

# Lawton City Council Minutes

July 7, 2009

The Lawton City Council met in Regular session on Tuesday, July 7, 2009, at the Lawton City Hall. Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm by Mayor Jeff Nitzschke. Council members answering roll: Terry Masching, Rick Schorg, Todd Roerig, Perry Ludwig and Don Grigg. Others attending included City Clerk Patricia Washburn, Public Works Director Lowell Anderson, Attorney Glenn Metcalf, Engineer Jerry Steffen, George Barkley, Ken Eyres, Nick Lahrs, and Don Feldhacker.

Motion by Ludwig, second by Grigg to approve agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Nitzschke welcomed guests.

Don Feldhacker discussed potential wind energy desire with Council. After much discussion, Council stated more information is needed. Item tabled until next meeting.

Substantial rate increase of work comp premium was discussed with ambulance chief, Ken Eyres. Council requested more information regarding past premiums to include premium for ambulance property and liability. Item tabled until next meeting.

Fire Chief Nick Lahrs informed Council of grant fire department was applying for through JEO. JEO stated grant would be more likely if City committed to adding new City Hall on proposed building. After hearing presentation, Council stated they had committed to new fire truck and were not interested at this time in putting out additional taxpayer money for new City Hall that would be located with Fire Department. Lahrs stated he will have truck proposal ready for August meeting.

After consideration of bids submitted for street overlay project, motion made by Grigg, second by Masching, to award project to Barkley Asphalt, Inc. with bid of \$85,042.50, or \$72.50/ton. Motion carried on roll 5-0. Other bids were received from Frank's Asphalt and Knife River.

Grigg moved to offer 3% increase in wages to full-time employees. Ludwig seconded. Discussion held regarding need to freeze wages instead due to hard economic times. Voting for wage increase were Ludwig and Grigg. Voting nay were Masching, Schorg and Roerig. Motion failed on roll 2-3. Subject will be revisited in six months.

Unightly property concerns were discussed. Council will view prior to next meeting and issue will be discussed if need be at that time.

Council directed Anderson to proceed with replacement of curb in 400 block of Pine Street. Chris Aakhus will be notified to proceed with his portion of replacement.

Clerk reported five building permits were issued: David Miller, 219 Maple, deck, sidewalk & driveway; Rob & Nancy Wilson, 109 E Maple, deck; L-B CSD Sports Complex, stadium seating; Creekside Builders, 201 West Creek Dr, dwelling; Karl Zielich, 504 E Oak, privacy fence.

Grigg offered to handle purchase of trees with MidAmerican Energy Trees Please! Grant.

Mayor stated disappointment in some residents throwing grass clippings onto street when mowing. Not only does it take away from looks of town, but during rains this washes into gutters and into storm sewer.

Attorney Metcalf presented concerns of Chad Sitzmann regarding property at 120 West Birch St., and presented alternatives including condemnation, however recommended tendering full amount agreed upon to Sitzmann in exchange of deed to approximate 1,200 square feet of property. Metcalf advised Council this is not perfect solution, but does not foresee adverse result for the City. Motion to direct Metcalf to proceed to prepare deed and the clerk to tender check upon receipt of signed deed made by Masching, second by Schorg. Motion carried on roll 5-0.

Metcalf informed Council of change in law firm. Although Metcalf, Thompson & Phipps partnership has ceased, Council should notice no other changes. New law firm name is Metcalf Law Office.

Clerk informed Council Jerry Witt stated Friendship Center Board would likely disconnect telephone in Friendship Center and wondered if Council wanted to put phone in city's name. As most people carry cell phones, Council decided not to have landline on site.

Masching stated concerns with entrance built outside Post Office. As material is solid, patrons exiting Post Office cannot see people on sidewalk crossing in front. Mayor will discuss concern with Post Office and ask entrance either be removed or visual provided.

Motion by Masching, second by Schorg, to approve Consent Agenda consisting of June 2, 2009 minutes, June 2009 financial statements, June disbursements of \$45,497.24, and approval of **RESOLUTION #2009-08 REGARDING ASSESSMENT OF UNPAID UTILITY CHARGES over 60 days of \$34.26** against property at 102 West Birch St. Motion carried on roll 5-0.

With no further business meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

**REVENUES BY FUND**

**DISBURSEMENTS BY FUND**

Interest Earned	998.59		
TIF	0.00	TIF-West Creek	0.00
General	5,050.22	General	26,370.51
Road Use Tax	4,575.98	Road Use Tax	3,218.84
Local Option Sales Tax	5,739.28	Local Option Sales Tax	0.00
Water	11,297.06	Water	3,783.80
Sewer	3,295.50	Sewer	2,939.46
Garbage	4,945.94	Garbage	6,225.71
Fire Revenue	600.00	Fire Disbursements	2,958.92
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>36,502.57</b>	<b>JUNE DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>45,497.24</b>

**WARRANTS APPROVED**

Barry Motor Co, service on truck	214.87
CHN Garbage, contract	2827.84
City of Lawton, water/sewer/garbage	47.08
Fireguard, Inc., equipment repair	199.38
IMWCA, estimated work comp premium	6428.00
Menard's, doors, misc supplies	908.97
Metcalf, Thompson & Phipps, legals	913.58
Midwest Wheel Co., seat cover, side rails	532.52
Robertson Imp., mower blades	66.42
S&S Equip., mower battery	24.95
Sioux City Journal, publication	85.50
Utility Equip. Co., supplies	19.78
WITA, phone bill	249.01
Woodbury Co. Landfill, 2nd Qtr Assessment	3397.87
Woodbury Co. Library, '09-'10- tax asking	9953.00
ACCO, injection valves	177.48
American Family, ins	1390.80
Barkley Asphalt, hot mix	238.06
Family Health Care, FF physical	152.00
Lawton Pronto, May	274.57
Iowa League of Cities, dues	455.00
Menard's, supplies	60.26
Robertson Imp., mower supplies	128.83
Share Corp, Vegetation control	182.08
Triple D Contracting, crushed quartzite	281.28
US Bank, May	307.25
Scheels, game camera	244.96
QuickBooks, backup	4.95
USPS, postage	24.81
Avanquest Software, WebEasy 7 upgrade	32.53
US Postmaster, box rent	76.00
Bomgaars, trimmer & shovels	195.95
MidAmerican Energy, May	1597.78
Lowell Anderson, reim. Cell ph.	120.00
Patricia Washburn, expenses, 2nd Qtr	217.43
EFTPS, Fed, Med, SS	2524.60
IPERS	889.27
Aflac, employee contrib	91.50
State of Iowa, withholding	1080.00
Ed M Feld, center punch	14.00
JP Cooke Co, pet license books	28.19
Sign Pro, decals, lagoon signs	340.00
Utility Equip. Co., supplies	137.77

SIGNED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jeff Nitzschke, Mayor

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