

Lawton City Council Minutes

November 5, 2013

The Lawton City Council met in Regular session on Tuesday, November 5, 2013, at the Lawton City Hall. Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm by Mayor Jeff Nitzschke. Council members answering roll: Don Grigg, Rick Schorg, Terry Masching and Perry Ludwig. Reed Burson arrived later. Others attending included PWD Mark Vault, Clerk Patricia Washburn, Attorney Glenn Metcalf, Jerry Steffen, Record Editor Kent Baker, Lawton Postmaster Deb Lawrey, and Murphy Tractor representative Troy Groves.

Clerk stated addition of the following items to agenda: Warning sirens, Council meeting times, Woodbury County Library budget meeting, and one additional purchase of \$22.90 to UPS Store on financial statement. Amendments were noted. Motion to approve Consent Agenda as presented with additional items stated by Masching, second by Grigg. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Hearing was opened at 5:01 p.m. to hear comments or concerns regarding consideration to amend current city budget to allow pay-off of water revenue bonds and to allow final distribution of TIF LMI funds regarding housing repair and rehabilitation projects. No written or oral comments or objections had been received. Motion to close public hearing at 5:03 p.m. made by Masching, seconded by Grigg. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilman Schorg requested that warning sirens be discussed as an agenda item next month. He would like to share research with Council that he has done on the issue.

Burson arrived at 5:08 p.m.

Schorg would also like to discuss feasibility of changing Council meeting times. Matter will be on December agenda.

Deb Lawrey, Lawton Postmaster, provided pictures of mail drop box with snout that would enable drivers to drop off mail from their vehicles rather than having to get out. Council stated their concern was having it close to the front sidewalk and therefore patrons would block the sidewalk when using the box. After brief discussion, Council agreed the drop box could be installed in alley near gas meter.

Motion to adopt **RESOLUTION # 2013-13 AMENDING AND CERTIFYING FY14 CITY BUDGET** made by Masching, second by Grigg. Motion carried on roll 5-0. Complete text of Resolution available at City Hall.

Jerry Steffen reported nothing new from Automatic Systems.

Schorg left meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Council was given written report from Woodbury County Sheriff's Office regarding calls this past month. Report stated WCSO had spent approximately 8 hours on Directed Patrol in Lawton and 3½ hours on additional calls.

Steffen presented Council with updated pay request and change order from TR Harris Construction regarding Cedar/Birch Street intersection replacement. A small amount of additional concrete and rebar were used to finish project, hence the change order. Motion by Ludwig, second by Masching to approve change order and pay request from TR Harris Construction in amount of \$77,989.32 plus pay request from Steffen Engineering for \$7,072.50 for same project. Motion carried on roll 4-0.

Clerk presented information from Iowa Codification regarding updating current code book. After considerable discussion regarding current Ordinance Book, motion by Grigg, second by Masching, to direct Clerk to contact Iowa Codification and start process of re-codifying through them. Motion carried 4-0.

Troy Groves presented quote from Murphy Tractor regarding forks for Cat loader. After discussing matter, motion by Grigg, second by Masching to order forks at cost of \$3,925. Council wants Public Works Department to use Cat loader rather than Toolcat for larger jobs. Motion carried on roll 4-0.

Motion by Burson, second by Ludwig to approve payment of invoice from Barco for reflective safety jacket for Jodi Stender. Council stated all purchases of this type must first be approved by Public Works Director. Motion carried on roll 4-0.

Council also gave approval to order needed replacement street signs and hardware.

Council gave direction to notify owner and tenant of need to get inside property at 216 Ash Street to try to verify where water line enters property.

No building permits were received this past month.

Correspondence was shared from AT&T subcontractor regarding need to work on antennae on water tower. Council stated no additional permits would be required.

ICAP submitted letter of recommendations regarding their recent site visit. Council gave approval to follow recommendations.

After discussing possible Christmas Lighting Contest for this year, motion by Burson, second by Masching to once again hold Christmas Lighting Contest. Judging will be held Sunday, December 15 with prizes for First Place, \$100; Second Place, \$50; and Third place, \$25. Motion carried on roll 4-0.

Council was reminded our current garbage contract will expire in June of 2014 and they need to think about possibly going out for bids again.

