

Mayor Chris Chilson called the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Lime Springs to order in the Community Center on February 2, 2021, at 7:00 pm.

Member(s) present: Kris Kraft, Jennifer DeVries, Jen Smith, Kristy McNamara, Amy Norton

Member(s) absent:

Visitor(s): Marcie Klomp (TPD), Jill Tibbals, Brian Johnson, Jerry White, Becky Pahl, Eddie Miller, Janet DeVries, Don Lyons, Holly Andersen

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Open Forum: No Comments.

Agenda, Approval of Bills and Financial report: Kraft made a motion to approve agenda, bills and financial report. Norton 2nd. All present voted Aye.

Previous Minutes: McNamara objected to the previous minutes. She stated that even tho she agreed that Council had approved for Tyler Smith to spend \$ 150 dollars for paint for the City Maintenance Director's office, it had yet to be determined if this space was the City Maintenance Director's office as it had been tabled at previous Council meetings. She then went on to say that she had contacted 12 cities with populations similar in size to Lime Springs also in Iowa to ask them what their Public Works Director used for space. McNamara named Arcadia, Plainfield, Stockport, Salem, Norway, Burt, Gillman, Latimer, Ashton, Orient, and Dell City as her cities called. Populations ranged from 284 to 518. These cities' Public Works office space ranged from benches and desks in truck sheds, sewer plants, watersheds with 2 to 5 hours a month using said space. McNamara then justified space usage by comparing Library Director Janet DeVries needs to Public Works needs. McNamara then stated she contacted 10 cities with populations 455 to 500 and only 5 of those cities even had libraries. And each of those 5 librarians had their own space. She did not list city names that had libraries. McNamara then handed out papers to each of the council members and stated that "tonight it was going to be decided, if we are going to get the office space and expansion." McNamara went on to quote Eddie Miller as the land adjacent to library was no longer an option as "unstable to be built on." The paper handouts stated city maintenance has other options, but the library does not. Public works only need 1 hour week for office space, library averaged 24 hours a week. She then listed options for Maintenance as above in the Fire Dept, put cubicle in room adjacent to City Clerk's office, desk in truck shed or in Community Center. McNamara then stated that she had measured and remeasured for the area in the current garage, for a library board room, which is now "wasted space". She mentioned the items in there as the lawn sweeper, which she felt could be stored outside, the lawn mowers and that there is 4 feet in front of the tractor space not being used. She said she was only presenting this for the library and went on to state "who needs it worse, library or public works?" and the library's only option for expansion is the current public works garage and she felt there were other options for Public Works. When asked "what about Sweet Corn Days" since the space she was talking about for the library board room is the space directly behind the south garage door that opens unto Main Street. McNamara answered that Sweet Corn Days was only 1 time a year and that library had need for space all year long and SC Days activities could be moved to the Community Center. It was just a matter of organizing and maybe moving some of the items outside. The board room would be used for the library's extra activities. Kids' activities, cake decorating, movies, private meetings, AA, tutoring, Silent Auction, Bingo, Game night, and classes were some of the needs that this library board room could be used. Dr Lyons said that the library is a worthy cause, and that LS was lucky to have a library in a town for this size. Eddie Miller said that the library had outgrown its current space. Tyler and Jane have already moved the old documents and maps to City Clerk's office to be sorted. Eddie Miller clarified there would still be access to the basement. Brian Johnson listed another option of a portable building as Public Works added storage. Council Kraft asked what about other entities need for board room and Jill Tibbals stated that Pool & Park normally met at the Community Center or else in one of the parks for their meetings. Jill Tibbals went on to state that Pool & Park is hoping to buy a new lawn mower to replace one of the current ones and it may be bigger than the current ones for space. Council Norton asked how the library was going to pay for the expansion proposed. Eddie Miller assured that "this expansion would not cost the city a dime and

