

Lawton City Council Minutes

Special Meeting December 7, 2006

The Lawton City Council met in Special session on Thursday, December 7, 2006, at the Friendship Center in Lawton. Council members answering roll: Perry Ludwig, Rick Schorg, Tony Bengford, Terry Masching and Don Grigg. Also in attendance were Clerk Patricia Washburn, Deb Furlich, Doug Furlich, Jeanine Chartier, Dale Peterson, Tim Peters, Jeff Mize, Tonya Zielich, Susan Logsdon, Jayne Woolridge, Bryan Mesz, Don Ronfeldt, Dan Thompson, Kevin Grieme, Becky Clark and Troy Fluent. Mayor Jeff Nitzschke called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Guests were welcomed. Mayor announced purpose of meeting was to discover constraints the L-B District Planning Committee felt were prohibitive in recommending the erection of a new elementary facility in Lawton.

Tonya Zielich stated intent of committee was not to offend anyone by not contacting Councils of both towns earlier. Committee is meeting with Bronson Council Friday. Zielich also stated main reason for recommendation of Bronson was land size seemed more suitable.

Mayor questioned if vacating portion of 300 block of Birch Street to include practice field would be enough to make a difference. Considering meetings, Public Hearings and other legalities, vacating of street would take about two months.

Councilman Masching asked how many square feet were needed. Zielich responded they need 57,000 square feet without gym. Don Ronfeldt stated architect feels gym in Bronson is okay.

Regarding reasons to build school in Lawton, Council stated majority of population was in or near Lawton, Lawton is centrally located in district therefore causing less busing time.

Tim Peters stated school property located on Elm between Birch and Maple would be ideal for Middle School.

Council questioned area of ball fields if ball fields could be moved. Zielich stated that option is being investigated. Councilman Masching asked if Dale Petersen had been contacted regarding property within Lawton corporate limits. Susan Logsdon stated he had.

Zielich stated old gym could be kept for practices if new gym were built since more practice area is always in need. Architect told committee it would be a waste to tear down old gym.

Zielich also stated she has called a "Town Hall" meeting for Thursday, Dec. 14th, to be held in the Bronson elementary gym at 7:00 pm. The public is invited. Zielich then asked what Lawton Council would do to "sweeten the pot" for the committee to reconsider locating the new elementary building in Lawton. Mayor stated that would be a decision for Council if approached by School Board.

Councilman Grigg congratulated the committee on all the hard work they had done thus far.

With no further business to come before the meeting, Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

SIGNED BY: _____
Jeff Nitzschke, Mayor

ATTESTED BY: _____
Patricia L Washburn, City Clerk