

**LOWELL TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 23, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Lowell Town Council was called to order on Monday, October 23, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. by President Todd Angerman. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence. Clerk-Treasurer Judith Walters called the roll. Members present were Michael Gruszka, John Alessia, Todd Angerman, Shane Tucker, and John Yelkich. Also present were Town Manager Craig Hendrix, Police Chief James Woestman, GIS Director Greg White, Fire Chief Chris Gamblin, and Town Attorney David Westland via Zoom. Also present were ten interested citizens and one member of the press.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Gruszka made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from October 9th, seconded by Councilman Tucker and carried with five ayes.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

President Angerman stated he had reviewed the vouchers and asked approval of the following: White Vouchers #11190 - #11248- \$ 404,213.54, Police - #1132-#1136 - \$ 1,194.09, Water #2013- \$5,220.00, Waste Water #4823- #4844- \$ 69,405.49, and Stormwater Utility #6155 - #6159 - \$ 9,766.66. Councilman Tucker made a motion to approve the vouchers as listed, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

2nd reading - Ordinance #2023-19 - authorizing advance payments on contracts for Public Works Projects - Councilman Alessia moved to adopt Ordinance #2023-19 by name and title only, seconded by Councilman Tucker and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

1st reading - Ordinance #2023-20 - Additional Appropriation - MVH budget - \$200,000 - The amount will appropriate the funds for the CCMG 2023-1 Project to be completed in 2024 for Union Street. President Angerman opened the Public Hearing. There being no comments, the hearing was closed. Councilman Yelkich moved to hold Ordinance #2023-20, Additional Appropriation - MVH - for a second reading, seconded by Councilman Tucker and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Resolution #2023-10 - transfer of funds within the 2020 Bond Construction Fund for professional services - \$50,000 - Councilman Gruszka moved to approve Resolution #2023-10, seconded by Councilman Tucker and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Engagement Letter for Barnes Thornburg to act as bond counsel for 2023 GO Bonds for Nassau Park capital project - Councilman Gruszka moved to approve

agreement with Barnes & Thornburg, seconded by Councilman Alessia and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Authorization to sign Final Plat of William R. Nassau Park Subdivision - Councilman Yelkich moved to approve the final plat, seconded by Councilman Alessia and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Approve Master Agreement and Task Order #1 with EA Right of Way Associates for West Side Sewer Project - The agreement is to perform acquisition services per parcel basis on the West Side Sewer Project for a total of fifteen parcels - Councilman Alessia moved to approve the master agreement with EA Right of Way Associates and to approve Task Order #1, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Tri-Creek School Corporation - Request Building Permit Fee Waiver - As discussed during the work session the school corporation is requesting that the building permits fees estimated for the Lowell High School Improvement Project and the fees associated with future work at Oak Hill Elementary and Three Creeks Elementary in the amount of \$762,870 be waived. The stipulation is that amount will be put back into the project, specifically along Holtz Road to improve traffic flow and install sidewalks. Councilman Yelkich moved to waive the building permit fees of \$762,870, seconded by Councilman Alessia and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Change last meeting of year - Due to the holiday, Councilman Alessia moved to change the last meeting of the year to December 27th, with a time to be determined at a later date, seconded by Councilman Yelkich and carried with five ayes. on roll call vote.

Purchase of 2007 American Road Leaf Vac - \$25,000 - Mr. Hendrix stated that Street Superintendent Frank Lovely had found a used leaf vac in good condition and would like to purchase as soon as possible to add onto his fleet. Clerk-Treasurer Judy Walters stated the voucher can be listed and paid on Friday, October 27th so they vendor won't have to wait for our next meeting in three weeks. The funds are available from the Stormwater Utility budget. Councilman Gruszka approved the purchase of the leaf vac in the amount of \$25,000, seconded by Councilman Alessia and carried with five ayes on roll call vote.

Phillip Kuiper, 432 Meadow Lane, addressed the Council requesting a name change of the Council Chambers. Mr. Kuiper stated at the end of the year, Clerk-Treasurer Judy Walters will be retiring with 49 years of service with the town, with fifteen years as Deputy Clerk and seven terms as Clerk-Treasurer.

He said he felt the Council Chambers being changed to the Judith Walters Council Chambers is very deserving and appropriate for the many years she financially guided the town. Councilman Yelkich moved to approve the name of the Council Chambers to the Judith Walters Council Chambers, seconded by Councilman Gruszka and carried with five ayes on roll call vote. Clerk-Treasurer Judy Walters thanked the Council and said she was very humbled and honored and said she begin working for the town when she was in high school and never thought she would be here forty-nine years later, but it has been an honor and she is very proud of her years of service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A West Side Sewer Project Public Information Meeting will be held on October 24th at 5:00 P.M. at Town Hall

The next JMOB meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 14th at 5:00 P.M. at Lowell.

President Angerman announced the decision to issue bonds were published in the Times on October 13th and October 20th and the notice was also placed at the Lowell Town Hall and on their website, at the Lowell Public Library and Strack's.

President Angerman stated a revised draft Environmental Document for the proposed Freedom Trail was submitted to INDOT on October 6th. We are awaiting comments from INDOT.

President Angerman announced the next regular meeting will be held Monday, November 13, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

MEDIA QUESTIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chuck Abraham, Lowell Tribune, asked about the right of ways for the West Side Project.

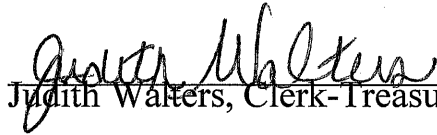
Andy Anderson, Tri-Creek School Superintendent, thanked the Council for the waiving of fees and the partnership of working together for the town.

ADJOURNMENT

No further business, Councilman Tucker made a motion to adjourn at 7:16 P.M., seconded by Councilman Alessia and carried with five ayes.



Todd Angerman, President



Judith Walters, Clerk-Treasurer