

**LOWELL CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
April 18, 2023**

INVOCATION: Pastor Brian Clark

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Chris Moore

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Meeting of the Lowell City Council was called to order at 6:29pm.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Chris Moore asked City Clerk for a verbal roll call. Council Members present were Steve Whitehead, Eric Schein, Lisa DeGifford, Bill Adams, Bryant Sands, Roy Brunson and Adrian Flores were absent. Deputy City Attorney Kieklak was present. A roster of all others in attendance is on file with these minutes. Kendell Stucki was absent.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

Lowell City Council Minutes Regular Meeting – March 28, 2023
Financial Statement – March 2023

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion: Steve Whitehead

Second: Roy Brunson

Vote Aye: B. Adams, DeGifford, Schein, Whitehead, Sands, Brunson, Flores

Vote Nay: None

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda approved.

PRESENTATION: Chief Melnicki presented commendations to Fire Fighters. Mayor presented 20-year plaque to Melanie Houston.

PUBLIC FORUM: Open: 6:41PM Close: 6:50PM

Pastor Brian Clark directed the Easter Egg Hunt. He thanked city staff, police officers and volunteers for their participation in making this event a success.

Rick Wilson, 116 Cowan St., talked about flash flooding in his neighborhood and asked the city council to do something about it.

Leah Padilla, Principal at Jamie Darr Elementary School, asked the city council to add a resource officer to her school. She was concerned about the increase of homeless people walking around the school.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZE CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 AND THE APPROPRIATION OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE SABRE HEIGHTS LOW-PRESSURE SEWER SYSTEM PROJECT IN THE CITY OF LOWELL, ARKANSAS.

In September 2021 the City Council approved funding for Diamond C Construction Company to install a low-pressure sewer system in the Sabre Heights Subdivision. It has become apparent that due to an increased unit price for sewer service connections, that an appropriation for additional fees was necessary. City Council approved appropriation of \$15,600 and authorized execution of Change Order No. 2.

Motion to approve Resolution as presented.

Motion: Lisa DeGifford

Second: Steve Whitehead

Vote Aye: Schein, B. Adams, Sands, Whitehead, DeGifford, Flores, Brunson

Vote Nay: None

Motion to approve Resolution approved.

Resolution Assigned No. 23-09.

2 – RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF LOWELL TO UTILIZE FEDERAL-AID FUNDS FOR THE MONROE AVENUE EXTENSION PROJECT.

The Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission has approved Federal-Aid Surface Transportation Block Grant Program – Attributable funds for this project. The City will participate in accordance with its designated responsibilities in this project; the City pledges its full support and authorizes the Arkansas Department of Transportation to initiate action to implement this project.

Motion to approve Resolution.

Motion: Steve Whitehead

Second: Adrian Flores

Vote Aye: Schein, Sands, Whitehead, DeGifford, Mayor Moore

Vote Nay: Flores, Brunson

Vote Abstain: B. Adams

Motion to approve Resolution approved.

Resolution Assigned No. 23-10.

3 – RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GRANT GARRETT EXCAVATING INC. FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE WILLIAMS PROPERTY REGIONAL DETENTION POND IN THE CITY OF LOWELL, ARKANSAS AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE SAME.

The City of Lowell will construct the Williams Property Regional Detention Pond Project in order to provide flood relief for the Weatherton subdivision in the City of Lowell.

Motion to approve Resolution.

Motion: Lisa DeGifford

Second: Steve Whitehead

Vote Aye: Whitehead, Brunson, Flores, Schein, Sands, DeGifford, B. Adams

Vote Nay: None

Motion to approve Resolution approved.

Resolution Assigned No. 23-11

4 – IN SUPPORT OF PARTICIPATION IN THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANT (LLEBG) PROGRAM TO RECEIVE FUNDING FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF LOWELL, ARKANSAS.

The City Council of the City of Lowell, Arkansas fully supports and endorses its grant application to utilize LLEBG funding for the purchase of one (1) mobile Motorola radio unit (APX1500) to advance public safety in the City of Lowell.

Motion to approve Resolution.

Motion: Eric Schein

Second: Lisa DeGifford

Vote Aye: B. Adams, Schein, Sands, Whitehead, DeGifford, Brunson

Vote Nay: Flores

Motion to approve Resolution approved.

Resolution assigned No. 23-12.

5 – RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES (COPS) GRANT TO RECEIVE FUNDING FOR THE LOWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT.

The City Council of the City of Lowell, Arkansas fully supports and endorses its grant application to utilize COPS funding and the City agrees to be responsible for its expense of retaining the position of the officers in the fourth (4) year of employment in order to further advance and ensure public safety within the city.

Motion to approve Resolution.

Motion: Eric Schein

Second: Roy Brunson

Vote Aye: DeGifford, B. Adams, Brunson, Sands, Schein, Whitehead

Vote Nay: Flores

Motion to approve Resolution approved.

Resolution assigned No 23-13.

6 – RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS AND AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF A 2023 DODGE DURANGO FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN THE CITY OF LOWELL, ARKANSAS.

The Fire Chief of the Lowell Fire Department has secured a quote for one (1) 2023 Dodge Durango for the use by the City of Lowell. The Lowell Fire Department would like to utilize two fire department vehicles, which are not currently needed, as trade-ins in order to provide funding for the purchase of same vehicle.

Motion to approve Resolution.

Motion: Steve Whitehead

Second: Eric Schein

Vote Aye: Whitehead, Sands, Schein, DeGifford, Brunson

Vote Nay: B. Adams, Flores

Motion to approve Resolution approved.

Resolution assigned No. 23-14.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / DISCUSSION:

1 – April 22nd Clean up Lowell Litter Pick-up – Beginning 10:00am (71B and 264)

4 – April 22nd – Tree Giveaway – 8:00am – Street Department

5 – May 6th – Spring Cleanup – Street Department

6 – June 3rd- 4th – Mudtown Days

ADJOURNMENT: Entertain a motion to adjourn. Motion: Eric Schein. Second: Steve Whitehead. There being no objections, the meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.

ATTEST:



City Clerk/Elizabeth Estevez



APPROVED:



Mayor/Chris Moore