

PROCEEDINGS OF LOWDEN CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2022 - 5:30PM CITY HALL MEETING ROOM

The regular meeting of the Lowden City Council was called to order by Mayor Jill Cinkovich.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council members present on roll call: Kristof, Tjaden, Jones, G. Hamdorf and Lange.

Visitors: Sue Hall, Josh Hamdorf, Abby Mouw, Leah Rhodes, Kevin Knoche, Warren Wethington, Jan Olsen, Ginger Pruess, Ann Harms and Dana & Mark Lyter.

M/S Kristof, Jones to approve the Consent Agenda, Treasurers report, Minutes, Bills, Financial Reports and Utility Billing. Two bills were added as late submissions for Dan Hamdorf - \$550.00 and Ion - \$329.00. One additional invoice for JJJ Enterprise was temporarily removed as it was missing information. PWD Steinke will discuss with the vendor to get an update. Ayes: All.

Councilman Lange reported 1 fire calls and 6 rescue calls. Lange discussed Hazmat training which will be conducted by Joey Wendt in February and also the fund-raising event for fire and the legion. 16 teams competed in the first bags event.

Library Report - Danita Washburn will join the library board and Ann Harms reported on the general events at the library.

Chief Deputy Kevin Knoche apprised council of the monthly Sheriff Report for January. 5 Traffic, 7 warnings, 1 citation. 1 Animal Call, 5 Citizen Inquiry/Assists, 1 Paper Served, 1 Theft, 4 Welfare Checks and 57 additional patrols.

Mayor Cinkovich addressed council on an update for EMS Service. The Board of Supervisors may consider a new property tax as EMS is now considered an essential service. Mayor Cinkovich is on the Advisory committee and she also pushed for Lowden to have a vote, which was granted. Sheriff Wethington also addressed council and visitors on the subject.

Leah Rhodes and Abby Mouw, MSA spoke to council about the Public Involvement Meeting for the 8th Street Bridge held at City Hall earlier in the day and showed council the final specs and plans. MSA will now focus on the process to obtain the land from the school. Council had no additional questions.

M/S Lange, Kristof to close the regular meeting and open the public hearing for the Maximum Property Tax Dollars for FY23. City Clerk Carlson discussed the levy requirements for Lowden. No comments verbal or written received. M/S Tjaden, Jones to close the public hearing and return to regular session. Ayes: All.

Mayor Cinkovich read **Resolution # 22-03 Maximum Property Tax Dollars to all present. Total Maximum levy for affected property tax levied. Roll call vote: Hamdorf - Yea, Kristoff - Yea, Lange-Yea, Jones-Yea and Tjaden - Yea. Motion passed.**

M/S Hamdorf, Kristof to set public hearing date and time for FY 23 City Budget as March 7th @ 5:30pm. Ayes. All.

Jan Olsen on behalf of the Tree Committee spoke with council about a city-wide tree project. Over the last few years, the city and residents have lost about 140 trees with storms and the ash borer. The tree committee with the city's help wants to offer a program to residents to purchase 6-10 ft. trees. The

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residents will be offered and pay for trees between \$50.00 - \$70.00 each and the city would contribute the balance of the tree cost of up to \$75.00 per tree. The tree committee has completed a grant application to assist with offsetting total tree costs. Up to three trees per household would be available. Residents can also donate to the program for another resident or to the city, so they can also replace lost city trees within city limits and the park. Discussions on where these funds would come from remain open, but council discussed the general fund and also the clerk reminded council about a tree fund that the city is the treasurer of. All street tree placement will require the city to review and approve. Residents will be required to call Ms. Utility to get utility services marked on their individual property prior to planting the trees. Residents will plant their own trees and other restrictions may apply.

Mayor Cinkovich read **Resolution # 22-03 - A Resolution Setting Salaries for Appointed Officers and Employees of the City of Lowden for Fiscal Year FY23. M/S Jones, Tjaden to adopt Resolution # 22-03 - A Resolution Setting Salaries for Appointed Officers and Employees of the City of Lowden for Fiscal Year FY23. Ayes: All.**

Mayor Cinkovich read **Resolution # 22-05 - A Resolution to Transfer Funds internally from General to Road Fund in the amount of \$50,000. M/S Lange, Jones to approve Resolution # 22-05 - A Resolution to Transfer Funds internally from General to Road Fund in the amount of \$50,000. Ayes: All.**

Mayor Cinkovich opened the bid for Park mowing. One bid received from Skip Hansen in the amount of \$5,000 for each season for a 2-year agreement. M/S Lange, Tjaden to accept the bid from Skip Hansen. Ayes: All.

Mayor Cinkovich revisited the prior months discussion on a city ordinance regarding portable buildings. Council discussed at length and agreed on the following changes. A permit is still required for all buildings and will go in front of council for approval. Portable building will be allowed up to 12' by 12' by 12' ft to the peak on skids. A minimum of 2 anchors will be required. The portable building must be 8ft. from any property line. If on a cement or permanent foundation a survey is still required. No carports or other types of similar buildings will be permitted. Only regular building materials can be used in the construction or repair of a building. No windows to be used as doors or vice versa. Buildings materials and shingles cannot be mismatched. For garages and other buildings, permits and survey's will still be a requirement.

Mayor Cinkovich discussed the Hwy-30 project by IDOT. The Board of Supervisor's are putting together a resolution for the mayor to sign. Council had no objections. The resolution will simply ask the IDOT to slow down the project and consider cedar county needs for a 4-way road system instead of a super-2.

Mayor Cinkovich asked council to discuss the liquor license renewal request from Good Times. M/S Hamdorf, Tjaden to approve the liquor license renewal for Good Times. Ayes: All.

City Clerk Carlson asked council if they would again this year want to continue the partnership with the Cedar County Fair. M/S Kristof, Lange to renew the partnership agreement for \$50.00 for this year. Ayes: All.

Mayor Cinkovich discussed park restroom updates with council. Council will have some plans drawn up to get a better picture of the intended project.

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Building Permits - A garage permit request from 117, Roosevelt will go to Zoning for review and comment.

Maintenance Report - PWD Steinke is preparing equipment for spring and will be pricing out for a new salt and sand spreader for the city as the old one keeps breaking down.

Mayor Cinkovich discussed 28E agreements for fire and the need to revisit old agreements and replace with new ones. This will be added to the March agenda.

M/S Jones, Tjaden to adjourn meeting at 7:20 p.m. Ayes: All.

Next council meeting will be Monday, March 7, 2022 @ 5:30pm - City Hall.

Mayor, Jill Cinkovich

Attest:

Sarah Carlson, City Clerk