

CITY OF LEWISTON

CITY COUNCIL

MAY 19, 2026

REGULAR MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL ROOM AT 6:30 P.M.

THE HONORABLE CARL L. SHELINE, MAYOR, PRESIDING.

PRESENT: Mayor Sheline, Councilors Nagine, Longchamps, Harriman, Roy, Noble, Chittim, and Martel, City Administrator Bryan Kaenrath, Deputy City Administrator Brian O'Malley, and City Clerk Kathleen Montejo.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

VOTE (169-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Roy:

To enter into an Executive Session, pursuant to MRSA Title 1, section 405(6) (c), to discuss the acquisition or disposition of Real Estate, of which the premature disclosure of the information would prejudice the competitive bargaining position of the City. Passed - Vote 7-0

Executive Session began at 6:30pm and ended at 6:50 pm.

Regular Meeting began at 7:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

VOTE (170-2026)

Motion by Councilor Harriman, seconded by Councilor Longchamps:

To dispense with the reading of the minutes of the meetings of May 5, 12 and, 13, 2026, and to accept and place them on file as prepared by the City Clerk. Passed - Vote 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Matthew Agren, Ward 4 – The Lewiston Housing Authority Executive Director was at the Council meeting a year ago on May 6, 2025 and said the Martel housing development would be starting soon, it is now a year later with no progress, what is the delay? Lewiston Live was well done, wish the crowds were larger, the weather was great so assuming people did not want to come downtown due to the recent violence of 14 year olds shooting each other. We all need to work together to curb the level of violence. This is National Foster Care Awareness Month.

Fred Sanborn, Ward 6 – Form a committee of law enforcement and school employees to address the violence, it needs to be dealt with, giving out needles is not solving problems. The violence needs to be addressed immediately and not ignored.

Justin Cauro, Ward 7 – TIFS from 2019 prioritize low incoming housing over business expansion. The city needs economic policies to attract living wage earners and not low income. Residents have to do a lot of manual work to defend the Tyler Tech revaluation. Taxes are not

serving all taxpayers, only low-income residents. Need effective governance.

Ronnie Paradis, Ward 6 – Worried about Lewiston. No communication from city. Need large community meeting with police, school, justice department, need to do something about youth violence. Need parental involvement. To the Somali community – get rid of white tall lawyer.

Andrew Jones, Ward 2 – The public comment session should not be limited based on where people live. The Mayor's Op-Ed piece on public safety – where was the Mayor when questioned by a reporter, where was the City Councilor/School Committee member/State Representative – he walked away. There is \$88,000 in stipends for the City Council, School Committee, board and committee members – if they forego their stipends, it would be a good faith effort to help improve the budget. For public safety – Mayor McDonald was right about ICE – there was a 44% decrease in bookings at the jail when ICE was in town. The Council needs to rescind the resolution that the city employees cannot work with ICE.

Lisa Jones, Ward 2, owns a business in Ward 7 – Loves to attend garage sales, talks with people while there. Many residents are moving out of town and out of Maine because they don't feel it is safe and due to the high cost. The editorial written by the Mayor was written by someone who is out of touch. There were 21 gun violence incidents in 2026 so far, 27 in 2021 and 13 in 2020. The Mayor called it grandstanding when a Councilor wanted to talk about gun violence in the community.

Rosey Bosse, Ward 2 – Believes Lewiston is at a crossroads of how to lead. There is hostility and interruptions in the Chambers, not civil. Works with residents with substance abuse and mental health issues. Bangor has an HIV outbreak. Public safety and public health are interconnected.

Louise Samson, Ward 5 – Sent an email to Chris Kilmurray asking for an update on Martel Housing project. Been waiting six years for this project, why the delay. Called Maine State Housing and they said the closing is July 1.

Bob McDonald, Ward 6 – The Mayor and Council took an oath of office to enforce all laws, not just the ones they like. One favorite they follow is keeping ICE out of the community but they should be let in, the city and school budget would decrease considerably. In the welfare program, 60% are Americans and 40% are immigrants. The Mayor and Council failed, they are up there to make decisions and need to make the hard decisions, getting swamped with homeless. The large apartment building next to City Hall will bring more crime.

Crystal Ward, Ward 2 – Concerns with duplicate utility poles, Consolidated Communication is replacing poles but not removing the old ones, no one is taking care of the poles. The city looks like a mess with so many old poles, make Consolidated Communication do their job. She contacted the PUC and Consolidated cleaned up around her neighborhood of Montello but they need to do the rest of the city.

