

## Lawton City Council Minutes

**February 7, 2006**

The Lawton City Council met in Regular session on Tuesday, February 7, 2006, at Lawton City Hall. Council members answering roll: Don Grigg, Rick Schorg, Tony Bengford, Terry Masching, and Perry Ludwig.

Building permit application had been approved for Larry Aakhus/Steve Sabasta, 127 West Creek Dr., dwelling. Building permit application was presented and approved for Jamie L Amick, 311 Cedar Street, restaurant / lounge. Council gave approval for Amick to store building materials on empty city lot behind Fire Station. Council also gave approval for Amick to use same site for overflow parking unless current use changes. City will finish curb, gutter and parking stall striping as progress warrants.

Chad Sitzmann, owner of property at 120 W Birch, discussed drainage problems with Council since neighboring property owner moved dirt causing water to flow on Sitzmann's property. Mayor will talk to neighboring property owner.

Neal Kuehl of Kuehl & Payer was present to discuss water treatment plant updates. The "water salesman" to be installed will swivel to side rather than lift up as originally discussed. Regarding Change Order # 1, Item #23, Hydronic Piping insulation was shown on mechanical details, however was not shown in general details nor was it specified. Engineer and Contractor take responsibility for error. Regarding Item #24, concrete pad originally bid would have been adequate. However, since city will receive benefit from additional strength in thicker insulation, Schorg moved to split cost of these two items equally between the City, the Engineer and the Contractor. Also on Change Order was an additional allowance for Royal Building System products for \$412.82. City will pay 100% of that item. Motion was seconded by Ludwig, carried on roll 5-0. Total cost to City for Change Order #1 will not exceed \$1,213.49. Gas pipe will enter building on south side. It will be installed in attic as originally planned.

Council approved payment of Christiansen Construction Pay Request # 4 in the amount of \$44,464.78. Motion made by Grigg, seconded by Masching. Carried on roll 5-0.

Clerk reported Scott Ourth, Assistant Secretary of State for Operations had been to Friendship Center recently to view improvements made for poll location. His comment was that the improvements were "state of the art". Clerk also reported receiving \$2,500 grant from State to assist in costs of making improvements.

City has received \$4,500 grant from Office of Homeland Security to reimburse city for amount paid to SIMPCO for work on Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan in 2005.

At this time, Council opted not to act on request for donation to Lawton-Bronson "After the Bell Program".

Recurrence of billing will be handled when ordinances are updated. No other action was taken.

Councilman Bengford left the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

General discussion was held regarding water rates and possible changes. Councilman Schorg moved to direct Attorney Metcalf to prepare Ordinances for the council's consideration to amend the current water rates and Solid Waste collection fees to reflect anticipated increase in such charges. Grigg seconded motion. On roll, motion carried 4-0, Bengford absent.

Woodbury County Area Solid Waste Agency plans to close their landfill in October, 2006. Notice was received that rates have risen dramatically. Tipping fees increased from \$28/ton to \$36.50/ton. The landfill assessment is based on a per capita basis and has more than doubled. This year that cost was \$9.50 per capita. It will be \$19.50 beginning with July 1, 2006. Lawton has been working with \$33,000 budget annually, but will probably be working with \$50,000 budget beginning July 1, 2006. Council will reconsider Solid Waste collection fees. As current garbage contract expires in February, Clerk will contact hauler for accurate update from him.

City Maintenance Lowell Anderson reported tree trimming is nearly done in the city. Property owners have until February 13 to trim trees. At that time the city will trim and bill accordingly.

Council chose not to order any replacement light pole Christmas decorations at this time.

Council also chose not to change water meters to touch-pad style at current time.

Jerry Steffen, with Steffen Engineering, requested Council accept sanitary sewer lift station in West Creek Development. Several items need to be address by the contractor prior to Council acceptance. Anderson will contact Western Iowa Telephone regarding telephone connection to lift station. Easement access agreements were also discussed and will be drawn up.

