MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAWRENCE CITY COUNCIL

DATE: Tuesday, January 19, 2021

Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this public meeting of the Lawrence City Council for the City of Lawrence, MA is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance by members of the public will be permitted, but the public can listen and/or view this meeting while in progress by use of the Facebook and YouTube web access sites referenced below. Members of the public attending this meeting virtually will be allowed to make comments if they wish to do so during the portion of the hearings designated for public comment, by use of the web and phone access provided below:

Facebook: Lawrence City Council page - https://www.facebook.com/TheLawrenceCityCouncil/
YouTube: Lawrence City Council page- https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-2T3lkuvO1vwReSTsm3fsA

Zoom Web Address:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86782428618?pwd=eGc0TUdSaTBSZnFreU0zdKZaOWNJZz09
Meeting ID: 833 0742 7747 ; Passcode: CC1192021
By Phone: +1 646 558 8656; Meeting ID: 833 0742 7747 ; Passcode: 529023965
One tap mobile: +13017158592,,87332248377#,,,,0#,;79001394# US (Washington D.C)

REGULAR MEETING of the Lawrence City Council was held on Tuesday, January 19, 2021. This meeting was Called to Order at 6:30 p.m. This Meeting was held remotely.

The meeting was Called to Order by City Council President, Marc Laplante. The Council President also read the above Public Notice for Remote Meetings into the record. He then invited the Acting City Clerk, Damarys Ruiz, to call the roll. Attendance recorded by roll call of the Council Members as follows:

Councilor Estela Reyes [District B] – Present;
Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – Present;
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – Present;
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – Present;
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – Present;
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – Present;
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] – Present;
Council President Marc Laplante [District F] – Present;  
Council Jorge Gonzales, [District C] – Present

Other attendance matters:

A Moment of Silence was held.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council President Laplante welcomed Jorge Gonzalez and thanked him for his willingness to serve as the District C Councilor while Kendrys Vasquez is serving as Mayor.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Council President requested a Motion to Approve the Minutes of the Meetings from 09-15-20; 10-06-20; 10-20-20; 11-10-20; 11-17-20; 11-24-20; 12-28-20; 12-29-20 and 01-05-21.

A Motion to Accept the Minutes was made by Councilor Estela Reyes and seconded by Councilor Maria de la Cruz. The Council President invited any discussion on the Motion.

Hearing none, he called the question and by a Roll Call Vote, the Motion to Approve the Minutes listed above occurred as follows:

Councilor Jorge Gonzales [District C] – YES  
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] - YES  
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – YES  
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – YES  
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – PRESENT  
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – YES  
Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – YES  
Councilor Estela Reyes [District B] – YES  
Council Vice President Marc Laplante [District F] – PRESENT

Yes-7; No-0; Present – 2

The Minutes were accepted without amendment.

Doc # 1/21. Election of the Council Vice President. Council President Laplante asked for a Motion to take this item Out of Order and as an Emergency as it was required for Council business. Councilor Pavel Payano made the Motion which was seconded by Councilor
Jeovanny Rodriguez. Upon no further discussion on the item, the Council President called the question. By a Roll Call vote, the Motion to take this item Out of Order and as an Emergency occurred as follows:

Councilor Estela Reyes [District B] – YES
Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – YES
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – YES
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – YES
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – YES
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – YES;
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] – YES
Council Jorge Gonzales, [District C] – YES
Council President Marc Laplante [District F] – YES

Yes – 9; No-0

Motion: PASSED

The Council President then invited the Council members to nominate candidates to serve as Council Vice President. Councilor Pavel Payano stated that he nominated Councilor Rodriguez. This nomination was seconded by Councilor Ana Levy.

The Council President then asked if there were any other nominations being made.

