

PROCEEDINGS OF LOWDEN CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2014 5:30 PM CITY HALL

The Lowden City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Barry Hoffmeier.  
Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Council members present on roll call: Conrad, McCreight, Dean Hamdorf, Josh Hamdorf, Helmold.

Visitors: Pat Kroemer, Kirk Steinke, Bill Norton, Dorothy Pingel, Steve Noack, Dale Axline.

M/S Helmold, Conrad to approve the consent agenda including minutes, bills, financial report. Ayes: All.

Steve Noack, MMS Consultants, told the council he postponed taking bids for the McKinley Avenue projects (street work, storm sewer, and curb and gutter) until an easement issue behind the houses along the north side of 5<sup>th</sup> St. bordering the school property can be clarified. This is the area where the City will want to run a storm sewer to the creek in the park. The City will also need acquisition of 10 ft. along 10<sup>th</sup> St. north of 906 McKinley Ave. for an easement. Steve said it is his intent to have the project plans prepared so bids can be accepted at the April council meeting.

Steve also reported he had met with the sewer committee about improvements for the wastewater plant. Steve is suggesting the wastewater plant project be done in phases with upgrading the lift station being first. The City will know more how to proceed with the project if CDBG funding is awarded to Lowden in March.

Steve presented information to the council on the Safe Routes to Schools Program. Funds can be awarded for new sidewalks on routes to the school. It is a federal program administered by the IDOT. He said it is a locally driven program and if interested the City should contact a PTA group at school to partner in the project.

M/S McCreight, Helmold to accept the application for voluntary annexation to the City of Lowden from Fitzgerald Development, LLC, for 9.07 acres of land directly east of the Schwarz Addition, the City to begin proceedings for annexation per the recommendation of City Attorney William J. Sueppel, and a Public Hearing concerning the annexation to be held on March 3, 2014, 5:30 PM. Ayes: All.

M/S McCreight, Conrad to consider TIF funding for the Fitzgerald Development, LLC, based on the recommendation of the City's bond attorney, John Danos of Dorsey & Whitney LLP. Ayes: All.

Mayor presented information to the council from IDOT offering 80 percent funding for replacement of the 8<sup>th</sup> St. bridge. The City would have to front all the bridge replacement costs and then submit a request for reimbursement. Council thought a box culvert could be used instead of a bridge. Council agreed the 5<sup>th</sup> St. bridge is in much worse condition and should be a higher priority than the 8<sup>th</sup> St. bridge. The County Engineer could be contacted to see if the project could be done through them to save money. Council would like to discuss other options.

M/S McCreight, Helmold to contact IDOT and ask for a 30 day extension to make a decision on accepting funding for replacement of the 8<sup>th</sup> St. bridge. Ayes: All. Steve Noack will also obtain more engineering information on the bridge replacement project and have ready for the March 3 meeting.

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M/S McCreight, Dean Hamdorf to add two delinquent water bills and bills for digging curb boxes to property taxes at 701 Hall Avenue and 907 Jefferson Avenue if bills are not paid in 30 days. Ayes: All.

Kirk Steinke will get a quote to replace filters and media at the water plant.

Mayor told council all elected officials are required to take IS100, IS700, and IS800 emergency management classes. Some classes are offered at West Branch or they can be taken online.

M/S Helmold, Josh Hamdorf to adjourn at 6:45 PM. Ayes: All.

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Barry Hoffmeier, Mayor

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Peggy Kedley, City Clerk