

**LOWELL TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 12, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Lowell Town Council was called to order on Monday, July 12, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. by President Todd Angerman. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence. Clerk-Treasurer Judith Walters called the roll. Members present were Michael Gruszka, Todd Angerman, John Alessia, Shane Tucker, and John Yelkich. Also present were Town Manager Craig Hendrix, Police Chief Jim Woestman, GIS Director Greg White, Attorney David Westland via Zoom, and four interested citizens.

TREASURER'S REPORT - June 2021

Councilman Alessia made a motion to approve the June 2021 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with five ayes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Gruszka made a motion to approve the regular meeting and work session minutes from June 28th, seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried with five ayes.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

President Angerman stated he had reviewed White Vouchers #10723 - #10789, White-Police #6102 - #6113, Water #2489 - #2546, Waste Water #4415- #4442, and Stormwater Utility #7070 - #7076. Councilman Gruszka made a motion to approve the vouchers as listed, seconded by Councilman Tucker and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, REMONSTRANCES, PROCLAMATIONS

Certificate of Appreciation - Chris Salatas - President Angerman stated Mr. Salatas had served on the town council for six years, many of those as President, and had done well for the town. He said the town has made a donation of \$50.00 in his name, to both the Police Department and Fire Department. Mr. Salatas thanked the council and stated both the Sidetrack and Costas have never looked better. All members thanked Mr. Salatas, and a picture was taken.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

2nd reading - Ordinance #2021-20 - amend 2021 Salary Ordinance - Councilman Gruszka moved to adopt Ordinance #2021-20 by name and title only, seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Resolution #2021-09 - Adopting Fiscal Plan- Stephan Reif Farm - 5920 Belshaw Road - Councilman Gruszka moved to approve Resolution #2021-09, seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

1st reading - Ordinance #2021-21 - Stephan Reif Farm Annexation - 5920 Belshaw Road - President Angerman opened the Public Hearing. There being no public comments, the hearing was closed. Councilman Gruszka moved to hold Ordinance #2021-21 over for a second reading, seconded by Councilman Alessia and carried with five ayes on roll call vote

1st reading - Ordinance #2021-22 - additional appropriation - PO Grant - \$4635.07 - Councilman Gruszka moved to approve Ordinance #2021-22, seconded by Councilman Tucker and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

1st reading - Ordinance #2021-23 - amend Bidding Practices - Public Work Projects - Town Manager Craig Hendrix explained the town was approached by the Fair Contracting Council who has amended the apprenticeship language in the ordinance. Mr. Hendrix stated there were questions regarding what an apprenticeship program might be; therefore they wanted to tighten up the requirements for it. Councilman Gruszka moved to hold over Ordinance #2021-23, seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Resolution #2021-10 - Transfer of Funds - Cumulative Building & Fire Equipment Fund - Clerk-Treasurer Walters stated this is to move money to pay off the 2012 E-One Aerial Fire Truck. Councilman Alessia moved to approve Resolution #2021-10, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with five ayes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Well House Improvement - Approve Pay Request #1 - Bowen Engineering Company - \$6,374.00 less retainage and approve Water Voucher #2547 - \$5736.60 - Town Manager Hendrix stated this is part of the well project to connect the wells to the well house, and is part of the agreement with American Water that is to be done before the final sale. Councilman Gruszka moved to approve Pay Request #1 to Bowen Engineering, seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Tabled from previous meetings:

03/22 - Contract with Lake County Sheriff's Department for animal control service -
04/26 - Propose a Community Garden

NEW BUSINESS

Act on extension of bonds - Providence

Heritage Falls Phase 3, Unit 2 - Performance bond - \$89,170.00 until 5/6/2022 - Councilman Gruszka moved to accept the extension of bond, seconded by Councilman Alessia and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Heritage Falls Phase 2, Maintenance bond - \$12,177.50 - until 7/09/2022 - Councilman Alessia moved to accept the extension of bond, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Heritage Falls Phase 2, Maintenance bond - \$50,815.00 - until 4/11/2022 - Councilman Tucker moved to accept the extension of bond, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Permission to pay off 2012 E-One Aerial Fire Truck - \$108,841.44 - Clerk-Treasurer Judith Walters asked for permission to pay off the 2012 fire truck before a new lease agreement is entered into for the new truck. She stated the funds are available in the Cumulative Building Fire Equipment Fund. Councilman Alessia moved to approve the payoff to Trust Equipment, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with five ayes.

Enter into lease purchase agreement with US BanCorp (Indiana Bond Bank) and give President authorization to sign documents:

3-year lease for Police vehicles - \$62,748.00 at 1.50% - Councilman Gruszka made a motion to enter into lease purchase agreement with US BanCorp, seconded by Councilman Tucker and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

5-year lease for fire truck - \$444,570.00 at 1.59% - Clerk-Treasurer Judith Walters stated the Indiana Bond Bank was able to extend the rate we had received from US BanCorp for the lease agreements we had done a year ago. Councilman Gruszka moved to approve the lease purchase agreement with US BanCorp, seconded by Councilman Alessia and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

State Water Infrastructure Fund (SWIF) Grant Application - Town Manager Hendrix stated Indiana Finance Authority received money from the Covid Relief package, explaining he would like to submit an application for matching funds of \$5,000,000.00 for the WWTP improvements, receiving 50% if successful. He stated \$2,000,000.00 has been committed with \$1,000,000.00 coming from each Lowell and Cedar Lake. Mr. Hendrix stated he also added an upcoming project to repair liner in this figure, and asked President Angerman to sign the application to submit. Councilman Gruszka authorized President Angerman to sign the Grant Application, seconded by Councilman Alessia and carried with five ayes.

Town Manager Hendrix stated he received an invoice request from Meridan West. Clerk-Treasurer Walters stated it came in too late, and will be listed at the next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Angerman announced the next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 26th at 7:00 P.M.

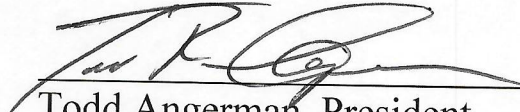
MEDIA QUESTIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

James Bozak, 17503 Sunrise Dr, stated he is getting a funky smell from his sink, stating it has to be from the water. He stated he knows things are changing to American Water and wondered if he is the only resident who is experiencing this. President Angerman stated nothing has changed and the sale is still in the process, with business as usual. Town Manager Hendrix stated he would get Mr. Bozak's information after the meeting and have someone contact him. Mr. Bozak stated the speed limit sign and warning sign

to stop located at 175th / Mount Street has been leaning for a long time. He stated he spoke to an employee who stated they are waiting for locates to be done.

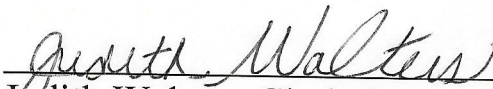
ADJOURNMENT

No further business, Councilman Gruszka made a motion to adjourn at 7:17 P.M., seconded by Councilman Alessia and carried with five ayes.



Todd Angerman, President

Attest:



Judith Walters, Clerk-Treasurer