

# **Lawton City Council Minutes**

**January 7, 2014**

The Lawton City Council met in Regular session on Tuesday, January 7, 2014, at the Lawton City Hall. Meeting called to order at 5:10 pm by Mayor pro tem Perry Ludwig. Council members answering roll: Terry Masching, Don Grigg, Perry Ludwig, William Wollesen and Rick Schorg. Others attending included City Clerk Patricia Washburn, Public Works Director Mark Vaul, City Attorney Glenn Metcalf, Record Editor Kent Baker, Fire Chief John Eblen, Dan Thompson, Diana Johnsen, Jerry Steffen.

Motion by Ludwig, second by Grigg, to accept the resignation of Rick Schorg from Council effective January 7, 2014, so Schorg could accept the position of Mayor per the November election. Motion carried on roll 4-0 with Schorg abstaining.

Oaths of office were given by Washburn to Terry Masching and Rick Schorg. Oath had been previously given to Will Wollesen.

Mayor Schorg proceeded with meeting.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda by Masching, second by Grigg. Motion carried 4-0.

Council discussed vacancy in light of Schorg's resignation. Council directed clerk to publish a notice in the Record of the intent to appoint someone to fill the position.

Report from the Woodbury County Sheriff's Office was distributed to the Mayor and Council for their review.

Item #5 was not discussed as party in question was not present and had made no further contact with city regarding request.

Steffen has been in contact with Automatic Systems regarding what appears to be a double billing.

Residents responding to questionnaire regarding early warning sirens in Lawton indicated 119 in favor and 5 opposed. Council directed Clerk to contact Gary Brown, director of Woodbury County Emergency Management, to get siren vendor information. Vendors will be asked to assess city and give proposal to City.

Discussion was held regarding regular meeting time for city council meetings. Considering later meetings could interfere with evening school activities, motion by Grigg, second by Masching, to continue with a 5:00 p.m. meeting time. Motion carried on roll 3-1 with Wollesen dissenting.

Motion by Masching, second by Ludwig, to renew Siouxland Humane Society contract with no changes from previous year. Motion carried 4-0.

Clerk reviewed and presented initial budget considerations. Council will take initial numbers under advisement and bring additional comments to February meeting.

Fire Chief Eblen discussed possibility of purchasing property with intent of building new fire station. Council stated they would prefer extending existing building to the north. No action was taken.

Council discussed possible need to increase sewer rates to meet upcoming testing requirements from DNR and to meet future needs of the city. Council also discussed possible need to amend Snow Emergency ordinance to set limit of snow at 2" rather than current 6" before a Snow Emergency is declared. Council directed Clerk to include these items on next agenda.

Public Works Director Mark Vaul spoke to Council about abuse at city tree pile. Council does not want to disband tree pile as it is a good community service, but discussed alternatives.

Vaul also discussed water line installation to new residences and asked Council to reconsider verbiage in ordinance book. Council directed Vaul to get information from neighboring cities regarding procedure and fees involved with water line installations.

Council discussed general snow removal guidelines with Vaul.

Clerk reported two building permits were approved in December: An electronic sign for Bethel Lutheran Church and a multi-family dwelling at 96 and 98 Westcreek Court.

City has received notification of receipt of \$1,000 from MidAmerican Energy's Trees Please! Grant. Check will be issued in February or March.

Council gave approval to enter into contract with Town and Country Lawn Services for the same services as last year, that being four applications on Tara Way Park, four applications on Veterans' Memorial Park and two applications on water tower lot. There was no increase in fee.

Mayor Schorg appointed Terry Masching as his Mayor pro tempore and as the secondary check signor.

Attorney brought Wollesen current with litigation updates.

Wollesen volunteered to serve as city representative on Fire Advisory Board. Schorg appointed him as such.

Wollesen asked Council to consider discussing new fire building at March meeting.

Brief discussion was held regarding poor interest rates being paid now on our funds. Clerk was asked to check with other area banks to see what they offer. Mayor and Council stated they have appreciated working with First Trust and Savings Bank in the past.

