

**LOWELL TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 22, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Lowell Town Council was called to order on Monday, February 22, 2016 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 Mike Gruszka, LeAnn Angerman, Will Farrellbegg, and Christopher Salatas. Edgar Corns was not in attendance. Also present were Town Attorney Nicole Bennett, Police Chief Erik Matson, Building Administrator Carl Ferro, one member of the media, and sixteen citizens.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilman Farrellbegg made a motion to approve the February 8, 2016 regular meeting and work session minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Angerman and carried with four ayes.

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

President Salatas stated he had reviewed White Vouchers #1170 - #1222, White-Police #4034 - #4040, Water #2116 - #2136, Waste Water #3098 - #3126, and Stormwater Utility #5019 - #5022. Councilman Gruszka made a motion to approve the vouchers as listed, seconded by Councilman Farrellbegg and carried with four ayes.

**PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, REMONSTRANCES, PROCLAMATIONS**

Early Voting - Lake County Election Board - President Salatas announced that early voting would be held at the Town Hall on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays April 5<sup>th</sup> - April 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.; Thursdays, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.; Saturdays, April 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.; and Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 noon.

**ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

1<sup>st</sup> reading - Ordinance #2016-02 - amend Ordinance #2015-41 - 2016 Salary Ordinance - Town Manager Maximum rate - Councilman Farrellbegg made a motion to hold Ordinance #2016-02 over for the second reading, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried by roll call vote with four ayes.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Public Works Department Update - There were no updates given.

Route 2 Curb/Sidewalk Project - Act on Pay Request from Commonwealth Engineers for Right-of-Way Engineering - \$13,313 and forward to INDOT for 80% reimbursement - Councilwoman Angerman made a motion to approve the pay request from Commonwealth Engineers for \$13,313, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried by roll call vote with four ayes.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Act on favorable recommendation from Plan Commission: Zone change from R-1 to B-1 - 1601 Northview Drive - 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> reading - Ordinance #2016-03 - Zone Change - Councilman Farrellbegg made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with four ayes. Councilwoman Angerman made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance #2016-03, seconded

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by Councilman Gruszka and carried by roll call vote with four ayes. Councilwoman Angerman made a motion to adopt Ordinance #2016-03 by name and title only, seconded by Councilman Farrellbegg and carried by roll call vote with four ayes. Councilman Farrellbegg made a motion to set the rules back in to place, seconded by Councilwoman Angerman and carried with four ayes.

Act on favorable recommendation from Traffic Commission: Stop Signs at Michael/173rd Lane - Councilman Farrellbegg made a motion to direct the attorney to create an ordinance for the stop sign at Michael and 173<sup>rd</sup> Lane, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried by roll call vote with four ayes.

Request from Park Department to hold archery during summer camp at Freedom Park - Councilman Gruszka made a motion allow the Park Department to hold archery during the summer camp at Freedom Park, seconded by Councilman Farrellbegg and carried by roll call vote with four ayes.

Permission to advertise additional appropriation - Freedom Park, MVH Budget - Clerk-Treasurer Judith Walters stated that Freedom Park had \$6,000 in their Capital line item that they did not spend last year, so they are wanting to reappropriate that for this year, and the MVH budget is the same. They had \$30,000 for a new truck, which was not purchased, so they would like that reappropriated for a wood chipper. Councilman Gruszka made a motion to allow advertisement of the additional appropriations, seconded by Councilwoman Angerman and carried by roll call vote with four ayes.

Permission to close Mill Street for Car Shows - Lowell Lion's Club - John Piper, 5948 W. 172<sup>nd</sup> Ave., thanked the Council for all of their support to the Lion's Club and all of their projects. He stated with spring being just around the corner, they are beginning to plan the Lowell Lion's Club Cruise Nights. Mr. Piper gave some background of the event and asked for permission to use Mill Street, Jefferson Street from Mill Street east to Clark Street, and Clark Street from Jefferson Street south to Commercial Ave. beginning May 7<sup>th</sup> through September 10<sup>th</sup>. Normally the event is the first Saturday of the month, but due to the holidays in July and September, those will be held on the second Saturday. Because of the popularity, we are asking for the option to shut the streets down at 4:00 P.M. rather than at 5:00 P.M. as we have in the past, and reopen them at 9:00 P.M. The other request is if they are rained out, they asked to be able to hold it the following Saturday. Councilman Farrellbegg stated this is a good event and it brings a lot of people to the town. Councilwoman Angerman thanked the Lion's Club for their efforts with this program and agreed that it brings a lot of people to this town and it is well received. Councilwoman Angerman asked Police Chief Matson if there would be any issues with closing the streets an hour early for the event. Police Chief Matson stated there would not be any issues with that. Councilman Farrellbegg made a motion to allow the Lowell Lion's Club the option of closing the streets at 4:00 P.M. as well as the option for the rain day Saturday, seconded by Councilwoman Angerman and carried by roll call vote with four ayes.

Police Chief Matson stated they are looking at getting the fleet at the Police Department up to date since some of those vehicles are old and have well over 90,000 miles on them. He stated he was asking the Council to consider helping the Police Department purchase a second vehicle with funds from the CCD Fund. Clerk-Treasurer Walters stated one car is already budgeted in the CCD Fund for 2016 under one line item, but if you wanted to purchase another one, you could take it out of a the Capital Improvement line. The two cars that were bought last year totaled around \$58,000. Mrs. Angerman asked if there were available funds anywhere else for the second car. Clerk-Treasurer Walters stated in your CCD Fund 441 we have the funds available. Councilman Farrellbegg made a motion to approve the purchase of the second police car out of the CCD line item that was discussed, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried by roll call vote with four ayes.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Salatas announced that the next regular meeting would be Monday, March 14, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.

**MEDIA QUESTIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Melanie Csepiga, The Times, asked for the Council to enlighten her on what Ordinance #2016-02 was about. President Salatas stated it had to do with the new Town Manager that has been hired. Councilwoman Angerman stated this amendment states specifically where he will be paid from. President Salatas stated he would give her a copy after the meeting. Ms. Csepiga asked for details regarding the zone change at 1601 Northview Dr. President Salatas stated Attorney Paul Rossi has purchased that building and would like to open his law office there with the possibility of opening other professional offices, so a zone change was necessary. Ms. Csepiga asked if there was a time frame on the opening. President Salatas stated he did not have one. Attorney Bennett stated a specific date was not stated to the Plan Commission, but he is already working with a contractor in developing the property once the zone change was approved.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilman Farrellbegg made a motion to adjourn at 7:20 P.M., seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with four ayes.

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Christopher Salatas, President

Attest:

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Judith Walters, Clerk-Treasurer