Councilor Maria De La Cruz then nominated Councilor Estela Reyes and that nomination was seconded by Councilor Celina Reyes. The Council President requested that each Councilor state the name of their respective nominee. He then asked the Clerk to call the roll:

Councilor Jorge Gonzales [District C] – Estela Reyes
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] – Jeovanny Rodriguez
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – Estela Reyes
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – Jeovanny Rodriguez
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – Estela Reyes
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – Estela Reyes
Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – Jeovanny Rodriguez
Council Vice President Marc Laplante [District F] – Estela Reyes
Councilor Estela Reyes [District B] – Estela Reyes

Estela Reyes – 6       Jeovanny Rodriguez – 3
The Council President then announced that Councilor Estela Reyes had received the most votes and that she was the successful candidate for Council Vice President. The Council President thanked both Councilor Estela Reyes and Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez for their willingness to serve the Council in that capacity. Councilor Estela Reyes requested and was granted the floor, and she thanked her colleagues for their confidence in her and their support.

At this time, at the request of the Council President, Councilor Ana Levy made a Motion to go into RECESS until 7 p.m. This Motion was seconded by Councilor Pavel Payano. The roll call vote on this Motion occurred as follows:

Council Vice President Estela Reyes [District B] – ABSENT
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] – ABSENT
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – YES
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – YES
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – YES
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – YES
Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – YES
Councilor Jorge Gonzales [District C] – YES
Councilor President Marc Laplante [District F] – YES

Yes – 7; No – 0; Absent – 2

Motion to Recess: PASSED

At 7 p.m., upon a request by the Council President a Motion to Come Out of Recess was made by Councilor Abdoo and seconded by Councilor Payano. The roll call vote to Come Out of Recess occurred as follows:

Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – YES
Councilor Jorge Gonzales, [District C] – YES
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – YES
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – YES
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – YES
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – YES
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] – YES
Councilor Vice President Estela Reyes [District B] – ABSENT
Councilor President Marc Laplante [District F] – YES
Yes – 8; No - 0; Absent - 1

Motion to Come Out of Recess: PASSED

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Council President Laplante requested those who wished to provide public input and participation to present themselves and address the City Council. Upon the invitation of the City Council President, the following individuals addressed the City Council:

Mr. H. Maali, 53 Chester Street, addressed the Council. Mr Maali wished the new Mayor, Kendrys Vasquez success in his leadership of the City. He also asked that during this time of pandemic that the City Council support the Lawrence Police Department and their Union, who he said was doing excellent work to protect our citizens under the direction and leadership of Chief Roy Vasque. He asked the Council to acknowledge the good work of the DPW and support their Union. He noted that the schools remained closed but praised Superintendent of Schools Cynthia Paris. He noted that it is important to support our unions, Police, Firefighters and Teachers.

Nelson Butten, 17 Jefferson Street, spoke in favor of the new Literacy Coordinator position at the Lawrence Public Library. He noted that he was a Lawrence resident, a Library Trustee and an employee of the Lawrence Public Schools and he felt that this position was important to help increase and streamline programming related to literacy for all ages.

Jessica Villas Novas, the Library Director spoke in support of new Literacy Coordinator position at the Lawrence Public Library. She noted that this position was grant funded and will be part time role for the first three years; hopefully it would become full time at some point in the future. This position would help enrich the partnership between the library and the schools.
The Council President paused for a few moments in case anyone else wanted to be heard, but no additional speakers requested to be recognized.

**Doc # 124/20. Resignation of Stephanie Infante GLTSC.** Council President Laplante requested that the body take this item Off of the Table and Out of Order. Councilor Pavel Payano made the Motion which was seconded by Councilor Maria De La Cruz. Upon no further discussion on the item, the Council President called the question. By a Roll Call vote, the Motion to take this item Out of Order and Off of the Table occurred as follows:

Council Vice President Estela Reyes [District B] – ABSENT
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] – PRESENT
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – YES
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – YES
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – YES
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – YES
Councilor Jorge Gonzales [District C] – YES
Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – YES
Council President Marc Laplante [District F] – YES

Yes – 7; No – 0; Present – 1; Absent – 1

Motion to Take Document Out of Order and Off of the Table: PASSED

The Council President noted that it was brought to his attention earlier in the day that the Council Rules required that the item be sent to a sub-committee prior to being voted on in final. He noted that this oversight needed to be cured or corrected. He also noted that he had spoken to the Greater Lawrence Technical School (GLTS) Superintendent, John Lavoie, earlier in the day and Superintendent Lavoie informed him that the GLTS School Committee did not have a meeting until Tuesday, February 2, 2021. The Council President then proposed having the Personnel Committee meeting on Monday January 25, 2021 and then the council could host a
Special Meeting on Thursday, January 28, 2021 jointly with the Lawrence Alliance for Education (LAE) Board to vote on the matter.

 Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Pavel Payano noted that this item has been lingering for 7 months. He also noted that time and effort had been expended to ensure that the LAE Board would be present at the Council Meeting tonight. He asked what efforts would be made to ensure the LAE Board would be in attendance on January 28th?

 Council President Laplante responded that that he had conversations with Dr. Ventura Rodriguez, the acting LAE Chair, and Dr. Rodriguez was ready to attend tonight but he understood the need to avoid a logistical snafu and expressed his willingness to work to get his Board members to the next meeting on January 28th.

 Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez stated that he would have preferred to suspend the rules tonight and not send this item to the Personnel Committee. He asked if the Council President had considered that option?

 The Council President responded that he had considered the possibility of suspending the rules, but where this was a larger matter and not a small, mundane item, he thought it was too risky to bring that entire Board to this meeting and risk that the Council would opt to not suspend the rules. The Council President also said that while he could not control what occurred at sub-committee did, he thought there would not be much discussion if any at the subcommittee level, that sending it to the subcommittee would be a pro forma step to “check off the box.”

 Upon being granted the floor, Councilor De La Cruz expressed a desire to make a motion to suspend the rules and waive the 30 days and to call the question tonight. The Council President noted that as the LAE Board was not present at this meeting, and therefore the motion was out of order. The election of a replacement member for the GLTS has to occur at a joint
session of the City Council and the LAE Board. The Council President then asked the City Clerk to provide the language from the Charter of the Greater Lawrence Technical School for the process to replace a member when there was a vacancy in the seat for a Lawrence Member of that Board. He had the Clerk read into the record the Section I, sub-section (D) of that Charter document, dealing with Vacancies. It was noted that the GLTS Charter did state that a joint meeting of the City Council and the School Committee was required. As the LAE Board is serving in the role of the School Committee at this time, their presence is mandated in order to go forward with a replacement of a GLTS School Committee Member.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Rodriguez noted that as of 5 p.m. today, the LAE Board was scheduled to be at this meeting. After further discussion, Councilor Rodriguez reiterated that as a Point of Parliamentary Procedure, the LAE Board was scheduled to be at this meeting until they were told not to be. This point was acknowledged by the Council President.

The Council President then asked the City Clerk to provide the language from the City Council Rules which requires that items to be sent to sub-committee for review and consideration prior to a final vote of the full Council. At his request, the Clerk then read into the record City Council Rule #6, sub-section 3.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Abdoo noted that as Chair of the Personnel Sub-Committee that his committee could meet on Monday, January 25th to receive this item and then send it back to the full Council for a Special Meeting on Thursday, January 28th 2021.

The Council President then noted that Document # 124/20 would be sent to the Personnel Sub-Committee.

**DOC #2/21 – Update on Hiring of City Clerk, Personnel Director Frank Bonet.**
Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Rodriguez made a Motion to take Document #2/21 Out of Order. His Motion was seconded by Councilor Pavel Payano. Upon no further discussion on the Motion, the Council President requested a Roll Call vote on the Motion which occurred as follows:

Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – YES
Council Jorge Gonzales, [District C] – YES
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – YES
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – YES
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – YES
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – YES
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] – YES
Councilor Vice President Estela Reyes [District B] – ABSENT
Council President Marc Laplante [District F] – YES

Yes – 8; No- 0; Absent - 1

Doc #2/21 Out of Order: PASSED

The Personnel Director, Frank Bonet, was present at the meeting and the Council President invited him to update the Council. Mr. Bonet noted that the position of the City Clerk had been posted and had been sent out via email to over 1,000 recipients, as well as to several professional message boards and web sites for publication on several professional web sites.

He noted that there was roughly 169 applications received so far, of which he believed about a dozen were legitimate applicants. The others were individuals without the ability or experience to run a department and would not be able to hit the ground running.

