

Mayor Rick Kirkpatrick called the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Lime Springs to order in the Lime Springs Community Center on March 4, 2025 6:30 pm.

Member(s) present: Jeff Burnikel, Jennifer Kalstabakken, Mike Leverson, Richard Cottrell with John Heisler arriving at 6:36 pm.

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

Visitor(s): Jeff Siegenthaler, Eddie Miller, Scott Osmundson, Chris Chilson, Eric Munkel, Mark Grinhaus, Jim Perry, Tom Stevenson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE recited.

Agenda: Burnikel motioned to approve the agenda, previous minutes, bills & financial reports. Leverson 2nd. All 4 present voted Yes. The Agenda, February 4 Minutes, Bills & Financial reports Approved.

Open Forum: Chris Chilson, Jim Perry and Mark Grinhaus representing American Legion 135, asked for permission for a Flag Retirement Ceremony on June 14 to be held in Brown Park. Jim Perry said that they bring barrel and bricks to make this safe. Council asked that times be communicated when more information is known and didn't see any problems with date and place. Burnikel said that he will let Park & Rec know.

Fire Dept: Fire Scott Osmundson reported LS FD responded to 1 grass fire in Cresco's district. 2 sets of turn out gear have been ordered. The FD voted to replace lighting to LED. Scott & Leverson reported a 4 wheeler – Polaris 570 will be raffled at Sweet Corn Days on Sunday at 4 pm

Library Board: Eddie Miller, Board President, reported the Howard County Library Assoc. is scheduled to meet April 1, in Elma. He reported the Warm Reads has 11 people registered for the program, there were 14 that participated in Blind Date with a Book. The Snowman contest continues thru March. Feb 7's game time had 3 children come. 10 dogs came to the Chip & Nail last month. The LS Library was promoted at Feb's Soup Supper. March activities include Legos on 10th, Book Discussion on 11th, Bingo on 15th, Movie on 21st. Patrons served for January was 160 Town & 149 Country.

Park & Rec Board: Burnikel reported in Board's absence. The board continues to apply for grants. They are asking the water to be turned on in April, also asking that hydrants be flushed prior to. Paul Anderson is supposed to come and finish the deep end before water is put in.

St Paul's Lutheran Church Land Transfer to City and to Tom Stevenson: Tom is counter offering from the total costs of property transfer & survey to \$ 200 for the fenced in area of the church land being transferred to the City. The area in question is 133 feet by approx. 52 feet. Previous owners and Tom have been mowing it for years, since it was fenced and they all thought it was part of their property. The land is landlocked and not useful to the City. Burnikel motioned to accept the \$ 200 with Leverson 2nd. Heisler, Leverson, Burnikel & Kalstabakken voted Yes. Cottrell voted No. Motion approved for City to accept Tom Stevenson's offer of \$ 200 to be used towards the cost of transferring the Church land to the City and Tom Stevenson. Jane will contact City Attorney for next steps.

Public Works: Kendall Fox, Public Works Director, presented water meter prices & installation for tracking water at the Pool, Fire Station/Community Center building and Fire Hydrant. This is to track water usage that is not billed for DNR reports. Heisler motioned to accept Johnson's for meter & labor at \$ 3,804.00. Burnikel 2nd. All 5 voted Yes. Motioned approved. The other prices were just for 3 inch meter at \$ 1730 and a fire hydrant 3 inch meter at \$ 734. Fire Chief said that the fire hydrant needs a 2.5 inch one. The pool needs a cellular end point & HRE for total of \$ 287. Broken light on Main Street was discussed – suggested finding one like it to replace by contacting other cities in the area – Northwood and Rose Creek were suggested. Council reviewed a letter of complaint regarding a curb stop bill. Council said that the property owner is responsible for curb stops and if it is not paid, then assess to taxes. The last manual meter needs to be replaced with an electronic read, question is whether to replace with 1 inch meter as that is what is there or standard 5/8. Council asked Kendall

to get prices for next meeting. Kendall reported that boiler inspections failed for both boilers at SALC and Library/Shop. The compliance needs licensed plumber and electrician repairs. The inspections also require maintenance logs, CO detector/alarm, safety shut off valve, emergency shut off switch and manuals. Council requested estimates. It was suggested that Kendall contact boiler inspector to see if deadlines could be extended by showing repairs scheduled. Jane reported most recent safety audit for work comp insurance is also requesting maintenance logs and he will be asking for these next year when he comes. He said don't worry about previous ones, just start as of now. Kendall reported that the City Truck is now leaking oil and is at Molsteads in Charles City. They do not know what is wrong with it yet. It quit on its way to get the DPF filter replaced. Generator for Well house building, has been maintained and is ready for electricians to connect to the well.

Howard Winn Schools: Crestwood sent over their schedule and task lists for Community Connection Day on April 28. Laney reported that she is available that day as well as City employee Jeff. They plan to all meet at the City Hall, 3 different groups with up to 15 students per group and an adult.

Spring Ahead Learning Center Building: This is a City owned building, the most recent Safety Auditor asked if it is in the best interest of the City to continue to own this building. The City was given this building along with the grade school building when Howard Winn consolidated all the grades to Cresco. Because this building was constructed with USDA funds, it is understood that the City can't sell this building and the provision is that it must be used for children's educational purposes. Along with the daycare/preschool it is also used as a City Storm Shelter. Heisler asked if there could be a provision for the building to be open for Storm Shelter as a condition of the donation. City will research and put on future agenda.

Budget: Levenson motioned for Tax Statement Public Hearing to be held on April 1, 2025 at 6 pm, prior to the regular Council meeting. Burnikel 2nd. All 5 Voted Yes. Tax Statement Public Hearing approved for April 1, 2025 at 6 pm. Council set April 7 at 5:30 to approve budget. Jane reported the current year's budget needs to be amended because the Merrill Street Bridge project has been delayed as well as adding water expenses as currently we are over what was budgeted for the whole year. Heisler said that he would be available to help Jane with budgets.

Water & Sewer Rates: Council discussed the water options that were presented at the previous meeting. Jane will bring sewer options to the next meeting to finalize. Council will vote in April.

Other: Cottrell asked when City is putting a fire door between Shop and Library. Cottrell continued that the weight of the books alone will bring the floor down.

Levenson motioned to adjourn with Heisler 2nd. All 5 Voted Yes. Meeting adjourned 8:27 pm.

Rick Kirkpatrick, Mayor

Jane Tibbals, City Clerk