

Mayor Chris Chilson called the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Lime Springs to order in the Community Center on June 1, 2021, at 7:00 pm.

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

Member(s) absent: none

City Employees: Tyler Smith (Public Works), Jane Tibbals (City Clerk)

Visitor(s): Marcie Klomp (TPD), Jill Tibbals, Brian Johnson, Eddie Miller, Richard Cottrell, Ed Greiman, Nate Schwickerath, Sharla Leider, Holly Andersen, Heather Knutson, Pat Lepa, Geri Burnikel, Janet DeVries

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Open Forum: Richard Cottrell asked the City Council to consider a “Soft Close” if the land, that is now School Park, when taking bids. Cottrell explained that a soft close is when the top 3 bidders can raise their bids amongst themselves. Mayor Chilson answered that Council will consider.

Agenda, Previous Month’s Minutes, Approval of Bills, and Financial report: Kraft made a motion to approve agenda, previous month’s minutes from May 4 and from May 18 meetings, bills and financial report. McNamara 2nd. All 5 voted yes. The agenda, previous month’s minutes, bills & finance reports were approved.

Department Heads:

Fire Dept. Report: Fire Chief Nate Schwickerath reported 2 mutual aid fire calls recently – 1 in Cresco, 1 in Chester and Lime Springs responded to a small grass fire outside of Lime Springs. Schwickerath reported on fundraisers. Golf Tournament on June 14. LS Fire Dept is trying a drive thru breakfast for Father’s Day this year with a shorter menu. Directing folks thru the East Doors. The Fireman are planning the Sweet Corn Day Sunday Breakfast to be with a full menu and sit down in the Community Center, just like pre COVID days. The Fireman’s Auxiliary is hosting an ATV ride during Sweet Corn Days as their fundraiser. Schwickerath reminded us the tractor pull, normally planned for Sweet Corn Days has been moved to the Saturday prior – which is August 7th. Last week the LS Fire Dept participated in burn training with burning down a house. Schwickerath presented a new application for fireman with name of James Wendel. James will be unique that he is currently a member of Chester’s Fire Dept and is planning on being active on both LS & Chester’s Fire Departments. Schwickerath reported when a fireman is active in more than one city, the liability factor is determined by whose gear the fireman has on. Mayor Chilson questioned Wendel’s answer to one of the questions on the application. The question was “are there any medical reasons that would prevent you from performing the duties of a Firefighter?” Schwickerath answered that it appears that James marked the wrong box but will follow up with James for clarification. DeVries made a motion to accept James Wendel as a firefighter with the Lime Springs Fire Dept., with the medical question changed to negative answer. Norton 2nd. All 5 voted yes. James Wendel approved for Lime Springs Fire Dept Firefighter.

Library Report: Library Director Janet DeVries presented the library report. The Howard County Supervisors toured the LS Library April 26. 15 people attended “Remembering the Apron” program presented by Sheila Craig on April 24. The library honored the area graduates with a picture display, and they had 5 participants. The library gave out free books for National Children’s Book Week. The Community Art show featured 39 artists with 95 displays, which is a good turnout considering not able to do this last year. AA meetings has a new program that met May 22. New program is 12 Step Study with 7 participants. The LS Library is excited to present this year’s summer reading program “Reading Colors Your World” starting June 2. Please sign up your children for participation. Games, snacks and prizes offered all at no charge for the program.

Community Board: no report presented.

Park/Pool: Jill Tibbals reported the guards and the board have been busy getting the pool ready with scheduled opening on June 5th. Open House at the LS Pool is scheduled for Sunday June 13 from 1 to 3 pm. The Pool & Park Board is meeting at the pool on June 2nd for their next meeting. The first late

night swim is scheduled for June 19 from 9 pm to midnight. There is an additional \$ 5.00 charge for this swim. Pool Passes are available still for \$ 110 & \$ 55 thru first opening day of June 5th. Then the prices increase to \$ 125 & \$ 65.

Public Works Director Report: Tyler Smith reported he has been working at the pool, assisting with plumbing the chemical controller. The controller not working as it should and have calls in for assistance. Tyler chemically shocked the pool Tuesday. He presented 2 building permits – Upper Iowa Beef addition and Jesse Brennon’s porch addition. Mehmerts bid for valve replacement on Forest Street presented at just under \$ 3500. Tyler noted there is fence on both sides of the City’s scrap pile located back of Wanda Knutson’s and this space could be enclosed with adding a simple gate and then locked. Tyler will get prices for gate. S Miller Street needs holes filled, and Jimmy Miller had told us that the county plans to blade it before dust control is applied. Brandon Burke also approached Tyler to ask if he as a citizen could apply dust control on south end of East Street. Tyler to check to see what other areas that may need dust control. Concrete was mentioned by Council for repairs. Tyler is checking with Ollendieck to get bids from.

Ed Greiman, General Manager of Upper Iowa Beef: Ed presented a plan prepared by Brent Mehmert for 27 additional parking spaces along Innovation Drive. Ed reported currently there are 160 employees, would like to be at closer to 200. Ed also presented the plan for a new addition covered in the building permit for adding 70 by 130 feet – which would add 9,000 square feet. This addition adds more toilet holes, no additional showers, breakrooms, and HR office space. The city will see water and sewer usage increased. The plan is still keeping their working hours the same of daytime hours only. He was reminded by Council that there is a plan for another business to come in that general area. Mayor Chilson asked Tyler to check with Dale Schwade to see if additional space could be added for Upper Iowa Beef parking. There is a discharge pipe that would have to be moved with this parking plan and Upper Iowa Beef did figure that in the parking plan.