Mayor discussed need for winter preparation including addressing vehicles that have been parked for extended periods of time. Mayor will discuss matter with Sheriff or Deputy.

Discussion held regarding new street light pole banners. Council has heard favorable comments, but wishes there were additional banners on Elm Street and West Creek Lane. Matter will be discussed at next meeting.

Motion by Masching, second by Grigg to approve consent agenda including October 1, 2013 minutes, amended October 2013 disbursements of \$67,852.84, financial statements from October 2013, **Resolution #2013-14 Transferring \$120,000 from TIF into General Fund for LMI Housing Project Fund** (complete text on file at City Hall), and approval of FY2013 Urban Renewal Report (TIF). Motion carried on roll 4-0.

City Attorney Metcalf called attention to the need to discuss a potential suit naming the City of Lawton as a party. He advised that this was a matter suitable for consideration in closed session and requested the council to consider moving to closed session. Councilman Burson moved for the council to meet in closed session. Being advised upon the matter, Masching seconded the motion that the council hold a closed session pursuant to Iowa Code §21.5(1c & 1h). A roll call vote was taken.

AYE: Grigg, Masching, Ludwig, Burson
NAY: None
ABSENT: Schorg

Mayor Nitzschke declared that the affirmative vote was the unanimous vote of those councilmen now present and was therefore approved. Council entered closed session at 6:05 pm.

Council re-entered open session at 6:40 p.m.

Mayor informed Council of upcoming Woodbury County Public Library meeting scheduled for November 14 at 7:00 pm. Discussion will be held regarding potential tax asking increase for two years in order to bring automation into library.

With no further business to come before the meeting, meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm.

REVENUES BY FUND		DISBURSEMENTS BY FUND	
Interest Earned	853.91	TIF-Housing	-
TIF	53,026.35	TIF-West Creek	-
Local Option Sales Tax	9,239.32	Local Option Sales Tax	-
General	68,280.23	General	47,031.21
Road Use Tax	9,610.20	Road Use Tax	5,981.97
Water	16,691.55	Water	6,446.96
Sewer	3,098.99	Sewer	2,299.98
Garbage	5,349.86	Garbage	4,809.75
Fire Revenue	625.42	Fire Disbursements	1,282.97
VOIDED CHECKS	400.00		
TOTAL REVENUE	167,175.83	OCT. DISBURSEMENTS	67,852.84

State of Iowa, Sales Tax	3058.00
April Monson, deposit refund	34.68
Barkley Asphalt, overlay streets	41684.00
City of Lawton, utilities	53.97
Earl May Nursery, tree	400.00
Fire Service Training Bureau, books	129.50
HTM Sales, diagnose sewer pump	232.00
Iowa DNR, Water Use Fee, #6191	66.00
Kneifl Electric, locate	75.00
Metcalf Law Office, legal services	210.00
Moville Record, publications	725.38
Western IA Telephone	334.62
IA Section AWWA Region 3, water training	40.00
Nick's Garage, Rescue oil change	40.38
Nick's Garage, Polaris service	121.48
Intuit, software subscription	299.95
Lawton Pronto, fuel, misc. supplies	446.57
Lawton Ambulance, Friend. Center Cap. Cred.	13.63
Novak Sanitary Serv., garbage	4757.75
Stan Houston, barricades/lights	761.40
Nick's Garage, Polaris paint & lights	120.00
Acco, roller assembly, tube	264.97
Bomgaars, battery tender, oil	83.87
Brown Supply, curb boxes, bushings	305.80
Iowa One Call, locates	25.20
Marco, copier contract	336.00
Menard's, post sleeves	25.98
MidAmerican Energy	1674.71
Jodi Stender, mileage reim.	59.89
Triple D Contracting, rock	1210.97
Wolfe Communications, pager/charger	449.78
Employee compensation	6159.83
EFTPS, Fed, Med, SS	2291.14
IPERS, retirement plan	1305.19
Aflac, employee contrib.	32.30
UPS Store, FD postage	22.90
<hr/> OCTOBER DISBURSEMENTS	<hr/> 67852.84

ATTESTED BY: _____
Patricia L Washburn, City Clerk