

**REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 2, 2015
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
www.lackawannany.gov**

Regular session of the Lackawanna City Council met in the Council Chambers, Council President Henry Pirowski presiding. The meeting was preceded by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council President Pirowski.

**Meeting called to order
NB: Meeting being recorded**

**Roll Call: Council: Present: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski
Dept. Heads: Present: Law, Development, Public Works, Recreation, Public
Safety
Excused: Comptroller**

Approval of Minutes: of regular meeting of February 17, 2015

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Lewis to approve minutes of regular meeting of February 17, 2015 as written

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski Carried 5-0

Departmental Reports:

1. City Comptroller- A/P Check listing #27, January 22, 2015
2. City Comptroller- A/P Check listing #28, January 30, 2015
3. City Comptroller- Statement of Condition of Appropriations as of January 31, 2015

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Iafallo to receive and file departmental reports one through three

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski Carried 5-0

Communications from Citizens:

Polling Places/School Elections-Permission to Use Buildings

4. To: City Council:

On behalf of the Lackawanna Board of Education, I am asking to use the Bocce Court and also a room in the Senior Citizen's Center for our upcoming May 19, 2015 Budget Vote and Election. The Election will be held between the hours of 12:00 PM and 9:00 PM. Inspectors would need access to said building at 11:30 A.M. on that day.

Due to the election timeline, please confirm as soon as possible.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation.

LOUIS P. VIOLANTI-BOARD CLERK

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Jerge to approve request for use of Bocce Court Building and Senior Citizens building for School elections on May 19, 2015
Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

St. Patrick's Day Parade-Patriots Club

5. To: City Council

The Limestone Hill Friends of St. Patrick are planning the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festivities for St. Patrick's Day, Tuesday, March 17, 2015

The Festivities will include the following:

12:10 PM Special Mass-Our Lady of Victory Basilica

12:45 PM The Annual Shortest St. Patrick's Day Parade

(Parade Route: Our Lady of Victory Basilica to City Hall)

1:00 PM Raising of Irish Flag commemorating St. Patrick's Day

Guest Speakers: City of Lackawanna Mayor and Parade Representatives

1:30 PM Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinners/Sandwiches and Refreshments

available at Father Baker Council Knights of Columbus and Col. Weber Post #898

On behalf of the many Irish American residents and members of the Limestone Hill friends of St. Patrick, we respectfully request permission for:

PARADE PERMIT

RAISE IRISH FLAG NEXT TO THE CITY'S AMERICAN FLAG FOR THE DAY

A PODIUM FOR SPEAKERS NEAR FLAG RISING

MICHAEL CUSACK-PATRIOTS CLUB CO-CHAIRMAN

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Jerge to approve request to hold parade, raising of the Irish Flag and a podium for speakers on Tuesday, March 17, 2015

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

LMHA-Essential Employees during Travel Ban

6. To: City Council

At a special meeting on January 15, 2015, the Lackawanna Municipal Housing Authority Board of Commissioners declared that the maintenance staff are essential employees on days when there are travel bans due to emergency weather or other unforeseen conditions.

The Authority is responsible for nearly 2000 tenants of whom many are elderly or disabled. The LMHA is asking that the City Council view our maintenance department the same way you view the Lackawanna Department of Public Works.

We are asking the City Council to agree with our Board in declaring that the maintenance staff are essential employees and that they be permitted to travel to work on days when travel bans are imposed on our city.

If you wish to have a discussion or have any questions on this matter, I am willing to meet with you at any time. Please feel free to contact me.

NORMAN L POLANSKI, JR-LMHA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Jerge to approve request amended to permit travel to and from work only when travel bans are imposed

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

Debra Tutko-Snowplowing

7. To: City Council

I am writing to you today to request that a problem with the plowing in Lackawanna be addressed at your next meeting.

I live in the Ridgewood Village. Even when there is little to no snow on the roads, the plow is pushing snow from the banks/side of driveways back 4-5 into my driveway. This is not accumulated or fresh snow. This is old/snow bank, frozen solid chunks that is being plowed into my driveway with the “side” plow on the trucks.

My banks of snow are so high that I have no choice but to push the ice chunks left from the plows back into the street & along the banks. Lifting is “impossible” and my doctor has recently told me, due to medical problems I have incurred during this winter by shoveling, I am no longer to lift over 3 pounds.

I am suggesting pay loaders & dump trucks to remove the “frozen” stuff that is accumulating on the side of congested areas, as the Village & remove it to, example-the playground area.

Thank you for time & hopefully your cooperation in regards to this matter. Hope to further discuss & resolve this issue then.

DEBRA TUTKO

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Jerge to receive and file

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

Moment of Silence-Joseph Caligiuri

Council President Pirowski called for a moment of silence in memory of Joseph Caligiuri, a former Council member who passed away

Executive Session:

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Lewis to enter into executive session at 7:15 PM

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

Meeting reconvened at 8:01 PM

Roll Call: Council: Present: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Tabled Items:

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Noman to remove communication #4, meeting of February 17, 2015 from the table

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

Lobbyist-Mayor Request to Hire

4. To: City Council

Last year, the City decided to try again in regards to utilizing another fighting force to advance our City’s goals. The City’s contract with our lobbyists: Masiello, Martucci, Calabrese & Associates, proved to be a very prosperous venture for the city as they teamed up with Senator Timothy Kennedy and helped push through a spending bill that assisted in securing \$2,500,000 for paving of South Park Avenue and Ridge Road.

As the Council and the Mayor's Office agreed; if our second venture with utilizing lobbyists was not successful, we would not continue to retain them or pursue another. However, they proved to be most successful and I am looking forward to having them advance new ventures on behalf of our city.

I am hereby requesting the City Council authorize my office to sign into agreement an extension of their time in service for us at a rate of \$3000 per month along with lodging, travel, and meal allowances.

Mayor Masiello and Supervisor Calabrese are willing to meet with the City Council anytime to discuss further plans that the City may have for them.

MAYOR GEOFFREY M SZYMANSKI

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Iafallo to approve request from the Mayor and hire lobbyists, Masiello, Martucci, Calabrese & Associates for a period of one (1) year. Mayor is authorized to enter into an agreement extension of their services

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

Adjournment:

Moved by Pirowski seconded by Noman, Iafallo Jerge and Lewis to adjourn in memory of Joseph Caligiuri

Yeas: Noman, Iafallo, Jerge, Lewis, Pirowski

Carried 5-0

Henry R. Pirowski, Council President

Jacqueline A. Caferro, City Clerk