

Lawton City Council Minutes

May 1, 2007

The Lawton City Council met in Regular session on Tuesday, May 1, 2007, at Lawton City Hall. Meeting was delayed for lack of quorum. Meeting called to order at 5:10 pm by Mayor Jeff Nitzschke. Council members answering roll: Terry Masching, Tony Bengford and Don Grigg. Perry Ludwig arrived later. Rick Schorg was absent. Others attending included City Clerk Patricia Washburn, City Maintenance Lowell Anderson, Attorney Glenn Metcalf, Ken Eyres, Tonya Zielich, Machele Dunning, Craig Meyer, Todd Roerig, Jerry Steffen, Dale Peterson, Chris Aakhus, Kent Baker and Spence Griffith.

Mayor Nitzschke welcomed guests.

Public Hearing was opened to hear comments on proposed budget amendment for current fiscal year. With no written or oral comments to come before the Public Hearing, motion by Grigg, second by Masching to close Public Hearing. Motion carried on roll 3-0.

Tonya Zielich, representing school district Planning Committee, discussed with Council possibility of joint merger between city of Lawton, city of Bronson and Lawton-Bronson school district in order to create brochure to give realtors for people interested in coming into our school. Clerk Washburn volunteered to represent City of Lawton. Masching moved to have Washburn represent city. Motion seconded by Grigg. Motion carried 3-0. Council asked Zielich to inform city of costs involved before making commitment.

Ken Eyres, representing Fire Department, submitted request to replace overhead door on stall where grass rig is parked. Door was damaged during March blizzard by Fire Department personnel. Overhead Door gave quote of \$1,339.00 to replace door with commercial grade door, opener and emergency release. Quote also includes two windows and outside keypad. Council will take under advisement and will discuss at June meeting.

Craig Meyer spoke to city regarding possible retaining wall on south end of his property at 103 W. Birch St. Meyer stated city would gain 2-3' of additional street. Mayor reminded Meyer by widening street, snow would be pushed closer to garage during removal. Council will take under advisement and will look at situation prior to June meeting. No decision made at this time.

No action taken on amending Char-Mac TIF district.

No action taken regarding Char-Mac expansion project.

Playground equipment committee did not meet in April. Will meet in May and give recommendation at June meeting.

Parking permit application was reviewed. Grigg moved to accept application as presented with minor change of adding word "date" under each blank space where specific dates were being requested. Masching seconded motion. Motion carried on roll 3-0.

Clerk reported she had attended Iowa Municipal Finance Officers Association meeting April 18-20. Clerk will be attending pre-2010 Census meeting May 3. On April 24 Woodbury County was added to the Presidential Emergency Declaration for Iowa counties as result of record and near-record snowfall during period of February 28-March 2, 2007. Clerk attended kick-off meeting explaining help available. Clerk and Public Works Director will meet with FEMA representatives May 4 to make report for city. Clerk stated need to document volunteer workers, hours and equipment.

DOT has informed city of Small Town Sign Replacement Program. Signs available include STOP, YIELD, DO NOT ENTER and STOP AHEAD signs. Posts are also available. This program is for replacement signs only. Public Works Director will do further research.

Public Works Director Anderson stated Cory Loreth, 105 Cedar St, has donated two 5' pine trees to the city. City has moved both trees to area near water filtration plant. Anderson also stated he has contacted someone to relocate two additional trees by water plant.

Councilman Ludwig arrived at 5:50 p.m.

Anderson located culvert for \$580 to be used on north end of Cedar Street. Regarding streets, Anderson asked about overlaying Birch Street. Mayor interjected he and Anderson had toured city regarding street issues. He suggested fixing intersections and bad areas at this time. Council agreed.

Anderson reported he had tried to get other bids to finish Cedar Street. Contractors stated they didn't want to inherit drainage problems that exist from prior work. Spencer Griffith was present and said he would finish Cedar Street at cost quoted several months ago. Grigg stated quote was \$17,285. Griffith also said he would fix low spots on Cedar Street. When asked for start date, Griffith said he would start work next week. Clerk asked Griffith to bring hard copy of estimate to City Hall.

Regarding additional summer help, Anderson stated he would only need part time help. Most of the spring patching will already be done by the time school is out.

Mayor Nitzschke appointed Councilman Masching to serve as the Lawton City Council representative on School Core Steering Committee.

Mayor has spoken to different residents regarding parking violations. Violations will be photographed and turned over to Attorney. Municipal Infractions will be issued at that time.

