



This meeting was held in City Council Chambers, second floor, City Hall, 375 Merrimack St. on Thursday, April 2, 2026, at 6:00 PM, and by Zoom invitation.

Video of this meeting is available: <https://www.youtube.com/@LTCLowellMA>

ROLL CALL:

On a roll call at 18:00, members present were, namely: Commission Chair Donahue, Commissioner Krieger, Commissioner Mercier, Commissioner Taing, and Commissioner Underwood. Captain David Peaslee of the Lowell Police Department and City Solicitor Tom Wood were also present.

MINUTES:

- 1 Acceptance of the meeting minutes for March 12, 2026.

Move approval by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Mercier. 5 yeas, APPROVED.

- 2 Ratification of an application by Sheila Harrington, Indivisible Lowell, for an Amplification Permit for their "No Kings Rally," Saturday, March 28, 2026, from 11 AM to 3 PM at Kerouac Park, 93 Bridge Street.

Ms. Harrington appeared before the Commission in Council Chambers; she acknowledged the necessity of applying for license early.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Mercier; seconded by Commissioner Krieger. 5 yeas, APPROVED.

- 3 Ratification of an application by Rachel Chandler, Hive Public Market for a "Special One Day License to sell/dispense Wines and Malt Beverages only," for 'WUML "Hive Mind",' held on Saturday, March 14, 2026, from 7 to 10 PM at Hive Public Market, 101 Paige Street.

Rachel Chandler spoke to the board about her event.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Taing; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 5 yeas, APPROVED.

- 4 Application by Jonathan Northridge, Lowell Humane Society, for a "Special One Day License to sell/dispense All Alcoholic Beverages" for the "Lowell Humane Society's Paws for Celebration" Fundraiser to be held on Friday, May 15, 2026 from 6:30 to 9:30 PM at Lowell Masonic Hall, 79 Dutton Street.

Mr. Northridge went before the Commission and reviewed his fundraiser.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Mercier; seconded by Commissioner Taing. 5 yeas, APPROVED.

- 5 Application by Peter Crewe, Cultural Affairs and Special Events Office for the City of Lowell for six "Special Events Permits for Amplified Outdoor Public Entertainment" for the following events:
- "Bicentennial Concerts," Saturdays, May 2, June 20, & August 15, 2026, from Noon to 7 PM on Palmer Street.
 - "Spring Busker Festival," Saturday, May 9, 2026, from 10 AM to 6 PM at Palmer & Middle Street.
 - "Greater Lowell Pride," Saturday, June 13, 2026, from 11 AM to 6 PM at Sampas Pavilion, DCR Lowell Heritage State Park.
 - "Independence Day," Saturday, July 4, 2026, from 2 to 10 PM at LeLacheur Park.
 - "Monsterbash and Fall Fest," Saturday, October 24, 2026, from 10 AM to 10 PM at Rockland Trust parking lot, 220 Merrimack Street.
 - "City of Lights," Saturday, November 28, 2026, from 2 to 10 PM at City Hall.

Peter Crewe spoke to the Commission about the City of Lowell's annual events and noted that he wanted to get ahead of the year.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Taing. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 6 Application by Amy St. Hilaire for a "Special Events Permit for Amplified Outdoor Public Entertainment," for the '16th Annual UKG 5K,' to be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM at 900 Chelmsford Street.

Ms. St. Hilaire joined the meeting via Zoom. She reviewed her company's annual employee event and confirmed the appropriate approvals and LPD involvement.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Underwood; seconded by Commissioner Taing. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 7 Application by Colleen Dubuc of St. Michael's Parish for a "Special One-Day License to sell/dispense All Alcoholic Beverages," for a "Spring Fling Funraiser," to be held Saturday, May 2, 2026, at St. Michael's Church Hall, 543 Bridge Street.

Ms. Dubuc spoke about her fundraiser to the Commission and noted that she obtained TIPS Certification specifically for this and future fundraisers at St. Michael's. She noted that it would be a small event.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Taing; seconded by Commissioner Mercier. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 8 Application by Elizabeth Lopez, for four "Special One Day Licenses to sell/dispense Wines and Malt Beverages only" at UMass Lowell:
- "Mechanical & Industrial Engineering Graduation Dinner" on Friday, April 24, 2026, from 6 to 9 PM at Coburn Hall, 850 Broadway Street.
 - "Art & Design Bachelor of Fine Arts Reception" on Saturday, April 25, 2026, from 5:30 to 8 PM at Mahoney Hall, 870 Broadway Street.
 - "Spring Choral Concert with the University Orchestra" on Sunday, April 26, 2026, from 5 to 6 PM at Moloney Performing Arts Center, 35 Wilder Street.
 - "Massachusetts Society of Professors Reception" on May 1, 2026, from 3:30 to 5:30 PM at the Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center, 40 University Avenue.

