

Mayor Brian Johnson called the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Lime Springs to order in the Community Center on June 6, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

**Member(s) present:** Jeff Burnikel, Jennifer Kalstabakken, Mary Bielefeld, Michael Levenson, Richard Cottrell

**Member(s) absent:** none.

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

**Visitor(s):** Eddie Miller, Laney Frazer, Bob Frazier, Scott Osmundson, Drew Weber (City Engineer), Rachelle Howe (UERPC), Jill Tibbals, David Finholt (Finholt Construction, Inc.)

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE recited.**

**Agenda, Previous Month's Minutes, Approval of Bills, and Financial report:** Burnikel motioned to approve the agenda, previous month's minutes, bills and financial reports. Levenson 2<sup>nd</sup>. All 5 present voted Yes. The Agenda, May 2 Minutes, Bills and Financial reports were approved.

**Open Forum:** none.

**Fire:** Scott Osmundson, Fire Chief, reported 2 calls this month, 1 ATV vs Car & 1 assist with traffic control on Hwy 63. FD received \$ 1500 grant from St Paul Lutheran Endowment for pagers. He reported KFS plans to visit site this week for generator placement.

**Library:** Eddie Miller, Board Chair, reported Library events of Memorial Day Lunch on May 29 and 13 graduates were honored with pictures displayed at Library. Book Discussion had 13 attend and Community Art Show reflected 33 artists with 64 displays. Peoples choice was won by Sue Okada. Library hosted Humane Society of NE Iowa who nail clipped and microchipped, and 12 dogs attended. Summer reading program "Find Your Voice" begins June 7. LS Library will be at the Fair as part of the Howard Co Group Library Assoc. in the Featherlite Building. Patrons served for April was 166 Town and 331 Country.

**Library Expansion Project:** Eddie Miller introduced David Finholt as Project Manager for the Library's expansion project. Finholt was asked to attend for Council's questions. Burnikel had asked for more details on the costs of materials and labor. Finholt left a breakdown of materials and labor, which will be copied for Council. Cottrell questioned the safety of the room with only one exit. Finholt presented an email from a Fire Marshall that for the size of room and occupancy capacity of 22 does not require a second exit. Iowa code is 49 and over requires more exits. Jane had contacted Iowa Public Safety and they reported a licensed architect is required for all public building remodeling. Finholt reported licensed architect Tim Olson had visited the site prior and after talking with the Library Board, approached Finholt and introduced him to the project. Finholt went on to say that Tim Olson told him that he would have to charge an additional \$ 20,000 to draw the plans and suggested to save money said that Finholt should be able to complete the plans. Tim Olson has since deceased. Finholt confirmed that he could send something in writing for City to forward to Public Safety. Cottrell asked the rest of the Council what their thoughts were regarding fire safety because of the boiler versus flammable potential of items in the Library. Eddie Miller answered that he felt the smell would be noticeable in time for people to get out of the room. Levenson & Mayor asked what type of window was used, if shatterproof or not and Finholt answered that it was not shatterproof. It could be broken in an emergency. Burnikel asked how soon room is to being used and Finholt said it was near done and some items are being returned as not used to keep it at the \$50,000 limit for Phase 2. Mayor asked for an informal vote from Council if they were OK with there not needing a second exit per Fire Marshall's findings and all answered yes except for Cottrell, who answered no.

**Finholt Construction Invoice:** Kalstabakken motioned to approve the invoice. Burnikel 2<sup>nd</sup>. Burnikel, Kalstabakken, Bielefeld, Levenson voted Yes with Cottrell voted No. Motion approved to pay \$48,536.03 for Phase 2 of Library expansion.

**Resolution for Pay Raises for Library Staff:** There is no longer any objections to this resolution. Burnikel motioned to approve Resolution 06062023-1 with Kalstabakken 2<sup>nd</sup>. All 5 voted Yes. Motion approved for City Library employees' raises to be effective July 1, 2023. Director Janet DeVries from \$



16.00/hour to \$ 17.00/hour. Custodian Janet DeVries from \$ 12.00/hour to \$ 13.00/hour. Librarian Assistant Elaine Gasset from \$ 11.00/hour to \$ 12.00/hour. Librarian Assistant Rose Miller from \$ 10.00/hour to \$ 11.00/hour.