Mr. Bonet referenced the process as outlined in the Administrative Code, Section 4.1 – 12, that normally the top five (5) candidates would be forwarded to the appointing authority, in this instance the Appointing Authority would be the City Council.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Payano inquired of the Personnel Director what was the likelihood that waiting or adding any more time to the process would do to help the
process, if anything. Mr. Bonet noted that the job was posted until filled so the city will continue to receive applications but that he was not aware of any specific benefit to adding time aside from the volume of resumes. To date, only free ads had been posted, which included the in-Deed web site and the Massachusetts Municipal Administration (MMA) web site and also the Valley Works Career Center web site, which was the Massachusetts unemployment office site.

The Council President weighed in and indicated that he would like to see the Personnel Director to send down the 12 resumes that the Personnel Director had indicated he thought were strong, to the Personnel Committee for their meeting on Monday.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Levy asked if the Personnel Director would be providing a matrix or form that showed the valuations of where candidates received points. Mr. Bonet indicated that he does use a matrix but the top scorer may not be a good fit and there was no requirement to go with the top score.

The Council President asked the Personnel Committee Chairman, Councilor David Abdoo, what he felt that subcommittee’s capacity to perform this review. Councilor Abdoo responded that he believed they had the capacity to do this review, and that it would have to occur over 2 or more meetings, most likely 3 or 4 meetings in total. Councilor Abdoo indicated that he would like to see five or six resumes sent to the Committee, but that if it was decided to send down 12 that they would work with that as well.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor De La Cruz stated that she felt confident in the guidance from Mr. Bonet and his system and that under his direction she felt that the Council would select the best candidate for the City. She stated that she was satisfied with his work in the past and she felt that they were in good hands under his guidance again.
Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Gonzalez stated that he thought 12 resumes was too many for the Personnel Committee, but he would like to see the Personnel Committee receive 6 applications.

Upon no further discussion on the matter, the Council President thanked Mr. Bonet for his time and note that the Personnel Committee would receive this document.

III. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Doc # 232/19  Handicapped Parking-43 Cambridge Street-Jose Ortiz

Council President Laplante invited Acting Assistant Clerk Eileen Bernal to read the Public Notice on this matter into the record. Upon the Completion of that reading, the Council President sought input from members of the Public to come forward and be heard on the matter. No members of the Public came forward. The Council President then asked the Council what was their pleasure with regard to the item.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Jorge Gonzales made a Motion to approve the item. His Motion was seconded by Councilor Celina Reyes. Upon no further discussion on the Motion, the Council President requested a Roll Call vote on the Motion which occurred as follows:

Council Vice President Estela Reyes [District B] – ABSENT
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] – ABSENT
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – YES
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – YES
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – YES
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – YES
Councilor Jorge Gonzales [District C] – YES
Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – YES
Council President Marc Laplante [District F] – YES

Yes – 7; No – 0; Absent – 2

Doc # 232/19: PASSED
Doc # 178/20  Handicapped Parking-106 Farley Street-Counc. Abdoo

Council President Laplante invited Acting Assistant Clerk Eileen Bernal to read the Public Notice on this matter into the record. Upon the Completion of that reading, the Council President sought input from members of the Public to come forward and be heard on the matter. No members of the Public came forward. The Council President then asked the Council what was their pleasure with regard to the item.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor David Abdoo made a Motion to approve the item and to waive the 30 days. His Motion was seconded by Councilor Maria De La Cruz. Upon no further discussion on the Motion, the Council President requested a Roll Call vote on the Motion which occurred as follows:

Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – YES
Councilor Jorge Gonzales, [District C] – YES
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – YES
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – YES
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – YES
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – YES
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] – ABSENT
Councilor Vice President Estela Reyes [District B] – ABSENT
Council President Marc Laplante [District F] – YES

Yes – 7; No – 0; Absent – 2

Doc # 178/20: PASSED

Doc # 180/20  Handicapped Parking-25 Durham Street-Counc. Abdoo

Council President Laplante invited Acting Assistant Clerk Eileen Bernal to read the Public Notice on this matter into the record. Upon the Completion of that reading, the Council President sought input from members of the Public to come forward and be heard on the matter. No
members of the Public came forward. The Council President then asked the Council what was their pleasure with regard to the item.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Maria De La Cruz made a Motion to approve the item. Her Motion was seconded by Councilor Jorge Gonzales.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Abdoo asked if the author of the Motion would consider a friendly amendment to waive the 30 days. Councilor De La Cruz accepted this friendly amendment. Upon no further discussion on the Motion, the Council President requested a Roll Call vote on the Motion and to forego the 30 days, which occurred as follows:

