

**City of Lowell, Oregon  
City Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 5, 2024**

The Lowell City Council held a regular meeting on March 5, 2024. The meeting location was Lowell Rural Fire Protection District Fire Station 1 at 389 N. Pioneer Street, Lowell, OR 97452. Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

**City Councilors present:**

Mayor Don Bennett, Gail Harris, Tim Stratis, Maureen Weathers, Jimmy Murray.

**City Councilors absent:**

None.

**Staff/others present:**

CA Caudle; Public Works Director Max Baker; City Engineer Matt Wadlington, PE, Civil West Engineering; Project Manager Clinton Cheney, PE, Civil West Engineering.

**Approval of the agenda:**

No changes.

**Presentations:**

1. "Wastewater Facilities Plan."

Presenters: Matt Wadlington, PE, Principal - Civil West Engineering; Clinton Cheney, PE, Project Manager – Civil West Engineering

Clinton Cheney reviewed a power point presentation on the wastewater facilities plan. The power point included a discussion on:

- The steps that were followed in preparing the plan
- An analysis of existing facilities (collection and treatment)
- Expected growth in demand on the system
- Issues identified, including inflow and infiltration, aerobic digester inefficiencies, the Alder Street lift station is undersized, the sludge drying beds cannot be operated and maintained effectively, the treatment plant lacks redundancy, the disinfection system is undersized, the piper serving northeast Lowell are undersized
- Presentation of a capital improvement plan and schedule for completion
- A discussion on potential funding sources for the capital improvements

After discussion, the City Council stated that they do not have further edits to the plan. Civil West Engineering will submit the plan to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for review. Afterwards, the City Administrator will submit the plan to the City Council for formal adoption.

**New Business**

1. First reading and public hearing for Ordinance 312. "An Ordinance to Comply with HB 3115 by Repealing Ordinance 240; Adopting Time, Place, and Manner Regulations for Camping; Amending Regulations Regarding Hauled Wastewater Discharging to Accommodate RV Camping on Residential Property; and Repealing the Offense of Vagrancy from Title Five of the

Lowell Revised Code.” – Discussion/ Possible action

Mayor Bennett opened the public hearing at 7:51 pm.

CA Caudle’s staff report included the following points: staff advertised available of the proposed ordinance, in accordance with the City Charter; the ordinance is the same as presented in February; the city’s current ordinances are not in compliance with state law on camping; and a section-by-section review of the proposed ordinance.

There were no public comments for or against the proposed ordinance.

Mayor Bennett closed the public hearing at 8:07 pm.

Councilor Harris moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance 312 by title only, which Councilor Harris seconded. APPROVED: 5-0.

Councilor Weathers moved to schedule a second reading for Ordinance 312 at the March 19, 2024 regular City Council meeting, which Councilor Murray seconded. APPROVED: 5-0.

**Councilor Comments:**

Councilor Weathers reported that she recently completed a ride along with the Oakridge Police Department.

Councilor Stratis noted that Rick Shoot, former mayor and long-term resident, recently passed away.

**Adjourned at 8:11 pm.**

APPROVED:



Don Bennett, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jeremy Caudle, City Recorder