

Mayor Rick Kirkpatrick called the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Lime Springs to order in the Community Center on May 7, 2024 at \$ 6:30 pm.

Member(s) present: Jeff Burnikel, Jennifer DeVries Kalstabakken, John Heisler, Mike Levenson, Richard Cottrell

City Employees: Kendall Fox (Public Works Director), Jane Tibbals (City Clerk)

Visitor(s): Jill Tibbals, Terry Kirkpatrick, Matt Levenson, Sarah & Scott Osmundson, Jeff Siegenthaler, Eric Munkel, Sandy Heisler, Eddie Miller, Bob & Laney Frazer, Jason Passmore, Pat Boyle, Josh Praska, Cynthia & Garth Foley, Ed Hampe

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE recited.

Agenda: Burnikel motioned to approve the Agenda, previous month's minutes, bills and financial reports. Levenson 2nd. All 5 voted Yes. The Agenda, April 2 & 2 & 16 Minutes, Bills and Financial Reports were Approved.

Open Forum: Jason Passmore, updated Council on the Howard Co Child Care Solutions Program. This program developed from State Gov't grant money to be used for child care. \$ 102,000 was raised in Howard Co, which the grant matched to total \$ 304,000. This program was 1 of 10 counties, selected in Iowa. The Child Care resources in Howard Co are paying out their money as Wage Enhancement & Retention Bonuses. This money is to be used by end of calendar year 2024. Jason is soliciting money to keep the program going forward. Jason spoke briefly on the Howard Co Housing Fund. Cottrell asked if the child care money could be used to buy the SALC building from the City and Jason answered this money can only be spent on Workforce and Wages.

Fire Dept Report: Fire Chief, Scott Osmundson, reported 1 call this month of a house fire in town. Scott requested Council to approve a new applicant for Firefighter – Dalyn Loewen. Burnikel motioned to approve with Levenson 2nd. All 5 voted Yes. Dalyn approved for Lime Springs Firefighter. Scott reported this puts the roster at 20, which is considered full. Fire Chief reported he received a letter and it has been handled and apologized to all involved.

Library: Eddie Miller, LS Library Board Chair, reported Library is hosting Memorial Day Dinner 11 – 1 pm. Library Week was April 7-13, with several signing up for book drawings. Preschool visited the Library Apr 9, Microchip & Nail had 8 dogs attend on Apr 20. Nat'l Children's Book Week is May 6-12. Community Art Show is May 11 1-4 pm. Special Movie is May 17; Bingo night is May 18. Drum Circle presented by Pat Stevens is May 21. Patrons for March was 194 Town & 167 Country.

Community Center Board: The tile floors have been cleaned & waxed. The replacement tile for the kitchen has been ordered.

Park & Rec Board: Laney Frazer, Board Chair, asked if City could get rid of extra dirt after Nick Burke buried the flag pole cement. She also asked the City to get rid of the sandblasting sand to the tree dump. Kendall commented that this is probably considered hazardous waste & must be dumped at a landfill, Kendall will find out. Laney asked the previously bought epoxy be moved to the pool. Ball Park cement started. Pool received \$ 5,000 Grace Hughes Grant & \$ 1,000 from a couple of brothers that guarded from the 1960's. Laney presented rates of pay as Managers @ \$ 14/hour; Asst Managers @ 13/hour; Guards @ \$ 12/hour. She then presented applicants: Holly Andersen & Christina Gibbs for Co-Managers; Kristen Frazer & Alayna Larson for Asst Managers; Kelsey Adams, Maryn Hvitved, Clara Keller, Madi Fritcher-Larson, Peyton Ullom, Bryleigh Slavin, Piper Jessen, Addy Buls as guards. Laney asked for Council approval. City Clerk Jane asked what about the possible conflict of interest with Holly Andersen as City employee with her currently on the City's Library Board. Laney stated that Holly told her that she would resign the Library Board if needed. Jane continued that she was only repeating what the City Attorney had previously recommended about City employees, could or should not also serve on the City Entity Boards. There was lots of discussion including from 2 Library Board members - Sandy Heisler & Eddie Miller. Sandy Heisler said that she had contacted Iowa League of