Ms. Lopez, Catering Supervisor, spoke for Aramark and explained that all the events were on behalf of UMass Lowell. Commission Chair Donahue confirmed that all Aramark bartenders and managers are TIPS Certified.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 9 Application by Andrew Andrews, Merrimack Repertory Theatre, for two "Special One Day Licenses to sell/dispense Malt Beverages and Wines only," for Lowell's "The Town and the City" events on Friday & Saturday, May 1 & 2, 2026, from 6:30 to 10:30 PM at Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack Street.

Mr. Andrews spoke to the Commission about Merrimack Repertory Theatre's involvement in Lowell's "The Town and The City" event.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Mercier; seconded by Commissioner Taing. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 10 Application by Carl Maib for 3 "Special One Day Licenses to sell/dispense Malt Beverages & Wines" and for 3 "Amplified Outdoor Public Entertainment" permits for the 2026 Grecian Festival. Event to be held Friday, May 29th through Sunday, May 31st, 2026, at the Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church, 25 Fr. Sarantos Way.

Mr. Maib confirmed that this year's Grecian Festival would be the same footprint and format as previous (recent) years. He confirmed for the Commission that it is his third year organizing the event.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Taing; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 11 Application by Amanda Etinge, for three "Special One-Day Licenses to sell/dispense Wines and Malt Beverages only" at the Hellenic Center, 41 Broadway Street, from 7 PM to 1:30 AM:
- "Nduumo Kenyan Festival" on Saturday, April 18, 2026.

- "Celebration of Life" on Saturday, April 25, 2026.
- "Birthday Celebration" on Saturday, August 8, 2026.

Ms. Étinge participated in the meeting via Zoom. She spoke briefly about her events, that they would average 150-200 attendees and each would have 3 TIPS Certified bartenders – as usual for her events at the Hellenic.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Taing. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 12 Application by Kevin Moschen, Fuse Bistro, for a "Special One Day License to sell/dispense Malt Beverages and Wines only," for a "Charity Paint & Sip, benefitting Black Cat Rescue," on Saturday, April 18, 2026, from 5 to 7 PM at One Urban Tribe, 167 Market Street.

Mr. Moschen, License Manager for Fuse Bistro, appeared before the Commission. He reviewed his event, along with Samantha McDuffee from Black Cat Rescue.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Mercier; seconded by Commissioner Taing. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 13 Application for Secondhand Goods License by Suzanne and Bill Graham, P+G Publishing LLC [d/b/a] Suzie Q's Vintage, 521 Rogers Street.

Mr. Graham spoke to the Commission about their new business. Commissioner Mercier asked about their parking.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Mercier. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 14 Application by Claudia Haydon, Sole Proprietor, Inklings Intuitive, for Fortune Teller License for 1508 Gorham Street.

Ms. Haydon spoke to the Commission. She reviewed her business and explained her plan. The Commissioners asked about her operating this business out of her home, and she explained she anticipated going out to places to conduct readings and doing readings online. Ms. Haydon asked if her license would allow her to conduct business in another town, for example if she were invited into a home or store in another town. Commissioner Donahue asked if the City Solicitor could look into the matter, and Commissioner Krieger made a motion to that effect.

Motion to approve license for use in City of Lowell and online, and for the City Solicitor to clarify whether this license allows the licensee to practice in other municipalities, by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Mercier. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 15 Application by Elizabeth Scott, LLC Manager of KE & Co LLC for Automatic Amusement Device License for two approved devices to be located inside Pey Day LLC [d/b/a] Tea-Do, 127 Merrimack Street.

Ms. Scott joined the meeting by Zoom. She reviewed her business model for the Commission.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Taing. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 16 Application by Jonathan Kainamisis, LLC Manager of Zeus Auto Stop LLC for Class 2 Used Auto Dealer License for 204 Lincoln Street.

Mr. Kainamisis spoke to the Commission. He reviewed the plans for his dealership and explained this would be in addition to his auto repair business in Downtown. The Commissioners reviewed the plot plan in detail and determined the particulars for what would be appropriate for the space.

Motion to approve the license for 18 cars on premises including 2 spots for employees and 2 spots for customers, by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 17 Public hearing for an application by 1 East Meadow Road Inc. [d/b/a] A1 Food Mart, Mitul Prajapati, proposed license manager for transfer and change of location of a "Wine and Malt Beverages" package store license to 1 East Meadow Road.

Attorney Akashian, representing the applicant, introduced the matter and reviewed the application and qualifications of the applicants. Akashian acknowledged the fact that an existing package store abuts the applicant's premises and addressed the question of parking due to a busy intersection adjacent to the premises. Mr. Akashian also noted that a previous License Commission board approved an application that resulted in abutting package stores.