Elizabeth Eames, Ward 3 – The new mural on Ash St and Lisbon St looks wonderful.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Lewiston Recreation Director Nicole Welch represented Maine in Washington, CD at the National Parks and Recreation Association's visit to meet with federal delegation and advocate for programs and funding. The Chief Assessor Bill Healy will be holding more community meetings regarding the revaluation, the next one is June 23. The ribbon cutting for the Martel Housing project will be July 16. There is a new mural at 152 Lisbon Street commissioned by LA Arts. Public Works is launching a mobility study and encourages all residents to take the survey. The Memorial Day observance will be Saturday, May 23. The primary election is June 9.

ORDER, APPROVING THE DISPOSITION OF 12 FAIR STREET

VOTE (171-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Harriman:

To approve the Order, Approving the Disposition of 12 Fair Street:

Whereas, the City Council voted to sell the tax-acquired parcel located at 12 Fair Street at their 7/15/2025 meeting and

Whereas, the City received an offer for the parcel through the City's Realtor DuBois Realty; and

Whereas, Abdihakim Abdi offered \$49,900 for 12 Fair Street

Now, Therefore, Be It Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston, to approve the disposition of 12 Fair Street and authorize the City Administrator to execute all necessary legal documents to include Lewiston's retainage of utility easements for the parcel.

Passed - Vote 7-0

ORDER, APPROVING THE DISPOSITION OF 11 KING AVENUE

VOTE (172-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Harriman:

To approve the Order, Approving the Disposition of 11 King Avenue:

Whereas, the City Council voted to sell the tax-acquired parcel located at 11 King Avenue at their 7/15/2025 meeting and

Whereas, the City received multiple offers for the parcel through the City's Realtor DuBois Realty; and

Whereas, Kargar Development, LLC offered \$80,000 for 11 King Avenue

Now, Therefore, Be It Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston, to approve the disposition of 11 King Avenue and authorize the City Administrator to execute all necessary legal documents.

Passed - Vote 7-0

ORDER, APPROVING THE DISPOSITION OF 89 ACADIA AVENUE

VOTE (173-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Harriman:

To approve the Order, Approving the Disposition of 89 Acadia Avenue::

Whereas, the City Council voted to sell the tax-acquired parcel located at 89 Acadia Avenue at their 7/15/2025 meeting and

Whereas, the City received multiple offers for the parcel through the City's Realtor DuBois Realty; and

Whereas, Alison McCrady offered \$45,000 for 89 Acadia Avenue

Now, Therefore, Be It Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston, to approve the disposition of 89 Acadia Avenue and authorize the City Administrator to execute all necessary legal documents.

Passed - Vote 7-0

ORDER, APPROVING THE DISPOSITION OF 1 JAMES AVENUE

VOTE (174-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Harriman:

To approve the Order, Approving the Disposition of 1 James Avenue:

Whereas, the City Council voted to sell the tax-acquired parcel located at 1 James Avenue at their 1/13/2025 meeting and

Whereas, the City received an offer for the parcel through the City's Realtor DuBois Realty; and

Whereas, Jacob Weisberg offered \$20,000 for both 1 James Avenue and 23 Sand Hill Road

Now, Therefore, Be It Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston, to approve the disposition of 1 James Avenue and authorize the City Administrator to execute all necessary legal documents.

Passed - Vote 7-0

ORDER, APPROVING THE DISPOSITION OF 23 SAND HILL ROAD

VOTE (175-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Harriman:

To approve the Order, Approving the Disposition of 23 Sand Hill Road:

Whereas, the City Council voted to sell the parcel located at 23 Sand Hill Road at their 12/16/2025 meeting and

Whereas, the City received an offer for the parcel through the City's Realtor DuBois Realty; and

Whereas, Jacob Weisberg offered \$20,000 for both 1 James Avenue and 23 Sand Hill Road

Now, Therefore, Be It Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston, to approve the disposition of 23 Sand Hill Road and authorize the City Administrator to execute all necessary legal documents.

Passed - Vote 7-0

ORDER, APPROVING THE DISPOSITION OF 17 WHITE AVENUE

VOTE (176-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Harriman:

To approve the Order, Approving the Disposition of 17 White Avenue:

Whereas, the City Council voted to sell the tax acquired parcel located at 17 White Avenue at their 2/25/2020 meeting and

Whereas, the City received an offer for the parcel through the City's Realtor DuBois Realty; and

Whereas, Levi Feldman offered \$1,000 for 17 White Avenue

Now, Therefore, Be It Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston, to approve the disposition of 17 White Avenue and authorize the City Administrator to execute all necessary legal documents.

