

PROCEEDINGS OF LOWDEN CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2015 5:30 PM CITY HALL

The regular meeting of the Lowden City Council 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: Kirk Steinke, Pat Kroemer, Jonathan Mouw, Abigail Kraemer, Aaron Horman.

M/S Josh Hamdorf, Helmold to approve the consent agenda including minutes, bills, and financial reports. Ayes: All. Mayor noted the contract price for police protection with the Cedar County Sheriff will increase by 3% to \$34,771 for FY16.

M/S McCreight, Conrad to close the meeting and open the Public Hearing on the proposed FY16 budget. Ayes: All.

No oral or written comments on the FY16 were received.

M/S Conrad, McCreight to close the Public Hearing on the FY16 budget and open the meeting. Ayes: All.

M/S Dean Hamdorf, Helmold to approve Resolution #15-2 adopting the FY16 budget. Ayes: All.

Kirk and Rex went to Springville last month to look at the IA Pump Works alarm system they use at their wastewater plant. Kirk said the DNR likes how the alarm system works as a warning device for problems with pumps at a wastewater plant. Council is considering the purchase of the alarm system but wants to wait until the wiring being done by Alliant and Joe Keul is finished. The subject will be placed on the April meeting agenda.

Aaron Horman, Lowden Park Board, told the council they received one bid for the park mowing and shelter/restroom cleaning for the summer. The bid is from Kip Esbaum for \$5900.

M/S Dean Hamdorf, Josh Hamdorf to accept the bid from Kip Esbaum for \$5900 for park mowing and shelter/restroom cleaning for the summer of 2015. Ayes: Conrad, Dean Hamdorf, Josh Hamdorf, Helmold. Abstain: McCreight.

Aaron told the council they will be looking at the bleachers at the Park when the weather is more favorable.

Mayor presented comments from Steve Noack, MMS Consultants, in regards to the Fitzgerald Development. Steve made several recommendations for the development. Council discussed the comments and will forward them to the Fitzgerald Development attorney for review.

Council discussed the IDOT funding for replacement of the 5th St. bridge. Mayor Hoffmeier said the Cedar County Engineer is willing to help with engineering costs during the project for construction observation and administrative services, cost being approximately \$20,000. According to Calhoun-Burns & Associates, engineers who do the City's regular bridge inspections, the total cost of the bridge replacement would be in the range for \$430,000. The IDOT would fund 80% of the project with the City being responsible for 20% or \$86,000. The City budgeted to set aside \$15,000 this year and also next year towards the project. If the City could gradually pay for the engineering fees as the project progresses, the 20% obligation may be met by the time the project is complete.

M/S Conrad, Josh Hamdorf to accept the 5th St. bridge funding from the IDOT with an estimated 5th St. bridge replacement cost of \$430,000. Ayes: All.

City will not do any pavement markings this year through a contractor working for Cedar County.

M/S Helmold, Dean Hamdorf to accept the resignation/retirement of City Clerk Peggy Kedley effective August 31, 2015. Ayes: All. Mayor, Rex, and Al will meet this week to discuss advertising for the position, hours, start date, etc.

Mayor reported Alliant Energy had straightened the street light poles along Main Street.

Mayor told the Council the draft of the Cedar County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan can be reviewed online or at the Library.

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Mayor said nuisance abatement letters concerning abandoned junk vehicles will be sent out after the April council meeting. For other nuisances, abatement notices will be mailed after the May meeting. Nuisance abatement ordinance information can be found on the City's website.

Clerk read a thank you card from Lowden Senior Citizens for allowing them to use the City Hall meeting room for several of their meetings. They are now meeting at the Cottage Square Apts. community room.

M/S McCreight, Conrad to adjourn at 6:42 PM. Ayes: All.

Next regular meeting is April 6, 2015, 5:30 PM.

Barry Hoffmeier, Mayor

Peggy Kedley, City Clerk