**Park & Rec Report:** Laney Frazer, Board Member, reported softball started with Holly Andersen coaching the 2 younger teams with Danny Miller & Spencer Kitchen coaching the older team. Ball Signs are up and most of the companies have paid. Concession stand at the ballfield is open for home games. Laney reported H & M finished with their part and their bid increased when they found another set of pipes that went around the pool, which connected the gutter drains. This increased the costs by \$16,000. They used the \$15,000 grant from Howard Co Foundation and the \$ 3,000 from Grace Hughes along with other donations to pay for these costs. Hoping to start filling the Pool Wednesday afternoon with tentative opening June 11 or 12. Cresco's Wisdom & Wellness kids are scheduled to swim June 20 from 9:15 to 10:45 am, bringing 20-35 kids. Dave Sobolik wired for 2 outside outlets as the trenches were open, this is to help when vacuuming the Pool. Ron Fitzgerald repaired the Diving Board and Tyler, Mitch & Barry Smith assisted with securing the board. Managers are Jessica Wilson & Christina Gibbs with guards Clara Keller, Alayna Larson, Kristin Frazer, Piper Jessen and Ana Gibbs. Scheduled hours are 1-5 pm and then 7-9 pm. St Paul Lutheran Church signed a contract for their building to be used as a storm shelter with a key to be stored at the Pool's concession stand. Laney will hang diagrams & policies at the Pool for fire and storm emergency. Brown Park bathrooms have been repaired and are now open during the day. Park & Rec received a \$ 2,000 grant for additional lighting at Brown Park and Dave Sobolik is waiting for the ordered lights. Festival of Trees is planned for November 26. Additional fundraising is planned for Sweet Corn Days on Friday night on Main Street and concession stand at ballfield. Kalstabakken motioned to approve the 2 new guards of Clara Keller and Piper Jessen with Burnikel 2<sup>nd</sup>. All 5 voted Yes. Motion approved. Cottrell brought up dust problem at Brown Park. The equipment is dusty to play and sit on. Tyler reported that he ordered calcium for dust control, which is less costly than having Chuckie Larsen, but it does not last as long. Mayor reminded everyone that City does not own the parking lot. Levenson asked Tyler to check if washed rock could be added to the gravel street west of the Park as an option to settle some of the dust. Dust is not all coming from the semi-trucks, but also from everyone that drives thru there. Cottrell asked about the pay rates for the Pool employees as well as increasing charges for daily and season passes. Laney reported that she has both of these areas to look at for next year's budget. Cottrell asked the Council to consider separating the board into 2 boards of Pool Board and Parks Board. This will be researched and brought up at another Council meeting.

**H & M Solutions Invoice:** Burnikel motioned to approve invoice. Levenson 2<sup>nd</sup>. All 5 voted Yes, Motion approved to pay \$ 74,250.00, which replaced the pipes, including drain lines & drains.

**Public Works Report:** Tyler Smith, Public Works Director reported he has been reviewing trees with Tarzan, found 4 more trees to remove. Trees located at Ted Roberts, Brian Johnson & Cindy Johnson. Natasha Curtis asked Tyler to look at tree in their boulevard. Storage container was delivered, need to build a ramp plus have Dave Sobolik install electricity. Dave Sobolik has some ideas to retro fit with LED the current light poles on Main Street. Current lights have 250W bulbs, switching to 15W LED would be more cost efficient. Ron Fitzgerald said that he could weld the broken one. To replace each one would be \$ 1700 - \$ 3,000. He measured the street as 30 feet from curb to curb, where it has been reported trees were planted in boulevard. There is no sidewalk to measure from and has not had time to finish research what constitutes boulevard. Jacob Schroetter has volunteered to mow Brown Park; this has helped so that Jerry & Mitch could help trim trees and help get the Pool ready to open. He ordered some bug repellent to help keep bugs down at the ballfield, play equipment and pool area. It only lasts 2-3 days but is pretty inexpensive. Tyler asked Council what their thoughts were of buying a different ranger. Levenson said that maybe a utility truck with a plow would be a better solution for LS, than a new City pickup truck. Mayor said that he will check with dealers to see what are available. Levenson asked for City vehicles for next agenda. Tyler said that he would contact DNR to get testing scheduled. Cottrell mentioned there are some brick loose at LS Tap building. Tyler said he thinks it would be less expensive to hire out repaving the cut outs in the streets, rather than City patch them. They would be quicker and have correct equipment, will bring prices to next meeting. Cottrell asked why not grind up Miller Street and repave it. Drew Weber agreed with Tyler, that there is not enough road base left to grind up. Cottrell stated need to get streets repaired. Mayor and Levenson both said



that one way to help pay for cost of projects is to start assessing the homeowners like the City of Cresco does, which would in turn upset residents. Drew Weber said can add this street as alternate project to upcoming projects. Drew Weber went over various engineering projects working on – including 2022, 2024 and 2025 projects. Mediacom will be paying \$ 5,000 to Croell to repair Jackson Street concrete.

