

PROCEEDINGS OF LOWDEN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 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, G. Hamdorf, Lange, Tjaden. Absent: Jones.

Visitors: Sue Hall, Ashley Collis, Warren Wethington, Matt Wildman, Jan Olsen, Barbara McCreight, Ann Harms.

M/S Kristof, Lange to approve the Consent Agenda, Treasurers Report, Minutes, Bills, Financial Reports, Utility Billing and to add three late submitted bills. ASI - \$2466.20, Bound Tree - \$52.99 and Agvantage - \$6600.00. Ayes: All.

Councilman Lange reported 3 fire call and Mayor Cinkovich reported 8 rescue calls.

Mayor Cinkovich reminded council that the library report was in the council pack.

Sheriff Warren Wethington apprised council of the monthly Sheriff report for June. The July report was not available for this meeting. 10 Traffic with 6 citations, 3 Citizen Inquiry/Assists, 1 Civil Dispute, 1 Family Dispute, 1 Medical, 1 Theft, 1 Traffic Complaint, 2 Vandalism, 2 Vehicle Unlocks, 2 Warrants served and 95 additional patrols. Warren also discussed EMA updates. The new towers will be in place soon for EMS. One will be at Mechanicville, one between Lowden and Clarence and the other in Sunbury. PWD Steinke asked if the Sheriff can monitor the park more frequently, as we had yet another break-in at the park restrooms this past weekend. Someone broke the door. Councilwoman Tjaden said kids had been observed throwing stones or rocks at the concession stand doors as well, but had been chased off.

Matt Wildman, HR Green discussed a sewer line project with council. Councilman G. Hamdorf indicated that we should wait until the other bonds are paid off before we begin this project, but we could do some fix spots until then. PWD Steinke also recommended annual jetting. The City Clerk said the city should start pre-planning for the funding portion of this now and recommended the city use a Municipal Advisor. The clerk will reach out to set this up.

504 Hall Avenue - Ashley Collis asked council for a refund of water costs due to an unknown leak. Council discussed. Councilman Lange said \$200.00 is good. M/S Lange, Kristof to remove \$200.00 from the water bill at 504 Hall Avenue. Nays: Hamdorf. Ayes: Kristof, Tjaden and Lange.

Mayor Cinkovich read **Resolution # 22-15 - Accepting the deed to certain real estate in Cedar County, Iowa from North Cedar Community School and for the mayor and clerk to sign all associated certificates and documents for this project.** M/S Tjaden, Hamdorf to approve **Resolution # 22-15 - Accepting the deed to certain real estate in Cedar County, Iowa from North Cedar Community School and for the mayor and clerk to sign all associated certificates and documents for this project.** Ayes: All.

The City Clerk reported on **Resolution 22-16 - Annual IDOT Street Report. No questions or comments by council or visitors.** M/S Hamdorf, Lange to approve **Resolution 22-16 for the Annual IDOT Street Report. Ayes: All.**

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The City Clerk discussed the Outstanding Obligation Disclosure Report with council. This is submitted to the Treasurer of State each year. The city has balances on GO Bond12 - \$60,000, Wastewater plant - \$3,940,000.00, Go Bond14 - \$120,000 and the daycare bond - \$221,795.72. No comments received.

Council woman Tjaden discussed the need for security cameras at the park and ongoing vandalism. Tjaden said we need to protect the park amenities for everyone to enjoy. She suggested looking at security cameras that work with a cell phone and a data plan. F&B for costs for wifi and hard wire options. Councilwoman Tjaden will look into cell phone options. The clerk will reach out to F&B. Councilman Hamdorf suggested electronic locks for the bathrooms.

The City Clerk asked for input on the draft solar ordinance. No changes were requested. The clerk will add this to the agenda for September for the first reading.

PWD Steinke advised council about repair costs to the UTV. Repair costs are under \$150.00. Council told him to go ahead.

Barbara McCreight and Jan Olsen spoke to council on behalf of the Garden Club. They provided an update on the new pergola installation, which is coming soon and Jan said she would be calling Iowa One Call to get the utilities marked out. Barbara said they had removed brush, thistles and hosta's and a tree stump still needed to be removed from the area. She added that they volunteer and clean up the flower beds and the city men pick up the waste for disposal and it had been this way for a number of years. PWD Steinke and Jan Olsen had spoken and Steinke said he wasn't going to pick up the brush, which was just left in the street, with all the dirt. Mayor Cinkovich asked if he or Wichtoski were asked to pick up those items to dispose or had even been notified that this was going to occur? Barbara said it had been done on Sunday. Discussion occurred on volunteer work by the Garden Club. Barbara said we have to help each other and she was disappointed by PWD Steinke response. Councilman Kristof asked PWD Steinke to pick up the brush.

Mayor Cinkovich discussed nuisances and a number of non-compliance issues or partial compliance. Council discussed Municipal Infractions for multiple properties. The City Clerk will file the paperwork with the attorney to begin court proceedings. 47 properties were also identified to have long weeds, brush, mowing issues and tree limbs that need attention. A one-time reminder will occur and then the city will not issue any further notices. The city men will come on the property to mow, trim weeds or tree limbs at a minimum cost to the resident of \$100.00 for each event.

PWD Steinke covered various maintenance updates and warranty work. PWD Steinke asked council to consider updating the rules for park shelter rentals to include a park shelter security deposit to cover damages. The city has had a number of damages to the shelter during events recently including screens that have been ripped from the inside. Council agreed. The clerk will work on a security deposit form.

Mayor Cinkovich said she received a letter from CCEDCO with an invoice of \$2178.00 for membership. Council declined and will not be rejoining as a member.

The City Clerk reminded council that the scheduled rate increases for water, sewer and garbage will be begin with the September bills. End of year reports are in progress and she is preparing for City examination by the State Auditor.

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M/S Tjaden, Lange to adjourn meeting at 7:15p.m. Ayes: All.

Next council meeting will be Tuesday, September 6, 2022 @ 5:30pm - City Hall.

Mayor, Jill Cinkovich

Attest:

Sarah Carlson, City Clerk