Council Vice President Estela Reyes [District B] – ABSENT
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] – ABSENT
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – YES
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – YES
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – YES
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – YES
Councilor Jorge Gonzales [District C] – YES
Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – YES
Council President Marc Laplante [District F] – YES

Yes – 7; No – 0; Absent – 2

Doc # 180/20: PASSED

Doc # 227/20  Cingular Wireless Application-12 Beacon Ave.-Kelly Sanders, Site Acquisition Specialist

Council President Laplante invited Acting Assistant Clerk Eileen Bernal to read the Public Notice on this matter into the record. Upon the Completion of that reading, the Council President sought input from members of the Public to come forward and be heard on the matter. One member of the Public Ed Pare came forward. Mr. Pare stated that he was an attorney with the firm of Brown Rudnick, One Financial Center, Boston, MA. Attorney Pare noted that the proposal involved the addition of a 3 foot extension to the top of the pole and then 2 foot canister
antenna to an existing utility pole. There would also be an equipment box. He stated that he welcomed any questions that the Council might have.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor De La Cruz inquired of Attorney Pare if this work would include any work to the ground. Attorney Pare indicated that he thought there would not be a street opening and that all work would be overhead.

No other members of the Public came forward to speak on this item. The Council President then asked the Council what was their pleasure with regard to the item.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor De La Cruz made a Motion to approve the item. Her Motion was seconded by Councilor Celina Reyes. Upon no further discussion on the Motion, the Council President requested a Roll Call vote on the Motion which occurred as follows:

Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – YES  
Councilor Jorge Gonzales, [District C] – YES  
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – YES  
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – YES  
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – YES  
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – YES  
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] – ABSENT  
Councilor Vice President Estela Reyes [District B] – ABSENT  
Council President Marc Laplante [District F] – YES

Yes – 7; No – 0; Absent – 2

**Doc #227/20: PASSED**


Council President Laplante invited Acting Assistant Clerk Eileen Bernal to read the Public Notice on this matter into the record. Upon the Completion of that reading, the Council President sought input from members of the Public to come forward and be heard on the matter.
No members of the Public came forward. The Council President then asked the Council what was their pleasure with regard to the item.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Pavel Payano made a Motion to approve the item and to waive the 30 day requirement. His Motion was seconded by Councilor Celina Reyes.

Upon no further discussion on the Motion, the Council President requested a Roll Call vote on the Motion and to forego the 30 days, which occurred as follows:

Council Vice President Estela Reyes [District B] – ABSENT
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] – ABSENT
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – YES
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – YES
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – YES
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – YES
Councilor Jorge Gonzales [District C] – YES
Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – YES
Council President Marc Laplante [District F] – YES

Yes – 7; No – 0; Absent – 2

Doc # 229/20: PASSED

Doc # 253/20 Handicapped Parking [DELETE]-86 South Broadway-Counc. Jeovanny Rodriguez

Council President Laplante invited Acting Assistant Clerk Eileen Bernal to read the Public Notice on this matter into the record. Upon the Completion of that reading, the Council President sought input from members of the Public to come forward and be heard on the matter. No members of the Public came forward. The Council President then asked the Council what was their pleasure with regard to the item.

Upon being granted the floor, Councilor Ana Levy made a Motion to approve the item. Her Motion was seconded by Councilor Celina Reyes. Upon no further discussion on the Motion, the Council President requested a Roll Call vote on the Motion which occurred as follows:
Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – YES  
Council Jorge Gonzales, [District C] – YES  
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – YES  
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – PRESENT  
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – YES  
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – YES  
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] – ABSENT  
Councilor Vice President Estela Reyes [District B] – ABSENT  
Council President Marc Laplante [District F] – YES

Yes – 6; Present - 1; Absent – 2

Doc # 253/20: PASSED

IV: Communication from Mayor, City Officials & City Attorney: - NONE

V. APPROPRIATIONS-ORDERS-RESOLUTIONS:

Resolutions: - NONE

Appropriations-Orders-Requests-Petitions [New Filings only]: - NONE

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget and Finance Committee Reports: None