Cities and they directed her to the City Attorney. Burnikel said that he didn't see the conflict, however Levenson said that he didn't see why this keeps coming up and said that any City employees should not also be able to be on a City Board. Kalstabakken said that she feels since this is a temporary position, it should be different. Cottrell said that it should be different for elected officials and for City clerk. Sandy Heisler asked if City Attorney could be asked and Burnikel answered that in the past, the City Attorney said if paid by the City, then can't serve on any of the entity's boards as a voting member. Sandy asked that this be clarified and Mayor said that he can stop in at the City Attorney and ask him. Burnikel motioned for all of the applicants to be hired with the condition of City Attorney's recommendation for Holly Andersen's possible conflict of interest. Heisler 2nd. All 5 Voted Yes. Motion approved.

Public Works: Kendall Fox, new Public Works Director, recommended Maintenance Tracking forms for equipment. Kendall said that he felt PW could probably service the generators, except for the newest one. He reported the tractor blade is cracked again; this was fixed before by Steel Shop. Kendall has been talking with Cole Busch about welding it. Jane reported blade was purchased used for \$ 1800 and Steel Shop charged \$ 200 to fix previously. Council asked Kendall to get a quote for fixing or if need to replace. Council gave Kendall permission to purchase needed hand tools. Levenson asked if a tool box is needed, and Kendall answered that brackets or something added to truck to keep the tools handy. Levenson mentioned that Cole Busch may be able to add something. Kendall said that it would be helpful to have grapple hooks added to the tractor bucket. Kendall continued that a skid loader would be useful. He stated that new shop area, needs a bigger electrical service added. He also said that insulating could be added a bit at a time. Spray foam was listed as an option along with electric garage doors and a bigger door added.

Tree Dump: Kendall said that he had talked with Brent Mehmert regarding the Tree Dump cement. Mayor had contacted contractors for possible bulldozing work and gave price sheets to Council. Mayor figured that 20 hours of dozing would help quite a bit and Mehmert had a price at \$ 165/hour. The price includes the operator because of contractor's insurance; their employee has to be the operator. Mayor continued that he had contacted DNR and DNR came back with that the red brick & lime rock has to be kept from 100 feet setback from the river. Regarding burning at the Tree Dump, DNR is saying that the City needs to obtain a signed waiver from any inhabited building a quarter mile radius of the burn site. Mayor continued that signage was recommended so that residents know where they should pile trees as well as mulch. Locking the Tree Dump was discussed with no decision. Shutting down the concrete was discussed with no final decision. Council asked for more information to be presented in separate meeting. Kendall suggested more or better cameras at Tree Dump to help with monitor with alert to phone. A dump charge was suggested for cement.

Well House Building: Jane had the asbestos report from Site Services, they agreed to abate the known asbestos at \$ 2,280. An electrician checked out the building and he recommended a bigger panel and he will get prices back. This will also be a good time to maintenance the pumps. The City does not have any prices for replacement or for tear down of rest of building yet.

Lift Station: Kendall reported that the lift station by Casey's seems to be clearing up by dumping the enzymes in it. He recommended to keep using the enzymes and monitoring to see what next step is. Kendall & Ed said that it appears to be heated animal fat, so then it came from Casey's. Kendall said maybe a monthly check at Casey's to be implemented.

Uniforms: O'Henrys sent over price sheets for similar to Cresco's PW wears. Kendall asked for these to help identify City workers, also since he is not known in Lime Springs. Jane commented that she has had residents contact City Hall, when the guys have walked across lawns to check curb stops, etc. Kalstabakken motioned for 3 T-shirts for each part time & full time employee with Burnikel 2nd. All 5 voted Yes. Motion approved for City to pay for 3 T-shirts each and Jane asked for some vests as well in case someone else is working for City.

Building Permit: Ed Hampe & Casey Sebastian had checked out the property of Paul & Rebecca Eck for their addition to their house. Ed reported the property lines are fine. Levenson motioned to approve with Burnikel 2nd. All 5 Voted Yes. Motion approved for Eck's building permit.

Cell Phone Allowance: Kendall reported that he previously had \$ 50/month. Burnikel suggested to wait until first review to discuss further.

