

**LOWELL TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 23, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Lowell Town Council was called to order on Monday, November 23, 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, SEH Representative Craig Hendrix, Attorney Jim Shanahan, one member of the media, and twenty citizens.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilman Parker made a motion to approve the November 9, 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 #2163 - #2216, White-Police #4259 - #4271, Water #2790- #2820, Waste Water #3626 - #3649, and Stormwater Utility #5148 - #5151. Councilman Corns made a motion to approve the vouchers as listed, seconded by Councilwoman Angerman and carried with five ayes.

**PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, REMONSTRANCES, PROCLAMATIONS**

John Minear - Lake County Solid Waste District - John Minear, LCSWD Executive Director, introduced himself to the Council and stated that he has been going throughout the County introducing himself and making communities aware of some changes. He explained some changes to the grant program that included a representative from the Lake County Solid Waste District coming to the community to fill out all of the necessary paperwork, rather than communicating back and forth with a staff member. He stated they are also working on a leaf program with various communities who will bring their leaves to the new site in Leroy that they will be opening. Mr. Minear stated that they will be working on an updated plan as well which will include new goals, and they will keep the communities updated through correspondence with staff or coming personally to discuss changes. Councilman Corns stated he would like to commend Mr. Minear for the job that he has done so far and added that he has been able to make some great changes.

**ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

2<sup>nd</sup> reading - Ordinance #2015-33 - amend Subdivision Regulations Ordinance 2013-02 - Councilman Corns made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2015-33 by name and title only, seconded by Councilman Parker and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

2<sup>nd</sup> reading - Ordinance #2015-34 - Additional Appropriation - Police Grant Hours - Councilwoman Angerman made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2015-34 by name and title only, seconded by Councilman Corns and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

Resolution #2015-17 - Taxpayers' Petition Resolution - Councilman Corns made a motion to approve Resolution #2015-17 by name and title only, seconded by Councilman Parker and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

2<sup>nd</sup> reading - Ordinance #2015-35 - Approve Lease Financing - Councilman Parker made a motion to

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adopt Ordinance #2015-35 by name and title only, seconded by Councilman Corns and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

2<sup>nd</sup> reading - Ordinance #2015-36 - Additional Appropriation - \$240,000 Acquisition of Real Estate - Councilman Parker made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2015-36 by name and title only, seconded by Councilman Corns and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

Councilman Parker made a motion to suspend the rules for the first and second readings of Ordinance #2015-37 & Ordinance #2015-29, seconded by Councilman Corns and carried with five ayes.

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> reading - Ordinance #2015-37 - Adopting Capital Improvement Plan with CREDIT Funds for 2016-2017 - Councilman Parker made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance #2015-37, seconded by Councilman Corns and carried by roll call vote with five ayes. Councilman Parker made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2015-37 by name and title only, seconded by Councilman Corns and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> reading - Ordinance #2015-29 - as amended and restated to amend Water Rate & Charges - Tap & Connection Fees - Councilman Corns made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance #2015-29, seconded by Councilman Parker and carried four to one by roll call vote with Councilman Earley voting nay. Councilman Corns made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2015-29 by name and title only, seconded by Councilman Parker and carried four to one by roll call vote with Councilman Earley voting nay. Councilman Parker made a motion to set the rules back in to place, seconded by Councilwoman Angerman and carried with five ayes.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Public Works Department Update - An update was not given.

Enter into agreement with SEH to begin design of new Street Department Garage - Mr. Hendrix stated he had provided a proposal to begin the preliminary engineering for the new garage. He stated we need to do some planning to see what we need to do for the future in regards to the possibility of adding a salt barn or outdoor storage, and then refine that down to what we will actually design for this project. He said they will figure out the needs of the town, start getting some cost estimates, and then come up with a final design. Councilwoman Angerman made a motion to enter into the agreement with SEH to begin the design of the new Street Department Garage, seconded by Councilman Corns and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

Standard & Poor Rating - Water Utility - Clerk-Treasurer Judith Walters stated she just wanted to make the Council aware that the report has been done, and we have maintained our A+ rating.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Approve Park fee through 2015 - Clerk-Treasurer Walters stated the quarterly fees have already been approved, but a new vendor has been selected to get their bricks from for Freedom Park. They wanted to charge less through the holiday season, charging \$35 instead of \$50, so they have asked us to approve this tonight. Councilman Corns made a motion to approve the park fee through 2015, seconded by Councilwoman Angerman and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

Authorize Attorney to update Ordinance for Flood Hazard Areas - Clerk-Treasurer Walters stated Mr. Trulley had received a notice saying that we needed to update our Flood Hazard Ordinance. Attorney

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Westland stated he would look at it and have a report at the next meeting. Mr. Hendrix stated every so often the DNR puts out a model ordinance that they want town's to adopt. He said if you want to be part of the flood insurance program, you are going to want to update this ordinance. He recommended that the Plan Commission also look at the ordinance because there are certain things that you may be able to change.

Set deadline for applications for boards/commissions - Clerk-Treasurer Walters asked if they would be advertising for the Redevelopment Commission and Annexation Committee. President Salatas stated his recommendation would be to accept applications for all of them, and then make the decision at the first of the year with the new Council. Councilman Corns made a motion to accept applications for all open positions until January 1<sup>st</sup>, seconded by Councilwoman Angerman and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

Announce Holiday Hours - President Salatas stated we will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> as well as January 1<sup>st</sup>, and that the Town Hall is requesting to be closed December 31<sup>st</sup> as well. Councilman Earley made a motion to allow the town offices to be closed December 31<sup>st</sup>, seconded by Councilman Corns and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

Swearing In Ceremony of Police Officer Carl Mink - Clerk-Treasurer Walters swore in Police Officer Carl Mink.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Salatas wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and announced that the Parade of Lights will be held on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M., and that the next regular meeting will be December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

**MEDIA QUESTIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mary Wilds, The Times, asked which boards and commissions had open positions. President Salatas stated he would get a list to her.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilman Parker made a motion to adjourn at 7:24 P.M., seconded by Councilman Corns and carried with five ayes.

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Christopher Salatas, President

Attest:

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Judith Walters, Clerk-Treasurer