

**LOWELL TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 23, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Lowell Town Council was called to order on Monday, May 23, 2022 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, Shane Tucker and John Yelkich. Councilman John Alessia was absent. Also present were Town Manager Craig Hendrix, Police Chief Jim Woestman, GIS Director Greg White, and Town Attorney David Westland via Zoom. Also present were one member of the press and seven interested citizens present and one via-Zoom.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Tucker made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from May 9th, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with four ayes.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

President Angerman stated he had reviewed White Vouchers #10492 - #10541, White-Police #1079 - #1085, Water #2203 - #2208, Waste Water #4314- #4341, and Stormwater Utility #6057 - #6060. Councilman Gruszka moved to approve the vouchers as listed, seconded by Councilman Tucker and carried with four ayes on roll call vote.

SWEARING IN NEW OFFICER

Newly hired Patrolman Daniel Matuski was sworn in by Clerk-Treasurer Judy Walters as the 18th police officer for the Town of Lowell. Those in attendance congratulated Officer Matuski. Councilman Tucker welcomed him and stated he and President Angerman both retired with the Lowell Police Department and it was the greatest community to work in and advised him the most important thing is to obtain public trust. Officer Matuski stated that being sworn in today as a Lowell officer is the same date he was sworn in as an officer in Highland 16 years ago.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

1st reading - Ordinance #2022 -09 - Establishing Building Renovation Grant Program - Councilman Gruszka moved to hold Ordinance #2022-09 aside for a second reading, seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried with four ayes on roll call vote. Councilman Gruszka moved to suspend the rules and hold second reading, seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried with four ayes. Councilman Gruszka moved to adopt Ordinance #2022-09 by name and title only, seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried with four ayes on roll call vote. Councilman Gruszka moved to put the rules back in order, seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried.

1st reading - Ordinance #2022-10 - Amend Building and Construction Permit Fees and set Public Hearing - Councilman Gruszka moved to hold Ordinance #2022-10 aside for a second reading, and hold a Public Hearing on new building fees on Monday, June 13th. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tucker and carried with four ayes on roll call vote.

Resolution #2022-07 - Transfer of Funds - within General - Police budget and Freedom Park budget - Councilman Gruszka moved to adopt Resolution #2022-07, seconded by Councilman Tucker and carried with four ayes on roll call vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Award Liberty Tower Demolition Project - Requests for quotes were solicited from three local contractors for the demolition of the Liberty Street water tower. The scope of the work includes removal of the elevated tank, foundations, piping, valve vault, communications building and restoration. Mr. Hendrix stated only Austgen Equipment provided a quote. He stated Dyer Construction and GE Marshall stated they were unable to perform the work at this time due to their busy schedule. Mr. Hendrix recommended the project be awarded to Austgen Equipment for \$137,285. The project will be paid from funds left in the Water Utility. Councilman Gruszka moved to award the project to Austgen Equipment at a not to exceed price of \$137,285, seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried with four ayes on roll call vote.

WWTP Improvement Project - sign agreement with Bowen Engineering and accept Change Order #1 - deduct of \$471,000 and issue Notice to Proceed - The original contract price of \$2,211,000 is modified upon execution of Change Order #1 which is a decrease in the amount of \$471,000 for a total contract price of \$1,740,000.00. JMOB had approved the project and the cost is being split with Lowell and Cedar Lake. Councilman Gruszka moved to approve the agreement with Bowen Engineering, seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried with four ayes on roll call vote. Change Order #1, deduct of \$471,000 per value engineering, and the Notice to Proceed was approved on motion by Councilman Gruszka, seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried with four ayes on roll call vote.

Tabled from previous meetings:

11/08/21 - Enter into professional agreement with Etica Group - Councilman Gruszka moved to untable, seconded by Councilman Tucker and carried. Etica Group had provided a proposal to do a facility assessment and needs study at the fire station. Task One included the facility and site assessment for a fee of \$36,370; Task 2 included data gathering to analyze call volumes within the fire area for a fee of \$11,015; and Task 3 includes a needs assessment on the future needs within the community for a fee of \$13,390; and Task 4 is for Strategic Planning and the other tasks would need to be completed first. Councilman Gruszka stated he believes the Town needs to move forward with the study and moved to approve Task 1 at this time in the amount of \$36,370, seconded by Councilman Tucker and carried with four ayes on roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Act on favorable recommendation from Plan Commission- PC#22-005 rezone from B1 to TC - 725 E. Commercial Avenue - Adopt Ordinance #2022-11 Rezone Ordinance - The property at the corner of Burnham and Commercial Avenue will be demolished and a new two story building will be built. Councilman Gruszka moved to approve the favorable recommendation from the Plan Commission and adopt Ordinance #2022-11, seconded by Councilman Tucker and carried with four ayes on roll call vote.

Approve Park quarterly fees - Fall soccer fees for \$70.00 resident/\$75.00 non-resident were approved on motion by Councilman Tucker, seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried with four ayes on roll call vote.

Permission to advertise additional appropriation for General Fund - Clerk-Treasurer Judy Walters asked permission to advertise a public hearing for additional appropriation for Planning and Building budget. Councilman Gruszka moved to approve advertising an additional appropriation, seconded by Councilman Tucker and carried with four ayes on roll call vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Angerman announced the next regular meeting will be held on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.

MEDIA QUESTIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chuck Abraham, Lowell Tribune, asked for copies of the adopted Ordinances and asked about the Wastewater Project awarded to Bowen Engineering. Town Manager Hendrix stated the original price came in too high and after review Bowen Engineering was able to save money by recommending changes per value engineering.

ADJOURNMENT

No further business, Councilman Gruszka made a motion to adjourn at 7:25 P.M., seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried.



Todd Angerman, President

Attest:



Judith Walters, Clerk-Treasurer