

December 9, 2024

The Larchwood City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, December 9, 2024 in the Larchwood Community Center. Council members in attendance were: Mayor Snyders, Ned Hodgson, Shane Reinke, Candie Medema, Tanner Tracy and Mike Metzger. Others in attendance were: Sandi DeSmet, Tony DeSmet, Steve Simons, Derek & Emily Vanden Hoek, Jaden Lorenzen, Jen Smit, Tanner Oleson, Matt Bouwman, Carla Manning, Traci Wibeto, Monte Pottebaum, Dan Van Schepen, Gary Kurth, Jordan Metzger and Jared Vander Sanden.

Mayor Snyders called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Tony DeSmet gave his Maintenance Report: leaf collection finished, ended up with a broken pipe, street light repaired, water leak repaired, replaced tires on tractor & caster wheels on broom, graded alleys.

Dan Van Schepen with DGR Engineering discussed the next phase of the Northern Acres housing development project with 18 lots continuing East on Castle Street.

Gary Kurth with DGR Engineering discussed a proposed street improvement project in and around Larchwood for the 2026 Construction Season. Proposed paving will include Cherry Street from 130th to Highway 9, Chestnut Street from 130th to Highway 9, A18 Opt 1 from Chestnut to Cleveland, A18 Opt 2 from Cleveland to Coolidge, Cleveland Avenue from A18 to Meadow Lane.

Derek & Emily Vanden Hoek and Doug & Elaine Cherry wanted to advocate for themselves that if a sanitary sewer system would get installed in their area that they would have the chance to hook up to it. They would like the speed limit to be reduced on 130th and possibly getting it paved to knock down the dust. They also asked for street lights and fire hydrants and that their field tile that was just installed be kept there.

Jaden Lorenzen with the Larchwood Baseball Club gave the Council the 2025-2026 Budget. This includes insurance, storage box rental, clay. They would like to build a new storage building and asked for \$8,000 in matching funds from the City.

A Gym Meeting Update was given by Shane and Ned. They have put together a Community Center Survey which will be sent to all Larchwood addresses on January 3 and would like them to be returned by January 20. They have chosen Jordan Metzger with Stone Group Architects to lead this project. Motion by Hodgson, second by Medema to proceed. Roll call vote: all ayes.

Traci Wibeto with the Larchwood Community Group wanted to thank the City for their support and for Matt & Tony helping them with Christmas Lane on Main, the turnout was fantastic!

The Consent Agenda was approved on motion by Metzger, second by Tracy. All ayes. Items on the Consent Agenda were: Minutes November 12, 2024, Building Permits: Storage Shed-1741 130th Street, Deck & Carport-1221 Broadway, Rebates: Dishwasher-915 Blaine Street, Water Heatre-1023 Edgerley Street, Heat Pump-1207 Geiser Street.

The Lyon County Riverboat Foundation is requesting that at least one representative from the City attend a meeting to discuss the distributions that the City receives from the Foundation. Ned will attend.

Venus Van Tilburg asked to see if the tree and grate could be removed in front of her building. Dean said that he would talk to her.

An Amended 28E Agreement between the Larchwood Economic Development Corp and the City of Larchwood was approved on motion by Tracy, second by Medema. This agreement renews the funding of \$32,000 per year for up to ten years for the loan payments and utilities of the Lyon County Community Childcare building.

An Agreement with Rod Bajema and Sue Bajema to farm the Willard Street right-of-way was drawn up by the City Attorney. There will be no cash rent. The rent will be the care and maintenance of the property.

Discussion was held on what to do about the tvs in the Rec Center and the Shelter House now that Alliance has done away with the coaxial cable. The Council agreed to buy two smart tvs.

The City received a proposal from Visu-Sewer to install CIPP for \$299,520. Motion by Reinke, second by Metzger to approve the proposal. Roll call all ayes.

Discussion was held on Christmas bonuses. Motion by Tracy, second by Metzger to give \$500 to full time employees and \$100 to part time. Roll call: Tracy-aye, Metzger-aye, Hodgson-nay, Medema-nay, Reinke-nay. Motion by Medema to give full time employees \$300 and part time \$100, second by Reinke. Roll call: Hodgson-aye, Medema-aye, Reinke-aye, Metzger-nay, Tracy-nay. In the last few years the Council gave Larchwood Bucks to those in city appointed volunteer groups, the State Auditor said that the City cannot do that anymore.

Resolution 2025-5 Fund Transfer was approved on motion by Reinke, second by Medema. Roll call: all ayes. This Resolution transfers \$634,234.46 from the General Fund to the Rec Center Reserve Fund.

The meeting was then adjourned at 7:00 on motion by Tracy, second by Medema. Next meeting will be January 13, 2025 at 5:30 pm.

Sandi DeSmet, City Clerk