Tienter & Jenkins Properties Update: Mayor Chilson presented Title Report for the Tienter property. Council all received a copy. Title report reflected unpaid taxes of \$ 990.00 and with fees and penalties added totals \$ 1,049.50. Mayor recommended Council to motion to acquire the property by offering owner by paying the taxes, fees and penalties thru a quit claim deed. This property also has a life estate to the storage sheds on the rear ¼ of the premises. The life estate is held by John Petru. Mayor also recommended Council to approach John Petru to sign his off as well. Council asked what happens to the \$ 1,049.50. Answer is that the dollars pays off the taxes and majority of the money comes back to the city thru paid property taxes, there is no money going to Curt Tienter or John Petru. Smith made motion for City to acquire the Tienter property and make it the City’s problem. Norton 2nd. All 5 voted yes. Motion approved for Mayor Chilson to offer to Tienter & Petru to sign quit claim deeds to acquire the Tienter property. Jane to get their contact information to Mayor. Discussion followed for the Jenkins property. Jenkins had made an offer to the city of him getting his investment back or ask that the city recycle the building and he would take quite a bit less. Council discussed various counteroffers. Smith made a motion to counteroffer Steve Jenkins \$ 3,000 for his property and city acquires the building. DeVries 2nd. McNamara voted no, other 4 voted Aye. Motion carried to counter offer \$ 3,000. Nate Schwickerath tried to call Steve and at no answer texted him. 2 other counteroffers mentioned, and Council requested that all 3 be emailed to Jenkins. The other 2 offers are the City will agree to recycle the brick to the city dump for future projects and City will acquire the Jenkins property for \$ 1.00. the 3rd offer is for the city to acquire the property for \$ 1.00 and then when the city is done clearing the property to give the property back to Jenkins with stipulation that he put a business there that would generate property taxes within so much time frame. This final offer is pending city attorney approval for legality reasons.

Merrill Street Bridge: no additional information.

Future plans for Sewer & Water rates: Financial advisor, Maggie Burger was not available for this month. This was tabled until another meeting.

Spring Ahead Learning Center Lease: Spring Ahead Learning Center invited someone from Council to attend their next board meeting of June 28. Council will check their schedules to see if any can attend. Council discussed a few items that may be added to the lease. These items included adding a fence and raising the lease amount. Adam Munkel from SALC Board, received a copy of the expenses that was supplied to Council previously, after he read that City Council was reviewing the lease.

Visitor Richard Cottrell interjected and asked why does the City not close the SALC and use this building for the library expansion. Council answered that the building was put up with grants and City Council does not know what limitations that the building can be used for. Council Kraft stated the center is an asset for the community and does not wish to see it closed. The reason for discussion is not to close it, but to review the lease. City will have to research other options if Spring Ahead does not renew the lease. Reminder the SALC building is also the city's storm shelter that anyone can use during storms. Council requested Tyler to check fence options and costs. This topic will be on the agenda for a work session – scheduled June 15 at 6:30 pm. Council will invite SALC to that meeting for their input.

School Park: DeVries made a motion to set the Public Hearing to accept bids in order to sell Lot 2 of B of the School Park. Smith 2nd. All 5 voted Aye. Public Hearing set for July 6, 2021 to accept bids and open bids to sell Lot 2 of B of the School Park.

ServLine Insurance Renew: Mayor Chilson read the ServLine agreement. It appears there is a new underwriting company of Virginia Surety Company, Inc. The rates stay the same and no other changes. Kraft made a motion to renew ServLine Insurance, that is set to expire July 1, 2021. 2nd by McNamara. All 5 voted Aye. ServLine Insurance, the water leak & sewer leak insurance, renewed with no rate changes.

KCD Liquor License: McNamara made a motion to renew KCD's Liquor License. DeVries 2nd. Kraft abstained from voting. Other 4 voted Aye. KCD's License renewed.

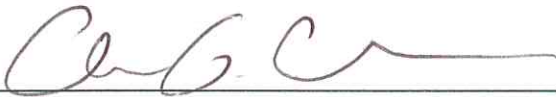
Lawn Mower Bids: Mayor Chilson opened the 1 sealed bid for the \$ 2,500 for the older JD lawn mower. Norton made a motion to accept the bid. DeVries 2nd. Kraft abstained from voting. Other 4 voted to accept the bid for \$ 2,500. Winning bid accepted from Dennis Hammon. Smith made a motion to put all of the \$ 2,500 into the Pool & Park Fund. Kraft 2nd. Norton and McNamara voted no, Smith, Kraft and DeVries voted Aye. Motion passed for the \$ 2,500 to be put into the Pool & Park Fund.

Bolton & Menk annual update to DNR: Katie Sterk did not attend to present report. Jane will ask her if she is available for work session meeting to present.

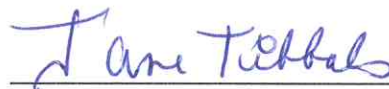
Pat Lepa & Geri Burnikel: requested the floor for comments. They mentioned they are also representing their neighbor Marcia Wells. They are asking about the condition and plans for their street, which is Jackson Street. They have been living with the dirt road for about 6 years. Council Jen Smith asked Tyler to look for options and quote to bring this road back to a hard surface road.

Kraft made motion to close the regular city council meeting and enter into closed session to discuss past due water bills and personnel issues. McNamara 2nd. All voted Aye to go into closed session at 8:15 pm.

Kraft made a motion to come out of closed session at 9:25 pm to adjourn. DeVries 2nd. All voted Aye to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:26 pm.



Chris Chilson, Mayor



Jane Tibbals, City Clerk