Attorney reported on fire protection agreement. Attorney amended agreement Council had approved recently and forwarded agreement to Chuck Corbett according to discussion at April 19 meeting with township trustees. Agreement was written to include City, Banner township and Concord township. Verbal discussion with Corbett today, May 1, resulted in Corbett stating trustees had concerns with ownership of equipment.

Councilman Bengford reported on fire advisory committee meeting held prior to Council meeting tonight. It appears regression has occurred since April 19 meeting. Discussion was held regarding budget excess. Bengford stated he informed fire advisory committee members reports are sent to township clerks on regular basis. Clerk interjected reports are sent quarterly. Bengford also reminded committee members complaints are not to be directed to City Clerk, but rather to himself or to Council. Another meeting of this committee will be held May 8. In order to assist Bengford in serving on this committee, Council instructed Clerk to send reports to township clerks and members of advisory committee.

Engineer Steffen commented that Maple Street reconstruction may be pushed back to August. Attorney Metcalf suggested Council wait to overlay Birch Street until after reconstruction is completed on Maple Street. Excessive traffic will be carried on Birch during reconstruction phase of Maple.

Chris Aakhus asked Council if city would assist with curbing on two new houses on Elm. Motion made by Ludwig, seconded by Grigg that City will mark asphalt, Aakhus will cut and remove, City will haul away, City will form curbs, Aakhus will provide concrete and two laborers to help finish concrete to include curbs in front of two houses on west side of 400 block of Elm street from Main Street north to driveway at 415 Elm. Motion carried 4-0 on roll.

Consent Agenda consisted of minutes from April 3 and April 19, 2007, disbursements of \$11,588.66 and financial statements for April, 2007. Motion to approve Consent Agenda was made by Grigg, seconded by Masching. Motion carried on roll 5-0.

Clerk Informed Council letter has been sent to First Trust & Savings Bank notifying them of plans to call outstanding General Obligation Bonds totaling \$75,000 on June 1, 2007.

Concerning modification to **City Ordinance Code 6-9** providing for extraterritorial review of subdivisions, Masching made motion to approve second reading of ordinance amendment. Motion seconded by Ludwig. On roll, motion carried 4-0.

Motion to approve amendment of current city budget by passing **Resolution # 2007-10** was made by Grigg, seconded by Bengford. Motion carried on roll, 4-0. Complete text of Resolution #2007-10 is on file at City Hall and will be timely filed with the Woodbury County Auditor.

Grigg reported he had attended NW IA League of Cities meeting on April 26 in Sergeant Bluff. Speaker was Chris McGowan with Siouxland Initiative.

Mayor reminded Council of need to inspect site mentioned by Craig Meyer regarding retaining wall. Council also needs to inspect garage door on stall where grass rig is parked. Both will be discussed at June Council meeting.

With no further business to come before the meeting, meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

REVENUES BY FUND

DISBURSEMENTS BY FUND

Interest Earned	7,210.55	General	1,897.39
General	34,803.21	Local Option Sales Tax	0.00
Local Option Sales Tax	5,744.46	Road Use Tax	3,247.37
Road Use Tax	4,178.56	Water	2,673.65
Water	10,578.89	Sewer	2,388.80
Sewer	3,203.07	Garbage	0.00
Garbage	4,506.82	Fire Disbursements	1,381.45
Fire Revenue	95.00		
TOTAL REVENUE	70,320.56	APRIL DISBURSEMENTS	11,588.66

WARRANTS APPROVED

American Fam., insurance	719.50
Lowell Anderson, salary	494.31
Jack Howard, wages	195.06
Bekins Fire, recharge extinguisher	34.00

IA State Univ., 7 Firefighter II testings	350.00
Joe's Dept. Store, 50' cross chain	210.00
Lawton Pronto, fuel	282.25
Moville True Value, batteries, paper towels, snaps	72.76
Lowell Anderson, salary	494.32
Jack Howard, wages	198.49
Ed M Feld, helmets, straps, misc	614.00
Iowa One Call, locates	20.90
MidAmerican Energy, March	1762.94
S&S Equipment, ½ tractor repair	352.12
US Bank: WalMart, batteries	13.44
Western IA Tele., March	281.71
Marx Truck Sales, hydro. Fluid	9.16
Lowell Anderson, salary	494.31
Jack Howard, wages	180.33
Aflac, employee contribution	91.50
EFTPS, Fed, Med., SS payment	1628.62
IPERS, contribution	593.60
Lowell Anderson, salary	494.31
Jack Howard, wages	292.15
Patricia Washburn, salary	1708.88

SIGNED BY: _____
Jeff Nitzschke, Mayor

ATTESTED BY: _____
Patricia L Washburn, City Clerk