

Lawton City Council Minutes

April 1, 2008

The Lawton City Council met in Regular session on Tuesday, April 1, 2008, at the Lawton City Hall. Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm by Mayor Jeff Nitzschke. Council members answering roll: Tony Bengford, Don Grigg and Perry Ludwig. Rick Schorg arrived at 5:07. Terry Masching arrived at 5:30. Others attending included City Clerk Patricia Washburn, Public Works Director Lowell Anderson, City Attorney Glenn Metcalf, Engineer Jerry Steffen, Deputy West, Eric Polkinghorn and Kent Baker.

Mayor Nitzschke welcomed guests. During work session, Council discussed girls' state basketball sign still up on highway next to city sign. Clerk will notify Councilman Masching it needs to be removed.

Deputy West with Woodbury County Sheriff's office addressed gang violence concerns with Council. He explained warning signs and ease of recruiting.

Citizen was not present to discuss building permit variance. No discussion.

Attorney Metcalf had been in contact with owner of dogs causing barking concerns in neighborhood near Pronto. Feedback from neighbors was positive with changes.

Eric Polkinghorn, owner of apartment building at 204 E Oak St, would like to enlarge parking area. Of concern is possible replacement of current 24" plastic culvert if weight of vehicles should cause it to collapse. Attorney will check into legal issues. Matter tabled at this time.

PW Director Anderson showed Council map of city with highlighted areas showing portions of streets needing to be repaired. Area by Pronto was discussed as possibly being County concern.

Councilman Masching arrived at 5:30.

Council directed Anderson to get bids from contractors for street repairs.

Pre-construction meeting will be held Thursday, 9:00 a.m., regarding the 2008 Paving Improvements Project. Agenda will be posted. Work is expected to begin right away. Pole and fence on Ash will need to be moved prior to construction. Steffen will mark City ROW. Also property owner of Lot 10, Block 9 needs to get before and after appraisals on his property in order to get mortgage released so purchase transaction can be completed with City. Mayor will explain issue with property owner. Dirt will be removed from alley west of West Cedar Court for use on box culverts.

Specs for new city truck will be sent out this month and discussed in May.

Bengford checked on lighting for basketball court on east edge of school property where old high school was located. Cost to operate lighting would be minimal, but Council feels court would get used if lighted. Mayor will discuss with school officials. Bengford exited meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Clerk presented Council with RFP draft for garbage consisting of three documents. After brief discussion, Attorney recommended all three documents be sent to bidders. Clerk will send to several garbage haulers for consideration.

Clerk reported average water usage for first quarter of 2008 was 13,126 gallons, or 4,375 gallons per month. Council will consider this usage when contemplating possible sewer rate changes in future. No other decisions at this time.

Council directed Anderson to order supplies needed to finish West Creek water construction. Anderson also got affirmative nod from Council regarding use of lot at east end of Maple Street as staging area for construction crews working on Tara Way and Birch Street.

Attorney stated ordinance does not allow for self-read meters. As two are in existence, Council recommended replacing meters and installing outside readers during annual verifications.

Clerk notified Council Budget Amendment for FY 2008 would likely be needed. Public Hearing will be held May 6, 2008.

Resident contacted Council regarding visiting motor home being parked on city street for 24-48 hours. Ordinance states up to 36 hours in five-day period without permit being needed.

Clerk reported notice was sent to MidAmerican Energy regarding reimbursement for expenses due to water main break early March. Representative indicated reimbursement would be sent shortly.

Councilman Grigg will take care of Western Iowa ballot.

City Hall will be closed during IMFOA April 16-18.

Building permits were approved for 320 Cedar, deck, and 305 E Main St, deck and adjustment of roof line. Permit for dwelling at 417 E Main St was not approved as presented. Clerk will contact contractor for more details.

Mayor discussed wells transferred to school in 2007. At school's request shut-off has not been completed. Mayor and PW Director will contact school regarding need for completion.

Attorney stated possible need to call special meeting to finalize bond counsel for street projects.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda consisting of minutes of March 4, 2008, March disbursements of \$64,951.36 and financial statements from March 2008 was made by Grigg, seconded by Ludwig. Motion carried on roll 4-0.

Steffen reviewed findings from Dakota Drilling and Automatic System regarding replacement of one pump on new wells. Cost is roughly \$15,000. Neal Kuehl of Kuehl & Payer will be contacted regarding concerns.

With no further business to come before the meeting, Ludwig moved to adjourn, seconded by Grigg. Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

REVENUES BY FUND

DISBURSEMENTS BY FUND

Interest Earned	1,564.98	TIF-West Creek	24,066.30
General	5,001.42	General	13,789.73
Local Option Sales Tax	5,300.81	Local Option Sales Tax	3,320.00
Road Use Tax	5,938.71	Road Use Tax	4,062.59
Water	9,890.31	Water	6,637.18
Sewer	2,973.07	Sewer	3,267.37
Garbage	4,539.11	Garbage	5,918.97
Fire Revenue	600.00	Fire Disbursements	3,889.22
TOTAL REVENUE	35,808.41	MAR. DISBURSEMENTS	64,951.36

WARRANTS APPROVED

Tracy Weinrich, deposit refund	109.42
CW Suter, furnace work Friend. Cent	330.11
ICAP, insurance	12460.00
Lawton Pronto, fuel	656.97
S&S Equipment, chain for tractor	13.42
Siouxland Humane Society, cat	37.00
Steffen Engineering, Ash, Birch, flood map	27363.80
VOID	0.00
IMFOA, Pat Spring Conf. registration	100.00
JP Cooke, pet tags, books	56.13
O'Reilly Automotive, jack, filters	202.46
US Bank	166.87
USPS, postage	122.88
Symantec, Norton AntiVirus	39.99
ACCO, water treatment	640.25
Alignment Pros., align Mack	81.12
Ed M Feld, helmet	145.00
Heiman Fire Equip., 4 pr gloves	229.50
Interstate Battery System, 2 batteries	223.90
Lowe's, staple gun	18.64
Rees Mack Sales, Mack repairs	562.97
Tegra, road salt	117.48
Western IA Telephone, city	204.37
Foulk Bros., water treat. Plant repairs	172.04
MidAmerican Energy, February	2409.89
Metcalf, Thompson & Phipps, legal fees	752.50
Western IA Telephone, Fire Dept	67.48
Woodbury Co. Landfill, 1st Qtr Assessment	3397.87
Aflac, employee contributions	91.50
IA Dept. of Revenue, withholding tax	937.00
IPERS, retirement	673.45
IRS, Fed, Med, SS	1843.02
IA Dept. of Revenue, sales tax	2046.00
ACCO, water treatment	307.26
American Family Ins., Anderson	1033.10
American Legion Post #718, flag	20.00
CHN Garbage	2445.10
Central IA Dist., orange float, brush	113.50
IA Rural Water Ass'n, Anderson training	10.00
Sally McMahan, FD TB testing	42.00
Menard's, pothole patch	70.56

SIGNED BY: _____
 Jeff Nitzschke, Mayor

ATTESTED BY: _____
 Patricia L Washburn, City Clerk