Passed - Vote 7-0

ORDER, APPROVING THE DISPOSITION OF 9 CERES AVENUE

VOTE (177-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Harriman:

To approve the Order, Approving the Disposition of 9 Ceres Avenue:

Whereas, the City Council voted to sell the tax acquired parcel located at 9 Ceres Avenue at their 2/25/2020 meeting and

Whereas, the City received an offer for the parcel through the City's Realtor DuBois Realty; and

Whereas, Nate Clark offered \$500 for 9 Ceres Avenue

Now, Therefore, Be It Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston, to approve the disposition of 9 Ceres Avenue and authorize the City Administrator to execute all necessary legal documents.

Passed - Vote 7-0

ORDER, APPROVING THE DISPOSITION OF 22 JOHNSON STREET

VOTE (178-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Harriman:

To approve the Order, Approving the Disposition of 22 Johnson Street:

Whereas, the City Council voted to sell the tax acquired parcel located at 22 Johnson Street at their 7/15/2025 meeting and

Whereas, the City received an offer for the parcel through the City's Realtor DuBois Realty; and

Whereas, Diane and Donnie Duplissis offered \$3,200 for 22 Johnson Street

Now, Therefore, Be It Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston, to approve the disposition of 22 Johnson Street and authorize the City Administrator to execute all necessary legal documents.

Passed - Vote 7-0

ORDER, APPROVING THE DISPOSITION OF 67 OAK STREET

VOTE (179-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Harriman:

To approve the Order, Approving the Disposition of 67 Oak Street:

Whereas, the City Council voted to sell the tax acquired parcel located at 67 Oak Street at their 7/15/2025 meeting and

Whereas, the City received an offer for the parcel through the City's Realtor DuBois Realty; and

Whereas, Joao and Simao Kifiya offered \$10,600 for 67 Oak Street

Now, Therefore, Be It Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston, to approve the disposition of 67 Oak Street and authorize the City Administrator to execute all necessary legal documents.

Passed - Vote 7-0

**CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING FIRST PASSAGE FOR AN
AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING AND LAND USE CODE, ARTICLE XI, DISTRICT
REGULATIONS FOR CHANGES TO THE NO NAME POND CONSERVATION
OVERLAY DISTRICT TO CLARIFY BUFFER LANGUAGE**

VOTE (180-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Harriman:

To continue the public hearing regarding the proposed amendments to Appendix A of the Code of Ordinances, Zoning and Land Use Code, Article XI, District Regulations for changes to the No Name Pond Conservation Overlay District to clarify buffer language. Passed - Vote 7-0

**ORDER, AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR, ACCEPTANCE OF, AND
APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PROGRAM
COMMUNITY ACTION GRANT PROGRAM AT THE MAINE OFFICE OF
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR A GRANT TO HAVE A CLIMATE VULNERABILITY
ASSESSMENT PREPARED**

VOTE (181-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Harriman:

To approve the Order, Authorizing the Application for, Acceptance of, and Appropriation of Funds from the Community Resilience Program Community Action Grant Program at the Maine Office of Community Affairs for a grant to have a Climate Vulnerability Assessment prepared:

Whereas, the city of Lewiston and the city of Auburn are eligible to apply for a grant to have a climate vulnerability assessment prepared; and

Whereas, the City is eligible for a Grant of up to \$75,000, or \$175,000 if partnering with Auburn; and

Whereas, there is no match required for this grant; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that City Staff is hereby authorized to Apply for, Accept and Appropriate funds from the Community Resilience Program Community Action Grant Program of the Maine Office of Community Affairs Grant award.

Passed - Vote 7-0

**PRESENTATION FROM THE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT ON THE REVISED
PROPOSED FY2027 SCHOOL BUDGET**

Jake Langlais, School Superintendent, reviewed the updated budget approved by the School Committee last evening. The major drivers in the budget are costs for special education, transportation, utilities, and worker's compensation. 70% of the budget is people – staff and associated costs. \$89 million of the operating costs come from the state. The School Committee cut \$1.169 million from the budget last night which represents an overall budget increase of 4.35% from last year.

Ronnie Paradis, Ward 4 – LRTC is one of the biggest benefits at the school, it is an organized program with happy staff.

Peter Geiger, Ward 7 – The full budget is \$129 million and the state funds 80% of it, it is \$39 million in local money to run the school system. Lewiston is getting more from the state than many other school systems in the state. Please accept the budget and vote to approve it.

Celia (unclear of last name), Ward 4 – If we don't take care of the kids, they cannot take care of us. Taxes are too high. Was making \$150,000 several years ago and still making that but the bills are three times higher.

