**Monday, May 7, 2018**

At a regular meeting of the City Council, in the City of Woonsocket, County of Providence, State of Rhode Island on Monday, May 7, 2018 at 7 P.M.

All members are present.

The prayer is read by the Clerk. The Pledge of Allegiance is given by the assembly.

The following persons addressed the council under citizens good and welfare: Richard Monteiro, Chuck O’Neill, Charles Lemoine, Holly Perry, Gerry Beyer, Jim Williams, Susan Kirwan, Paul Bourget, John Reynolds Jr., John Burns, Garrett Mancieri, Alethea Forcier, Christine Remblad, Ron Fagnant, Darlene Moore, Jeannine Michon, Anita McGuire Forcier, Kim Deacon, Dennis Desaulniers, Albert R. Beauparlant, Barbara Ozanian, Philip Labrecque and Estelle Bubble.

Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Beauchamp it is voted that the minutes of the regular meeting held April 16th be approved as submitted, a voice vote on same being unanimous.

Upon motion of Councilman Brien seconded by Councilors Cournoyer and Murray it is voted that the consent agenda be approved as submitted, a voice vote on same being unanimous.

The following items were listed on the consent agenda:

18 M 08 A communication from Mayor appointing Paul Luba as a member of the Investment Board.

18 CO 18 A communication from Fire Chief regarding acceptance of easement on Bertha Avenue .

18 CO 19 A communication from City Solicitor regarding property damage claim of Luxury Cleaners.

18 CO 20 A communication from City Solicitor regarding Eric Gathigi v. City of Woonsocket/Woonsocket Police Department.

18 CO 21 A communication from Police Department regarding acceptance of easement on Bertha Avenue.

18 CP 28 A monthly odor report from CH2M Hill.

18 LC 17 An application of LE, Inc. d/b/a Peking Tokyo to hold Class BV license at 754 Front Street, which was advertised for hearing on this date, is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Beauchamp seconded by Councilman Fagnant it is voted that the license be granted, a voice vote on same being unanimous. Kien Le addressed the council under the public hearing.

18 LC 18 An application for transfer of Class BL license from Empire Buffet House Inc. to New Empire Buffet RI Inc. d/b/a Empire Buffet at 876 Diamond Hill Road, which was advertised for hearing on this date, is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Beauchamp seconded by Councilman Fagnant it is voted that the transfer be tabled, a voice vote on same being unanimous.

18 LC 19 A request of the Autumnfest Steering Committee to hold a tag day license on Saturday, June 16, 2018 with a rain date of Sunday, June 17, 2018 is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Fagnant it is voted that the license be granted, a roll call vote on same being 5-2 with Councilors Beauchamp and Gendron voting no.

18 LC 20 Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Beauchamp it is voted that the following licenses be granted, a voice vote on same being unanimous: 2 applications for entertainment license, 1 application for Class F license with entertainment, 1 application for renewal of coin-operated machine license, 2 applications for renewal of holiday license, 2 applications for renewal of tobacco sales license. 1 application for renewal of second hand dealer license and holiday license was removed from agenda.

Upon motion of Councilman Brien seconded by Councilors Beauchamp and Murray it is voted to dispense with the regular order of business and take up the following:

18 R 42 A resolution granting permission to use City property, which was tabled at the meeting of April 16th, is read by title, and

A motion is made by Councilman Brien seconded by Councilman Fagnant that the resolution be passed, however, before this is voted on

Upon motion of President Gendron seconded by Councilman Beauchamp it is voted to amend as follows: In Whereas and in Section 1 after James Street insert “, with the exclusion of Federal Street which will remain open”. This amendment is voted on and passed unanimously on a voice vote. The resolution, as amended, is then voted on and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Upon motion of Councilman Brien seconded by Councilwoman Sierra it is voted to dispense with the regular order of business and take the following ordinance:

18 O 13 An ordinance placing on the ballot for the Special Referendum to be held on Tuesday, June 12, 2018, a question amending the City of Woonsocket Home Rule Charter to allow for a five member School Committee whose members shall be elected, which was passed for the first time on April 16th, is read by title, and

A motion is made by Councilman Cournoyer seconded by Councilman Brien that the ordinance be passed, however, before this is voted on

Upon motion of Councilman Brien seconded by Councilman Cournoyer it is voted to amend as follows: (see attachment). This amendment is voted on and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Upon motion of Councilman Fagnant seconded by Councilors Beauchamp & Murray it is further voted to amend as follows: In Section 3 after “The Call” insert “(including but not limited to the July 3, 10 & 17 editions)” and after “The Valley Breeze” insert “(including but not limited to the July 5, 12 & 19 editions)”. This amendment is voted on and passed 4-3 with Councilors Cournoyer, Sierra & Gendron voting no. The ordinance, as amended, as then voted on and passed for the first time on a 6-1 roll call vote with Councilman Beauchamp voting no.

18 CP 29 A request of Albert G. Brien to address the City Council regarding Board of Assessment Review /OMA/Appeal of Christopher Roberts and revaluation effective 12/31/2017 is read by title.

18 CP 30 A request of Christopher M. Roberts to address the City Council regarding Woonsocket Board of Assessment Review and violations of the Open Meetings Act of the State of Rhode Island and ongoing litigation known as Roberts v. Woonsocket Board of Assessment Review is read by title.

