, that is a state level function budget. We must pass a budget to spend money. Explained celebration for pension was because of the cost savings the city will be saving due to the unfunded liability. Once you hit 100% you still must be proactive because the market is constantly changing. Explained that they would protect the appropriation due to the risk of the liability. OPEB is a real cost that has**

been negotiated with unions and we are paying our required contribution. The expense won't go away because you didn't fund it, it will grow.

Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor, spoke about Free Cash. He explained a lot comes from reimbursements. Money that must be appropriated first and paid back later. Money from real estate, water, and other one-time revenue comes in at the end of the year also comes back. Free Cash isn't free. For 26 budgets have never borrowed for anything except for three schools and public library. Some years higher than others.

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

The regular meeting of the City Council opened at 7:00 PM.  
Councillor Bodanza Made a motion to recess at 7:03PM.  
Councillor David Cormier Seconded the motion  
The motion carried unanimously. The meeting went into recess at 7:04 PM.  
The regular meeting reconvened at: 7:42 PM.

A moment of silence was given in recognition to Mary Beth Brow.

**II. ROLL CALL OF COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE**

Council President Marchand Council Vice President Feckley, Councillor Challifoux Zephir, Councillor Dombrowski, Councillor Freda, Councillor David Cormier, Councillor Pauline Cormier, Councillor Ardinger, Councillor Bodanza present.

Others Present: Katelyn Huffman, City Clerk and Titi Siriphan, Assistant City Clerk.

**III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS PRESENTED BY THE VICE PRESIDENT**

June 10, 2019 Minutes – The meeting minutes were approved.

**IV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

ORDERS

Emergency Preamble

C-116 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$17,200.00 to the Emergency Management Agency Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. (*Finance; 2/3 Vote*)

Councillor Bodanza explained that due to the timeframe in which the free cash was appropriated, there is limited time to approve the use of such money, if not used it would go into the next fiscal year.

**Councillor Freda felt that this should have a special meeting. Councillor Bodanza reminded the Council that these would all have to be ratified at the next meeting.**

**Council President Marchand made a motion to accept C-116 as an emergency preamble. Vote: 5-4 (Opposed Councillor Feckley, Councillor Chalifoux Zephir, Councillor David Cormier, Councillor Freda).**

**The Emergency Preamble was not accepted no further action was taken.**

Emergency Preamble

C-117 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$250,000.00 to the Highway Capital Outlay Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. (*Finance; 2/3 Vote*)

**Council President Marchand made a motion to accept C-117 as an emergency preamble. Vote: 6-3 (Opposed Councillor Feckley, Councillor Chalifoux Zephir, Councillor David Cormier).**

**The Finance Committee Recommended that the communication be granted. Vote 9-0 the communication was granted.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 9-0 the order was ADOPTED.**

Emergency Preamble

C-118 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$400,000.00 to the School Department Expense Account; same amount to be raised by Fiscal Year 2020 Revenue. (*Finance; 2/3 Vote*)

RE: This appropriation is being made in anticipation of Chapter 70 Aid being increased from the Governor's budget. In the event that the final State Aid Chapter 70 amount does not increase, the Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Levy will absorb this amount.

**Council President Marchand made a motion to accept C-118 as an emergency preamble. Vote: 6-3 (Opposed Councillor Chalifoux Zephir, Councillor David Cormier, Councillor Freda).**

**Councillor Freda asked whether we could vote for an item that is not approved yet. Councillor Bodanza informed the Council the source is guaranteed.**

**The Finance Committee recommended that the communication be granted.**



**Councillor Chalifoux Zephir asked why we could not amend our existing budget. Councillor Bodanza explained it would require an amended budget notice that we could not meet.**

**Vote: 9-0 the communication was granted.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

Emergency Preamble

C-119 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$75,000.00 to the Refuse Disposal Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; 2/3 Vote)*

**Council President Marchand made a motion to accept C-119 as an emergency preamble. Vote: 5-4 (Opposed Councillor Feckley, Councillor Chalifoux Zephir, Councillor David Cormier, Councillor Freda).**