Car Shows on Main Street: Pat Boyle & Matt Levenson with LS Betterment Group reported the Group is teaming up with the local businesses and planning 2 car shows June 13, July 11. They are asking for approval to close the streets from 4 to 9 pm those 2 nights. Burnikel motioned with Levenson 2nd. All 5 Voted Yes. Motion approved for these 2 nights for putting up barricades and closing Main Street. Their plans include live music and a food truck for these 2 nights. The dates and times will be reported to law enforcement and the cameras are working again.

Rate Increases: Council was presented with Water & Sewer rate increase scenarios from 1% to 5%. Last year's was 3% and year prior was 5% increase for usage with \$ 5.00 each for minimums. It had been suggested that rate increases be done every year, so residents are used to annual raises, plus easier to go up smaller amounts, than a bigger jump. Jane also asked about raising Water Security Deposits. Currently it is \$ 125 plus \$25. Heisler motioned to change to \$ 200 with Kalstabakken 2nd. All 5 voted Yes. Motion approved for Water Security Deposit to be \$ 200 plus \$ 25 connection fee. This will only effect new customer hook-ups. Other rate changes to be discussed later.

Jake Brakes, Signage, Truck Route, Speeding: Heisler said that he had talked with County Engineer – Nick Rissman, who said that all signs put up must be in City limits, which is similar to what Tyler had found out. Nick Rissman indicated that an upcoming County speed study may help with grants, so Heisler said may want to wait to see what is happening then. Heisler reported that the radar signs seem to work the best for speeding. Jane reported that radar signs are \$ 3,500 to \$ 7,000 each. The current one by Brown Park can not be moved away from the Park since it was bought with grant money tied to children playing safely. Jane reported that Sheriff said that City could pay for more patrol hours for their presence as another deterrent. Walking path to Casey's was talked about. Council asked Kendall to see if signs could be found, since this was approved earlier and put on agenda for more discussion. Heisler said putting a 5 ton per axle weight limit on the residential streets would help. Heisler motioned for truck route signs as needed with Levenson 2nd. All 5 Voted Yes.

Commission Appointments & Inquiry Rights/Authorized Banking Signatures: Mayor said that he wants to change Mayor Pro Tem to Jennifer Kalstabakken. John Heisler said that he could be liaison for Community Center Board. Burnikel motioned to approve Commission appointments & Banking signatures. Kalstabakken 2nd. Cottrell, Burnikel, Heisler, Kalstabakken voted Yes with Levenson saying voting Yes for Heisler change and No for Kalstabakken as Mayor Pro Tem. Motion approved for Resolution 05072024-1 for Banking Signatures.

Increase Medical Stipend for City employees: Kendall had requested more than \$ 300 for monthly stipend. Tabled until Kendall finds out what his new insurance rate will be.

City Employee Paid Time Off (PTO): Kalstabakken motioned to change PTO to: After completion of 90 days 24 hours off; completion of 1 year 48 hours; completion of 2 years 84 hours; completion of 5 years 120 hours; completion of 10 years 160 hours. Burnikel 2nd. All 5 Voted Yes. Motion Approved.

Nuisance Property & Clean Up Day: It appears that the nuisance property moved the junk from side and front yard to all in back by garage. Jane reported Hawkeye said they can bring in a roll off, but it must be manned. Suggestion is bring it in on Thursday/Friday and will be picked up Monday. Cost is whatever is dumped. The suggestion is put it by the new City Shop as that area has camera on it. Jane reviewed LeRoy's ordinance and theirs has \$ 75 fine per incident. Council seems to be undecided about Clean Up Day if it would be enough incentive for folks to clean up their yard. Levenson said it would be a start. Current Ordinance does not have any fines or incentive. Council asked for ordinance to be re-written and present at 2nd meeting this month.

Casey's Tobacco Permit: Levenson motioned for Casey's Tobacco Permit to be renewed, with Burnikel 2nd. All 5 Voted Yes. Casey's Tobacco Permit approved for Renewal thru 6/30/2025.

KCD's Liquor License: Kalstabakken motioned for KCD's Liquor License to be renewed with Burnikel 2nd. All 5 Voted Yes. KCD's Liquor License approved for Renewal thru 6/30/2025.

Other: Second Council meeting set for May 21 @ 5:30 pm. Agenda: Nuisance & Tree Dump. Levenson motioned to adjourn with Burnikel 2nd. All 5 Voted Yes. Meeting adjourned 8:52 pm.