

PROCEEDINGS OF LOWDEN CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING and PUBLIC HEARING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2015 5:30PM CITY HALL MEETING ROOM

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, Josh Hamdorf.

Visitors: Annette Behrens, Sue Hall, Bill Norton, Dale Axline, Dennis Sloan

M/S to seat Conrad, Helmold at 5:35pm – McCreight, Dean Hamdorf. Ayes: All

M/S Josh Hamdorf, Conrad to approve Consent agenda including minutes, bills and financial reports. Ayes: All.

M/S to close regular meeting and open public hearing – Josh Hamdorf, Dean Hamdorf. Ayes: All

Mayor Hoffmeier relayed comments to all present regarding the possible **5th street bridge** closure during the public hearing. Mayor Hoffmeier said he had only received one letter and one phone call for the public hearing and both comments indicated that the bridge should remain closed. A discussion then occurred between members of council, public works and visitors regarding the costs to replace the bridge and also moving sewer lines. Mayor Hoffmeier reminded council and visitors of the estimated bridge replacement cost of \$430,000 in addition the extra costs to move sewer lines at approximately \$130,000. He said that the Iowa DOT would decide what type of bridge would be required. The city would need to fund the entire project up front, but would be reimbursed for 80% of the cost. The remaining 20% would need to be funded by the city. Currently the city has \$30,000 towards the project from local option tax, which is not enough at this time. Mayor Hoffmeier said that if the bridge remained closed, it would require a mandatory 2 year inspection and that we would still be eligible for future funding providing we act within 10 years. Council man, Dean Hamdorf added that it's not a farm to market route. Mayor Hoffmeier added that the current temporary closure does not seem to have impacted emergency services and would be open to bicycle and pedestrian traffic. Mayor Hoffmeier asked if any other comments or questions at this point. M/S to close public hearing and re-open regular meeting – Josh Hamdorf, Dean Hamdorf. Ayes: All.

RESOLUTION 15-11 – 5TH STREET BRIDGE – Mayor asked if we should temporarily close the bridge, maintain the 2 year inspection but decline funding at this time with the option to revisit the project within 10 years. Mayor read the entire resolution to all present. M/S McCreight, Dean Hamdorf. Ayes: All. Mayor read out loud the contents of Iowa DOT letter to all present. The letter would need approval and the Mayor signature to decline the funding at this time for the 5th Street Bridge. M/S Conrad, McCreight. Ayes: All.

LEVY Authority Report –2012 Go Bond. Mayor Hoffmeier explained the report to all present. If council agrees the Clerk will approve the final report to the Department of Management. M/S to approve Dean Hamdorf, Helmold. Ayes: All.

Storm Sewer at Jefferson Avenue – Public Works, Kirk Steinke explained to council that water comes down Jefferson and floods the area regularly in to the alley. He asked if he could use some additional road use funds towards this project. The project would add approximately 800 ft. of storm sewer. The

area would require a large amount of rock, approximately \$1500 cost and in the spring would need to be seal coated. Mayor Hoffmeier indicated that roads east and west of town also need to be considered. He said that funds from local option tax could possibly be utilized. Council man, Dean Hamdorf asked if we could obtain money for farm to market routes, he said he understood Lost Nation gets funding this way. Council will research more on this. Mayor also said that drainage issue that occurs on Jefferson and Hall Avenue has water running in to back yards. A discussion occurred on various options to ease some of the issues. Curb and gutter may need to be addressed in some areas to help with water run-off. Council man, Conrad indicated next spring would be better for this type of project and that Public Works should get bids for consideration. Discussion was tabled for a later date.

Annette Behrens addressed council about Trunk and Treat for Halloween. Annette explained the general concept and suggested the Memorial Park from 5pm -7pm for the event, which would involve decorating your vehicle trunk or table and handing out candy to the children. They may be able to do hotdogs and a children's ride. She said the event is held in Tipton and Mechanicsville and is well received by parents and children. The library would also help in setting up the event. Annette said if everyone receives the event well this year they would like to do a yearly event. The Lutheran church called in during the meeting to see if they could put tables up on the sidewalk near the church. Annette was asked to coordinate with the church to involve them in their event at Memorial Park. Trick and Treat hours were set for 5-7pm and residents could choose to be involved in the Memorial Park event or give out candy at their own homes. M/S Josh Hamdorf, McCreight. Ayes: All.

Permits – Dennis Sloan requested a 2nd review of his shed permit. Mayor Hoffmeier said the structure is not 15ft away from an existing building. Conrad said that no additional building should be considered until the property is cleaned up. Mayor said some improvements had been made but attention is still required at the back and side of property. Mayor added that they could revisit the permit again if he cleaned up the property according to the Nuisance Abatement. M/S to deny building permit until property is cleaned up in accordance with the Nuisance Abatement. Conrad, Dean Hamdorf. Ayes: All.

Kirk Steinke, Public Works said leaf pick-up will begin on October 12th through mid-November. He said the 6500 dump truck had some mechanical issues which are now resolved. A telephone line will be installed at the water pump to alert them to issues via a new controller. Steinke asked if he could purchase Stop Sign's to replace damaged ones and comply with Iowa standards. He would need to get approximately 17 signs with reflective materials. The cost would be approximately \$270.00. The bathrooms at Memorial Park will close once temperatures drop. Steinke asked about the park bleachers. Mayor Hoffmeier said a bid for chain-link on the sides and back had been received. He said that he had contacted an EMC Representative, she is going to forward to another agent to assist us with additional information.

Mayor Hoffmeier was asked if we would consider a stop sign at 4th Street. Council discussed and decided it is not needed at this time. Mayor said elections will have Local Option Tax question on the ballot this year to help us with storm, curb and gutter. He added this is a real benefit to the town. Mayor also said he attended the League of Cities Conference and found it be very useful.

Clerk reported that new software installation had begun and the office will be closed for software training on October 8th, October 9th and October 12th.

M/S McCreight, Dean Hamdorf to adjourn meeting at 7:00PM. Ayes: All.

Next meeting will be Monday, November 2nd, 2015 at 5:30pm

Rex McCreight, Mayor Pro tem

Sarah Carlson, City Clerk