

Mayor Rick Kirkpatrick called the Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Lime Springs to order in the Community Center on February 21, 2024 at 5:00 pm.

**Member(s) present:** Jeff Burnikel, Mike Levenson, Richard Cottrell

**Member absent:** Jennifer DeVries Kalstabakken

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

**Visitor(s):** Ed Hampe

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE recited.**

**Agenda:** Burnikel motioned to approve the agenda with Levenson 2<sup>nd</sup>. All 3 present voted Yes. Agenda approved.

**Tyler Smith's Resignation & placing Help Wanted Ads:** Tyler Smith resigned as Public Works Director and his last day is March 2, 2024. Council asked ad for Public Works Director to be placed in Cresco Shopper and TPD. Jane said that she understood jobs have to be posted for at least 15 days prior to hiring someone. Cottrell stated then can't hire prior to March 13. Options of using a service instead of hiring was discussed. Council also discussed if additional help was needed. Council asked that an ad to be ran for part time help for lawn mowing, snow removal and other tasks. City employees Mitch Smith and Ed Hampe said that they would be able to help with daily chores until someone is hired. Levenson volunteered the Fire Dept to help flush hydrants, so they can check to see which hydrants are working well and which ones may need repair. Ed Hampe said that he would like a refresher on weekly sewer sampling and Cottrell and Mayor asked if they could also ride along. Tyler stated that he could start it next Monday if that would work. Tyler reported that water testing chores are done daily, 7 days a week. Sewer samples are weekly, as a 2 day process allowing for cool down time and must be at least 7 days apart. Normally started on Tuesdays and finished Wednesdays. Cottrell stated that Council Kalstabakken previously stated that she could help out on weekends. Burnikel asked about the Pool and what is needed for testing. Tyler reported that CPO is an easy open book test, after 2 full days of classroom in Rochester. It is good for 5 years. There are classes coming up in March and April. Every day pool is open; pool is tested at least 4 times a day. Guards are not allowed to handle the chemicals anymore. Tyler said test early in the morning, then 1 hour before Pool opens, once during the swim time and final time after Pool closes. Tyler reported that he is meeting a person at the Pool later this week, that is quoting to sandblast and paint the Pool. He stated that he can get epoxy for \$ 75/gallon, which normally is \$130. Tyler reported that he thought it should take about 2 days to sandblast and paint, then it will need time to cure. Burnikel reported he has a meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> to address some of these issues. Burnikel asked if City has anything about drug testing and Jane & Tyler answered there is a random drug testing thru an independent firm for all employees that drive a City vehicle. Tyler reported he had an initial one when he was hired as well. Burnikel asked about Pool employees and currently there is not. Jane asked what the status is of then Mennonite Church as the meter is still not reading. Tyler will follow up. Levenson said that he wants the new applicants to know that they will need certifications down the road, within time limits to be set. There are classes thru Kirkwood. Tyler affirmed that he would be available for questions at his new job and Levenson asked that these be limited and questions can always be asked of Iowa Rural Water to help the City out. Council asked that calls previously going to Tyler be directed to the City phone number during normal business hours. Council stated that wild and/or dead animals are not City's responsibility if it is not on City property. This will have to be communicated to residents as Tyler has been responding to some of these calls. Jane reported the City's cameras have been repaired and Sheriff Tim Beckman said that he would come and see if he can view any of the recent videos. Tyler will follow up with concrete crushing quotes.

Burnikel motioned to adjourn with Levenson 2<sup>nd</sup>. All 3 present voted Yes. Meeting adjourned 6:00 pm.