Matt Agren, Ward 4 – City should work with the school for communication, partner with them and use their communication network to notify residents of city issues.

Crystal Ward, Ward 2 – Someone should be able to explain the budget to the residents, special education costs are 100% reimbursed by the state but only 2 years later. The federal government also reimburses some education costs, this should be explained to the public.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR APPROVAL OF AN OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT
PERMIT FOR A MUSICAL EVENT IN SIMARD PAYNE MEMORIAL PARK**

Mayor Sheline opened the public hearing to receive public input. No members of the public spoke for or against this issue. The Mayor then closed the hearing.

VOTE (182-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Harriman:

To conduct a public hearing on an application for an outdoor entertainment event in Simard Payne Memorial Park, and to grant a permit for an Outdoor Entertainment Event, as required by the City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Article 1, Section 10-3, for an outdoor music concert to be held at Simard Payne Memorial Park on Saturday, May 30, contingent upon positive recommendations from the Police Department, Fire Department, Code/Health Officer and Land Use Inspector regarding compliance with all regulations and compliance with all City ordinances. Passed - Vote 7-0

**PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPLICATION FOR A NEW LIQUOR LICENSE FOR
SONDER AND DRAM, 12 ASH STREET**

Mayor Sheline opened the public hearing to receive public input. No members of the public spoke for or against this issue. The Mayor then closed the hearing.

VOTE (183-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Harriman:

To authorize the City Clerk's Office to approve a new liquor license application for Sonder and Dram, 12 Ash Street. Passed - Vote 7-0

**FINAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2027
MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Mayor Sheline opened the public hearing to receive public input. Matt Roy, Ward 6 - Paid Family Medical Leave Act – who is going to administer this program for the city when the Council cuts the HR Department by one-third? Council cut IT Department by 40%, in the age of cyber security, hacking, and spoofing. Ashley Kelly, Ward 1 – Think of where you were 36 years ago because Peter Parker started his career here, spent his entire adult working life in Lewiston, and now his position is being eliminated; what message does that express to new employees? The message is – don't invest your career here. After 36 years, no one deserves to have their job cut. He made all of the posters and flyers for the recent Busking Festival, saving the city money for outsourcing them. Matt Agren, Ward 4 -The taxpayers cannot be treated like a debit card. Implement a Public Service fee similar to the stormwater fee. Remove the police officers from the Council meetings, as of the May 5 Council meeting, the cost to have police at Council meetings in 2026 was \$16,000. There is no action plan for the reval, phase it in this year. Ronnie Paradis, Ward 6 – Why take lower-paid employees and lay them off? Look at Administration and cut down the salaries. Some departments can be combined. The Council cuts people who are worthy. Crystal Ward, Ward 2 – In budget discussions, the school is unfairly treated because of the referendum election, should the people be allowed to vote on the city budget? Need transparency. The Mayor then closed the hearing.

**ORDER, AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO PROVIDE CITY
SERVICES TOTALING \$107,171 AND CASH DONATIONS TOTALING \$21,500 FOR
CITY NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
FY27 CITY COUNCIL APPROVED LIST****VOTE (184-2026)**

Motion by Councilor Martel, seconded by Councilor Longchamps:

To approve the Order, Authorizing the City Administrator to provide city services totaling \$107,171 and cash donations totaling \$21,500 for City Non-Profit Organization Activities in accordance with the FY27 City Council approved list:

Whereas, the City of Lewiston has a history of providing in-kind support services and limited cash contributions for a variety of activities that will enhance our City's quality-of-life and provide

certain non-profit organizations a source of revenue to support programming available to eligible Lewiston residents; and

Whereas, the organizations which will receive FY27 City support have complied with the application requirements set forth in the “Special Events Policy;” and

Whereas, requests for such City support have been reviewed by the City Council as a part of the FY27 budget process;

Now, therefore, be it Ordered by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the City Administrator is authorized to direct City departments to provide applicable City in-kind support services outlined in the attached “Lewiston Charitable Donations – Summary & Special Notes on Municipal Donations Budget” less the \$50 application fee, and licenses and permits in accordance with the City’s Special Events Policy, and to issue cash payments to the following organizations in the amounts noted totaling \$21,500, subject to the City Council’s final approval of the FY27 municipal budget.