they would get grants and donations for their changes.” Eddie Miller stated that the library was asking for council help and that the library was going to expand one way or another. He went on to add that the library had the funds right now to expand. When Council Smith asked what if Council did not approve the space what was library’s plan? Eddie Miller stated that he would disclose that at another time. McNamara made a motion “the Lime Springs Library acquire the 11 X 14 space referred to as the office, this taking affect February 15, 2021. Also, the 24 by 15 ½ space located in the city garage to take affect March 1, 2021, for the purpose of the Library Expansion Project. This acquisition will be in writing and will be effect until Library deems is no further needed.” DeVries 2nd the motion. Norton voted Yes, Kraft voted No, McNamara voted Yes, DeVries voted Yes, Smith abstained. Mayor Chilson stated motion passes. After library motion was passed. Mayor Chilson asked for Previous Minutes to be amended to strike out the “His office space” and a motion to approve the amended minutes. Kraft made motion to approve the amended minutes with McNamara 2nd. All present voted Aye.

Department Heads:

Fire Dept. Report: Fire Chief Nate Schwickerath was not present to report

Library Report: Becky Pahl presented the library report. 309 patrons used the library for November and 328 in December. Library is applying for grants. February is Library Lover’s Month. Becky listed the activities planned for February.

Park/Pool: Jill Tibbals presented budget turned in, applied for grants. The 15 signs came in for Nicotine Free to be placed in the parks and pool area. Next meeting to be held in March to talk about hiring of guards for the pool.

Public Works Director Report: Tyler Smith reported there was a water main break on Forrest Street and Mehmerts came on Saturday to assist. Tyler mentioned he had a noise complaint from citizen complaining about his neighbor running power tools late at night. He gave copy of ordinance out. When Council asked about dump truck replacement, he had not found any suitable replacement yet. He had the tractor serviced. Mayor Chilson asked if leasing vehicles could be an option. Jane reported expenses for current plow truck, purchased in 2015 for \$ 18,000. Repairs cost \$ 5900 for last 2 years. Repair expenses for the city truck is \$ 6300 for last 2 years and lawn mowers is \$ 900. The dump truck currently does not start. It was suggested that Tyler get quotes to get dump truck fixed. Council Norton asked if the Yard Waste Fee could be used to cover these expenses.

Insurance Coverage- City Buildings and Contents: CIA was renewing the insurance and asked if the values needed to be updated. Jane & Tyler will inventory and ask assistance of the needed entities to help place value on the city buildings and contents. These will be reported at a future council meeting.

Tienter Property Update: no change at this time. Bill for fence has not been presented yet.

Merrill Street Bridge: The Bolton & Menk Work Order has been sent and weather is a factor for their surveying it.

Commission Appointments for 2021: Finance is Jennifer D & Jennifer S; Water-Sewer-Waste is Kris M & Jen S; Civil Defense is Kris K & Amy; City Employees Safety: Kris M, Kris K & Nathan S; Tree Committee is Jennifer D & Jen S; Building Approval is changed to Public Works Director Tyler; Mayor Pro Tem is Amy; Health is Regional Health Lime Springs Clinic.

Utility Building Charges regarding finance charges: after a short discussion, Smith made a motion to change the ordinance to start charging Finance charges on the 25th instead of the 12th, leaving the due date the same as the 12th. Norton 2nd. All present voted Aye. Ordinance will be re-written and presented at next council meeting.

Budget: Council set workshop meeting for February 9th at 6:30 pm to work on City Budget. The Budget Workshop meeting will be in the Fire Station.

Public Hearing: Kraft made a motion to close the regular meeting to open up the Public Hearing for Max Levy. McNamara 2nd. All present voted Aye. The Resolution 020222021-1 was read for the proposed FY22 maximum property tax to not exceed \$ 174,389.00. After a short discussion,

McNamara made a motion to close the public hearing and re-open the regular meeting. DeVries 2nd. All present voted Aye. Regular meeting reopened. Kraft made a motion to accept the Max Levy, McNamara 2nd. All present voted Aye. Maximum Levy approved to not exceed \$ 174,389.00. Kraft made a motion for Council to go into closed session. Norton 2nd. All voted Aye to go into closed session at 8:25 pm. Motion made to come out of closed session by Kraft at 9:10 pm to adjourn. Smith 2nd. All voted Aye to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 pm.



Chris Chilson, Mayor



Jane Tibbals, City Clerk