

LOWDEN CITY COUNCIL – WORK SESSION

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2016 6:45PM CITY HALL MEETING ROOM

Present: Mayor Ashley Hansen; Council members – Galen Conrad, Dean Hamdorf, Kim Jones, Keith Stewart, Brad Dewell.

Staff: City Clerk Sarah Carlson, Public Works Kirk Steinke

Others Present: Sharon Tahtinen, Chuck Gipp, Jon Tack, Eldon Schnidar, Bill Norton, Senator Bob Dvorsky, Patti Cale-Finnegan, Rex McCreight, Norlin Mommsen, Eric Wiklund, Susan Hall

Mayor Hansen opened the work session at 6:45pm. Councilman Keith Stewart thanked the DNR and everyone in attendance for agreeing to come on-site to assist Lowden with questions it had regarding a new sewer plant and how the city might obtain grants to assist with the project. Eric Wiklund, DNR Supervisor presented to council his departments goals for the evening which was to educate Lowden City Council by answering general questions they had regarding the need for a new sewer plant verses trying to repair the existing structure and new mandatory requirements. Questions on location, restrictions and type of plants available along with financing for small towns were discussed. Eric informed council that Lowden could start the clock now to begin the process or wait 6 months to give council additional time to prepare. It would be Lowden's decision. He presented council with a draft permit and explained how the process worked with regards to timelines. The City of Lowden will have 5 years to have the new sewer plant up and running. Several members of the DNR team spoke during the evening and provided some valuable insight to council. The DNR recommended that it begin by narrowing down a consultant and begin the initial study. Financing is a big concern for Lowden. It will be able to apply for the CBDG Grant and we may qualify for other grants such as the disadvantaged Community program but it will ultimately have to finance the rest of the project. Senator Dvorsky said ECIA – Mark Schneider would be the best resource for Lowden to work with. Council asked Rex McCreight if he would be willing to work with council on the new sewer plant. Rex has served on council and as Mayor in previous years and was instrumental in setting up this work session. Rex agreed he would assist council.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30pm.

Mayor _____
Ashley Hansen