

PROCEEDINGS OF LOWDEN CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 - 5:30PM UPSTAIRS 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, Helmold - Absent Josh Hamdorf

Visitors: Tim Malott, Brad Ratliff, Pat Kroemer, Dale Axline

M/S Conrad, McCreight, to approve the consent agenda including minutes, bills and financial reports. Ayes: All.

At the request of Tim Malott, Emergency Management Director, council was requested to go out of session to discuss the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. M/S Hamdorf, Helmold. Ayes: All. After a brief discussion and explanation of plan, council resumed meeting. M/S Conrad, McCreight. Ayes: All.

Resolution 15-9 - Tim Malott, Emergency Management Director, explained the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Mitigation plan has passed compliance reviews at the state and federal level and will be given final approval once the plan has been formally adopted by local communities such as Lowden, allowing the town to apply for disaster funds in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. It may also help with recovery costs of equipment owned by the town such as fire truck, generator etc. The age and condition of the equipment and the type of disaster would be a factor. A copy of the plan can be viewed on the Emergency Management website. Mayor Hoffmeier read the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan resolution to all present. M/S to adopt plan as stated – McCreight, Conrad. Ayes: All. Resolution will be recorded at the Recorder's office and with the State Auditor's office.

Resolution 15-10 – Cedar County Outdoor Warning System Activation Protocol. Brad Ratliff from Emergency Management discussed the benefits of the new storm warning protocol. Local Fire Chiefs adopted a county-wide storm response system, working in conjunction with the National Weather Service. This will drop the ISO rating by 2 points. Mayor Hoffmeier, read Resolution 15-10 to all present. M/S Hamdorf, Helmold. Ayes: All.

5<sup>th</sup> St Bridge Funding – Mayor Hoffmeier talked with representatives from IDOT, Calhoun Burns & Associates and an Engineer. It was indicated that a letter would be required if the city did not want to use bridge funding at this time. Inspections will still be required every 2 years and the city must use the funding within 10 years or become ineligible. Mayor Hoffmeier suggested a public hearing should be set for October 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm to invite comment from the town's people. Mayor Hoffmeier asked if we are losing time responding to emergency situations without the bridge. What economic impacts might be occurring if any? Council man Hamdorf said that trucks cannot use the bridge and it is not a farm route. First Responder, Dale Axline indicated that it does not seem to be complicating emergency situations. Mayor Hoffmeier reported that we have been budgeting money via LOST funds of \$30,000 currently. It is still short of where we need to be to go ahead with the project at this time. Council man McCreight

said city need to look at ways to raise the money ourselves first. Mayor also stated that the city is responsible for 100% of the entire cost of the project and that the Iowa DOT then reimburses 80% of the eligible cost. Mayor Hoffmeier said we also need to review the Park Bridge. M/S McCreight, Hamdorf. Ayes: All. To set public hearing on October 5, 2015 @ 5:30pm concerning 5<sup>th</sup> St. Bridge.

City Clerk - 90 day evaluation and increase – A recommendation of \$1.00 per hour increase in salary was recommended to Mayor Hoffmeier by Peggy Kedley, retired clerk after completing a performance evaluation for the new City Clerk, Sarah Carlson. Currently her hourly salary is \$14.00 per hour. The new rate would be \$15.00 per hour. M/S Hamdorf, Helmold. Ayes: All.

Permits approved: GoodTimes LLC – Cigarette Permit, Abels – Garage, Stanwood – Garage. M/S McCreight, Hamdorf. Ayes: All.

Maintenance Report – Council man, Hamdorf asked if either of the Public Works men knew how to program/work the new computer system that controls the back-up generator at the Waste Water Plant. Council man, Hamdorf said they should make it a priority to learn the system before the warranty runs out.

Mayor Hoffmeier and council wished Pat Kroemer, Sun News well for her future endeavors. She will be retiring at the end of September after many years with the Sun News.

Mayor Barry Hoffmeier said he will be attending the League of Cities conference in the near future. He also said the city had issued 4 Nuisance Abatements, 2 of which have complied. The remainder have until September 14<sup>th</sup> to comply with the requests. Mayor Hoffmeier said that he had authorized a repair of a value box on Hall Avenue and the placement of RIP RAP Stone at the wing walls in Memorial Park.

Clerk reported that the new city software will begin installation in October. Module 1 - Financial, Module 2 - Payroll and in November Module 3 – Utilities. Due to training from the software company, City Hall will be closed on October 8, 9 and 12<sup>th</sup>. Utility payments can still be paid during this time by using the mail slot located at the front door of the building.

M/S Conrad, Hamdorf meeting adjourned 6:40pm. Ayes: All.

Next meeting will be Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 5:30pm.

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Barry Hoffmeier, Mayor

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Sarah Carlson, City Clerk