

**LOWELL CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 2018 6:30PM**

CHAMBER NIGHT AT LOWELL CITY HALL FROM 5:30PM – 6:30PM

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING: The Regular Meeting of the Lowell City Council was called to order at 6:30PM by **Mayor Long** at the Lowell Council Chambers.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Pastor Aaron Matthews, First Baptist Church, Lowell.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Eldon Long.

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS BY MAYOR ELDON LONG (Copy in Council Record Book)

ROLL CALL: Mayor Long asked for roll call. City Clerk made a verbal roll call. Council Members present were **Thomas Evers, Shawn Cheney, Lonnie Jones, Kendell Stucki, Todd Fenix, Linda Vannoy, David Adams, Dean Bitner. Deputy Attorney Kieklak was present, also.** There was quorum. A roster of all others in attendance is on file with these minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA:

**Lowell City Council Minutes Regular Meeting – January 16, 2018
Financial Statement – January 2018**

Motion made to accept the Consent Agenda.

Motion: Dean Bitner

Second: David Adams

Voice Vote Aye: Unanimous

Voice Vote Nay: None

Motion to accept Consent Agenda approved

PROCLAMATION – BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Proclamation approved unanimously by voice vote of councilmen present.

PUBLIC FORUM: Open: 7:29PM Close: 7:30PM

PRESENTATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

PROCEDURAL MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULE AND READ ALL ORDINANCES ONE TIME BY TITLE ONLY.

Motion made to suspend the rule and to read ordinances one time by title only.

Motion: Linda Vannoy

Second: Kendell Stucki

Voice Vote Aye: Bitner, Cheney, Fenix, Jones, Stucki, Vannoy, Evers, Adams

Voice Vote Nay: None

Motion to suspend the rule and to read ordinances one time by title only approved.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

1. **ORDINANCE AGAIN ACCEPTING THE ANNEXATION INTO THE CITY OF LOWELL, ARKANSAS OF CERTAIN LANDS CONTIGUOUS TO AND ADJOINING THE CITY AND MAKING SAME A PART OF THE CITY OF LOWELL.**

Land was previously accepted by Ordinance No. 995; however, after an error was discovered in the process of annexation and subsequently corrected by the City, it must now be accepted again.

Motion made to approve Ordinance as presented.

Motion: Kendell Stucki

Second: Todd Fenix

Vote Aye: Adams, Evers, Vannoy, Stucki, Jones, Cheney, Fenix

Vote Nay: None

Abstain: Bitner

Motion to approve Ordinance approved.

City Clerk read Ordinance by title only.

Ordinance assigned No. 1007.

2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF LOWELL, ARKANSAS TO APPROVE AND EXECUTE AN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH CORY WATSON ATTORNEYS, REDICK MOSS ATTORNEYS AND THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE/MUNICIPAL LEGAL DEFENSE PROGRAM AS COUNSEL IN RELATION TO CLAIMS AGAINST OPIOID COMPANIES.

Three reasons were given to support this resolution: 1) According to Mark Hayes, Benton County has one of the highest opioid prescriptions in the country; 2) CEO/CFO of main drug company were fined by Federal Government for false claims; 3) Loss of productivity of citizens. Supporting this resolution is no cost to the City of Lowell.

Some councilmen were against taking action against manufacturing companies because citizens need to take responsibility for their own actions.

Motion made to approve Resolution as presented.

Motion: Kendell Stucki

Second: Linda Vannoy

Vote Aye: Fenix, Vannoy, Evers,

Vote Nay: Bitner, Cheney, Adams, Stucki, Jones

Motion to approve Resolution failed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF LOWELL CODE OF ORDINANCES, SECTION 16-59, BY REZONING CERTAIN LANDS FROM RESIDENTIAL-A (R-A) TO COMMERCIAL (C).

On January 4, 2018 Planning Commissioners voted unanimously to approve rezone.

Motion to approve Ordinance as presented.

Motion: David Adams

Second: Kendell Stucki

Vote Aye: Fenix, Adams, Vannoy, Jones, Evers, Bitner, Cheney, Stucki

Vote Nay: None.

Motion to approve Ordinance approved.

City Clerk read Ordinance by title only.

Ordinance assigned No. 1008.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. February 22, 2018 - Rogers-Lowell 96th Annual Chamber Commerce Celebration. J P Barnett, Arvest Bank, will be presented the Graham/Tucker Award.
2. Annual Easter Egg Hunt – March 31, 2018 – 1:00PM at Ward Nail Park.
3. May 2, 2018 will be National Day of Prayer.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn; motion by Todd Fenix and second by Kendell Stucki. There being no objections, the meeting adjourned at 7:50PM.

APPROVED:



Mayor/Eldon Long

ATTEST:



City Clerk/Elizabeth Estes



City of Lowell

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting

February 20, 2018