

LOWELL TOWN COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION  
NOVEMBER 9, 2015

A work session of the Lowell Town Council was called to order on Monday, November 9, 2015 at 6:15 P.M., by President Christopher Salatas. Members present were Craig Earley, LeAnn Angerman, Christopher Salatas, and Edgar Corns. Donald Parker was not in attendance. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Judith Walters, Town Attorney David Westland, Public Works Director Greg Shook, Building Administrator Tom Trulley, one member of the media, and three interested citizens. The purpose of the work session was General Town Business.

President Salatas brought forth a letter regarding the possible purchase of a radio station. He had opened it to the Council to ask if there would be any interest in it, but stated that he was not sure what the proposal entailed.

Attorney Westland, per President Salatas's request, explained the process that would need to happen in order to set up a Park Board. He also went in to detail as to how the Board would be set up and what their duties would be. Councilwoman Angerman stated she had heard that there were possible grants that they were not able to apply for since there was not a Park Board. Councilman Earley stated this is the first he has heard about creating a Park Board and asked how it would work with the current Freedom Park Board. Attorney Westland stated technically if you created a Park Board it would dissolve the Freedom Park Board, but in this case we cannot do that since there are three entities that govern that park. In this case, they would have to work together. Discussion followed regarding the previous Park Board's functions, how they worked with the Freedom Park Board, and why it was dissolved. Councilman Earley stated we already have a Park Superintendent who mainly takes care of Freedom Park, so would we have to hire another one if we create this Park Board? Councilwoman Angerman stated no, but if we create this Board, they get to appoint a superintendent and who's to say they will choose who we already have. Attorney Westland stated Councilwoman Angerman was correct and that they would not have to appoint who is already in the position. Discussion followed.

Councilman Earley asked if it was true that there were grants that have been missed out on due to not having a Park Board. Financial Advisor Greg Guerrettaz stated it was his understanding that five or ten years ago if you did not have a Park Board, you would not get a grant. He stated at this point in time, however, there does not appear to be any substantial grants that are out there right now for Parks Departments, unless your County has a grant program for Parks & Recreational Departments. Discussion followed regarding the benefits of having a Park Board and the possibility of creating a voluntary committee that could maybe eventually become a board. President Salatas stated he would like to keep this an open topic.

President Salatas stated that Councilman Parker and himself had received a new contract from Republic Waste Services. He read the letter that was received which stated that Republic would be able to hold their price of \$16.89 per household through the three-year contract, which would be active through June 30, 2019. President Salatas stated he believed this was a good offer considering that without the three-year extension, the price would go up in 2018 and 2019. Councilman Earley stated there is nothing to compare it to and that it would not hurt to put the contract out to bid. Discussion followed and Attorney Westland advised them to not wait too long to put it out to bid so that timing does not become an issue. Clerk-Treasurer Walters asked for a copy of the letter for the Town file.

President Salatas read the letter that he had received regarding the sale of a local radio station, WLPR 89.1, and asked the Council if there would be any interest in the purchase of the station. Councilman Earley suggested that someone come in and speak with the Council so they know exactly what they are

offering.

Councilman Earley stated that he had spoken to a resident of Heritage Falls who would like to upgrade their internet, but when they contacted Comcast, they had said they were not able to upgrade the product in that area because there was not enough interest. The representative from Comcast told him that if the municipality would get involved, there may be something they could do. Clerk-Treasurer Walters stated the town does have a franchise agreement with Comcast and that she would forward the agreement and contact person to Attorney Westland.

The work session was closed at approximately 6:50 P.M.

---

Christopher Salatas, President

Attest:

---

Judith Walters  
Clerk-Treasurer