

**City of Lowell, Oregon**  
**Minutes of the City Council Meeting**  
**January 6, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Paulson

**Members Present:** Mayor Paulson, Jim Burford, Councilor's Elect Don Bennett and Maggie Osgood

**Member Absent:** Judith Rennert

**Oath of Office** – City Administrator Bill Lee swore in Councilor's Elect Don Bennett and Maggie Osgood.

**Selection of Mayor - Councilor Burford moved to appoint Don Bennett be Mayor of Lowell, seconded by Mayor Paulson. PASS 4:0**

**Selection of Council President – Councilor Osgood moved to appoint Jim Burford to be Council President, seconded by Mayor Bennett. PASS 4:0**

**Mayor Comments:** Mayor Bennett commented on how this community has gone above and beyond to show kindness and service this holiday season. He would like to recognize community members in the future who have given above and beyond.

**Public Comments General:** Idella Stinson 26 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St., would like everyone to work as a community. Hall O'Regan 62 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St., welcomed the new councilor members. Andrea Larsen 657 N Moss St., provided photographs of properties that are in disrepair to the council and made a statement on how to proceed into the future. Rick Currier 95 N Everly St., commented on the residence at 90 N Everly St., requesting assistance from the Council to get it cleaned up. Amy Peters 403 Carol St., read a statement on behalf of her husband, commenting on the need for code enforcement.

**Council Comments:** Councilor Paulson apologized for not responding quicker at the last council meeting when a community member disrupted the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:** November 18, 2014, minutes tabled.  
December 16, 2014, approved by consensus.

**Approval of Expenditures: 7:28 PM**

**Councilor Burford moved to approve the voucher directory for January 6, 2015, seconded by Councilor Paulson. PASS 4:0**

**Recess City Council Meeting: 7:31 PM**

**Public Hearing – Ordinance 289 (Leash Law): 7:31 PM**

**Public Comments:** Ken Larsen 657 N Moss St., voiced concern about the length of time it is taking to make this effective, and voiced concern for public safety. Pam Bryant 117 S Alder St., voiced strong support for the Ordinance. Idella Stinson 26 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St., voiced concern about how this Ordinance will be enforced. Amy Peters 403 Carol St., stated she and her dog have been attacked by a dog twice in the past 4 months. Councilor Burford asked if she had filed a report with the city, and she responded that she had not, for fear of retribution. Hall O'Regan 62 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St., asked what would happen if a dog attacked his cat, and he shot it? Ken Larsen responded with concern about the thought of shooting another animal and the issue of retribution in reporting an incident. Linda Martin 426 E 1<sup>st</sup> St., concern with no pet licensing available and is the owner of the cat that was killed by a previous dog mentioned.

Council followed in discussion with CA. Mayor Bennett requests a work session to be scheduled for next week to work on finding a solution on how to enforce this Ordinance.

**Public Hearing Closed: 7:44 PM**

**Reconvene City Council Meeting: 7:45 PM**

**Old Business: 7:45 PM**

- **City Administrator Recruitment** – Councilor Paulson gave a review on the progress in the recruitment of a City Administrator. **Councilor Burford move to table the recruitment process for 3 months, seconded by Councilor Osgood.**

**Councilor Paulson move that we amend the original motion as follows: That we cease the current CA recruitment process and direct the Mayor to enter into negotiations with the CA pro tem to establish a permanent CA contract. Seconded by Councilor Burford PASS 4:0**  
**Original motion failed by consensus.**

- **Leash Law Ordinance 289** – CA provided a staff report, recommending a work session as discussed and bring back for first reading. **Councilor Burford move to table Ordinance 289 until after the work session, seconded by Councilor Osgood.** Discussion followed. **PASS by consensus.**

**New Business: 8:03 PM**

- **Council Rules** – CA introduced topic, recommends that the Council adopt Council Rules. Mayor Bennett asks the CA to bring examples to the work session for them to review.

- **Resolution 615 – Bank Account Signatories** – Mayor Bennett read resolution for authorizing signatures on Siuslaw Bank Accounts for the City of Lowell. **Councilor Paulson move to adopt Resolution 615, seconded by Councilor Burford.** Discussion followed. **PASS 4:0**

- **Generator Maintenance Program** – Max Baker Public Works Superintendent, introduced topic, he presented the proposed maintenance program agreement from Cummins Northwest, LLC for the 3 generators, and strongly encourages council to support starting in the new fiscal year. Mr. Baker answered questions from the council.

- **System Development Charges Update** – Councilor Paulson introduced topic, the last update was done in 2011, Resolution 522. Discussion followed. Mayor request CA to bring back to council an estimate of how much time it would require for him to update SDC Fee schedule.

**Reports: 8:27 PM**

- **CA Staff Report** - CA reported that two people have applied for the Budget Committee so far, also he has drafted a Budget Calendar, and will be submitting final staffing recommendations for Public Works at the January 20<sup>th</sup>, council meeting. He would like to have the recommendation for software ready at the February 3<sup>rd</sup>, meeting. CA reported on the visit with Ken Larsen, Captain Lewis of Springfield Police and himself. They are unable to support us at this time. They did do some brain storming on what we could do. CA would like to further pursue the possibility of having a animal control/code enforcement officer full time.
- **Public Works Superintendent Report** – Max Baker reviewed report presented to council. Cost of a new flow meter for the WWTP is quoted at \$3,000 - \$4,000. **Councilor Burford move that TAG be contacted to come in next week to set up new flow meter, not to exceed \$4,000, seconded by Councilor Paulson.** Discussion followed. **PASS 4:0** Mr. Baker continued with report, stating that there is a water leak at 4<sup>th</sup> and Hyland, it will be fixed tomorrow. Work on City Hall should begin next week to fix the leak in the roof. He has received a good bid to begin work on the generator cover and will bring wireless auto-dialer for lift station item back to council for consideration.
- **Finance Report** – Council had questions for CA. CA will follow-up on when auditors will be coming.
- **Police Report** – Council questioned why incidents outside of city limits are included in report.
- **Planning Commission Meeting Minutes** – Minutes from August 26 and December 23, 2014 included in packet. Discussion on what the Planning Commission is doing in regards to Ordinance 288, dealing with sale of marijuana.

**Other Business: 8:57 PM**

- Councilor Osgood would like staff to evaluate the closing of City Hall on Fridays and report back. Discussion followed. Councilor Paulson gave new Mayor Bennett an update on committees that he will be relinquishing his position. Work Session scheduled for Wednesday January 14, 2015 at 10 AM. Mayor Bennett would like to work on Mission Statement and Goals in near future.

**Closing Public Comments:** Hall O'Regan 62 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St., requested to change public comment time allowed from one minute to two minutes. Idella Stinson 26 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St., voiced concern about comment made earlier regarding small dog vs large dog being cited if not on a leash. All dogs, no matter size, should be treated the same. She also commented that, 90 N Everly resident stated, he doesn't have a way to haul the junk away, but she says there is a place in town that will haul it away for them. CA stated he has made contact with the person and will pursue item next week. Ken Larsen 657 N Moss St., commented that small dogs can be more of a nuisance than big dogs.

**Adjourn: 9:17 PM**

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Don Bennett, Mayor

*4/28/15*