Ordinance Committee Reports: None

Personnel Committee Reports: None

Charter Review Committee Reports: None

Public Safety Committee Reports: None

Committee of the Whole Reports: None

VII. WITHDRAWALS: - NONE

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

Doc # 290/19  Disposition Declaration-105-109 Springfield Street-[Tax Map 82, Lot 30]-Anngybel Moreta, Asset Officer

The Council President announced that this Document would be sent to the Housing Committee.
IX. TABELLED MATTERS:

The following items remain tabled:

133/14 Military/Veteran Recognition—Counc. Laplante
197/14 Double Poles—Locations—Review—Council Pres. Maldonado [ud][11-12-19]
221/17 Stop Sign—Intersection of Andover and Foster Streets—Counc. Vice Pres. Laplante—Public Hrg Pending—Traffic Study Ordered
11/18 Creation of City Council Standing Subcommittee on Education – Counc. De La Cruz – Ord. Cmt
85B/18 Rental Insurance Policy Requirement for All Rental Units—[Sec. 15.12.065]—Counc. Payano – Public Hearing
110/18 Haverhill St—One way between Prospect and Haverhill Sts—Counc. Levy—Public Hearing Open [8-21-18]
121/18 Recycling Program Ordinance—Counc. Payano-Ord.[PH Closed][ud][01-07-20]
168/18 Americans with Disabilities Act: Poll Accessibility Citations DOJ—[Executive Session Anticipated][T][08-21-18]
189/18 A&M Auto Body, Inc. – 341 South Broadway —Zoning Amendment [Executive Session Anticipated][T][01-29-19]
208/18 Handicapped Parking – 69 Greenwood Street – Counc. DePeña – Ord. Cmt. & Public Hearing to be Ordered
214/18 Board of Health Ordinance Amendment—Counc. Payano—Public Hearing Closed [8-21-18]
326/18 Lawrence Opioid Litigation — Counc. Payano and Council Vice Pres. Rodriguez [T][12-4-18]
328/18 Lawrence Emergency Response—Counc. Payano[T][09-18-18]
355/18 Arlington Street – One Way [30 minutes from 3pm to 3:30pm] in front of the Arlington School –Counc. DePeña-Ord. Cmt. [T] [05-21-19]
142/19 Columbia Gas Update—Mark Kempic, Columbia Gas President/COO—Counc. Pres. Vasquez [ud] [11-12-19]
162/19 Allowing Commercial Vehicles to park on Union St.[East Side]—Counc. Laplante-Ord. Cmt. [T] [09-03-19]
170/19 Resolutions—Recognition of Lawrence Academic Achievers—Counc. Laplante-[T][06-04-19]
224/19 Amend zoning Sec. 29-19 C5-permitted uses “shopping centers” and “car wash” — Counc. DePeña [appvd 02-04-20] [Mayor’s Response dated: 02-19-20][Executive Session Anticipated]
243/19 Request to display and sell produce-127 South Union St-Tropical Mini Market Corp.-Ysidro Polo-Ord. Cmt. [T] [09-03-19]
296/19 Museum Square Litigation-[Executive Session Anticipated]-Dan Rivera, Mayor [T][09-03-19]
308/19 Merrimack Street-4 Temporary Resident Parking Spaces Counc. Laplante (various parking ord)-PH Ordered[T][02-04-20]
315/19 One Side Parking Only-Sunset Ave.-Counc. De Pena [T][PH closed-Motion to Approv Pending [03-10-20]
354/19 Oliver School Building Project-[Executive Session Anticipated]-Cynthia Paris, Superintendent of Schools [T][11-12-19]
402/19 No Parking-North Parish Road(south side-7:00am to 9:00am on days school is in session only)-Counc. De Pena-Pub. Hrg.
22/20 Museum Square Litigation [Executive Session Anticipated]-Counc. Payano [T][01-21-20]
32/20 Handicapped Parking-[DELETE]-124 Phillips Street-Diana Santos [09-03-20][PH Open]
71/20 JRM Carting Discussion-Counc. Jeovanny Rodriguez [T][03-24-20]
77/20 Appropriation Transfer-Resident Legal Assistance Fund-Mayor Rivera[T][03-24-20]
94/20 Election Update during COVID-Poll Locations-Staffing-City Clerk[T][06-16-20]
94A/20 Ward B-Precinct 1 – Change of Poll Location-North Common Ed. Complex-apprvd
94B/20 Ward D-3 & D-4 Essex Towers – Change of Poll Locations
94C/20 Ward E-Precinct 1-Change of Poll Location-Diamond Springs-apprvd
94D/20 Early Voting-State Primary [apprvd] & Pres. Election
94E/20 89 Day Temporary Personnel-Elections [apprv by Mayor]
94G/20 Ward E1 Relocation to Wetherbee School [apprv 9-15-20]
124/20 Resignation of Stephany Infante-Greater Lawrence Tech School Committee [T][07-21-20]
151/20 Request to Amend a Zoning Ord. per MGL c.40A, section 5-The Proposed Planned Industrial District-Counc. Reyes-Ord. Cmt. [T][10-06-20]