A Thank-You letter was read from City of Merville for the donation to their Community Center. Council approved paying IIMC dues of \$100 for Clerk Washburn's membership. Clerk gave brief account of Technology Committee meeting she attended in Des Moines on February 2, 2006.

Clerk presented budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2007. Council made minor changes. Ludwig moved to approve budget with requested changes, and to set date for Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 7, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. Public Hearing will be held at City Hall. Masching seconded motion. Carried on roll 4-0.

Council reminded of Fire Budget meeting with township trustees on Wednesday, February 8, 7:00 pm.

After hearing Attorney Metcalf's report on nuisance issue at 215 E Oak St, Councilman Grigg moved to adopt **Resolution 2006-05 REGARDING ASSESSMENT FOR NUISANCE ABATEMENT**. Briefly this resolution states that Council has seen photos and acknowledges the hazardous condition of this property and resolves to proceed with actions necessary to abate such nuisance including authorizing the City Attorney to seek an administrative search warrant as may be necessary for access to the aforementioned property. Resolution 2006-05 is available for inspection in its entirety at City Hall. Ludwig seconded motion. Carried on roll 4-0.

The Consent Agenda consisted of Minutes from January 3, 2006, disbursements of \$38,997.49, January 3, 2006 financial statements and the Liquor License renewal for Lawton Pronto Market. Motion to approve Consent Agenda as presented was made by Masching, seconded by Schorg. Motion carried on roll call vote 4-0.

With no further business to come before the meeting, motion by Schorg, seconded by Ludwig to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. Carried 4-0.

**REVENUES BY FUND**

**DISBURSEMENTS BY FUND**

Interest Earned	4,453.73		
General	6,565.43	General	7,756.00
Local Option Sales Tax	5,714.63	Local Option Sales Tax	0.00
Road Use Tax	4,320.50	Road Use Tax	3,142.04
Water	15,188.20	Water	24,501.13
Sewer	7,819.14	Sewer	3,046.15
Garbage	7,271.36	Garbage	0.00
Special Assessment	146.95	Special Assessment	0.00
Fire Revenue	11932.00	Fire Disbursements	552.17
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>63,411.94</b>	<b>JANUARY DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>38,997.49</b>

**WARRANTS APPROVED**

Hwy. 20 Association, membership	100.00
ACEOPS, membership	35.00
American Family Ins., Health ins 1st Qtr.	680.50
Christiansen Const., 3rd pay request	21282.70
SIMPCO, Pre-Disaster Plan	4500.00
Western Iowa Telephone	217.23
Lowell Anderson, salary	478.16
Lawton Pronto, fuel	392.12
Merville Community Center Fund, donation	500.00
Sgt. Bluff FD, training	25.00
US Postmaster, box rent	70.00
Lowell Anderson, salary	478.15
Colonial Research, Dissolve	134.00
Hydro Metering Tech., 6 water meters	444.06
Iowa One Call, locates	16.50
MidAmerican Energy, December	2053.08
Merville Record, publication, newsletters	531.52
Sioux City Iron Co., bolts	25.78
Suburban Supply, labor & equipment	1054.79
US Bank, December	416.80

US Postal Service, stamps	56.12
Staples, office supplies	150.50
QuickBooks Payroll, 2006	199.00
Menards, shop supplies	11.18
Utility Equip. Co., ½ ship on return. Merch.	49.12
Lowell Anderson, salary	478.16
Jack Howard, wages	156.21
ACCO Unlimited, supplies	294.42
ACS Firehouse Solutions, software support	300.00
ATCO International, Friendship Cent. Supplies	61.00
Flewelling Sand & Gravel, icing sand	92.40
Sioux City Foundry, blades	300.49
Siouxland Dist. Health, lab fee	10.00
Tegra Corp, road salt	89.65
USEMCO, filters	67.60
Ziegler Cat, bulb	18.62
Lowell Anderson, salary	478.15
Jack Howard, wages	191.32
Patricia Washburn, salary	1240.75
IPERS, payroll liabilities	451.77
EFTPS, payroll liabilities	1282.44

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

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