

**LOWELL TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 13, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Lowell Town Council was called to order on Monday, December 13, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. by President Phillip Kuiper. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and President Kuiper asked that they remember the Pickering family during the moment of silence. Clerk-Treasurer Judith Walters called the roll. Members present were Donald Huseman, John Alessia, David Gard, and Phillip Kuiper. Councilman Shane Tucker was absent. Also present were Town Administrator Susan Peterson, Police Chief John Shelhart, two members of the media, and twenty three interested citizens.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilman Gard made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 22<sup>nd</sup> regular meeting, seconded by Councilman Alessia and carried by voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

President Kuiper stated that he had reviewed White Vouchers #2583-2662, White Police #4113-4124, Water Vouchers #2726-2772 and Waste Water Vouchers #3653-3695. Councilman Huseman made a motion to approve the vouchers as listed, seconded by Councilman Alessia and carried by voice vote.

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

Councilman Alessia made a motion to accept the monthly reports from November, 2010 as presented, seconded by Councilman Gard. President Kuiper stated that in his opinion this year was the best Parade of Lights since he has seen it. He sent kudos to the Park Department, Kathy Fenner, and the Street Department for putting it all together. Councilman Huseman asked how we were doing with Bruce Septic. Clerk Treasurer Judith Walters responded that the Town makes about \$6,000.00 to \$7,000.00 per month for septic waste hauling. There being no further discussion the motion carried by voice vote.

**ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Ordinance #2010-07 - Amendment to Salary Ordinance - Bonus payment to all full time employees in the amount of \$500.00. No elected officials or part time employees are eligible. President Kuiper explained that the monies are from what was saved in a few appropriated line items in the budget and because there were no raises in 2010 or 2011. Councilman Alessia made a motion to hold Ordinance #2010-07 for a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, seconded by Councilman Gard. The motion carried by voice vote. Councilman Gard made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilman Alessia. The motion carried by voice vote. Councilman Gard made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2010-07, seconded by Councilman Alessia. On roll call vote, the motion carried with four ayes.

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1<sup>st</sup> Reading - Ordinance #2010-08 - Adopt Fire Hydrant Fee, the fee is based on meter size. Councilman Alessia made a motion to hold Ordinance #2010-08 for a second reading, seconded by Councilman Huseman. Councilman Alessia asked if the typical resident has a 5/8 to 3/4" meter and was told yes, and that would be a \$4.60 monthly charge. Councilman Huseman stated that he would like to know what a hydrant rental fee is and who it involves. Clerk Treasurer Walters explained that the Town has always paid the Water Utility for a public hydrant rental, when a fire occurs the resident is not charged for the water that is used to fight the fire, but the water department still treats all that water. The Town has for the last 40 or 50 years has been paying the rental of the hydrants to the Lowell Water Utility, and we are moving it out of the taxing entity and putting it in the water utility. The rate payers of the water utilities will pay that. The ordinance shall be in full force and effect on January 1, 2011. There being no further discussion the motion carried by voice vote.

Resolution #2010-17 - Transfer of Funds - Various - Transfer \$11,900.00 from line CT 314 Deputy and \$5,100.00 from line TR Comprehensive Insurance for a total transfer of \$17,000.00 to line TR 126 Bonus Policy. Councilman Gard made a motion to adopt Resolution #2010-17, seconded by Councilman Huseman. The motion carried by voice vote.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Advertise for Board/Commission applicants - Clerk Treasurer Walters stated that it has been advertised and the deadline is December 31, 2010. There are positions available on each of the following: Plan Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Police Commission, Traffic Commission, Storm Drainage and Historic Preservation Board.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Act on recommendation from Plat Committee - Meadows of Cedar Creek Phase V - Release of Maintenance Bond \$106,212.00, Councilman Gard made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Plat Committee, seconded by Councilman Alessia. The motion carried by voice vote.

Waive/Refund Building Permit Fee for J. Brooker of Brooker Contracting, LLC in the amount of \$604.57. Mr. Brooker filed for a waiver on paying permit renewal fees for new construction that has taken longer than two years to complete due to the poor economy. Councilman Gard made a motion to approve the refund, including waiving any additional fees for the other two units and give permission to have the refund check written after it has been listed for five days, seconded by Councilman Huseman. The motion carried by voice vote.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Kuiper stated the next regular meeting will be on Monday, December 27<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM

**MEDIA QUESTIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

A member of the media asked how many full time employees there are and was told 57. She also asked for a list of openings for the boards and commissions and a copy of the fire hydrant fees. She wanted to know if the fees would offset about \$200,000.00 and was told yes there is about \$199,000.00 in the General Fund for that now The Lowell Tribune asked for a copy of the ordinances.

Ed Bradbury asked if the fire department will now be sending out a bill to his house if he has a fire. He was told that no they will not be sending bills.

Councilman Huseman asked if the council had time to reconsider some exemptions to the Clean Air Ordinance. President Kuiper stated that they just received the information tonight and will need time to review it.

There being no further business or discussion, Councilman Alessia made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Gard and carried at 7:17 PM.

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Phillip Kuiper, President

Attest:

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Judith Walters, Clerk-Treasurer