**Skyline Invoice:** Burnikel motioned to approve Skyline invoice. Levenson 2<sup>nd</sup>. All 5 voted Yes. Motion approved for \$ 256,441.38 which included Jackson Street & A23 project.

**Pay Raises for Mitch Smith & Jerry White:** Cottrell stated he felt they should be increased by \$ 1.50/hour. Burnikel motioned to table until budget time. Levenson 2<sup>nd</sup>. Levenson, Burnikel & Bielefeld voted Yes. Kalstabakken & Cottrell voted No. Motion approved to table raises until budget time.

**Housing Trust Fund:** Rachele Howe from Upper Explorerland, presented a \$ 12,500 fund that is available for residents, for home improvement projects. She stated qualifications are based upon income and dollars available. She is asking the City for a letter of intent for local matches. Jane will research to see what other cities are doing.

**KCD's Liquor License:** Burnikel motioned to renew Liquor License for KCD's. Levenson 2<sup>nd</sup>. All 5 voted Yes. Motion approved for KCD's Liquor License to be renewed.

**Casey's Cigarette Permit:** Burnikel motioned to renew Cigarette Permit for Casey's. Levenson 2<sup>nd</sup>. All 5 voted Yes. Motion approved for Casey's Cigarette Permit to be renewed.

**Sweet Corn Days' Liquor License:** Levenson motioned to approve Liquor License for Sweet Corn Days. Levenson 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cottrell voted No. Levenson, Burnikel, Kalstabakken, Bielefeld voted Yes. Motion approved for Sweet Corn Days' Liquor License.

**Blocking Streets:** Kalstabakken motioned to approve blocking Main Street for LS Tap car shows and Sweet Corn Days. Burnikel 2<sup>nd</sup>. All 5 voted Yes. Motion passed for blocking Main Street for Sweet Corn Days August 11 - 13, and for July 15, 22 and September 23 from 5-8 pm for LS Tap car shows.

**Dollar General Update:** City filed Annexation paperwork at courthouse. Permits have been submitted to DNR and Bolton & Menk suggested City not approve the City building permit until DNR permits are approved.

**American Rescue Funds:** Burnikel motioned to approve spending federal funds of \$ 70,873.88. Levenson 2<sup>nd</sup>. All 5 voted Yes. Motion approved for Resolution 06062023-3, to spend the American Rescue Funds for utilities for 2022 Street Project.

**Fiber Optic Cables/Harmony Telephone:** Cottrell will contact them for more information. There was a short discussion on who gave them permission to run these cables in City limits.

**ServLine Update:** Jane was told only costs covered are when there is a breach on either water or sewer lines. It does not cover unplugging the lines.

**Selling Property:** Tyler had been asked lot size, Jane will get numbers to those that ask.


**Ordinance Changes:** Tyler asked if there could be something added to deter mowing grass on the streets. Storm sewers are plugging up. Levenson suggested warning the first time, then fines. Levenson suggested snow the same way, warning once and then fines. Ordinances will be updated to reflect.

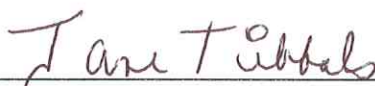
**Ordinance Fines:** Council is asking to continue to fine. The reason for the registration is to ensure the dog has rabies vaccination, which is Iowa State Code. Levenson suggested \$ 50 per month and then start to assess taxes when fees get to \$200. Burnikel said that he had been asked about ordinance states City can inspect the property. Again, this is Iowa State Code, called Implied Consent. Reality is City employee will knock on the door and ask and if denied will contact the Sheriff to be involved.

**Water/Sewer Rates:** Last year the rates were raised 5%. It was suggested to increase +the rates by something every year. Burnikel motioned to set public hearing at July meeting. Levenson 2<sup>nd</sup>. All 5 voted Yes. Public Hearing date set for July 11, 2023 at 6:30 pm

Burnikel motioned to adjourn. Levenson 2<sup>nd</sup>. All 5 voted Yes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

  
 Brian Johnson, Mayor

  
 Jane Tibbals, City Clerk