**The Emergency Preamble was not accepted no further action was taken.**

Emergency Preamble

C-120 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$220,000.00 to the School Department Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; 2/3 Vote)*

RE:	School Phone System	\$200,000.00
	Northwest HVAC	<u>\$ 20,000.00</u>
		\$220,000.00

**Council President Marchand made a motion to accept C-120 as an emergency preamble. Vote: 8-1 (Opposed Councillor David Cormier).**

**The Finance Committee recommended that the communication be granted.**

**Vote: 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

Emergency Preamble

C-121 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$36,000.00 to the Election & Registration Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; 2/3Vote)*

**Council President Marchand made a motion to accept C-121 as an emergency preamble. Vote: 7-2 (Opposed Councillor David Cormier, Councillor Freda).**

**The Finance Committee recommended that the communication be granted.  
Vote: 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

Emergency Preamble

C-122 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$20,359.00 to the Police Department Salary & Wages Account; same amount to be transferred from the Collective Bargaining Expense Account. (*Finance; 2/3 Vote*)

**Council President Marchand made a motion to accept C-122 as an emergency preamble. Vote: 7-2 (Opposed Councillor David Cormier, Councillor Chalifoux Zephir).**

**The Finance Committee recommended that the communication be GRANTED.  
Vote: 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

Emergency Preamble

C-123 Dean J. Mazzarella, Major: Relative to the appropriation of \$25,000.00 to the Medicare Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. (*Finance; 2/3 Vote*)

**Council President Marchand made a motion to accept C-123 as an emergency preamble. Vote: 6-3 (Opposed Councillor Chalifoux Zephir, Councillor David Cormier, Councillor Feckley).**

**The Finance Committee recommended that the communication be granted.  
Vote: 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

Emergency Preamble

C-124 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$4,700.00 to the Forestry Regular Labor Account; same amount to be transferred from the Collective Bargaining Expense Account. (*Finance; 2/3 Vote*)

**Council President Marchand made a motion to accept C-124 as an emergency preamble. Vote: 7-2 (Opposed Councillor Chalifoux Zephir, Councillor David Cormier).**

**The Finance Committee recommended that the communication be granted.  
Vote: 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

Emergency Preamble

C-125 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$20,000.00 to the Highway Regular Labor Account; same amount to be transferred from the Collective Bargaining Expense Account. (*Finance; 2/3 Vote*)

**Council President Marchand made a motion to accept C-125 as an emergency preamble. Vote: 7-2 (Opposed Councillor Chalifoux Zephir, Councillor David Cormier).**

**The Finance Committee recommended that the communication be granted.  
Vote: 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

Emergency Preamble

C-126 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$5,500.00 to the Highway Overtime Account; same amount to be transferred from the Collective Bargaining Expense Account. (*Finance; 2/3 Vote*)

**Council President Marchand made a motion to accept C-126 as an emergency preamble. Vote: 7-2 (Opposed Councillor Chalifoux Zephir, Councillor David Cormier).**

**The Finance Committee recommended that the communication be granted.  
Vote: 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

Emergency Preamble

C-127 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$8,750.00 to the Sewer Department Regular Labor Account; same amount to be transferred from the Sewer Support Services Expense Account. (*Finance; 2/3 Vote*)

RE:	Regular Labor	\$7,500.00
	Overtime	<u>\$1,250.00</u>
		\$8,750.00

**Council President Marchand made a motion to accept C-127 as an emergency preamble. Vote: 7-1 (Opposed Councillor David Cormier). Councillor Chalifoux Zephir recused herself from the discussion due to a possible conflict of interest.**

**The Finance Committee recommended that the communication be granted. Vote: 8-0 the communication was GRANTED.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 8-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

Emergency Preamble

C-128 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$4,300.00 to the Cemetery Regular Labor Account. Same amount to be transferred from the Collective Bargaining Expense Account. (*Finance; 2/3 Vote*)