City of Lewiston – LA Balloon Festival	\$10,000
Rally for Recovery	\$ 1,500
Liberty Festival	\$10,000

Passed - Vote 7-0

RESOLVE, AUTHORIZING THE USE OF \$1,500 FROM THE FARRAR FUND FOR COSTS OF BASIC NECESSARY SERVICES FOR NEEDY INDIVIDUALS

VOTE (185-2026)

Motion by Councilor Harriman, seconded by Councilor Nagine:

To approve the Resolve, Authorizing the Use of \$1,500 from the Farrar Fund for Costs of Basic Necessary Services for Needy Individuals:

Whereas, the City of Lewiston was left an endowment to provide for medical and dental expenses for needy individuals; and

Whereas, in 2008, the City Council authorized the use of these funds, as determined by the Social Services Director, to provide basic, necessary services to those individuals whose income is no greater than 185% of the federal poverty level; and

Whereas, fund principal in the amount of \$18,551 is to be maintained in perpetuity; and

Whereas, due to the rate of return on investments, it is anticipated that the demand for service will exceed the adopted procedure of only utilizing the prior year’s investment earnings; and

Whereas, the appropriation of \$1,500 is recommended with additional funding for this amount over and above the interest earned in the prior year coming from interest earnings accumulated and retained over time;

Now, therefore, be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the Social Services Director is authorized to spend up to \$1,500 from the Farrar Fund, the same authorized amount in FY27.

Passed - Vote 7-0

**RESOLVE, APPROVING THE FINAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS TO THE FY27
MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

VOTE (186-2026)

Motion by Councilor Longchamps, seconded by Councilor Nagine:

To add the position of MIS Director back into the budget, to reorganize departments on the third floor, and to eliminate the Economic Development Director position. Passed - Vote 5-2
(Councilors Harriman and Chittim opposed.)

Matt Roy, Ward 6 – the Mayor and Council should not delegate the power to City Administration. The city reorganized departments about 15-20 years ago and created the Public Services Department and the Public Works Department. Chris Holden, Ward 1 – Amendment should state the third floor and not economic development department. Matt Agren, Ward 4 – The Council is cutting an open position but will they save money since the salary is from a TIF; the city does not see economic development because none is being done, only bringing in low income housing units and not supporting small business. The Department does not have a great track record – Colisee closing, lost AI data center, Democracy Brewing has not opened. David Grouse, Ward 5 – Smart move to cut an open position.

VOTE (187-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Longchamps:

To remove the supplies line for the Council to eliminate the snacks purchased for the meetings. Passed - Vote 6-1 (Councilor Chittim opposed.)

VOTE (188-2026)

Motion by Councilor Chittim, seconded by Councilor Nagine:

To move the question. Passed - Vote 7-0

VOTE (189-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Longchamps:

To adopt the Resolve, Approving the Final Budget Adjustments to the FY27 Municipal Budget:

Whereas, in accordance with the Charter, the City Administrator presented the proposed FY27 budget to the City Council on March 10, 2026; and

Whereas, since then, the City Council has received information and met on numerous occasions

to review the various departmental budgets and to discuss changes to the Administrator's proposal; and

Whereas, throughout this process, the City Council has shown support for certain changes and adjustments affecting the general fund expenditure and revenue budgets; and

Whereas, the overall goals of this effort were to maintain essential public services while reducing the impact of the budget on the taxpayers of the City of Lewiston; and

Whereas, the following summary represents the results of this effort;

Now, therefore, be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the following Final Budget Adjustments for FY27, is hereby approved:

<u>Org.</u>	<u>Object</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Revenues:				
4151	335200	Intergovernmental	State Revenue Sharing	580,813
4241	322100	Planning & Code	Building Inspector Fees	150,000
4351	372250	Open Spaces	Sale of Timber	50,000
			Fund Balance	1,950,153
			Total Revenues	2,730,966
Expenditures:				
4831	449000	County	Fixed Charges	(1,044)
4991	449000	Miscellaneous	Fixed Charges - Homeless Shelter	(106,667)
4113	411000	Administration	Salaries/Wages Regular	(79,833)
4193-4197	428800	Parking Garages	Miscellaneous Services	(80,000)
4991	449000	Miscellaneous	Fixed Charges - Homeless Shelter	(106,666)
4812	451000	Intergovernmental	Vehicles - LATC	(50,000)
4941	417400	Workers Comp	WC - Gap for Reserves	(150,000)
4511	423000	Recreation	Mileage and Travel	(5,920)
4511	430500	Recreation	Office Supplies	(10,900)
4519	427500	Armory	Repairs to Building	(8,500)
4519	427500	Armory	Repairs to Building	(10,000)
4991	428800	Miscellaneous	Miscellaneous Services (Coaching)	(22,000)
4991	428800	Miscellaneous	Miscellaneous Services (Community Forum)	(10,000)
	432000	Multiple	Gas & Oil	116,985
4351	427500	Open Spaces	Repairs to Building	(66,000)
4351	427600	Open Spaces	Repairs to Grounds	(7,600)
4351	428800	Open Spaces	Miscellaneous Services	(20,000)
4351	428836	Open Spaces	Downtown MTNC Program	(7,500)
~~4161~~	~~411000~~	~~MIS~~	~~MIS Director~~	~~(110,847)~~
4161	411000	MIS	MIS Comp Operations/Specialist	(87,876)
4181	411000	Human Resources	HR Technician	(57,467)
4213	411000	Patrol	Police Officer (Frozen)	(67,913)
4221	411000	Fire	Fire Fighters -2 (Frozen)	(117,758)
4421	411000	Social Services	Caseworker	(48,399)
4931	417001	Retirement	MEPERS	(56,017)
4921	417100	Insurance	MMEHT Health Insurance	(130,029)

