

PROCEEDINGS OF LOWDEN CITY COUNCIL

MONDAY, MARCH 2ND, 2026 - 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: Alan Carlson, Austin Lange, Gene Hamdorf, Kasey Sander, Nick Lange.

Visitors: Sue Hall, August Harms, Ann Harms, Nick Wichtoski

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

M/S N. Lange, A. Carlson - Approved the agenda and consent agenda as presented and/or as amended. As well as approving the council bills. Ayes: All.

M/S K. Sander, A. Carlson - Setting the FY27 property tax levy rate public hearing on March 23rd, 2026, at 5:30pm. Ayes: All.

A discussion was held regarding a pay increase for public works employee Nick Wichtoski as he has completed his Grade II licensing. There was also discussion held regarding the classes/courses the city clerk is taking to receive her Clerk Certification.

A discussion was held regarding employee health insurance increase. Council agreed for the increase to go into the employee benefit tax levy for FY27.

A discussion was held regarding the split pay for the city clerk. It was decided to leave it as it is.

M/S A. Lange, A. Carlson - Approved Resolution #2026-06 assigning transfer or funds. Ayes: All.

M/S A. Lange, K. Sander - Approved Resolution #2026-07 scholarship for the 2026 summer session of the municipal professional's institute. Ayes: All.

A discussion was held regarding the city's attorney. The current city attorney is branching off to their own firm effective May 1st.

A discussion was held regarding the email received from Flock Safety/Cedar County Sheriff's office. The council agreed that they believe the company needs to talk to the Iowa DOT as the ground is there's and not city property.

The City Clerk discussed the option of attending the Clerk Conference in April as well as the IMFOA Spring Conference. While both conferences provide valuable information, the Clerk Conference appears to offer content that would be more beneficial at this time. The Clerk will look into attending the IMFOA Fall Conference later in the year.

The City Clerk also applied for the Cedar County Grant. Notification on whether the grant will be awarded is expected in early May.

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Public Works Director Nick Wichotoski reported that Needham Excavating experienced a backup and encountered a couple of issues, but they were able to address them and continue working on the project. The water main was located within the sewer line, which required the water to be crimped off. Discussions are currently underway to determine how to restore water service to the properties located west of the road.

Nick also reported on the trial of weekly recycling pickup compared to the previous every-other-week schedule.

A library report was emailed to the city clerk, and each council member received a copy when they got to the meeting.

Mayor Lange reported Fire Department had 5 calls while EMS/Rescue Department had 6 calls.

M/S A. Lange, K. Sander to adjourn meeting at 6:18 pm. Ayes: All.

Attest:

Heather Conrad, City Clerk

Derrick Lange, Mayor