

PROCEEDINGS OF LOWDEN CITY COUNCIL

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2023 - 5:30PM CITY HALL MEETING ROOM

The 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, Hamdorf, Lange, Tjaden and Jones.

Visitors: Kevin Bailey, Sue Hall, Austin Lange, Nick Lange, Mark Dohmen and Ann Harms.

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

Mayor Cinkovich said Fire received 5 calls and EMS had 3 calls for Clarence and 9 for Lowden.

Deputy Sheriff Knoche was not present for this meeting. Mayor discussed the monthly report from the Sheriff's office.

The City Clerk informed the council that the first agenda item is postponed until the next council meeting.

Mayor Cinkovich **read Resolution # 23-15. A Resolution Authorizing The Temporary Interfund Loan From The City of Lowden's General & Lost Funds for the Park Bridge Replacement Project.** Total second payment to the contractor is \$84,993.80. General - \$44,993.80 and Lost \$40,000 was approved. M/S Jones, Hamdorf **to approve Resolution # 23-15. A Resolution Authorizing The Temporary Interfund Loan From The City of Lowden's General & Lost Funds for the Park Bridge Replacement Project to pay the contractor.** Ayes: All. This payment will be reimbursed to the City by IDOT.

Mayor Cinkovich said the city has as estimate from JJJ Enterprise for installation of a new waterline to the Baseball Diamond at the City Park in the amount of \$2,736.02. M/S Hamdorf, Kristof to approve JJJ Enterprise to install a new waterline. Ayes: All.

Mayor Cinkovich **read the second reading of Ordinance # 834. An Ordinance Amending Title VI Physical Environment, Chapter 6 Utilities - Billing Charges, Lowden, Iowa Code of Ordinances By Amending Provisions Pertaining to Sewer Rates.** City Clerk and council members discussed the rate increase requirement with visitors.

Mayor Cinkovich **introduced Ordinance # 835 - Title II Policy and Administration Chapter 8: City Elections.** M/S Jones, Tjaden **to adopt Ordinance # 835 and to waive additional readings.** This will be in effect when published.

Mayor Cinkovich introduced Ordinance # 836 – Title II Policy and Administration Chapter 9 Operating Procedures. M/S Jones, Tjaden **to adopt Ordinance # 835** and to waive any additional readings. Ayes: All. This will be in effect once published.

The Mayor and City Clerk discussed the need to amend the current year's operating budget. M/S Lange, Kristof to set the date for June 26th @ 5:30pm. Ayes: All.

Mayor Cinkovich discussed a liquor license renewal request from the American Legion. M/S Lange, Hamdorf to approve the liquor license renewal for the American Legion. Ayes: All.

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City Clerk reminded council that June 30th is the end of the fiscal year, and she may need to pay some bills ahead of this deadline. M/S Kristof, Hamdorf to approve the clerk to make necessary end of year payments. Ayes: All.

Kevin Bailey, MSA reported on the Park Bridge Construction and answered questions from the council. Currently the contractor and Engineer are working on a punch list of items and completing a fix to the railings. He will work with the city clerk on the third payment to the contractor in due course.

Permits:

401 Hall Avenue - Chicken Permit Request. The City Council approved up to six chickens. M/S Hamdorf, Lange to approve up to 6 chickens. Ayes: All.

804 Washington Avenue - Renewal of building permit and sidewalk permit. 125 Grant Avenue, fence permit was approved but must stay off North Public Sidewalk by 2ft. Council approved both permits.

802 Hall Avenue - Addition to Garage. The council referred this application to the Board of Adjustments. The City Clerk will contact them for a review.

Jay Hein - Additional Grain Bin. M/S Hamdorf, Jones to approve the addition of a new grain bin. Ayes: All.

504 10th Street - Covered Porch. M/S Hamdorf, Lange. Ayes: All.

205 Jefferson Avenue - Sidewalk replacement. M/S Jones, Tjaden to approve the permit for a sidewalk. Abstained Hamdorf. Ayes: Kristof, Lange, Jones and Tjaden.

Ann Harms, the Library Director updated the city council on various events at the library. They had received grant money in the amount of \$750.00. Story time has ended until school is back in session, and they are doing a drawing for a bike. Ann added that she will be doing a craft and Storytime each Wednesday until further notice at Little Knights Daycare.

Nuisance updates: Lou Licht has 45 days to clean up his property per the court order and 90 days to remove the building. 110 Jefferson has a pre-trial date of June 7, 2023, for clean-up of his property. Council discussed having PWD Director Steinke complete initial contacts with homeowners on other nuisances.

PWD Steinke updated the council on maintenance work in town. The road markings were completed by the country club leading out of town and authorized road repairs were completed around town by LL Pelling. He added that the new meters have arrived and he, the software company and clerk will begin testing some homes before we move to a complete change-out. Public Works will be doing a mixture of shifts during this time, so that they can work with homeowners/business as they will need to go on-site to properties to get to the meters to change them out.

Mayor Cinkovich asked the council what they thought about the Railyard Bar & Restaurant having some additional parking for special events. They are doing a great job and are bringing business to the community. The City Council discussed possible angle parking spaces on Washington Avenue but delayed any action until a later date.

Mayor Cinkovich said Jayne Hintz foundation is considering the donation of a splash pad for the park. The council discussed costs, location and doing invites to the community to showcase plans. Jayne will be invited to

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the next council meeting in July to discuss and perhaps do a presentation to council by the company she wants to do the work.

The City Clerk said she had completed her audit for payroll, workers compensation, taxes etc., and everything was in order. The city will receive its official compliance letter in due course.

Councilwoman Tjaden said she is resigning from city council and the July 3rd meeting will be her last meeting. The City Council approved the resignation and will begin the process of looking for a new council member to fill her seat.

M/S Jones, Hamdorf to close the regular meeting and go into closed session to discuss the sale of a property, where premature public disclosure could affect the price.

M/S Hamdorf, Kristof to close the closed session and return to regular session. Ayes: All.

Councilman Hamdorf discussed some action items for public works. He wondered why the trash had not been removed from the park. The school and city share this responsibility, but PWD Steinke said he hadn't realized they had missed a section and will take care of it. Councilman Hamdorf also asked about grate cleaning and other miscellaneous items. He said we have campers and cars on streets over the allowed timeframe and he wants them moved.

Next council meeting will be Monday, June 26th and Monday, July 3rd, 2023 @ 5:30pm - City Hall.

Mayor, Jill Cinkovich

Attest:

Sarah Carlson, City Clerk