

# Lawton City Council Minutes

**February 4, 2014**

The Lawton City Council met in Regular session on Tuesday, February 4, 2014, at the Lawton City Hall. Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm by Mayor Rick Schorg. Council members answering roll: Don Grigg, Terry Masching and Perry Ludwig. Wollesen was absent. Others attending included City Clerk Patricia Washburn, Public Works Director Mark Vaul, City Attorney Glenn Metcalf, Matt Otto, Record Editor Kent Baker, Fire Chief John Eblen, Butch Hoffman, Gary Brown, Steve and Tamus Witt, Mark Nicolls, David Gleiser and City Engineer Jerry Steffen.

Motion by Masching, second by Grigg, to approve Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried on roll 3-0.

Motion by Ludwig to approve **Resolution #2014-05** appointing Matt Otto to vacant seat on Council. Term will expire with next election. Motion seconded by Masching. Motion carried 3-0.

Oath of office was given by Clerk Washburn to Matt Otto.

Butch Hoffman with Danko Emergency Equipment presented Council with proposal regarding Federal early warning siren. Information was also distributed from Scott Green with Frontline Plus regarding Whelen early warning siren. Considerable discussion was held on matter. It was decided all members of Council should be present when decision is made. Matter will be on next agenda.

Regarding location of siren, both vendors recommended site of old water tower at 311 E Maple Street. Site will be considered.

David Gleiser, Woodbury County Economic Development Director, was present to introduce himself to Council and to express desire to work with local communities regarding any needs we may have.

Steffen has been in contact with Automatic Systems regarding what appears to be a double billing. Nothing further has been determined.

Motion by Ludwig, second by Masching to accept proposal from Novak Sanitary Service regarding the extension of the city garbage contract for one additional year with no price adjustments. Service under extension would extend through June 30, 2015. Discussion was held regarding service they have provided our community for past 19 months. Motion carried on roll 4-0 with Wollesen absent.

Budget discussions included increase in fire budget to accommodate replacement of older bunker gear, also possible street replacement of Elm Street from Hwy. 20 to Maple Street. With these items included, motion by Ludwig, second by Masching, to set Public Hearing on budget for March 4, 2014, at 5:00 pm. Motion carried on roll, 4-0.

After careful consideration, motion by Masching to modify City Ordinance Section 3-16-3 to state a "snow emergency" shall be presumed with any snowfall measuring two inches or more, or at any time the Mayor or Mayor pro tem declares a snow emergency. Motion to approve first reading was seconded by Grigg. Motion carried on roll 4-0 with Wollesen absent.

Clerk Washburn presented area sewer rate comparison to Council. Most communities bill sewer based on water usage. Lawton has the lowest sewer rate of the twelve communities contacted. After careful consideration, motion by Ludwig to modify City Ordinance Section 6-5-11(1, 2) to increase monthly sewer rent from current \$8.00 to \$12.00. Excess commercial rates will remain the same. This will still list Lawton with the lowest sewer rate of the twelve communities contacted. Motion to approve first reading was seconded by Otto. Motion carried on roll 4-0 with Wollesen absent.

Public Works Director Vaul presented information regarding area water line installation cost comparison to Council. Discussion was held with Council considering installations supervised by an inspector. No firm decision was made at this time to amend current practice.

Council was presented with an Extraterritorial Replat from Marv Harrison. With this property not adjacent to the existing city limits, upon recommendation by Attorney Metcalf, motion by Grigg, second by Ludwig to approve **Resolution # 2014-06 Waiving the Right to Review the Harrison Replat**. Motion carried on roll 4-0, Wollesen absent.

No further reports from PWD Vaul. Council expressed appreciation for quick snow removal during past snowfall.

No building permits were approved in January.

After brief discussion, Council gave verbal approval if the Woodbury County Library decides to set a shelf in the Friendship Center for local residents to get and return books. It would be set up on the honor system. There would be no librarian on duty. The Friendship Center would be open during regular City Hall hours.

Council discussed an email the city had received from a company requesting to make changes on the AT&T antennae on the city water tower. Clerk will verify concerns with company before approval is given.

Council discussed Service Maintenance agreement from Badger Meter, Inc. Clerk will attempt to get answers for Council questions regarding agreement prior to March meeting.

Mayor received letter from Iowa DOT stating eastbound bridge over Elliott Creek is scheduled to be replaced in 2015.

Mayor spoke to Council about trees some property owners have not trimmed or removed as directed to do in the past. A resident also contacted the Mayor regarding a sidewalk that seems to be settling. PW Director Vaul visually inspected sidewalk and doesn't feel it is from an underground water leak as feared. Property owners will be contacted to correct problem.

Attorney Metcalf updated Council on pending litigation.

Motion by Grigg, second by Masching, to approve consent agenda including January 7, 2014, minutes, January, 2014 disbursements of \$32,366.11 and financial statement from January, 2014. Motion carried on roll 4-0.

With no further business to come before the meeting, meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

REVENUES BY FUND		DISBURSEMENTS BY FUND	
Interest Earned	902.17	TIF-Housing	-
TIF	-	TIF-West Creek	-
Local Option Sales Tax	9,558.99	Local Option Sales Tax	-
General	2,030.82	General	9,859.60
Road Use Tax	7,089.13	Road Use Tax	8,825.02
Water	11,885.07	Water	3,299.07
Sewer	3,155.61	Sewer	2,172.27
Garbage	4,989.33	Garbage	4,392.75
Fire Revenue	16,580.08	Fire Disbursements	3,817.40
VOIDED CHECKS	-	RETURNED CHECK	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>56,191.20</b>	<b>JAN. DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>32,366.11</b>

**WARRANTS APPROVED**

Lawton Post Office, stamps	93.12
Tanner Mackey, deposit refund	100.00
Candy Booe-Kass, deposit refund	63.82
First Trust & Savings Bank, safe dep. box rent	17.00
Acco, roller assembly	258.41
Anderson Heating & Cooling, FD ignition repairs	336.50
City of Lawton, December utilities	43.00
Colonial Research, applause wipes	110.38
Feld Fire, Amkus tools, misc	3175.00
Lawton Pronto, fuel	639.63
Interstate Batteries, batteries	27.90
Iowa One Call, locates	6.40
Justine Prichard Farms, tree grinding	1539.56
Metcalf Law Office, legal fees	2440.00
The Movable Record, publication fees	545.48
Novak Sanitary Service, garbage contract	4347.75
Richardson Trucking, haul tree debris	2050.00
Sooland Bobcat, Toolcat tires/service	1230.71
Town & Country Lawn Service, parks, water tower lot	883.50
Western IA Telephone, December	337.93
Healy Welding, repairs on JD sweeper	313.70
MidAmerican Energy, gas/electric	2670.09
Menard's, misc. supplies	256.90
Employee Compensation	6880.45
Jacob Johnson, deposit refund	38.49
EFTPS, Fed, Med, SS	2483.94
IPERS, retirement contributions	1444.15
Aflac, employee contribution	32.30
<b>JANUARY DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>32366.11</b>

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