

PROCEEDINGS OF LOWDEN CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, July 6, 2015 5:30PM CITY HALL

The regular meeting of the Lowden City Council was called to order by Mayor PRO TEM McCreight.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moment of silence observed for the Mayor of West Branch – Mark Worrell.

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

Visitors: Kirk Steinke, Pat Kroemer, Bill Norton, Rob Hunter, Warren Wethington.

M/S Helmold, Conrad, to approve the consent agenda including minutes, bills and financial reports.

Ayes: All.

The quote by Stewart painting of exterior trim at City Hall in the sum of \$1364.00 was approved. M/S Dean Hamdorf and Josh Hamdorf. Ayes: All.

Kirk Steinke informed council that he had requested a quote to trim/remove damaged trees at 403 and 507 Hall Avenue from Turkle Tree Services. The tree trimming cost would be \$350 at 507 Hall Ave and \$200 at 403 Hall Ave. Conrad stated that the trees on the right-of-way that need trimming are the homeowner's responsibility. The city will only remove dead trees from the right-of-way.

Bill Norton said that the alley south of the railroad track needs attention and should be cleaned up. Kirk Steinke said that the DOT will not pay to remove trees/mow etc. If the city cleans up in this area, we will not be reimbursed for the costs. McCreight and Kirk Steinke will look at the area.

Bill Norton also requested we consider replacing the cement sidewalk near the cemetery. He said that parts of the cement are sunken and in bad condition overall. Norton said the quote from Welby Leeper would be approximately \$17,000. Norton said that a trust fund might be able to match what the city would need to pay. Dean Hamdorf asked if it could be black topped. No decision was made. Norton also asked if he could purchase cold mix from the city for use at the Cottage Square parking lot. Kirk Steinke will discuss with Mayor.

Resolution # 15-07 to set FY16 salaries – M/S Conrad, Helmold to approve. Ayes: All

M/S Dean Hamdorf and Josh Hamdorf to approve the following permits: Steve Poppe pending approval of 10 ft. fence panels by his pool - with Kirk Steinke's approval, Rob Hunter –fence permit, Kemmann Chevrolet –sign, Jon Muhs – Sidewalk permit. Ayes: All. Permit for Joe Keul is not required, but a request to have it noted was made – paving driveway to alley.

Alliant Energy is scheduled to update the electrical at the sewer plant for the generator this week, depending on weather. Kirk Steinke added that we used the Cedar County pump for 10 hours this month due to heavy rainfall.

Kirk reported that the 5<sup>th</sup> street Bridge now has temporary barricades up. Kirk is researching a more permanent barricade. 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2016 is the deadline for the DOT bid letting for the 5<sup>th</sup> Street bridge project. McCreight said the problem was that the city would need to fund the total project in advance and the City would have to come up with 20% of the final cost which could be in the range of \$500,000-

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\$600,000 to replace the bridge. McCreight said that the City Council needs to look at this in more detail before a final decision is reached to accept the DOT funding.

Dennis Sloan – Council visited the property and met with Sloan to see if any progress has been made on cleaning up prior to the July 10<sup>th</sup> deadline. Sloan brought in an appeal by letter. City will continue to follow the Nuisance Abatement procedure.

McCreight reported that the Eshelman property at 503 Hall Ave is in a total disrepair, water in the basement, rodents had been in the property and the garage was falling down. McCreight indicated that it should be condemned, but questioned how we would pay for this. McCreight is attempting to contact the Eshelman family.

M/S Conrad , Dean Hamdorf to adjourn at 6:15 PM. Ayes: All.

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Rex McCreight, Mayor Pro Tem

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Peggy Kedley, City Clerk

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Sarah Carlson, City Clerk