

Mayor Brian Johnson called the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Lime Springs to order in the Community Center on July 11, 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): Jill Tibbals, Jeff Siegenthaler, Jim Hrubes, Ruth Hrubes

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 2nd. All 5 voted Yes. The Agenda, June 6 Minutes, Bills and Financial reports were approved.

Open Forum: Ruth Hrubes ask for clarification of when the Garbage rates will change. It was clarified that Garbage rates will be effective on the July bills. Garbage and Water are billed after the month of usage.

Fire: Council Michael Levenson reported in Fire Chief Scott Osmundson' absence, that KFS has not installed the generator yet.

Library: Council Jennifer Kalstabakken read Library notes, in Board Chair Eddie Miller's absence. She reported the LS Library, as part of the Howard Co Library Assoc, assisted with a booth at the Howard Co Fair June 24. 171 people visited their booth. LS Library Summer Reading Program ended June 29 with 41 registered this year. Their special programs included Maria Klingsheim with 27; The Balloon Program had 22; Special Movie had 8 and Mini Golf had 13. The M & M Jar had 29 guesses. The Cheer Program had 9 and Talent Show had 8. Adult social events had 11 for July 1 and June 18 had 11. Next social event on July 15 is Bingo. Book Discussion had 4 present on June 13, next one is July 18. Next AA 12 Step meeting is July 22. Patrons served for May was 205 Town and 182 Country.

Resolution for Pay Raises for Library Staff: Burnikel motioned to approve Resolution 007112023-1 with Kalstabakken 2nd. All 5 voted Yes. Motion approved for City Library Assistant Pam Siegenthaler 's pay rate from \$ 9.00 an hour to \$ 9.50 an hour and to be effective July 1, 2023.

Library Expansion Project: Mayor Johnson read the emails from Iowa Department of Public Safety, that is asking for a licensed architect to sign off on the plans and the building space, as per Iowa Code for libraries. Council Jeff Burnikel, as Library liaison, said that he will take the information to Library Board. Mayor stated that if Library Board is not able to find one to sign off, then Council will. This will be expensed to the Library.

Park & Rec Report: Council Richard Cottrell, Park & Rec's liaison, read their report in Board Chair Laney Frazer's absence. Pool Lessons had 10 private & 11 public. A couple incident reports were given to Mayor, they were both handled according to policies and procedures. There is a leak by Pool's pump house, John McKenzie has been contacted to fix. They believe this to be involving an old valve connected to updated system. Over 60 attended the night swim, next one scheduled for July 28. They are looking into an adult swim schedule. Ball Stand concessions have been well received at the ballgames. Their board approved a flag to be installed at Ball Field. They plan for Ball Stand concessions to be open during Sweet Corn Days. New lights have been ordered for Brown Park. Jan and Randy Cray donated a pickleball set and LS Betterment plans to donate another set. 2 volleyballs have been purchased with St Paul's Grant money. The pickleball sets can be checked out at the Library and the volleyballs from the Pool. Laney plans to write a social media policy. Cresco Wisdom & Wellness was billed \$ 150 for June 20 Pool rental. Tyler was asked if there was a difference in water usage, since pipes replaced, and he answered there doesn't appear to be a difference yet. The valve leaking, per Casey Sebastian was replaced earlier when he was PW Director. Cottrell was questioned regarding the "checking out" of items and he stated that Laney would be best to answer those questions. Levenson motioned to approve the 2 new guards of Alyssa Halvorson and Emily Bjugan-Hanson with Burnikel 2nd. All 5 voted Yes. Motion approved.

