**City of Latimer**

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Mark Johansen, Mayor

Melissa Simmons, City Clerk

The Latimer City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at Latimer City Hall. Mayor Mark Johansen called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm with the following council members answering roll call: Randy DeBour, Catherine Crooks, Eric Bruns and Elizabeth Symens. Landon Plagge attended via phone.

Mayor Johansen led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a motion by Crooks to approve the agenda. This motion was seconded by Bruns. Motion passed unanimously.

Fire Chief Rob Schmidt was present to update the council on the fire department happenings with updating the radios and equipment. They will be looking at grants to help pay for the equipment and received a grant to help with the radios.

The Director of City Maintenance reported he is helping Andy test water and the new fire hydrant is now installed.

The Clerk reported that she has been working on the budget amendment and will have it ready after the bid for the project was approved and the timeline was decided. She filed the Biennial reports for Latimer Charitable Foundation and Latimer Development Corporation. If the council wishes, she will have bids for the mosquito spraying and lawn care for the March meeting. She also had conference calls with the financial advisor, Maggie Burger with Speer Financial, and Bond Counsel, John Danos with Dorsey, putting together everything we need to get the financial side of the stormwater drainage project ready. She also presented the council with a request for a resident with an e-commerce business out of their home to have a dumpster and be billed as a business. After some discussion, they agreed to allow the dumpster to be placed for monthly use and have it revoked at anytime if the conditions are not met.

A motion was made by Plagge to add administrative fees to the bill for fire hydrant incident for a total of $1,000. This motion was seconded by DeBour and passed unanimously.

Bruns made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2023 meeting and was seconded by Symens. Motion passed unanimously.

The bills were approved with a motion made by Symens and seconded by Bruns. Motion passed with majority with Plagge abstaining due to conflict of interest.

The council reviewed the budget report, revenue report, and fund balance report.

Crooks made a motion to open a public hearing for the final plans for the Stormwater Drainage Project and was seconded by DeBour. Motion passed with a unanimously roll call vote.

Bruns made a motion and was seconded by Symens to close the public hearing. Motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

DeBour made a motion to approve the final plans for the Stormwater Drainage Project and was seconded by Symens. Motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

Lee Gallentine, with CGA, presented the council with six bids that were opened at 1 pm and double checked before the meeting. After more discussion, the project was awarded to Nettleton Excavating for the total of $971,907.65 to use plastic for the tile material. Resolution 2023-04 to award the project was approved with a motion by Plagge and was seconded by DeBour. Resolution passed with a unanimous roll call.

Discussion was held on the recycling situation. Alternate options were reviewed, Symens made a motion to take all our recycling to Grimes and increase the dumpster rates accordingly for changing of dumpsters. This was seconded by DeBour and passed unanimously.

Discussion was held on the garbage issues we are continuing to have, and the council instructed the crew to leave the garbage if it is too heavy and try to crack down on the weight issue.

DeBour made a motion to approve the sale of the unused siren at the fire station in Latimer to City of Alexander at their cost of moving it and was seconded by Bruns seconded this motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Plagge made a motion to approve the service contract for Aramark for rugs for the office for a weekly charge of $25. Bruns seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The council reviewed a new ordinance regarding the off-street parking and storage of vehicles in residential areas and on recreational trails. This Ordinance will be available for the public to review and the council will hold the first reading of this ordinance on March 8, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

Bruns made a motion to open the public hearing regarding the proposed max property tax levy and was seconded by Crooks. Motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote. No residents were present with questions or discussion regarding this proposal so a motion was made by Plagge and seconded by Symens to close the public hearing. Motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution 2023-01 approval of the max property tax levy rate at $10.07266 ($150,995 total tax levy) was approved with a motion made by Plagge and seconded by Bruns. Resolution passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution 2023-02 setting the public hearing for the proposed budget for fiscal year 2024 for March 8, 2023 at 7 pm was approved with a motion made by DeBour and seconded by Bruns. Resolution passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

The contract with Dorsey in the amount of $11,000 for the assistance in selling bonds for a General Obligation loan was approved with a motion made by Bruns and seconded by DeBour. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 2023-03 setting the date for public hearing and additional action on proposal to enter into a General Obligation Corporate Purpose Loan Agreement in a principal amount not to exceed $1,100,000 for March 8, 2023 at 7 pm at Latimer City Hall was approved with a motion made by Symens and seconded by Crooks. Resolution passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

The contract with the Franklin County Auditors office regarding rental of the Latimer Community Center for election purposes was tabled until the next meeting.

At 8 pm Bruns made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by DeBour. Motion passed unanimously.

Mark Johansen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa Simmons, City Clerk