**Council President Marchand made a motion to accept C-128 as an emergency preamble. Vote: 7-2 (Opposed Councillor Chalifoux Zephir, Councillor David Cormier).**

**The Finance Committee recommended that the communication be granted. Vote: 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

Emergency Preamble

C-129 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$17,000.00 to the Water Regular Labor Account; same amount to be transferred from the Water Support Services Expense Account. (*Finance; 2/3 Vote*)

RE:	Regular Labor	\$14,800.00
	Overtime	<u>\$ 2,200.00</u>
		\$17,000.00

**Council President Marchand made a motion to accept C-129 as an emergency preamble. Vote: 7-1 (Opposed Councillor David Cormier). Councillor Chalifoux Zephir recused herself from the discussion due to a possible conflict of interest.**

**The Finance Committee recommended that the communication be granted. Vote: 8-0 the communication was GRANTED.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 8-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

- C-130 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$2,836.00 to the Library Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Library State Aid Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account. *(Finance; Majority Vote)*

**This communication was given regular course.**

**V. MATTERS BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL**

**VI. CITY OF LEOMINSTER – FINANCIAL REPORT**

- a. The balance of the Stabilization account was: \$19,836,115.00**

**VII. FINANCE**

- C-93 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$852,565.00 to the Water Department Capital Outlay Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication. Councillor Chalifoux Zephir recused herself due to a possible conflict of interest. Vote: 8-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 8-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

- C-95 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$5,100,000.00 to the Stabilization Fund; same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication. Vote: 9-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

- C-96 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$12,000.00 to the Mayor's Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication. Vote: 9-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-97 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$176,608.00 to the School Department Expense Account; same amount to be raised by FY 2020 Revenue. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication.  
Vote: 9-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-98 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$130,000.00 to the Recreation Capital Outlay Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication.  
Councillor David Cormier informed the Council that this is very worth while and is happy to support it.  
Vote: 9-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-99 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$267,373.00 to the Insurance Expense Account; same total amount to be transferred from the Various Workers Compensation Loss Funds as listed Below: *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

FY19	\$125,000.00	Workers Compensation Loss Fund
FY18	\$ 75,000.00	Workers Compensation Loss Fund
FY17	\$ 50,000.00	Workers Compensation Loss Fund
FY16	\$ 17,373.00	Workers Compensation Loss Fund
Total:	\$267,373.00	

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication.  
Vote: 9-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-100 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$67,639.00 to the Cemetery Salary & Wages Account; same amount to be transferred from the Cemetery Perpetual Care Income Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

RE:	Laborer	\$36,363.00
	Clerk	\$16,457.00
	Part Time Summer	<u>\$14,546.00</u>
		\$67,639.00

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication. Vote: 8-1 (Councillor David Cormier opposed) the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 8-1 (Councillor David Cormier opposed) the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-101 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$75,000.00 to the Water Department Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Water Department Labor Account. (*Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote*)

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication. Councillor Chalifoux Zephir recused herself due to a possible conflict of interest. Vote: 8-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 8-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-102 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$65,000.00 to the Sewer Department Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Sewer Support Services Expense Account. (*Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote*)

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication. Councillor Chalifoux Zephir recused herself due to a possible conflict of interest. Vote: 8-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 8-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-103 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$20,000.00 to the Police Department Overtime Account; same amount to be transferred from the Police Department Salary & Wages Account. (*Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote*)

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication. Vote: 9-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-104 Dean J. Mazzaella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$2,721.00 to the Disability Commission Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Disability Fines Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication. Councillor David Cormier recused himself from the communication due to a possible conflict of interest. Councillor Feckley commended the commission and Councillor David Cormier on this and informed the council they will spend the money on assistive technology for the library.**

**Vote: 8-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 8-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-105 Dean J. Mazzaella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$6,000.00 to the Parking Meter Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Parking Meter Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication.**