Public Works Report: Tyler Smith, Public Works Director reported 6 Ash trees removed and more trees trimmed at intersections. Tyler contacted someone to patch the cutouts and they are not available. He will try Mudslingers. Couple others were suggested as well as urgency to complete these by Sweet Corn Days. June 6, Mehmerts repaired a watermain break by Kareen Johnson's. Dry weather, Tyler was able to use brush hog on Jones Street's ditches. Tyler put a dehumidifier in the West Well building per DNR's request. Tyler approved 3 building permits. Johnson Farms for a cemen approach on Forest Street shed, Kyle Sindelar for a raised garden and Dollar General's building. Tyler approved Brent Mehmert to stub in the water service for DG. Dave Sobolik plans to work on Main Street lights, by retrofitting with LED and Tyler will have him check the plug ins. Tyler plans to take wastewater certification test in next couple of weeks. City paid final payment of \$ 58,669.34 on JD tractor. Sleepy Hollow contacted Brian to tell him Chev truck, that City had ordered was in. With bid assist, the price is \$ 52,225. This is a 2024, 1 ton white truck with 6.6 non diesel motor and 8 foot box. Meanwhile Molstead's have also contacted Brian and they have a silver truck that should be ready in next 3-6 weeks. Same truck, except color and Sleepy Hollow's may have some extras added. Molstead's price is \$ 46K something with bid assist. Brian had found a 2020 similar truck in Spring Valley with 5,000 miles and bid assist is not available with sticker price of \$46,000. Meanwhile both Tyler and Levenson commented about a 2016 Ford truck on marketplace, this truck has a hydraulic dump box already on it, with 47,580 miles at \$ 42,900. Current City truck has approx. 120,000 miles Tyler asked Council for approval for Side by Side for approx. \$5,900. Kalstabakken motioned for approval to purchase Side by Side for less than purchase price after Tyler looks at it in person. Burnikel 2nd. All 5 voted Yes. Tyler entered a bid online during meeting. Tyler got answer back with \$ 5,500 and Council agreed for Tyler to purchase. Council also agreed to table truck purchase until Molstead's came in and will decide then. Cottrell asked Tyler regarding stop signs by Dan Murphy's. After Council discussed there may already be a stop and a yield sign, Tyler will verify. Cottrell asked if City is going to remove the electrical box on sidewalk in front of LS Tap. Council clarified that the sidewalk and what is on sidewalk belongs to the business. Mayor said that he will contact building owner. Cottrell reported that trucks are on Jackson Street again. Mayor suggested that the sheriff be contacted to see how this can be enforced. Cottrell asked about Clinic intersection if parking should be allowed so close to intersection. Mayor explained that these changes would need to be in an ordinance and yes this is a tricky corner with 5 streets meeting. Cottrell asked about drain by old locker building. Tyler said that he will check and clean out if need be. Cottrell asked if UIB's recent building permit included the current digging and both Tyler and Levenson said yes.

Public Hearing for Water & Sewer Rate Changes: Kalstabakken motioned to close the regular meeting and open the Public Hearing with Burnikel 2nd. All 5 voted Yes. Public Hearing opened at 8:06. City financial advisor, Maggie Burger had suggested previously to increase the rates by something and maybe go smaller this year, as next year may be higher, depending on City projects. Cottrell suggested 3% straight across, Levenson suggested raising minimum and leaving usage the same. There were no additional comments from the floor. Cottrell motioned to close the Public Hearing and re-open meeting with Burnikel 2nd. All 5 voted Yes. Regular meeting re-opened at 8:18. Cottrell motioned to approve Resolution 07112023-2 with rate increases of 3% for both usage and minimums for water and sewer. Kalstabakken 2nd. All 5 voted Yes. Motion approved to increase usage and minimum for both water and sewer rates by 3% and for new rates to be effective end of August billing, so that folks will receive a months' notice.

Housing Trust Fund: Rachele Howe from Upper Explorerland, previously had asked City of LS for a letter of intent for local matches for the Housing Trust Fund. Burnikel motioned to deny any funds for this year with Levenson 2nd. All 5 Voted Yes. Motion approved to deny funds.


Servline: Servline is asking to come to Council meeting to present their updated insurance policy. Currently the City offers Leak detection; water & sewer line coverage for breaches in the lines. They do have additional coverage for clogs in the lines. They would like to present this insurance information to Council. They also stated that they may be changing this to bill some of their services direct, instead of through the City's bills. More information will be available in August or September. Jane suggested folks to check their own home insurance policies as "Underground support", and folks may be paying for same services twice.

Additional Deputy Support for Sweet Corn Days: Levenson motioned additional security during Sweet Corn Days, if Sheriff can get anyone to work. Burnikel 2nd. Cottrell voted No, Kalstabakken, Bielefeld, Levenson and Burnikel voted Yes. Motion approved for additional Deputy Support for Sweet Corn Days. Cottrell asked why doesn't Community Club pay, he also asked what does the town get from Sweet Corn Days. Burnikel invited him to attend the Community Club meeting the next night.

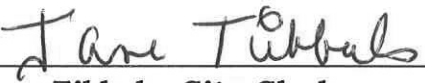
Fiber Optic Cable: Cottrell has been obtaining information from Harmony Telephone and MI Energy. Mayor asked if he found out who gave them permission to come into town with their cabling. Cottrell answered that it appears to be the government, dating back to President Bush. Cottrell will bring contact information to have one of their reps come to a future Council meeting.

Nuisances and Balances Owed to the City: Levenson asked if City can shut off water for those that have not registered their dogs, to get their attention. Levenson asked why do people continue to be fined as opposed to just registering their dogs. Mayor said that will take an Ordinance change. Levenson stated that we just need to figure this out. Jane asked how to get the attention of those that do not open their mail. Kalstabakken asked if Tyler could tape it on their door and again, Mayor said that Ordinances would have to be re-written. Ruth Hrubes asked what authority can the City fine and Mayor replied the Ordinances were changed to authorize fines for noncompliance. Levenson said City could probably write off the Fire Call balances owed, as over a year old.

Levenson motioned to adjourn. Burnikel 2nd. All 5 voted Yes.
Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.



Brian Johnson, Mayor



Jane Tibbals, City Clerk