

**PROCEEDINGS
OF
CITY COUNCIL
OF THE
CITY OF LOWELL
MONDAY, APRIL 04, 2022, 7:00 P.M.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; ROLL CALL.**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor DeVore and Clerk Susan Ullery called roll.

Present: Councilmembers Marty Chambers, Councilmember Jim Salzwedel, Councilmember Cliff Yankovich, Leah Groves and Mayor Mike DeVore.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Michael Burns, Chief of Police Chris Hurst, Clerk Susan Ullery, DPW Director Dan Czarnecki and Lowell Light & Power Charlie West, Bruce Barker and Airport Manager Casey Brown.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

- Approval of the Agenda as written.
- Approve and place on file the minutes of the April 4, 2022 Regular City Council meeting.
- Authorize payment of invoices in the amount of \$239,185.18.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAMBERS and seconded by GROVES to approve the consent agenda as written.

YES: Councilmember Chambers, Councilmember Yankovich, Mayor DeVore, Leah Groves and Councilmember Salzwedel.

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. **CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.**

Gary Dietzel who resides at 990 N. Washington asked to be put on the next meeting agenda to ask for an extension on their lease, will try to get out after summer. Dietzel also asked for waiver on payment of rent and if the property is going to be demolished, that the City will ask Habitat for Humanity to come to clean up before they demolish.

Christine Barnes, a republican candidate for the 78th District introduced herself and gave a brief explanation of her role as a running candidate.

4. **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Request to Purchase a New Police Cruiser.

Chief of Police, Chris Hurst read his memo requesting that the Lowell Police Department purchase a new 2022 Ford Police Interceptor Utility All Wheel Drive Hybrid police cruiser.

IT WAS MOVED BY SALZWEDEL and seconded by DEVORE that the Lowell City Council approve the purchase of a 2022 Police Interceptor Utility AWD hybrid from Signature Ford in Owosso, the up-fitting from Great Lakes Up-fitting, and the graphics from B & K Graphics at a cost not to exceed \$54,587.78.

YES: Mayor DeVore, Councilmember Salzwedel, Councilmember Yankovich, Councilmember Chambers, and Councilmember Groves.

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

b. Water Service – 835 W. Main Street.

DPW Director Dan Czarnecki read his memo requesting installation of a new water service line at 835 Main St, for a cost of \$6,566, a quote from Earthworm Dozing & Excavating to replace the existing water service.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAMBERS and seconded by SALZWEDEL that the Lowell City Council approve the quote from Earthworm Dozing and Excavating Inc., Lowell, dated March 29, 2022, for the installation of a new water service line at 835 Main St, for a cost of \$6,566.

YES: Councilmember Salzwedel, Councilmember Yankovich, Councilmember Chambers, Councilmember Groves and Mayor DeVore.

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

c. Northwest Station Pump Installation.

DPW Dan Czarnecki read his memo regarding the Northwest Station Pump Installation that was approved back in November 2021. The pumps are now on hand and ready to be installed and they received a quote from Franklin Holwerda Company (FHC) for \$30,000. Included in the FHC pump installation work is the upgrading of the piping and gate valves to isolate each pump.

IT WAS MOVED BY YANKOVICH and seconded by CHAMBERS that the Lowell City Council approve the quote from Franklin Holwerda Company, Wyoming, MI, dated March 21, 2022, to install three (3) new pumps, necessary valves and piping, and painting at the Northwest Pump Station on Gee Dr. for a total cost of \$30,000.

YES: Councilmember Yankovich, Councilmember Chambers, Councilmember Groves, Mayor DeVore and Councilmember Salzwedel.

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

d. Lowell Light and Power MERS Defined Benefit Plan Surplus Division Adoption Addendum.

Charlie West of Lowell Light & Power read his memo regarding the MERS Defined Benefit Plan Surplus Division Adoption Addendum.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAMBERS and seconded by GROVES that the Lowell City Council approve the Defined Benefit Plan Surplus Division Adoption Addendum and Resolution 09-22 as presented.

YES: Councilmember Chambers, Councilmember Groves, Mayor DeVore, Councilmember Salzwedel and Councilmember Yankovich.

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

e. Splash Pad Intent Letter.

Mayor DeVore spoke stating the most talked about recreation for the city is a municipal pool. A municipal pool is just not viable option for the City. Lowell Township Supervisor Jerry Hale and DeVore have been working for about two years on a community splash pad ideal. We have been deeded a parcel of property to the west from the Township and we have secured a couple grants. Looking to be building in 2023. We need from Council a consensus that the Township and City of Lowell would split the remaining \$75,000 (\$37,500 each) if the construction of and maintenance of the splash pad is not covered by the grants.

Devore will write the letter if there are no objections.

It was a consensus by all the Councilmembers to let Mayor DeVore write the letter.

6. **BOARD/COMMISSION REPORTS.**

Councilmember Yankovich stated Historic District money is spent, so they will be asking for another grant request.

7. **BUDGET REPORT.**

There are no changes.

8. **MANAGER'S REPORT.**

City Manager Michael Burns reported on the following:

- Congrats to Gordy Lauren who was promoted to Sergeant and Congrats to Aubrey Culver who was promoted to a fulltime police officer position. Will do ceremony at the next meeting.
- Insurance payment for Showboat has been resolved.
- Staying conservative on next year's budget.
- Still working on budget, have not cut anything after all the requests from the staff, so that is good news.
- Marijuana funds were received \$282,000 from state excise tax and have been transferred out of the general fund and transferred into local streets fund. The additional police officer position funding

came from the increased pilot through Lowell Light and Power and the application renewal fees for each of the applicants.

9. **APPOINTMENTS.**

There are no new appointments.

10. **COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

Councilmember Yankovich stated main street in Lowell is looking good. Things happening from one end to the other.

Councilmember Salzwedel commented on the expo, it was busy and went well. Was at the Showboat booth and received some new rentals and a lot of interest.

Councilmember Groves thanked City Manager Burns for how he handled everything this past week.

Councilmember Chambers attended the pancake breakfast, it went well, had a successful year. Congrats to them and good to see the busy expo.

Mayor DeVore thanked Liz and Erica at the Chamber. They did a lot of great work and it was great to see the Expo back. Attended the pancake breakfast as well, it was good. Take the time to check out the new Ripple restaurant, good food and good atmosphere.

11. **ADJOURNMENT.**

IT WAS MOVED SALZWEDEL and seconded by CHAMBERS to adjourn at 7:33 p.m.

DATE:

APPROVED:

Mike DeVore, Mayor

Sue Ullery, Lowell City Clerk