X. NEW BUSINESS.

Council President Laplante brought the matters listed below to the attention of the Council Members present and referred each to the Council Subcommittee as indicated:
DOC # 3/21  Handicapped Parking-77 Shawsheen Road-Luis Aponte – to the ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

DOC # 4/21  Handicapped Parking-139 May Street-Iris N. Acevedo– to the ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

DOC # 5/21  Replace 2 Hour Parking with 1 Hour Parking-56 Brookfield St.[Intersection of Easton St.]-Counc. Abdoo – to the ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

DOC # 6/21  Surplus Declaration-80-82 Cross Street-[Tax Map 168, Lot 47]-Anngebel Moreta, Asset Officer – to the HOUSING COMMITTEE

DOC # 7/21  Surplus Declaration-Genesee Street-[Tax Map 177, Lot 33]-Anngebel Moreta, Asset Officer – to the HOUSING COMMITTEE

DOC # 8/21  Surplus Declaration-Doyle Street-[Tax Map 183, Lot 25]-Anngebel Moreta, Asset Officer – to the HOUSING COMMITTEE


DOC # 10/21  Permanent City Clerk Position-Counc. Pres. Laplante – to the PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The upcoming Committee Meetings Dates were set as follows:

Budget and Finance, No Meeting

Personnel Committee January 25, 2021 at 7 p.m. and January 27, 2021 after Housing

Ordinance Committee January 26, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Housing Committee January 27, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Public Safety No Meeting

It was noted that Councilor Celina Reyes would be added to the Housing Committee.
Regarding the Charter Review, it was noted that the Charter Review recommendations would be presented at the Ordinance Committee on January 26, 2021 and most likely the final hearing for the Charter Review would be heard at the February 16, 2021 City Council Meeting.

It was also noted that the Mayor sent correspondence to the Council that the DPW Director had resigned. A City Councilor would be selected to serve on that DPW Director Search Committee to replace Mr. Brian Pena. Anyone interested in seeking that appointment should notify the City Council President and he would select by seniority from those expressing interest.

The Council President noted that he wanted to make sure the Council Meetings and subcommittee meetings started on time. He stated that he would do his best to make himself available as needed to be present at subcommittee meetings to ensure that those meetings could have quorum to start on time.

X. ADJOURNMENT.

As there was no other business before the Council, a Motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Payano and seconded by Councilor Abdoo. The Council Members present voted by roll call vote to approve the Motion as follows:

Council Vice President Estela Reyes [District B] – ABSENT
Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez [District D] – ABSENT
Councilor Maria De La Cruz [District A] – YES
Councilor Pavel Payano [Councilor At Large] – YES
Councilor David Abdoo [District E] – YES
Councilor Celina Reyes [Councilor at Large] – YES
Councilor Jorge Gonzales [District C] – YES
Councilor Ana Levy [Councilor at Large] – YES
Council President Marc Laplante [District F] – YES

Yes – 7; No – 0; Absent – 2

Motion to Adjourn: PASSED

Meeting Adjourned at approximately 8:50 p.m.