**Vote: 9-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-106 Dean J. Mazzaella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$6,000.00 to the Parking Meter Salary & Wages Account; same amount to be transferred from the Parking Meter Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication.**

**Vote: 9-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-107 Dean J. Mazzaella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$200,000.00 be made to the Sewer Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication.**



**Councillor Chalifoux Zephir recused herself due to a possible conflict of interest. Councillor Feckley asked for a written quote for the next meeting regarding the vehicle.**

**Vote: 8-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 8-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-108 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$45,000.00 be made to the Fire Department Salary & Wages Account; same to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication. Councillor David Cormier recused himself from the communication due to a possible conflict of interest.**

**Vote: 8-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 8-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-109 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$425,341.00 be made to the Wastewater Capital Outlay Expense Account; same amount to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended to grant the communication. Councillor Chalifoux Zephir recused herself due to a possible conflict of interest.**

**Vote: 8-0 the communication was granted.**

**Ordered: 8-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-110 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Request that \$129,900,000.00 be appropriated to the General Fund Budget as listed in the attached budget. The same amount to be raised by Fiscal Year 2020 Revenue. *(Finance; Regular Course; 06/10/2019; Public Hearing 06/24/2019 @ 6:15 PM; Majority Vote;)*

**Council President Marchand asked if the Finance Chair would like to invite members of the City Departments to answer direct questions. Councillor Bodanza asked to first ask his committee, then himself, then open it to the council, then if necessary, allow the Council President to invite people up as necessary.**

**The Finance Committee Recommended that the budget be granted. Councillor David Cormier recused himself regarding the Fire Department Salaries and Wages and Disability Commission items, on all other matters he recommends granting the budget. Council President Marchand disclosed that he has family in the school system and will recuse himself from that part of the budget. Councillor Chalifoux Zephir recused herself from all parts of the budget relating to water and sewer. Councillor Freda recused herself from the part of the budget pertaining to MMA dues as a director.**

**Councillor Bodanza spoke for the budget. He sited the cities A+ grade, due to full funding, which he felt was a laudable step. He also spoke about the stabilization fund that was healthy, and meets Moody's criteria, he also stated we will be retiring bonds, addressing capital needs, and feels we are doing a good job meeting needs and also saving money and is proud to support the budget.**

**Councillor David Cormier spoke about his support on the budget. He stated he is not 100% happy with it and understands the desire for tax relief but progress has been made in other areas such as the schools. Pension increases have been given to retirees, does not want to regress back from the progress we have made. He stated you cannot cut spending but make progress. He stated he supports the budget and expects great things in the coming fiscal year.**

**Councillor Pauline Cormier echoed Councillor David Cormier regarding the constant rise of taxes. She stated we do some things well but in other areas we could do better. She stated that we need to maintain what we have and look to the future but hopes to do better in the next few years.**

**Councillor Chalifoux Zephir stated that she could not support the budget because we should do a better job for our public schools. She informed the Council that 1.8 million dollars will be coming from the State. She stated dollars do not tell the story and that a percentage of net school spending is important. She felt that the process is lacking, she did not get an amended budget which she asked for, she stated that Leominster is a gateway city, and that Leominster needs to address funding with the schools. She stated that a healthy stabilization fund is good, but she sited that free cash is continuing to grow. She also stated that tax relief is good, but more should be invested in the schools. She stated that she could not believe that the City elected officials, as well as the schools should be fighting over the state minimum funding for the schools.**

**Councillor Freda stated that she wished she could support the budget. She stated she is disappointed and frustrated that every year it becomes adversarial. She informed the Council she has sat through 33 budgets and stated that she does not know what it would take for everyone to be on the same page. She stated that she felt like more could be done, she stated the stabilization fund was for emergencies. She stated that she was mainly concerned about receiving a budget, free cash, as well as have more balance for the schools.**

**Councillor Dombrowski stated that the beauty and the paradox of budgeting in government is that everyone is right, it is just about priorities. He stated that he has voted against the budget often due to the lack of support for the schools but also agrees that there has been an improvement in that regard and feels that he will support the budget.**

