

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
CITY COUNCIL/PARKS & REC/LL&P
OF THE
CITY OF LOWELL
MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 2025, 6:15 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; ROLL CALL.

Mayor DeVore called the Meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. and City Clerk Sue Ullery called roll.

Present: Council Councilmember Bartkus, Councilmember Salzwedel,
 Councilmember Chambers, Councilmember Ritzema & Mayor DeVore.

Absent: Council None.

Present: LL&P Craig Fonger, Daniel Crawford, Andrew Schrauben and Chair Perry Beachum.

Absent: LL&P Tina Cadwallader.

Present: Others City Manager Michael Burns, City Clerk Sue Ullery, Assistant City Manager
 Rich LaBombard, Chief of Police Chief Albert and LL&P Charlie West.

Present: Parks Casey Butler, Susan Pomper, Theresa Mundt, Mark Ritzema.

Absent: Parks Bruce Matthews.

2. EXCUSE OF ABSENCE.

LL&P Board:

IT WAS MOVED BY SCHRAUBEN and seconded by CRAWFORD to excuse the absence
of Tina Cadwallader.

YES: 4. NO: None. ABSENT: Tina Cadwallader. MOTION CARRIED.

Parks and Recreation Committee:

IT WAS MOVED BY MUNDT and seconded by POMPER to excuse the absence of Bruce Matthews.

YES: 4. NO: None. ABSENT: Bruce Matthews. MOTION CARRIED.

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.

Tyler Kent who resides at 280 Jane Ellen, stated he is concerned about the funding source if project gets rescinded.

Don Lasby who resides at 226 South Jefferson asked what is the projected return on the investment.

4. BUSINESS.

Charlie West with Lowell Light & Power then explained the project and the process they will go through stating the following:

Proposed location is Stoney Lakeside. They were approached by a solar developer to see if they were interested in pursuing the "Mi Solar For All Grant" program. The proposed project would be installing 189 KW solar canopy essentially four rows of parking spaces. Two structures down the middle of the parking lot at Stoney Lakeside Park. The grant will cover 75 to 80 percent of the project. Final determinations and designs will ultimately determine some of the additional details. The first stage is submitting the grant and being selected, which has been completed. The next stage is to finalize all the grant terms with EGLE, the contracts and some of the details about what happens if grant funding is pulled. We are working directly with EGLE to understand everything.

Jordan Ryan, Managing Director at Countryside Energy and Sarah McCuish is the Director of Development, explained they are the solar developers. Fifty percent of this grant must move toward low income. Through this grant program, we should be able to help 40-50 low-income households. It was noted LL&P needs to be 50% renewable by 2030, so we are forced to invest in renewable resources and finding this was the most economic resource.

LL&P had a good board meeting regarding this project. Lots of education opportunities. Economics worked out with all. LL&P acted at last meeting, to proceed with the project and recommended it to the Parks Board and to the City Council. Stoney Lakeside is the suggested location due to it being set up better technically.

Jordan Ryan then spoke on the project.

Charlie West introduced the LL&P board members and employees present. (Casey Mieras, System Engineer and Generation Superintendent, Financial Analyst Megan Mora, Accountant and Office Manager Julie Stewart and Transmission and Distribution Manager Zac Walker.

West then talked about the project area, updating the parking lot, and removing some cottonwood trees, and enhancing the park. Approximate cost is \$935,000 including park enhancements.

Board member Chair Perry Beachum believed all needs were met. This helps the city, residents and LL&P. He would like to see the City find a way to get handicapped individuals closer to the waters edge.

LL&P would like some guidance to move forward with the project.

West spoke on the project timing stating its obviously contingent upon the contract work with EGLE. Current timeline is middle to end of next April. Spring-Summer Project 2026.

City Council:

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAMBERS and seconded by RITZEMA for Lowell City Council to enter into the solar partnership agreement with Lowell Light & Power.

YES: Councilmember Salzwedel, Councilmember Bartkus, Mayor Pro-Tem Chambers, and Councilmember Ritzema, and Mayor DeVore.

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Parks & Recreation Committee:

IT WAS MOVED BY BUTLER and seconded by Pomper that the Park and Recreation Committee move forward with the LL&P project proposal.

YES: Theresa Mundt, Susan Pomper, Mark Ritzema, Casey Butler.

NO: None. ABSENT: Bruce Matthews. MOTION CARRIED.

Byrle Bartkus asked that they please consider ADA access to the water.

5. **ADJOURNMENT.**

LL&P:


IT WAS MOVED BY BEACHUM and seconded by SCHRAUBEN to adjourn at 7:02 pm.

City Council:

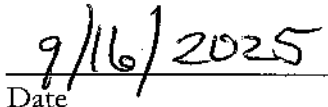
IT WAS MOVED BY SALZWEDEL and seconded by CHAMBERS to adjourn at 7:02 pm.

Parks & Rec:

IT WAS MOVED BY BUTLER and seconded by Pomper to adjourn at 7:02 pm.



Chairperson Beachum



Date