

PROCEEDINGS OF LOWDEN CITY COUNCIL –REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2015 5:30PM CITY HALL MEETING ROOM

The regular meeting of the Lowden City Council was called to order by Mayor Ashley Hansen.
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council members present on roll call: Conrad, Stewart, Hamdorf, Dewell, and Jones.

Visitors: Dale Axline, Lana Axline, Austin Lange, Rex McCreight, Bill Norton, Susan Hall, Deb Razor, Dennis Sloan.

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

Mayor Hansen started the meeting by reading out loud to all present Ordinance # 809 – Ordinance Adopting the City Code of Ordinances. The 2nd and 3rd readings were waived. M/S Dewell, Stewart to waive 2nd and 3rd readings and adopt the City Code of Ordinances. Ayes: All. An official copy of the City Code as adopted, including a certification by the City Clerk as to its adoption and effective date is on file at the office the City Clerk.

Mayor Hansen said that we need to set the date for the FY17 discussion on the budget. After a brief discussion the date was set for Monday, January 18, 2016 @ 5:30pm.

Mayor Hansen said that council needed to approve her to sign Title VI Non –Discrimination Agreement from Iowa Department of Transportation. This is a required document that needs to be on file with IDOT for future financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, including the Federal Highway Administration. M/S Conrad, Dewell to approve Mayor Hansen to sign Title VI-Non-Discrimination Agreement. Ayes: All.

Mayor Hansen discussed with council about a notification she had received regarding the 8th Street Bridge replacement. The funding would be reset each year and that the prior council had rejected the initial funding with an option to keep the funding available for the next 10 years. As the city does not yet have the funds available up front for the cost of the bridge project, Mayor Hansen discussed with council if she should decline funding at this time. M/S Conrad, Dewell for Mayor to decline funding at this time with the option of keeping future funding available. Ayes: All.

Nuisances: Steinke, Public Works Director discussed problem properties within the town. Mayor Hansen asked if Public Works would do a list of nuisances to be discussed by council for the next regular meeting on February 1st. Mayor Hansen asked for visitor comments/questions at this time. Austin Lange asked how long you have before snow has to be removed from your

sidewalks and why are we not enforcing the snow removal ordinance, he said some sidewalks still had snow on them. Public Works Steinke said 24-48 hours is the requirement. He also asked why the fire station snow isn't taken care of when City Hall, Library and Daycare is. He also added that snow is not removed from the side of City Hall/Fire Station. Councilman Hamdorf said bushes are in the way for snow removal and that the City had not been asked to remove snow in the past from this area. Councilman Hamdorf asked if the fire station wanted to be included in snow removal and that the costs would come from the fire department's budget. Austin Lange said they wanted the snow removed. Rex McCreight informed council that the cemetery will require new bids this year for mowing and maintenance. This is usually done every 2 years and that it should be on the agenda for the March meeting to discuss any bids received.

Mayor Hansen asked about permit requests received by the city – 401 Hall Avenue had requested a garage permit. A discussion occurred between council and Public Works on the location of the garage and if the structure in place now will be removed. Public Works, Steinke said that the existing garage would not be removed and that the new building would not be at the correct set back limits without the older structure's removal. M/S Conrad, Hamdorf to deny the garage permit. Ayes: All.

Maintenance report – Public Works, Steinke told council that an emergency meeting had occurred on December 14, 2015 for a failed submersible pump at the wastewater treatment plant. The wastewater treatment plant was running at near capacity even with the pumps in operation. Mississippi Valley came in to take the pump away for repair or replacement. For parts it was \$4847.00 or to get a new one it was \$7,000 and up to 3 weeks delay for a new pump. It was decided that Option 1 – parts replacement would be the best way to proceed. He also reported that a WGML meeting had been set up for January 20th to discuss the garbage truck and its possible replacement at the Wheatland City Hall. The City Clerk, Councilman Conrad, Stewart, Public Works Steinke and the Mayor would be in attendance. Steinke then discussed the 2 yard dumpster placement at the Good Times Bar. The owner would like to move the current location of the dumpster to the lot east of Main Street Style. LEDCO currently owns this property who had purchased it from Good Times some time ago. The owner wanted to know if she could purchase the lot back, move/install fence at the front of the property, and install a pad. Councilman Hamdorf asked about the smell in the summer, Councilwomen Jones asked who takes care of the grass. Councilman Hamdorf said the owner of Good Times should get in contact and arrange a meeting with the members of LEDCO to discuss the possible purchase. Bill Norton added that he could relay the information to the other members of LEDCO. M/S Stewart, Dewell to have LEDCO and Good Times start the conversation about the possible purchase with the stipulations that the fence, pad requirements are met. Ayes: All.

Mayor Report – Mayor Hansen thanked everyone for attending the meeting and welcomed the new council.

City Clerk – reported that the security cameras are now in place and that F & B were fine tuning the recording devices. Councilman Conrad asked whether they are wired or wireless. Clerk reported that they are wired and that training would take place shortly for herself and Public Works. Clerk also reported that we had received 1 completed CBDG Grant application at this time, but that 12 applications had been picked up from City Hall. Clerk said that the utility billing software changeover is now complete, with the exception of a few issues to clear up. Clerk also explained that the city had a short water reading in November due to the changeover and so December bills have an extra week of billing on them.

Councilman Hamdorf and Conrad asked about the Little Home Daycare refinancing. Clerk informed council that a \$2000 payment started this month with the extra money going to principal to begin to pay down the loan. Mayor Hansen said further discussion is needed on refinance options. The discussion was tabled until next meeting.

M/S Hamdorf, Dewell, to adjourn meeting at 6:30pm. Ayes: All.

Next: Special meeting will be Monday, January 18, 2016 at 5:30pm for discussion on FY17 Budget and next regular meeting will be on Monday, February 1, 2016

Ashley Hansen, Mayor

Sarah Carlson, City Clerk