

**LOWELL TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 28 , 2015**

The regular meeting of the Lowell Town Council was called to order on Monday, September 28, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. by President Christopher Salatas. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence. Clerk-Treasurer Judith Walters called the roll. Members present were Craig Earley, LeAnn Angerman, Donald Parker, Christopher Salatas, and Edgar Corns. Also present were Town Attorney David Westland, Police Chief Erik Matson, Public Works Director Greg Shook, Building Administrator Tom Trulley, Attorney Jim Shanahan, two members of the media, and nineteen citizens.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Parker made a motion to approve the September 14, 2015 regular meeting and work session, seconded by Councilman Corns and carried with five ayes.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

President Salatas stated he had reviewed White Vouchers #1955 - #2016, White-Police #4215 - #4222, Water #2639 - #2664, Waste Water #3518 - #3540, and Stormwater Utility #5122 - #5129, and that White Voucher #2015 needed to be voided because it was made out to the wrong vendor. Councilman Parker made a motion to approve the vouchers as listed, seconded by Councilman Corns and carried with five ayes.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, REMONSTRANCES, PROCLAMATIONS

Presentation of 2015 Labor Day Parade Winners - Special Events Coordinator Susan Peterson announced the parade winners and presented each of them with their prizes. The winners were as follows: 4th Place, The American Veterans Motorcycle Riders Association; 3rd Place, LHS Cheerleaders; 2nd Place, Miss Pat's School of Dance; 1st Place, Mi-Ranchito.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

Public Hearing - Ordinance #2015-15 - Annexation of Russell Farms - President Salatas read correspondence from the President of the Annexation Committee, Doug Niksch, that expressed the Committee's support of the friendly annexation of the Russell Farms. President Salatas opened the public hearing. With no one to speak for or against Ordinance #2015-15, President Salatas closed the public hearing.

1st reading - Ordinance #2015-25 - Authorizing the construction of \$4,500,000 - Water Improvements - Attorney David Westland stated that Mr. Shanahan was present if there were any questions regarding the ordinance or the timeline of events that had been given to the Council. He suggested to have the 1st reading tonight, and then take action at the October 12th meeting since there will also be discussion of a proposed rate ordinance at that meeting. Mr. Shanahan stated the ordinance that is before the Council authorizes the issuance of the bonds. At the next meeting, Mr. Guerrettaz will be here to discuss the rate study, so it may be appropriate to take final action on this ordinance at that meeting. Following the October 12th meeting, as part of the rate process, there will be a public hearing held regarding the rates. Mr. Shanahan stated this bond ordinance authorizes the bonds and sets forth the covenants that are important to all of the bond holders, but until the rate proceedings are done, we will not be able to move forward with the financing. Councilman Corns made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance #2015-25 by name and title only, seconded by Councilman Parker and carried four to one by roll call vote with Councilman Earley voting nay.

Resolution #2015-13 - Authorize Purchase of Property - Attorney Westland stated a several weeks ago the Council authorized the purchase of a piece of property that is roughly 15.53 acres for a new street garage building. This Resolution authorizes the Town Council President to execute the documents necessary at the closing. Councilman Parker made a motion to approve Resolution #2015-13, seconded by Councilman Earley and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Public Works Department Update - There were no updates given.

NEW BUSINESS

Enter into agreements with Financial Solutions Group & Shanahan & Shanahan for professional services for proposed Water Utility Bonds - Mr. Shanahan stated an engagement letter had been sent to the Council that outlines the scope of services from Shanahan & Shanahan and Financial Solutions Group regarding the proposed Water Utility Bonds. Clerk-Treasurer Judith Walters noted that they will be paid directly from the bond proceeds. Councilman Parker made a motion to enter into an agreement with Financial Solutions Group and Shanahan & Shanahan for professional services for the proposed Water Utility Bonds, seconded by Councilman Corns and carried four to one by roll call vote with Councilman Earley voting nay.

Enter into agreement with Financial Solutions Group for professional services for proposed Lowell Edit Revenue Bonds - Clerk-Treasurer Walters stated this is for Mr. Guerrettaz's professional services to do a bond for the proposed Lowell Street Garage, and he will also be paid out of the bond proceeds. Councilman Parker made a motion to enter into an agreement with Financial Solutions Group for professional services for the proposed Lowell Edit Revenue Bonds, seconded by Councilman Corns and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Salatas announced that the Building Administrator, Tom Trulley, would be retiring at the end of the year. He thanked Mr. Trulley for the work he has done for the past eight years, and asked for permission to start advertising the opening and to have Mr. Trulley meet with Attorney Westland to update the job description. Councilwoman Angerman made a motion to allow the advertisement of the job opening and for Mr. Trulley and Attorney Westland to update the job description, seconded by Councilman Corns and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

President Salatas stated in the previous work session, we had discussed having SEH do a study on the Parks to see if an Impact Fee would be required. Attorney Westland stated we had talked about doing a Park Impact Fee Study, which Craig Hendrix from SEH would not do himself, but sub-contract it out and oversee the project in order to get the Town a better rate. At the time the Council was favorable to that, so SEH is looking for a motion to allow them to start the process of pursuing that. He stated you will want them to come back to you with a quote of what the project will cost before you decide to go ahead with the study. Councilman Parker made a motion to have SEH investigate the cost and what the parameters of the Park Impact Fee Study would be, seconded by Councilwoman Angerman and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

Councilwoman Angerman read a Proclamation from the State of Indiana and Governor Pence that proclaims the week of September 28th through October 4th, 2015 as Peace Officers Appreciation Week in the State of Indiana.

President Salatas announced that State Representative Michael Alysworth would be holding a public

meeting on Thursday, October 1st at 7:00 PM in the Town Council Chambers. He also announced that early voting would be held at the Town Hall from October 6th through November 2nd and that the next regular meeting would be held Monday, October 12, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

MEDIA QUESTIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mary Wilds, The Times, asked if she was correct in stating that the Council has approved the study of whether or not the Town should have a Park Impact Fee. President Salatas stated we are not approving doing the study, only SEH coming back with a cost for the study.

Martha Farrellbegg, 515 Illinois, asked if the park study would include every park or just Freedom Park and Evergreen Park. Attorney Westland stated he believed they take a look at all of the parks and then look at what proposed residential expansion will be in order to assess whether or not, or to what extent, an impact fee for new development would be.

Carl Ferro, 1310 Harrison, stated he would like to thank the Lowell Police Department, Greg Shook, President Salatas, Councilwoman Angerman, and Councilman Corns for their help with the Labor Day Festival, and that hopefully next year it will be twice as better.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Parker made a motion to adjourn at 7:18 P.M., seconded by Councilman Corns and carried with five ayes.

Christopher Salatas, President

Attest:

Judith Walters, Clerk-Treasurer