**Councillor Chalifoux Zephir made a motion to reduce line item 356 by \$950,000.**

**Councillor Feckley seconded the motion.**

**Councillor Bodanza stated that while we have the power to cut it, the Council does not have the ability to allocate or appropriate it elsewhere, so it is gone. He explained that due to actuarial accounting, and the time it takes to finish it, the number is reserved to estimate the cost and any extra would be appropriated to different areas which would be used for schools. He stated taking away the money takes away the ability to appropriate it elsewhere. He stated he is opposed to the motion.**

**Vote: 3-6 (Councillor Dombrowski, Councillor Bodanza, Councillor Ardinger, Councillor Pauline Cormier, Councillor David Cormier, Councillor Marchand, opposed). The motion was defeated.**

**Dean J. Mazarella, spoke to the Council. He stated many communities cannot meet net spending requirements and level service budgets. Many communities are in trouble with D.O.R. he stated that he thought they were giving the schools more. He stated that in addition to the additional money from the city, the schools will also get money from the state beginning July 1, 2019. He stated that they do the best that they can with needs. He stated that 25% of free cash last year went back to the schools.**

**Councillor made a motion to grant the budget Vote: 6-3 (Opposed Councillor Freda, Councillor Chalifoux Zephir, Councillor Feckley). ORDERED: Vote: 7-2 (Councillor Feckley, Councillor Chalifoux Zephir opposed).**

C-111 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Request that a total appropriation of \$5,878,722.75 be made to the FY 2020 Water Department Budget; the same amount to be raised/offset by Fiscal Year 2020 Receipts as authorized by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44 Section 53E. *(Finance; Regular Course; 06/10/2019; Public Hearing 06/24/2019 @ 6:16 PM; Majority Vote;)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended that the budget be granted. Councillor Chalifoux Zephir recused herself due to a possible conflict of interest. Vote: 8-0 the communication was granted.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 8-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-112 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Request that a total appropriation of \$5,655,895.44 be made to the FY 2020 Sewer Department Budget; the same amount to be raised/offset by Fiscal Year 2020 Receipts as authorized by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44 Section 53E. *(Finance; Regular Course; 06/10/2019; Public Hearing 06/24/2019 @ 6:17 PM; Majority Vote;)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended that the budget be granted. Councillor Chalifoux Zephir recused herself due to a possible conflict of interest. Vote: 8-0 the communication was granted.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 8-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-113 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$123,000.00 be made to the Miscellaneous Capital Outlay Expense Account as listed; same to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended that the communication be granted. Vote: 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

C-114 Dean J. Mazzearella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$664,350.00 be made to the School Department Expense Account same to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

**Councillor Bodanza made a motion to amend the communication to appropriate the money to the School Department Transportation Account. Councillor Freda seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**The Finance Committee Recommended that the communication be granted as amended. Vote: 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

- C-115 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Relative to the appropriation of \$461,337.00 be made to the School Department Expense Account same to be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Account. *(Finance; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote)*

**The Finance Committee Recommended that the communication be granted. Vote: 9-0 the communication was GRANTED.**

**ORDERED: Vote: 9-0 the communication was ADOPTED.**

### **VIII. LEGAL AFFAIRS**

- 59-19 Teknor Apex Co. located at 31 Fuller Street: Request to amend Flammable Liquids License from 30,000 gallons to 60,000 gallons. *(Legal Affairs: Regular Course 5/28/2019; PH 6/24/2019 @ 6:35 P.M.; Majority Vote)*

**The Legal Affairs Subcommittee Recommended that the petition be granted. Vote: 9-0 the petition was granted.**

- 60-19 Georgia-Pacific Consumer Operations LLC for Dixie Consumer Products located at 149 Hamilton Street: Request to amend Flammable Liquids License from 17,067 gallons to 21, 967 gallons. *(Legal Affairs; Regular Course 5/28/2019; PH 6/24/2019 @ 6:40 P.M.; Majority Vote)*