Upon motion of Councilman Cournoyer seconded by Councilwoman Murray it is voted to dispense with the regular order of business and take the following ordinance:

18 O 20 An ordinance amending Personnel Code to reclassify the position of Senior Equipment Mechanic is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Beauchamp it is voted that the ordinance be passed for the first time, a roll call vote on same being unanimous.

18 CP 31 A request of Councilman Cournoyer to address the following items: Budget/Financial condition/resolution 18-R-23, marijuana cultivation in the city ordinance 18-O-16, electricity contract and the hiring of legal counsel in connection with contract negotiations ordinance 17-O-74.

18 CP 32 A request of Councilman Fagnant to address the following items: discussion of ordinance 18-O-16, McDonald’s rededication ceremony, excess furniture at the former High and Middle School, mentioning growing business in Woonsocket, a plan to have the public purchase certain types of trees and dedicating them to love ones or other people with a small plaque, planting and locations to be overseen and determined by the Director of Public works and his department. This is just the first step in the process, further information forthcoming is read by title.

18 CP 33 A request of President Gendron to address the following items: blight removal and monthly financial statements.

The following remarks are made under good and welfare:

Councilman Fagnant spoke about rabies clinic and thanked volunteers and staff. He spoke about tax refund notice. He spoke about request to pave former incinerator property. He addressed out of state registrants.

Councilwoman Murray thanked residents who are still at meeting. She requested a change in council’s rules of order regarding placement of Good & Welfare. She stated that the she is happy that school referendum is moving forward and questioned how Board of Canvassers voted on legislation that was not passed. She addressed the COPSWalk fundraiser and the WDC Murder Mystery fundraiser event on May 19th.

Councilwoman Sierra addressed the status of resolution 18-R-36 regarding the animal shelter improvements. She spoke about the need for lighting in the parking lot across the street.

President Gendron addressed Councilwoman Murray’s concern regarding the Board of Canvassers issue with legislation regarding school referendum.

Councilman Beauchamp passed.

Councilman Brien pointed out good things happening in the City and thanked the Stadium. He spoke about Touch a Truck event and job well done by Rotary Club. He spoke about revamping of Coleman Library project. He noted the limited usable equipment that remains at Woonsocket Middle School. He spoke about CH2M Hill cake truck issues. He spoke about future projects and funding improvements at Globe Park School aka Savannah Smith Park.

Councilman Cournoyer addressed Director Mathews re: status of CDBG funding for this year.

17 O 76 An ordinance in amendment of Chapter 17 entitled “Traffic” of the Code of Ordnances, which was tabled at the meeting of December 18, 2017, is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Fagnant seconded by Councilwoman Murray it is voted that the ordinance be passed for the first time, a roll call vote on same being unanimous.

Upon motion of Councilman Cournoyer seconded by Councilwoman Murray it is voted to dispense with the regular order of business and take the following resolution:

18 R 48 Appointing Albert G. Brien as a member of the Zoning Board of Review is read by title, and

A motion is made by Councilman Cournoyer seconded by Councilman Beauchamp that the resolution be tabled and advertised, a voice vote on same being unanimous. Councilman Brien recused himself.

18 O 14 An ordinance granting National Grid permission to install joint pole P3-84 on Newland Avenue, which was passed for the first time on April 16th, is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Beauchamp seconded by Councilmen Cournoyer and Fagnant it is voted that the ordinance be passed, a roll call vote on same being unanimous.

18 O 18 An ordinance authorizing acceptance of a fire apparatus turn around easement on Map G5 Lot 32-75, Bertha Avenue, is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Beauchamp seconded by Councilman Fagnant it is voted that the ordinance be passed for the first time, roll call vote on same being unanimous.

18 O 19 An ordinance in amendment of Code of Ordinances, Appendix C entitled “Zoning” regulating indoor farming is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Fagnant seconded by Councilman Beauchamp it is voted that the ordinance be tabled, advertised for public hearing and referred to the Planning Board for advice and recommendation, however this motion failed on a 5-2 roll call vote with Councilmen Fagnant and Beauchamp voting yes.

18 R 45 A resolution authorizing the cancellation of certain taxes is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Fagnant it is voted that the resolution be passed, a voice vote on same being unanimous.

18 R 46 A resolution granting permission to use city property is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Beauchamp seconded by Councilman Fagnant it is voted that the resolution be passed, a voice vote on same being unanimous.

18 R 47 A resolution authorizing Mayor to purchase the property located at Bertenshaw Road also known as Assessor’s Plat 31, Lot 5 is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Beauchamp seconded by Councilwoman Murray it is voted that the resolution be passed, a voice vote on same being unanimous.

18 R 49 A resolution authorizing award of a contract for the replacement of the Administration Building roof at the Woonsocket Regional Wastewater facility is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Brien it is voted that the resolution be passed, a voice vote on same being unanimous.

18 R 50 A resolution referring a request for designation of a Historic Structures Floating Overlay District for property at Woonsocket Assessor’s Plat 21, Lot 48 (former Social Street school) to the Woonsocket Planning Board is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilman Fagnant seconded by Councilmen Beauchamp and Cournoyer it is voted that the resolution be passed, a voice vote on same being unanimous.

18 R 51 A resolution authorizing the cancellation of certain taxes is read by title, and

Upon motion of Councilwoman Murray seconded by Councilman Beauchamp it is voted that the resolution be passed, a voice vote on same being unanimous.

Upon motion of Councilman Beauchamp seconded by Councilman Fagnant it is voted that the meeting be and it is hereby adjourned at 11:00 P.M., a voice vote on same being unanimous.

Attest: Christina Harmon Duarte City Clerk