

**City of Lowell, Oregon**  
**Minutes of the Special City Council Meeting**  
**August 12, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Mayor Paulson

**Members Present:** Mayor Paulson, Judith Rennert, Melody Knokey, Gary Reese, Jim Burford

**Public Comments: General:** Don Bennett 540 Sunridge Lane, would like to see a ‘Vicious Dog Report’ section added to ‘The Bridge’ and voiced concern about the Forensic Audit issue. Andrea Larsen 657 Moss St., wants the Forensic Audit to be done. Bob Burr 566 E 1<sup>st</sup> St., commented on a statement made by Councilor Rennert. Ken Larsen 657 Moss St., voiced concern about the mention of names in regards to the Forensic Audit item.

**Councilor Comment:** Councilor Rennert commented on Bob Burr’s comment. Councilor Knokey commented on Don Bennett’s comment.

**New Business: 10:10 AM**

- **Presentation/Overview of Wastewater Treatment** – CA gave an update on staffing to meet DEQ requirements, and proposed Organizational Chart for City of Lowell. CA then introduced Steve Miles and Mel Vatland from Orenco Systems, Incorporated, from Sutherlin, OR. Steve proposed a 30 day contract for wastewater and discussed needed safety improvements. Discussion followed between Councilors and Orenco. **Mayor Paulson motion that: 1) The CA negotiate and execute a 30 day wastewater operations contract with Orenco Systems Incorporated, contingent on review of the contract by the Mayor and Council President. 2) The CA is authorized to expend up to \$5000.00 for conversion from chlorine to sodium hypochlorite at the Wastewater Plant. 3) That the CA is authorized to expend up to \$18,000.00 to repair or replace the primary backup generator at the Wastewater Plant. Seconded by Councilor Burford.**

**PASS 5:0**

**Recess**

**Back in Session: 11:40 AM**

- **Recommendation for Hire of Public Works Superintendent** - CA recommended Max Baker for Superintendent Position. Discussion followed between council, CA and Thom VonFlatern of Public Works Dept. **Mayor Paulson move that the CA enter into negotiations with Max Baker for the position of Public Works Superintendent and if successful execute an employment agreement subject to the following: A) Council Members are provided documentation confirming Mr. Baker’s relevant certifications with respect to water/wastewater/collection and distribution. B) That the City Attorney confirms that there is no conflict with the CH2M Hill contract, with respect to hiring CH2M Hill employees. C) Confirmation that Mr. Baker fully understands whether the position is exempt or non-exempt and understands the meaning of this with respect to his compensation. Seconded by Councilor Reese.**

**PASS 5:0**

**Other Business: 12:10 AM**

- Councilor Knokey inquired if CA had received a report from Becky Price CPA, he responded it would be included in the next council meeting packet.

**Adjourn: 12:12 PM**

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen Paulson, Mayor