At the hearing, Steve O'Neill, owner of the premises (listed in the property record as 339 Mammoth Rd, AKA 1 E Meadow Rd), spoke in favor of the application and confirmed the available off-street parking. Attorney Scott Bratton, represented Amgad Abdelmalek, an abutting business owner, spoke in opposition of the application, along with 5 local residents.

The arguments, presented by Atty. Bratton, opposed to the application included: 1. traffic and safety at the intersection adjacent to the premises and how increased traffic would be detrimental to the community; 2. proximity of a house of worship and an elementary school; 3. potential increase of crime and intoxication. Atty. Bratton also alleged that there is an ownership connection between Jay's (166 Gorham St.) who's license is being transferred and relocated to 1 East Meadow Road Inc. and the new business entity. He further suggested that malfeasance and crime documented at 166 Gorham may also relocate to the proposed new premises. Five Lowell citizens who live close (within 500 ft) of the premises spoke in opposition to application mainly for the following reasons: Child and mother with small children's safety at the bus stop and navigating the area; school pedestrian traffic (neighborhood schools release children at different times, many of whom walk) in conjunction with the busy intersection.

The Commission considered the arguments presented, reviewed the parking plans, and spoke with Lowell Police Department Captain Peaslee about crime and traffic in the area. They determined that

they would need some additional data from the Lowell Police Department (crime & traffic statistics) and from the Assessor's Office (confirming distance of schools and/or houses of worship from the proposed premises).

Motion to request crime and traffic data from the Lowell Police Department, to confirm with the Assessor's Office that no school or church is located within 500 feet of the premises, and to continue this hearing at the April 23, 2026, meeting of the Lowell License Commission by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Taing. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 18 Public hearing for an application by Bless Energy Fam Corp [d/b/a] Platinos Bar & Grill, Jhonny Palacios, proposed license manager for a new "All Alcoholic Beverages" restaurant license for 1717 Middlesex Street, Unit 6.

Mr. Jhonny Palacios appeared before the Commission in Council Chambers. He reviewed his twenty years of experience in the restaurant industry and with alcohol service, and explained that he wished to add alcohol service to his established restaurant. He confirmed that he is TIPS Alcohol service certified, Serve-Safe Foodservice certified, and that he has a certificate in Crowd management.

At the hearing, no one spoke in favor or in opposition of the application.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Mercier; seconded by Commissioner Krieger. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 19 Compliance hearing regarding allegations of misconduct charged against Blue Shamrock Inc., 105 Market Street, Nicholas Petrakos, License Manager, all alcoholic beverages restaurant licensee. Allegations of misconduct occurred March 1, 2026, regarding failure to comply with all laws and regulations, including Alcohol Beverages Regulations for Licenses Issued by the Lowell License Commission: 1.06, 1.16, and 1.20. Allegations were communicated by Lowell Police Superintendent Gregory Hudon in writing on March 4, 2026.

At the written request of Attorney Michael Talty, representing Blue Shamrock, Inc., the Commission agreed to continue this compliance hearing at the May 7, 2026, meeting of the Lowell License Commission.

Motion to continue this compliance hearing for the May 7, 2026, meeting of the Lowell License Commission by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Taing. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 20 Communication dated March 24, 2026, from Lowell Police Superintendent, Gregory Hudon, regarding allegations of misconduct charged against Blue Shamrock Inc., 105 Market Street, Nicholas Petrakos, License Manager, all alcoholic beverages restaurant licensee. Allegations of misconduct occurred March 1, 2026, regarding failure to comply with all laws and regulations, including Alcohol Beverages Regulations for Licenses Issued by the Lowell License Commission: 1.06, 1.16, and 1.20. Request for a compliance hearing to be held at the April 23, 2026, License Commission meeting.

Motion to waive the reading and to schedule this compliance hearing for the May 7, 2026, meeting of the Lowell License Commission by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Mercier. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 21 Request for a public hearing to amend an "All Alcoholic Beverages" Off-Premises license for Lakeview Liquors Inc., for change of officers and stock interest for premises at 815 Lakeview Avenue. It is requested that legal notice be published in local newspaper, and public hearing be held on April 23, 2026, at 6 PM.

Motion to schedule the public hearing for the April 23, 2026, meeting of the Lowell License Commission by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 22 Request for a public hearing for an application by Masala Magic LLC [d/b/a] Taste of India, Hardik Patel, proposed license manager for transfer of an "All Alcoholic Beverages" restaurant license for 1717 Middlesex Street, Unit 3. Request public hearing be held at the April 23, 2026, License Commission meeting.

Motion to schedule the public hearing for the April 23, 2026, meeting of the Lowell License Commission by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Taing. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 23 Communications: Incident reports from Smokehouse and Notice of large events at Tesco.

Matter placed on file.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Krieger made a motion to adjourn at 19:19, seconded by Commissioner Donahue. 5 years, APPROVED.

Submitted by: John Pyers

Executive Secretary

Minutes are prepared mainly per RONR(12th ed.) 48:2.