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4921	417101	Insurance	Health Insurance Buyout	(9,689)
4921	417103	Insurance	Boston Mutual Life Insurance	(176)
4921	417250	Insurance	Health Reimb Arrangement	(15,600)
4931	417003	Retirement	FICA	(32,006)
4559	428800	Retirement	Miscellaneous Services	(17,000)
4151	411000	Miscellaneous	Salaries/Wages Regular	(24,701)
4216	426200	Support Services	Maintenance & Licensing	(70,000)
4519	427500	Armory	Repairs to Building	(36,000)
		Library Books		(12,878)
		Reorg the third floor		(122,170)
4111	428800	Council	Snacks	(576)
		Total Expenditures		(1,531,900)

Passed - Vote 5-2 (Councilors Harriman and Chittim opposed.)

At this time, the Council took a 20 minute recess (9:05pm-9:25pm) to allow time for the Finance Director to recalculate the next agenda item in light of the new amendments. At this time, Councilor Chittim retired from the meeting for the evening.

RESOLVE, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR MUNICIPAL BUDGET YEAR 2027**VOTE (190-2026)**

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Martel:

To approve the Resolve, Making an Appropriation for Municipal Budget Year 2027:

Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the sum of \$72,226,179 is hereby appropriated in the General Fund for the municipal year 2027 in accordance with the schedule of appropriations; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that, in addition to such other revenues as are estimated to be available to meet the above appropriations including the Homestead and Business Equipment Tax Exemption reimbursement, the sum of \$41,183,738 be raised by assessment upon the estates of the inhabitants of the City of Lewiston and upon the estates of non-resident proprietors within said City for the present municipal year; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the sum of \$23,766,396 be appropriated as non-tax revenues in the General Fund for the municipal year 2027 in accordance with the schedule of appropriations; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the sum of \$1,950,153 be appropriated from fund balance as non-tax revenues in the General Fund for the municipal year 2027 in accordance with the schedule of appropriations; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the list of tax assessments upon the estates in Lewiston for all city taxes, together with all assessments and charges made under the provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes annotated, Title 30A, Section

3406 and 3442 to 3445 inclusive, and the City's due proportion of the County Tax in the amount of \$5,325,892 for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 shall be committed by the Assessor to the Finance Director, and shall be due and payable on the 15th day of September 2026; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that interest at the maximum State approved rate of 7% per annum for fiscal year 2027 shall be collected on the first half of said taxes from September 16, 2026, if not voluntarily paid to the Finance Director on or before September 15, 2026 and on the second half of said taxes from March 16, 2027, if not voluntarily paid to the Finance Director on or before March 15, 2027; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that in each case, said interest shall be added to and become a part of said taxes; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the Deputy Treasurer/Tax Collector is authorized to accept payments of uncommitted taxes and to pay to the taxpayer interest from the date of payment to the commitment date at a rate of 0% and that refunds for overpayments or abatements shall be paid to the taxpayer with interest from the date of payment to the date of abatement or refund, whichever is earlier, at an interest rate of 7%; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the Deputy Treasurer/Tax Collector shall apply all payments to the oldest balance due to the City on that account regardless of any instructions the customer/taxpayer may give. If, however, a lien has matured, the Deputy Treasurer/Tax Collector may not accept payment on that account unless a workout agreement is in place or approval has been granted by the Finance Director to accept payment. If a customer/taxpayer has more than one account, any payment shall be applied to the oldest balance due; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the Council hereby formally accepts and appropriates any cash contributions received during this budget year to the appropriate department and purpose for which such contribution has been made and where such contribution is equal to or less than \$10,000; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the Council hereby formally appropriates any grants from the State of Maine, the Government of the United States of America, or any other organization received during this budget year where such grant is equal to or less than \$25,000, such appropriation to become effective upon formal Council action to accept such grant; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the Council hereby formally appropriates any insurance proceeds received during this budget year to the appropriate department for the purpose of repairing or replacing the damaged property and such appropriation to become effective upon receipt of funds; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the Council hereby formally appropriates any Municipal Garage revenues in excess of the amount expended at the end of the fiscal year to be included in the General Fund Municipal Garage Vehicle Reserve Account; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the Council hereby formally appropriates a 3% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for all nonunion personnel effective

