

PROCEEDINGS OF LOWDEN CITY COUNCIL

MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2025 - 5:30PM CITY HALL MEETING ROOM

The meeting of the Lowden City Council was called to order by Mayor Derrick Lange.

Council members present on roll call: Austin Kristof, Nick Lange, Cody Poppe, Gene Hamdorf and Austin Lange.

Visitors: Sue Hall, and Michael Gandy

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Lange had no city or community updates to provide.

No communication from citizens and no follow-up from council members.

M/S Austin Kristof, Nick Lange to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: All.

M/S Austin Kristof, Nick Lange to approve the minutes from February December 3, 2025. Ayes: All.

Building Permit – Trinity Lutheran Church turned in an application for a building permit. They want to put up a new 12x12 Amish building in replacement of the building that has burnt down. They are pouring a cement slab and will place the building on that slab.

Motion was set for the FY26 property tax levy rate public hearing on April 7, 2025, at 5:30pm. M/S Cody Poppe, Austin Kristof approved the date and time. Ayes: All.

Motion was set for the Budget hearing process on April 14, 2025, at 5:30pm. M/S Austin Kristof, Nick Lange approved the date and time. Ayes: All

Joan Sheer was here to discuss the city's insurance renewal coming up April 1<sup>st</sup>. She discussed some new coverages and changes that the insurance company has made to their policies. She is getting a couple of different quote options together for the council to look at and plan for the renewal. The new EMS building was discussed as once the building is completed it will need to be added to our policy. The contents of the fire station will need to be reevaluated as some of those items will now be covered in the new EMS building.

There was discussion on citizens who have not paid an invoice dated 12/13/2024 that was due 01/30/2025 in the amount of \$400.00. There was discussion about having enough time to pay the invoice or reach out if they had questions about payment. The council agreed to put a lien on the property due to the unpaid invoice. M/S Gene Hamdorf, Cody Poppe motioned to put a lien on the property. Ayes: All

The council approved the liquor license renewals for Good Times LLC, Three-Thirty Golf and Country Club, and J&D Enterprises LLC. M/S Austin Lange, Cody Poppe motioned to approve. Ayes: All

The council decided to wait on the discussion of the Sewer Rate Increases per Bond Attorney until the representative could meet with us and discuss things more thoroughly.

The council discussed pulling money out of the Lost Funds account to help pay for the concession stand at the park. The council is going to reach out to the school superintendent in regard to the concession stand-building plan they are looking at completing. Austin discussed how he thought \$40,000 was a lot of money

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for a 25x10 building to be used as a concession stand. Gene is going to reach out and see if he can get better clarification for the council members.

The city clerk brought up a discussion on a donation to the Cedar County Fair that we received in the mail. The council agreed to give a donation of \$100.00. M/S Austin Lange, Austin Kristof approved the donation. Ayes: All

Nick lange discussed the possible action for a mechanical valve exerciser (portable). He mentioned how they are trying to get 3-4 towns together to share the equipment and share the cost. He mentioned having one other town on board for sure but was waiting for the other potential towns to have their council meetings and have a discussion. M/S Austin Lange, Cody Poppe approved the action to join other towns in the purchasing of the equipment. Ayes: All

Mayor Lange took rollcall for the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading and passing of Ordinance # **841 - Customer Guarantee Deposits**. M/S Nick Lange, Cody Poppe motioned. Ayes: All

Mayor Lange asked if anyone had any questions about the cash report, function report and utility billing report that the City Clerk provided to the council.

Public Works Director Steinke reported on his meeting he had with L&L Pelling in regard to fixing roads in town. Steinke also mentioned having a meeting tomorrow morning at 8:30 with the IDNR in regard to the city resolving the issue on the Manganese in the water. We have additional testing, and the city signed up for the initial free PFAS testing.

Mayor Lange reported 7 rescue calls and 2 fire calls.

Ann Harms was present to give the council the library report to review. Harms made mention about having interviews for the library assistant. Once the library board has interviews, she will get with Mayor Lange and the City Clerk. Harms reported that the puzzle fundraiser they did over the weekend was a lot of fun and they are planning on doing another one come fall.

Nuisances: None.

M/S Austin Lange, Austin Kristof to adjourn meeting at 6:45 p.m. Ayes: All.

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Mayor, Derrick Lange

Attest:

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Heather Conrad, City Clerk