**The Legal Affairs Subcommittee Recommended that the petition be granted. Vote: 9-0 the petition was granted.**

- 61-19 Raymond Racine, DPW Director: Request that the City Council amend the City Ordinances to reclassify the position of “Water Specialist” into the position “Code Enforcer” and change the salary grade from an S-5 to an S-7. *(Legal Affairs; Regular Course 5/28/2019; PH 07/08/2019 @6:35 PM; 2/3 Vote)*

**The Legal Affairs Subcommittee Recommended that the petition be given further time and set the public hearing for July 8, 2019 at 6:35 PM. Vote: 9-0 the petition was given further time and a public hearing was set.**

- 64-19 Mark C. Bodanza, Esquire: Relative to Amend Section 13-34 of the Revised Ordinance for the City of Leominster. *(Legal Affairs; PH July 8, 2019 @ 6:30PM; 2/3 Vote)*

**Councillor Bodanza made a motion to amend the wording of the petition to state “eliminate 1 of 2 existing no parking zones that run southerly on Union Street from intersection of Central and Union Street.” Councillor David Cormier seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**The Legal Affairs Subcommittee Recommended that the amended petition be given further time and set the public hearing for July 8, 2019 at 6:30 PM. Vote: 9-0 the amended petition was given further time and a public hearing was set.**

C-92 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request to amend Title 5, Chapter 33, Section 59 (a) Brave Act. SEE ATTACHED. (*Legal Affairs; Regular Course 06/10/2019; 2/3 Vote*)

**Councillor Dombrowski made a motion to strike the word amend in the petition. Councillor Bodanza seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

**The Legal Affairs Subcommittee Recommended that the City Council ADOPT the act. Vote: 9-0 the communication regarding the Act was ADOPTED.**

#### **IX. WAYS AND MEANS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

C-94 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Relative to the approval of the CDCBG Budget/Action Plan for Year 45. (*Ways & Means; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote*)

**The Ways and Means Committee Recommended that the communication be granted. Vote: 9-0 the communication was granted.**

63-19 The Repair Place Inc.: Renew the Second Hand Dealers License for The Repair Place Inc. located at 100 Commercial Road. (*Ways & Means; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Majority Vote*)

**The Ways and Means Committee Recommended that the secondhand dealers license be granted. Vote: 9-0 the secondhand dealer license was GRANTED.**

#### **X. PUBLIC SERVICE**

62-19 National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc.: Request permission to locate poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way: National

Grid to install 1 Jointly Owned Pole on Mill Street beginning at a point approximately 330 feet west of the centerline of the intersection of Commercial Road. National Grid to install 40' CL2 JO wood pole, anchor/guy for upgraded customer service. (*Public Service; Regular Course 06/10/2019; Public Hearing July 8, 2019 @ 6:40PM; Majority Vote*)

**The Public Service Committee Recommended that the communication be given further time and that a public hearing be set for July 8, 2019 at 6:40 PM. Vote: 9-0 the petition was given further time and the public hearing was set for July 8, 2019 at 6:40 PM.**

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

**XII. OLD BUSINESS**

**2nd Reading Loan Order**

C-79 Dean J. Mazzarella, Mayor: Request that the attached Loan Order for \$11,294,000.00 be adopted for finance of an aeration basin and secondary clarifier upgrade project. (*Finance; Regular Course 5/13/2019; PH 5/28/2019 @ 6:13 PM; PH Continued 6/24/2019 @ 6:30 P.M.; Further Time 5/28/2019; First Reading Adopted 06/10/2019; 2/3 Vote*)

**The Finance Subcommittee Chair, Councillor Bodanza read the ordinance in full for the second time. Councillor Chalifoux Zephir recused herself from the communication due to a possible conflict of interest. Finance Committee Recommended that the second reading be adopted. Vote: 8-0 the second reading was ADOPTED.**

**XIII. COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:54 PM.**

Katelyn Huffman, City Clerk