on the payroll check dated July 4, 2026, and directs the Finance Director to make the necessary adjustments to the nonunion salary schedules; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that an appropriation is authorized from the library's permanent endowment fund in accordance with the recommendation of the Library Board of Trustees and to the extent that the City Administrator determines that such an appropriation is in accordance with existing City and Library policies; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that an appropriation is authorized to transfer the amount of \$6.62 or the current State reimbursement rate per snowmobile registration to the Hillside Snowmobile Club. Payment will be made annually to the Hillside Snowmobile Club by June 30, 2027; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that an appropriation is authorized to transfer the amount of 20% of net timber harvesting revenue, if any, to the Community Forestry Fund in accordance with City Ordinance 78-45; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston to appropriate the sum of \$32,885,176 on behalf of the Lewiston School Department and the amount be raised by assessment upon the estates of the inhabitants of the City of Lewiston and upon the estates of non-resident proprietors within said City for the present municipal year.

Passed - Vote 5-2 (Councilor Harriman and Mayor Sheline opposed; per the Charter, the Mayor may cast a vote in the absence of a City Councilor.)

**RESOLVE, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
FOR MUNICIPAL BUDGET YEAR 2027**

VOTE (191-2026)

Motion by Councilor Martel, seconded by Councilor Nagine:

To approve the Resolve, Making an Appropriation for the Special Revenue Funds for Municipal Budget Year 2027:

Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the appropriation for municipal year 2027 for the following Special Revenue Funds is hereby authorized and approved: the Recreation Activity Fund in the amount of \$438,236 with approval to pursue offering new programs that are financially viable, the Police Drug Forfeiture Fund in the amount of \$296,611; and the Tax Increment Financing Fund in the amount of \$1,832,949; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the Council hereby formally appropriates any grants from the State of Maine, the Government of the United States of America, or any other organization received during this budget year where such grant is equal to or less than \$25,000, such appropriation to become effective upon formal Council action to accept such grant.

Passed - Vote 7-0

**PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED INCREASE IN WATER RATES AND
APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO POLICY MANUAL 69 REGARDING THE
WATER RATES AND CHARGES**

Mayor Sheline opened the public hearing to receive public input. Crystal Ward, Ward 2 – It is costing more and more money to live in Lewiston, paying \$500 a month in taxes. Cecila (no last name) – There is a state law in Massachusetts that taxes cannot increase more than 2.5%. The Mayor then closed the hearing.

VOTE (192-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Martel:

To approve the proposed amendments to Policy Manual 69, Water Rates, as outlined in the attached vote sheet, as recommended by the Public Works Director, Finance Director, and the City Administrator:

In accordance with Maine Revised Statutes Annotated, Title 35-A, Section 6104, the following charges are hereby established, effective July 1, 2024 26

For the first 1,200 cu. ft. per quarter ~~\$57.00~~ 63.00

For the next 9,000 cu. ft. per quarter ~~\$3.55~~ 3.90 per 100 cu.ft.

For all over 10,200 cu. ft. per quarter ~~\$3.28~~ 3.65 per 100 cu.ft.

QUARTERLY MINIMUM CHARGES

5/8" Meter	~~\$57.00~~	<u>63.00</u>
3/4" Meter	~~88.95~~	<u>98.10</u>
1" Meter	~~142.20~~	<u>156.60</u>
1 1/2" Meter	~~270.00~~	<u>297.00</u>
2" Meter	~~435.54~~	<u>479.70</u>
3" Meter	~~829.14~~	<u>917.70</u>
4" Meter	~~1,222.74~~	<u>1,355.70</u>
6" Meter	~~2,403.54~~	<u>2,669.70</u>
8" Meter	~~4,765.14~~	<u>5,297.70</u>

SPRINKLERS	~~\$176.00~~	194.00 per inch per year
PRIVATE HYDRANTS	~~1,412.00~~	1,556.00 each per year
PUBLIC HYDRANTS	~~1,080,000.00~~	1,325,000 per year plus cost for each additional hydrant installed after December 31, 2026

Passed - Vote 5-2 (Councilors Roy and Longchamps opposed.)

