

PROCEEDINGS
OF
CITY COUNCIL
OF THE
CITY OF LOWELL

For the Regular Meeting of July 18, 2011.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Hodges and City Clerk Betty Morlock called the roll.

Present: Councilmembers Jeff Altoft, Maryalene LaPonsie, Andrew Schrauben and Mayor Jim Hodges.

Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Sharon Ellison.

Also Present: City Clerk Betty Morlock, DPW Director Dan DesJarden, Police Chief Barry Getzen, Planning Commission Chair and Lowell Light and Power Boardmember Jim Hall, Lowell Light and Power General Manager Greg Pierce, Lowell Light and Power Boardmember Andy Johnston and Airport Manager Jim Sowle.

IT WAS MOVED BY LAPONSIE and supported by ALTOFT to excuse the absence of Mayor Pro Tem Ellison.

YEA: 4. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

Item #1. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.**

IT WAS MOVED BY LAPONSIE and supported by SCHRAUBEN to approve the agenda as written.

YEA: 4. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

Item #2. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 5, 2011.**

IT WAS MOVED BY LAPONSIE and supported by ALTOFT to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 5, 2011 as corrected.

YEA: 4. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

Item #3. **APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLES.**

IT WAS MOVED BY SCHRAUBEN and supported by LAPONSIE that the bills and accounts payables be allowed and the warrants issued.

YEA: Councilmembers Altoft, LaPonsie, Schrauben and Mayor Hodges.

NAY: None. ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Ellison. MOTION CARRIED.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (07/18/11)

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| GENERAL FUND | \$114,085.04 |
| MAJOR STREET FUND | 2,819.99 |
| LOCAL STREET FUND | 68,039.35 |
| DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT FUND | 986.78 |
| AIRPORT FUND | 3,242.03 |
| WASTEWATER FUND | 14,657.09 |
| WATER FUND | 15,478.81 |
| CABLE TV FUND | 2,400.00 |
| DATA PROCESSING FUND | 196.00 |
| EQUIPMENT FUND | 1,229.66 |
| LOOK FUND | 16,410.00 |

Item #4. **CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.** Videographer Brandon Hall informed the Council the new video camera has been purchased. The total cost of the camera was \$533.84, well under the \$1,200 which was budgeted. An extended five year warranty can be purchased for \$59.95. It was noted the camera has a one year manufacturer's warranty. By general consensus, Council did not want to purchase an extended warranty.

Hall inquired regarding the purchase of a new tripod, quoted at \$149.95. By general consensus, the Council agreed to purchase the tripod.

Item #5. **PENDING COUNCIL PROJECTS UPDATE.**

- a. Streets, sidewalks plan – Chief Getzen stated City Clerk Betty Morlock and DPW Director DPW Director will provide a report.
- b. Wastewater Treatment update – A preliminary report was received. It seems most of the problems were associated with high water tables in the Valley Vista area. A final report will be reviewed by City Manager Mark Howe.

Item #6. **DESIGNATION OF POLICE CHIEF BARRY GETZEN AS SIGNATORY FOR BANK ACCOUNTS.** With the previous Chief leaving and appointment of the position to Barry Getzen, the Council needs to designate Getzen as a signatory for bank accounts of the City.

IT WAS MOVED BY ALTOFT and seconded by SCHRAUBEN to designate Barry Getzen as the signatory for the City Bank Accounts.

YEA: Councilmember Altoft, LaPonsie, Schrauben and Mayor Hodges.

NAY: None. ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Ellison. MOTION CARRIED.

Item #7. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES FOR A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MDOT) INVOLVING APPROACH CLEARING ON RUNWAY 12/30 (PHASE 3) AT THE LOWELL CITY AIRPORT.** Chief Getzen explained this is a continuation issue for the Airport in order to receive general aviation status. Authorization is necessary to enter into a contract to receive \$50,400 through Michigan Department of Transportation. A match requirement of \$5,600 will come from the Airport Fund.

Chief Getzen recommended the approval.

IT WAS MOVED BY SCHRAUBEN and seconded by ALTOFT to authorize signatures for a contract between the City and the Michigan Department of Transportation involving approach clearing on runway 12/30 (Phase 3) at the Lowell City Airport.

YEA: Councilmember Altoft, LaPonsie, Schrauben and Mayor Hodges.

NAY: None. ABENT: Mayor Pro Tem Ellison. MOTION CARRIED.

Item #8. **AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A PAVED WALKWAY FROM THE PARKING LOT TO BOTH THE DOG PARK AND SKATEBOARD PARK.**

DPW Director Dan DesJarden explained a pathway will be established from the park to the parking lot at the Dog Park and Skateboard Park. An amount of \$3,650 was budgeted. Three local bids were received, two of which were the lowest quotations at \$1,600. It is recommended to have Stormzand Asphalt of Lowell complete the project. City staff will be placing the road gravel.

IT WAS MOVED BY LAPONSIE and seconded by ALTOFT to approve the contract with Stormzand Asphalt in the amount of \$1,600 to pave the walkway from the parking lot to both the Dog Park and Skateboard Park.

YEA: 4. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

Item #9. **MONTHLY REPORTS.** No comments were received.

Item #10. **COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS.** Councilmember Schrauben stated the Airport Board recently met. The main discussion involved continued tree clearing.

The Parks and Recreation Commission also met this past weekend. The Community Garden idea was discussed. Further consideration will be made once a formal proposal is submitted. Also, the idea of moving the meeting dates to a week day rather than a Saturday morning was discussed.

The LARA meeting was also held. Construction of the trail is progressing.

Councilmember LaPonsie also commented on the LARA trail. For those interested, they can follow the progress on the LARA website.

LaPonsie recognized the women doing "Zumba" along the Riverwalk and encouraged all to continue working out!

Councilmember Altoft stated the Board of Review will meet on July 19, 2011.

He also reminded everyone of a bike event on July 20 and 21, 2011 which will bring four to five hundred bicyclers into the City.

Mayor Hodges recognized Lowell Chamber Director Liz Baker who did a terrific job with the Riverwalk Festival.

He also noted Lowell Light and Power has been very active and a presentation will be held following the Council meeting. Hodges stated the City of Lowell received a letter from the Village of Paw Paw stating the Village Council, employees and residents were thankful for the assistance provided by Lowell Light and Power. They helped restore electrical power in the Village following the storm on July 11, 2011.

Discussion after the Council meeting will also include the matter of bio digestion as well as consideration of adjusting the general manager expense limit to \$15,000. This will also be reviewed at the next Council meeting.

Item #11. **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.** Police Chief Barry Getzen stated City Manager Mark Howe wanted it noted he is working with a team to identify the scope and funding for the current proposed street projects. Information may be available at the August 1, 2011 meeting as well as additional information concerning the water line extension on Hunt Street.

Item #12. **APPOINTMENTS.** None.

IT WAS MOVED BY SCHRAUBEN to adjourn at 7:49 p.m.

DATE:

APPROVED:

James W. Hodges, Mayor

Betty R. Morlock, City Clerk