

**LOWELL TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
May 27, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Lowell Town Council was called to order on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. by Council President Todd Angerman. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence. Clerk-Treasurer Jill Murr called the roll. The members present were Todd Angerman, Mike Gruszka, John Alessia, Shane Tucker, and John Yelkich. Staff present were Town Manager Craig Hendrix, Police Chief Jim Woestman, and GIS Director Greg White. Town Attorney David Westland joined via Zoom. There were about forty-six interested citizens in attendance and fifteen online.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilman Yelkich made a motion to approve the May 12, 2025, Work Session and Regular meeting minutes, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with five ayes on voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

President Angerman stated he reviewed the vouchers. White Vouchers #13565 – 13622 \$1,017,973.25; White – Police #1446 – 1456 \$41,737.00; Wastewater #6346 – 6400 \$162,535.35; and Stormwater Utility #6491 – 6500 \$18,752.90. Motion by Councilman Gruszka and seconded by Councilman Tucker to approve the vouchers as listed; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**R&R Sewer, Inc, PR#3**

Motion by Councilman Alessia and seconded by Councilman Yelkich to approve R&R Sewer, Inc, PR#3 – West Side Sewer Extension, white voucher #13622 - \$276,256.55; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

**Milestone Contractors, PR#1 – CCMG 2024-01**

Motion by Councilman Tucker and seconded by Councilman Yelkich to approve Milestone Contractors, PR#1 – Liberty Street – CCMG 2024-01, white voucher #13621 - \$140,814.83; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

**Easements for the SR2 Sewer/Water Extension Project for Parcels 13(1), 13(2), 13(3), and 14.**

Motion by Councilman Gruszka and seconded by Councilman Alessia to accept the Easements for the SR2 Sewer/Water Extension Project for Parcels 13(1), 13(2), 13(3), and 14; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

**CCMG 2025-01 Street Improvements**

Motion by Councilman Tucker and seconded by Councilman Yelkich to approve and award the CCMG 2025-01 Street Improvements projects to Town & Country Construction, Inc. in an amount of \$948,454.17; and authorizing the Town Council President to sign the contract documents; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

**Positive Pay**

Motion by Councilman Yelkich and seconded by Councilman Alessia to approve utilizing Positive Pay for Town accounts; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

**Kari Borucki, Yorktown Drive Block Party**

Motion by Councilman Gruszka and seconded by Councilman Tucker to approve Kari Borucki, Yorktown Drive Block Party, request to close Yorktown Drive on June 14, 2025, from 11 am to 10:30 pm; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

**First United Methodist Church, Kidz Karnival**

Motion by Councilman Alessia and seconded by Councilman Gruszka to approve First United Methodist Church, Kidz Karnival, request to close Library Street on June 20, 2025, from 2 pm to 8:30 pm; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote. It was noted that this is an annual event.

**First United Methodist Church, Music in the Park**

Motion by Councilman Gruszka and seconded by Councilman Yelkich at approve First United Methodist Church, Music in the Park, request to close Library Street on August 22, 2025, from 3 pm to 8 pm; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote. It was noted that this is an annual event.

**Sell/dispose old vehicles/equipment.**

Motion by Councilman Gruszka and seconded by Councilman Yelkich at approve the sale/disposal of old vehicles and equipment as presented; motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next regular meeting – Monday, June 9, 2025, at 7:00 pm

**MEDIA QUESTIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chuck Abraham, Lake County Observer, inquired on which building was referred to; it was noted to be the southern building. Chuck stated that there should be a newspaper out this fall which will be similar to the Lowell Tribune.

Stephanie Colson, 251 N. Union, provided a history of the generations of her family in Lowell. She inquired about how to be on the agenda to review and revise the golf cart ordinance. Councilman Angerman noted that she will be added to the next agenda.

Valarie White, 665 Aspen Court, provided a family history. She noted her utility bill going from \$60 to \$90. She noted that the town sold the water system, could they have eased into it, it's the principle of it. She inquired about the town/Town Council versus a City/Mayor. Councilman Angerman responded that the five member Town Council makes the decisions versus a city/mayor having only one make the decision. It would take a referendum to change.

Councilman Angerman stated that the Town Council discussed the rates for the last year and a half. IDEM is requiring testing for Nitrogen, which in the future will most likely be a permit requirement. The costs of the upgrades are about fifty million dollars. The current EQ basin

upgrades are five million dollars. The costs are divided amongst the customers. If the Town doesn't fix it, there will be fines. Councilman Gruszka noted that rates are going up on everything.

Tammy Sobczak, 1612 Dewey Drive, noted that her bill went up \$30. She stated that she is on a fixed income and was upset that rate isn't based on usage but a flat rate. There was discussion on bills fluctuating, rates not being raised in the past and the outdated processes. There needs to be plans. There was discussion on water sale funds.

Marilyn Diller, 129 Parkview Avenue, inquired on why her utility bill went up. There was discussion on nitrogen testing, aging equipment, and IDEM.

Joel Holt, 129 Parkview Avenue, inquired about Milestone and the project on Liberty Street. He noted a timeline from Milestone regarding his driveway and there being no access.

Nathaniel Holt, 133 N. Liberty, noted his driveway issues and the timeline provided. Town Manager Hendrix responds to the construction timing schedules for projects and concrete. He will check on the project and take contact information from residents.

Greg Martz, 645 Sandra Dee Dr, inquired on the dead-end roadway sign until the road is extended in Sierra Ridge. People think it goes through, but it does not. Town Manager Hendrix will review this and noted that it will eventually connect.

George Michels, 17319 Oak Valley Drive, inquired on the Cedar Lake Agreement and the benefit of it. Information is restricted as there is pending litigation. \$1.9 million in capital plant and transmission. The plant needs \$50M in improvements, bid out small projects, and do a part of it each time. There are usually four to five bids received per project.

Multiple discussions occurred.

William Reinsman, 17667 Crestwood, commented on the increase in his bill. He appreciated the explanation for it.

Lacey Vallois, 315 Valley Court, thanked Councilman Angerman for the Facebook posts on the rates and would like to see more.

Mario (last name inaudible) inquired on the mounds of dirt. The Plan Commission did approve of filling for the site and the Town will check on it.


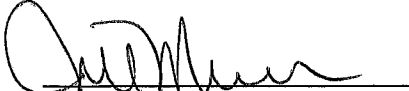
Bob Groszek, 14055 Deodor St, Cedar Lake, inquired on the expansion being done in pieces. Council inquired if he was a consultant for Cedar Lake; he noted he was an unpaid consultant.

There were no online comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

No further business, Motion by Councilman Alessia and seconded by Councilman Gruszka to adjourn at 8:08 pm; motion carried with five ayes on voice vote.

Attest:

  
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Todd Angerman, President  
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Jill Murr, Clerk-Treasurer