APPROVE THE STORMWATER SERVICE FEE INCREASE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODE OF ORDINANCE, CHAPTER 74, Section 74-304, AND 308, AND CITY POLICY #78, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

VOTE (193-2026)

Motion by Councilor Harriman, seconded by Councilor Martel:

To approve the proposed amendments to Policy Manual 78, Storm Water Rates as recommended by the Public Works Director, Finance Director and the City Administrator:

In accordance with the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 74, Section 74-304, and 308 and City Policy #78 the following stormwater service fees are hereby established: (Effective July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026)

Base Rate:

For the first 2,900 sq. ft. of impervious surface ~~\$76.00~~ 82.00

Single Family Homes, Mobile Homes:

Flat Rate of ~~\$76.00~~ 82.00

Duplex Residential Units:

Flat Rate of ~~\$114.00~~ 123.00

Unit Fee for Other Properties:

Base Rate of ~~\$76.00~~ 82.00 plus ~~\$0.0728~~ 0.0780 for every square foot of impervious surface exceeding 2,900 square feet.

Passed - Vote 5-2 (Councilors Roy and Longchamps opposed.)

RESOLVE, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE WATER, SEWER, AND STORM WATER BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027

VOTE (194-2026)

Motion by Councilor Harriman, seconded by Councilor Nagine:

To approve the Resolve, Making an Appropriation for the Water, Sewer, and Storm Water Budgets for Fiscal Year 2027:

Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the appropriation for municipal year 2027 for the following Enterprise Funds is hereby authorized and approved: the Water Fund in the amount of \$9,707,137, the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$8,859,643, and the Storm Water Fund in the amount of \$4,059,329; and

Be It Further Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lewiston that the Council hereby formally appropriates any grants from the State of Maine, the Government of the United States of America, or any other organization received during this budget year where such grant is equal to or less than \$25,000, such appropriation to become effective upon formal Council action to accept such grant.

Passed - Vote 6-1 (Councilor Roy opposed)

APPOINTMENTS TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Matt Roy, Ward 6 – There have been two openings on the Board of Assessment Review since December. Nicole Lemay, Ward 5 – Public Safety is a huge issue right, this is an urgent matter that needs to be addressed. Sheri Withers, Ward 1 – Runs an after school program for marginalized youth, need action on public safety, parents are scared. Think of future of all kids. Cathy McDonald, Ward 1 – Asked to serve on this committee, lived in Lewiston entire life, believes in Lewiston. Council is welcome to ask questions of all of the mayoral nominees to the committee.

VOTE (195-2026)

Motion by Councilor Martel, seconded by Councilor Nagine:

To receive the Mayor's list of nominations for members to the Public Safety Committee and to appoint the following residents as outlined on the attached listing:

Megan D Parks	1 representative from a local healthcare provider with experience in trauma or emergency care – 1 year term
Nicole Lemay	1 representative from a community-based organization engaged in violence prevention or victim services – 2 year term
Vicki Crouse	1 representative from a faith-based organization – 1 year term
Muhidin Libah	1 representative from a faith-based organization – 2 year term
Abdi Abdalla	1 representative from a neighborhood organization – 2 year term
Cathy McDonald	1 resident with demonstrated interest or expertise in public safety, criminal justice, or community advocacy – 1 year term
Shurki Abdirahman	1 resident with demonstrated interest or expertise in public safety, criminal justice, or community advocacy – 2 year term

Sheri Withers 1 owner of a Lewiston business – 2 year term

Passed - Vote 5-2 (Councilors Longchamps and Martel opposed.)

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Matt Roy, Ward 6 - In the steps in recovery, recognition and thinking everything will be rosy needs to be addressed. Leaders need to take responsibility. The honorable thing for the Mayor to do is to announce he is not running for another term.

REPORTS AND UPDATES

No reports and updates were presented at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Harriman asked when the Council is going to review the capital items. Councilor Martel asked about the process to censure a Councilor. Councilor Harriman reminded voters that the school budget will be voted on again at the June 9 state primary election and voters can order their absentee ballots now.

VOTE (196-2026)

Motion by Councilor Nagine, seconded by Councilor Martel:

To adjourn at 10:07 P.M. Passed - Vote 7-0

A true record, Attest:

Kathleen M. Montejo, MMC
City Clerk
Lewiston, Maine