

City of Lowell, Oregon
Minutes of the City Council Meeting
April 1, 2014

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

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

Public Comments: General 7:01 PM

Maggie Osgood read a list of all the things volunteers have done for our town, and thanked them.

Rudy Rennert voiced concern about having marijuana dispensaries in Lowell.

Bob Burr voiced concern over how our volunteers have been treated.

Andrea Larsen voiced concern about having marijuana dispensaries in Lowell.

Bob Burr would like to find a common ground for everyone in our community.

Council Comments: 7:14 PM

Councilor Reese requested clarification on A. Larsen's comment.

Approval of Minutes: 7:15 PM

- **March 18, 2014 minutes are approved by consensus with one change. Councilor Rennert requested additional language under old business.**

Approval of Expenditures: 7:17 PM

- CA Hamilton responded to questions from the council.
Councilor Reese moved to approve expenditures for April 1, 2014, Councilor Rennert seconded motion.
PASSED 4:0

Old Business: 7:19 PM

- **Park Regulations and Animal Control**
Chief Scobert of Oakridge PD, explained their animal control service and what they may offer to the City of Lowell, and answered questions from the council.
Public Comment: Andrea Larsen asked if the volunteer in Oakridge carried a weapon.
Ken Larsen asked for a definition of a vicious dog.
Hall O'Regan asked if the Oakridge volunteer has had any confrontations, or trouble.
Bob Burr asked for clarification on the cost for housing a dog in the kennel.
Chief Scobert responded to questions.
- **Council Vacancy**
Council Candidates Jerry Bjornstad and Bob Burr came forward to answer questions from the council.
Public Comment: Ken Larsen voiced concern over the process of asking questions of candidates.
Mayor Paulson nominated Jerry Bjornstad for City Council position, seconded by Councilor Burford.
FAIL 2:2 Councilor Reese and Councilor Rennert opposed.

Mayor Paulson nominated Melody Knokey for City Council position, seconded by Councilor Reese.

PASS 3:1 Councilor Burford opposed.

CA Hamilton swore Melody Knokey in as City Councilor.

Recess 9:09 PM

Reconvened 9:20 PM

- **Moratorium on Siting of Medical Marijuana Dispensaries**

CA gave a brief introduction to Senate Bill 1531, Mayor Paulson gave additional explanation in regards to Lane County's decision.

Public Comment: Andrea Larsen presented council with questions on many aspects of how this may affect our community.

Council Comments: Councilor Reese read articles related to the issue from other cities within the state.

Councilor Rennert read a statement in regards to the need for adopting an ordinance on a moratorium.

Mayor Paulson explained the procedure on how to proceed and responded to some of A. Larsen's questions.

Councilor Rennert moved that the language for an ordinance enacting a moratorium on medical marijuana facilities to read: "The City of Lowell ordains as follows: The City of Lowell hereby enacts a moratorium on the operation of registered medical marijuana facilities until May 1, 2015 within the area of the city's jurisdiction." be reviewed by City Attorney and be brought back for a first reading and public hearing at the next council meeting, seconded by Mayor Paulson.

PASS 5:0

- **City Administrator PERS (Public Employee Retirement System)**

Councilor Rennert provided a copy of the signed employee agreement with CA Hamilton to councilors. She proceeded to read a statement about her concerns in regards to incorrect information provided at last council meeting in relationship to PERS payment for CA. She made a motion to rescind the motion from last council meeting.

Councilor Reese moved to Amend the Motion relating to revision of the Employment Agreement between the City of Lowell and Kevin Hamilton by omitting the words "until such time as this contract is renegotiated," and adding the words, "for the next (6) six months, April 1 to September 4, 2014, and that the total cost shall not exceed \$1,152.00."

PASS 4:1 Councilor Burford opposed.

New Business: 10:15 PM

- **Resolution 598 - Child Abuse Awareness Month**

Mayor Paulson introduced Resolution 598, proclaiming the month of April 2014 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Lowell.

Mayor Paulson moved to approve Resolution 598, proclaiming the month of April 2014 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Lowell, Councilor Reese seconded.

PASS 5:0

- **Economic Development/Enterprise Zone Committee Presentation**

Jerry Valencia the Chair for the committee presented to council a short term advertising plan. The committee is requesting tourism funds to pay for Eco-Flyers, and tri-fold brochures promoting the City of Lowell. After some discussion with council, the council requested an update of the paper brochure and the cost requirements for the next 12 months. The council voiced their support for this project, and that the CA can take care of the minor costs that have been incurred so far.

- **SDC charges and water sewer fees - Deferred to next CC meeting.**

Reports:

- **BlackBerry Jam Committee Minutes included in council packet**

Staff Reports: 10:43 PM


- **Picnic Shelter-** CA will ask the Parks Committee when they meet on 4-3-14, if they will repair the shelter within the next month, if they are unable CA will look to hire someone to fix it.
- **Public Works Staffing** The Public Works 1 position has been posted.
- **City Attorney Contract-** CA presented the Mayor and Council President with the latest copy of the contract.
- **Tourism Funds-** CA reported there is \$1000 left in the budget.
- **Website -** CA stated it is not coming along as quickly as he would like.

Other Business: 10:46 PM

- Councilor Rennert would like to remind to have Quarterly Report at next meeting and scheduling City clean up so the notice gets into 'The Bridge'. Also scheduling a tour of the water treatment facility for the Budget and Council that is part of the Budget Committee. She also request the Court financial information to come back.
- Councilor Reese clarified comment on request for detail information on the Attorney billing statements.

Adjourn: 10:48 PM

Approved: _____


Stephen Paulson, Mayor