

**LOWELL TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 13, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Lowell Town Council was called to order on Monday, June 13, 2016 at 7:03 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 Michael Gruszka, LeAnn Angerman, Will Farrellbegg, Christopher Salatas, and Edgar Corns. Also present were Town Attorney David Westland, Police Chief Erik Matson, Town Manager Jeff Sheridan, Public Works Director Greg Shook, Building Administrator Carl Ferro, two members of the media, and fifteen interested citizens.

TREASURER'S REPORT - May 2016

Councilman Farrellbegg made a motion to approve the May 2016 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Councilwoman Angerman and carried with five ayes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Gruszka made a motion to approve the May 23rd regular meeting minutes, seconded by Councilman Farrellbegg and carried with five ayes.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

President Salatas stated he had reviewed White Vouchers #1568 - #1674, White-Police #4114 - #4129; Water #2359 - #2422, Waste Water #3311 - #3356, and Stormwater Utility #5061 - #5074. Councilman Corns made a motion to approve the vouchers as listed, seconded by Councilman Farrellbegg and carried with five ayes.

MONTHLY REPORTS - May 2016

Councilman Farrellbegg made a motion to approve the May 2016 Monthly Reports, seconded by Councilman Corns. Councilwoman Angerman addressed some items on the monthly police report; that the 911 center has begun accepting text messages, she thanked the Lowell Lion's Club for donating the blue light bulbs in support of National Police Officer week, and congratulated Officer Carl Mink on his graduation from the Academy. The motion to approve the vouchers carried with five ayes.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

2nd reading - Ordinance #2016-11 - an Ordinance authorizing the issuance of Sewage Works Revenue Bonds - Councilman Corns moved to adopt Ordinance #2016-11, seconded by Councilman Farrellbegg and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

1st reading - Ordinance #2016-13 - Additional Appropriation - Police Grant Hours - \$5,313.10 - Councilman Farrellbegg made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance #2016-13, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried by roll call vote with five ayes.

1st reading - Ordinance #2016-14 - amend Chapter 155.05 - definition of "Living Space", was tabled on motion by Councilwoman Angerman, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried by five ayes on roll call vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Public Works Department Update - No update was given.

SR 2 Curb & Sidewalk Project - Approve Pay Request - \$72,446.00 and Voucher #1675 to Commonwealth Engineering and forward to INDOT for 80% reimbursement - Councilman Farrellbegg made a motion to approve the Pay Request, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Tabled from previous meetings:

Resolution #2016-06 - adopting Uniform Internal Control Standards - remains tabled

Ordinance #2016-04 - Parental Responsibility of School Attendance of Minor Children - remains tables

Councilman Gruszka moved to untable Resolution #2016-08 - opposing construction of 278-mile rail line that had been held since April 25th. The motion was seconded by Councilman Corns and carried with five ayes. Resolution #2016-08, opposing the current proposed routing of the Great Lakes Basin Freight Rail Line, as amended, was read by Councilwoman Angerman. Councilman Farrellbegg moved to adopt Resolution #2016-08, seconded by Councilman Gruszka. Councilwoman Angerman stated town representatives had opposed the rail line at the public hearing on April 12th, but had tabled the resolution to try to get some impact on the final route. The motion carried with five ayes.

NEW BUSINESS

Address Council concerning neighbor's yard - Julie Laumeyer - This item was removed from the agenda as the situation had been resolved and Mrs. Laumeyer was satisfied with the quick response of the code enforcement department.

Request for additional waiver of high water bill - Susan Geist, Brookside Academy - Town Manager Sheridan stated the policy in place for an adjustment had already been applied and they were asking for an additional compensation over and above the ordinance. Mr. Sheridan noted the high bill was due to a leaky toilet and the water did go through the system. Councilwoman Angerman moved to deny the request as has been past practice, seconded by Councilman Farrellbegg and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Enter into agreement with Taft, Stettinius Hollister LL - sewage works bond counsel -

Councilman Corns moved to enter into the agreement, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

The following items were acted on that were not part of the agenda:

Resolution #2016-10 - a resolution concerning the Motor Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program in Lake and Porter Counties urging the EPA to revise or eliminate the requirements under the program, was read by Councilman Farrellbegg. Councilman Farrellbegg moved to adopt Resolution #2016-10, seconded by Councilwoman Angerman and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Resolution #2016-11 - a Resolution approving the purchase of an aluminum induced draft aerator in the amount of \$49,200 to replace the existing aerator, was read by Councilman Corns. Councilman Farrellbegg moved to adopt Resolution #2016-11, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

A discussion was held during the work session on the town getting involved with enforcing private covenants for subdivisions. Councilman Corns moved to direct Town Manager Sheridan to draft a policy that the Town only enforce local building regulations and not private covenants. The motion was seconded by Councilman Farrellbegg and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

A discussion was held during the work session on the need for a policy on how to operate the gun range at the WWTP and security at the range. Mr. Sheridan stated this has been recommended by our insurance agent. Mr. Sheridan stated he will work with Chief Matson and WWTP personnel on the policy. Councilman Corns moved to direct Town Manager Sheridan to draft a policy for the gun range use and safety, seconded by Councilwoman Angerman and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

A discussion was held during the work session that there is 50/50 state funding available for road projects but the Town must have a transportation asset management plan approved by INDOT to qualify. Town Manager Sheridan had received three proposals. Councilman Farrellbegg moved to accept the proposal from DLZ Engineering in the amount of \$14,500, seconded by Councilman Corns. Clerk-Treasurer asked where this would be paid from and reminded Council that the Special Loit money had not been appropriated. The motion carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Salatas announced that the next regular meeting would be Monday, June 27, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.

MEDIA QUESTIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Melanie Csepiga, The Times, asked for a copy of the Resolution regarding the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program sponsored by Senator Niemeyer.

Councilman Corns stated the Town is discussing enacting a Park Impact Fee and Town Manager Sheridan stated the Town will need to modify the existing policy.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Corns made a motion to adjourn at 7:28 P.M., seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with five ayes.

Attest:

Christopher Salatas, President

Judith Walters, Clerk-Treasurer