

PROCEEDINGS OF LOWDEN CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING

MONDAY, MARCH 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, G. Hamdorf and Lange. Absent: Jones.

Visitors: Warren Wethington, Kevin Knoche, Sue Hall, Jan Olsen, Ann Harms, Deb Vandergaast.

M/S Tjaden, Lange to approve the Consent Agenda, Treasurers report, Minutes, Bills, Financial Reports and Utility Billing. Ayes: All.

Councilman Lange reported 2 fire calls and 5 EMS calls. He is attending the EMS class held by Joey Wenndt on Tuesday and Thursday's. The fire department ordered a Polaris Ranger XP 1000 NorthStar with tracks and fire equipment. This will be paid for with donated funds.

Chief Deputy Kevin Knoche apprised council of the monthly Sheriff Report for December. 3 Traffic, 3 Alarms, 1 Business Check, 4 Citizen Inquiry/Assists, 1 Civil Dispute, 1 Fraud, 1 Paper Served, 1 Trespass, 2 Welfare Checks, 2 Medicals and 77 additional patrols.

Library Director, Ann Harms discussed event updates and circulation numbers for the library.

City Clerk Carlson recapped on the property tax numbers for the Max Levy of \$265,111.00.

M/S Lange, Kristof to close the regular meeting and open the public hearing for the FY23 Annual Budget. Ayes: All. City Clerk Carlson reviewed budget highlights with council and visitors. No comments verbal or written were received. M/S Lange, Tjaden to close the public hearing and return to regular session. Ayes: All.

Mayor Cinkovich read **Resolution #22-06 - A Resolution Adopting the City of Lowden's Annual FY23 City Budget**. M/S Hamdorf, Kristof to adopt **Resolution #22-06 - A Resolution Adopting the City of Lowden Annual FY23 City Budget**. Ayes: All.

Mayor Cinkovich discussed the expiring North Cedar school agreement for the baseball, softball fields with council, which is due for renewal next year. The school would like the city to commit to a long-term agreement of 20-30 years, however the mayor and council discussed maybe 15-20 years. The school is willing to do some improvements to the area, which will need further discussion. Mayor Cinkovich would like the city to include an annual review of the agreement to make sure everyone is in compliance with the terms of any new agreement. Council then discussed the planned restroom upgrade. Follow up discussions will begin at the April meeting.

Mayor Cinkovich discussed a letter received from 612 Main Street. The ash tree that was removed was not from the Derecho. Council discussed if the city would be paying for sidewalk repair per the homeowners request. The homeowner should use the sidewalk replacement program to fix the sidewalk. M/S Tjaden, Kristof to deny the request for the city to pay for the replacement sidewalk at this property. Ayes: All. The second issue was a street light at the property that was damaged and later removed by Alliant. The homeowner does not want a replacement street light in the same location. Council discussed and decided a light is needed in that area, but PWD Steinke is to check if it can be moved closer to the Legion side. M/S Kristof, Lange for PWD Steinke to check is the street light can be

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moved any closer to the Legion side. If not, the light will go back in the same area that it was removed.
Ayes: All.

Deb Vandergaast, SD41 candidate introduced herself to council and highlighted some of topics that are a priority to her. Council had no questions for her, and thanked her for her time.

Mayor Cinkovich discussed a funding offer from the IDOT for the 5th Street Bridge replacement. M/S Hamdorf, Tjaden to decline the funding at this time for the 5th Street Bridge replacement for FY23. Ayes: All.

Mayor Cinkovich read **Ordinance # 830 - An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowden, Iowa by amending provisions pertaining to Title VI Physical Environment, Chapter 10 Building Regulations and Permits.** This was a change to the existing ordinance allowing portable sheds up to 12 x 12 x 12. Permits are still a requirement. A full copy of the ordinance is available at City Hall. **M/S Tjaden, Kristof to adopt Ordinance #830 and waive the second and third readings.** Ayes: All. The Ordinance once published will become effective.

Mayor Cinkovich discussed the bid for mowing for the cemetery. The Cemetery board approved Mike Scheer who was the only bidder at \$8600.00. This was the same bid as the prior year. Council had no objections.

Mayor Cinkovich read **Resolution #22-07 - Supporting Completion of a Four-Lane US Highway 30.** Council had given the mayor permission to sign in lieu of the actual resolution as it had a delayed release from the Board of Supervisors and was on a time deadline.

City Clerk Carlson and Mayor Cinkovich discussed the current set-up for accounts payable claims. In order to permit more time for review by council prior to a meeting date, the cut-off for presenting account payable claims will now be the Friday before a council meeting at 12 noon. Exceptions will still be made for emergency items.

M/S Lange, Kristof to approve liquor license renewal for 3-30 Golf Club pending dramshop. Ayes: All.

Mayor Cinkovich read a nuisance complaint from Barbara McCreight regarding Lou Licht's property. She had sent the letter directly to the owner and copied Lowden City Council on the matter. PWD Steinke will follow up with the property owner.

Building Permit - 117 Roosevelt Avenue was approved to build a new garage after zoning approved the land use. M/S Kristof, Lange to approve the garage as long as the structure is connected by a breezeway. Ayes: All.

PWD Steinke - Recycle fees at Clinton County will go up from \$44 to \$45 per ton beginning July 1, 2022. Councilwoman Tjaden asked if any updates were available regarding the corner café. No update was available for this meeting.

Mayor Cinkovich asked if Councilman Lange could arrange to get the cities holiday decorations taken down soon. He will work on arranging that.

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City Clerk Carlson asked council to start thinking and planning to use Federal ARPA funds for a project for the city. Council will discuss at the April meeting. A WGML meeting is scheduled for April 7th @ 6pm at Wheatland City Hall with members of Lowden, Wheatland and Grand Mound council and staff. The city will discuss replacement of the garbage truck. Due to delays in production of trucks and equipment, it may be 18-24 months before the city can take delivery of a new truck.

M/S Lange, Kristof to adjourn meeting at 7:00p.m. Ayes: All.

Next council meeting will be Monday, April 4, 2022 @ 5:30pm - City Hall.

Mayor, Jill Cinkovich

Attest:

Sarah Carlson, City Clerk