

PROCEEDINGS OF LOWDEN CITY COUNCIL

MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2024 - 5:30PM CITY HALL MEETING ROOM

The meeting of the Lowden City Council was called to order by Mayor Derrick Lange.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council members present on roll call: Kristof, NLange, Poppe, Jones and ALange.

Visitors: Sue Hall, Warren Wethington, Ann Harms, Laurie Millam, Gene Hamdorf, Josh Hamdorf, Nick Wichtoski.

M/S Kristof, Poppe to approve the Consent Agenda, Treasurers report, Minutes, Bills, Financial Reports, Utility Billing and to add one bill for Roto Rooter in the amount of \$810.00. Ayes: All.

Mayor DLange reported 1 fire call and 13 rescue calls.

Warren Wethington reported on a criminal conviction of a Lowden resident. Warren also discussed a radio app change and a problem at the Durant Fire Department.

Mayor Lange read **Resolution # 24-03 - Internal General Fund Cash Reporting Line Adjustment**. M/S Jones, NLange to approve **Resolution # 24-03 - Internal General Fund Cash Reporting Line Adjustment**. Ayes: All.

City Clerk read **Resolution # 24-07 - A Resolution Authorizing the FY25 Debt Payment for the wastewater plant in the amount of \$266,220.00 and the monthly transfer amount of \$22,185.00 to the Sewer Sinking Fund**. M/S NLange, Kristof to approve **Resolution # 24-07 - A Resolution Authorizing the FY25 Debt Payment for the wastewater plant in the amount of \$266,220.00 and the monthly transfer amount of \$22,185.00 to the Sewer Sinking Fund**. Ayes: All.

City Clerk **read the second reading of Ordinance #839 Title II Policy and Administration Chapter 4 Salaries of Municipal Officers changing the Treasurers pay from \$1000.00 per year to \$1500.00 per year**. M/S Poppe, Kristof to **adopt Ordinance # 839 as presented and waive the 3rd reading**. Ayes: All. Ordinance will be effective after publication and with the FY25 budget.

Employee reviews - ALange asked for changes to be added to the handbook/resolution for weekend water checks @ 1.5 OT - minimum 3 hours and holiday water check hours @ 1.5 OT for public works. Beginning with the FY25 budget, city meeting pay for employees will change to employees' hourly rate instead of the current \$50.00 per meeting pay. A minimum of 1 hour's pay will apply. Council discussed pay increases up to 4%. Council and staff discussed workloads, hours and adding performance reviews for next year. M/S Kristof, Jones to give city and library employees a 4 percent increase for FY25. Ayes: Kristof, Jones and Poppe. Nays: NLange, ALange. Motion passed.

City Clerk asked council if they had any changes to the Hazard Mitigation Plan. None submitted. Mayor Lange will communicate with Jody Freet, EMA.

Mayor Lange discussed park shelter renovations. Quotes/bids will be opened at the April 15th meeting. Council discussed modifying the existing door openings to 36 inches and replacing two doors instead of just one of the doors. Adding steel/tin siding to the outside of the building and adding 10 windows.

Josh Hamdorf, 965th Street Place - shed building permit. He asked council about a covenant for his area which had expired. Jones said that the city is not involved with covenants. M/S NLange, ALange to approve the building permit. Ayes: All.

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Mayor Lange asked if public works could clean up the back room of the library ready for renovation work.

PWD Steinke asked council and mayor to put the word out to the community for people to not put baby wipes, clorox wipes down the toilet, they are not disposable even if it says this on the package. This problem caused the sewer lagoon to become blocked and cost the city \$810.00 to have the lagoon jetted to clear the blockage. Nesper Sign took the top of the flag off at city hall for repair and PWD Steinke added that port-a-pot vandalism at the park had occurred again. The city is waiting on the repair costs and plans to request reimbursement from the parents.

Mayor Lange said the attorney is working on the 28E agreement for the park concession/bathrooms and it should be ready for the April 15th meeting for the city to sign. ALange asked the city men if they could tear down the old bathroom building. The city will remove existing equipment before demolition to use elsewhere within the city.

M/S ALange, Jones to adjourn meeting at 6.45p.m. Ayes: All.

Mayor, Derrick Lange

Attest:

Sarah Carlson, City Clerk