Motion by Ludwig, second by Grigg to approve consent agenda including December 3, 2013 minutes, December 2013 disbursements of \$81,892.41, financial statements from December 2013, Depository Resolution, Investment of Public Funds Policy Resolution, Custodian of Records Resolution and Resolution to appoint City Clerk, City Attorney and Public Works Director. Motion carried on roll 4-0.

Brief discussion was held regarding dirt being hauled into an area inside flood plain. Steffen indicated the site was considered "on the fringe" and therefore should not be an issue with State DNR. Council and Vault discussed that property owner would be responsible for installing extender on curb stand.

With no further business to come before the meeting, meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

REVENUES BY FUND		DISBURSEMENTS BY FUND	
Interest Earned	153.99	TIF-Housing	48,353.00
TIF	1,753.89	TIF-West Creek	-
Local Option Sales Tax	9,558.99	Local Option Sales Tax	-
General	7,476.76	General	10,415.79
Road Use Tax	7,155.19	Road Use Tax	4,102.68
Water	14,318.96	Water	7,398.64
Sewer	3,673.44	Sewer	1,960.50
Garbage	5,494.56	Garbage	8,793.22
Fire Revenue	125.00	Fire Disbursements	868.58
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>49,710.78</b>	<b>DEC. DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>81,892.41</b>

#### WARRANTS APPROVED

Nick's Garage, vehicle maint. Unit 4	159.04
City of Lawton, utilities	44.02
Fire Service Training Bureau, 2-HMO/FF1 cert fees	100.00
Iowa Rural Water Ass'n, 2014 dues	200.00
LP Gill, Inc., 4th Qtr landfill assessment	3,997.47
Reed Burson, meeting pay	96.97
Don Grigg, meeting pay	193.94
Perry Ludwig, meeting pay	193.94
Terry Masching, meeting pay	194.46
Jeff Nitzschke, mayoral pay	1,371.25
Rick Schorg, meeting pay	161.61
Mark Vault, meeting pay	181.44
Patricia Washburn, meeting pay	181.43
Dirty Payne, LMI Housing Project	10,880.00
Dream Builders, LMI Housing Project	23,749.00
Novak Sanitary Service, garbage	4,757.75
SIMPCO, LMI Housing Admin.	13,724.00
Woodbury Co. Off. of Elections	924.39
Intuit, Annual QB Payroll Subscription	449.00
USPS, 400 stamps	184.00
Certified Testing Services, Cedar & Birch core tests	185.00
Iowa One Call, locates	18.00
Lessman Electric, amber bulbs	36.00
Mike Barkley, excavations	600.00
O'Reilly Automotive, V-belt	27.92
Sioux City Ford, tensioner	79.87
Stan Houston, 2 insulated blankets	158.00
Western IA Telephone	335.92
Wigman Company, water line repairs	20.58
Doug Furlich, 1st Place Light Contest	100.00
Donald Feldhacker, 2nd Place light contest	50.00
David & Jana Drew, 3rd Place light contest	25.00
Batteries Plus, batteries	43.18
City of Sergeant Bluff, salt/sand	337.68
Lawton Pronto, fuel	658.73
IMFOA, dues	40.00
Menard's, misc. supplies	67.27
MidAmerican Energy, December	2,018.86
Midwest Wheel Companies, wiper blades	10.60

Triple D Contracting, excavating	831.00
US Postmaster, FD box	80.00
Mark A Vaul, reimburse phone	120.00
Patricia Washburn, phone reim	30.00
Employee Compensation	6,015.53
EFTPS, Fed, Med, SS	2,629.84
IPERS, emp. Retirement	1,365.66
Aflac, employee contrib.	32.30
State of Iowa, Withholding	1,355.00
State of Iowa, Sales Tax	2,592.00
Patricia Washburn, exp. Stmt. 10/1-12/31	284.76
<u>DECEMBER DISBURSEMENTS</u>	<u>81,892.41</u>

ATTESTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia L Washburn, City Clerk