

**City of Long Prairie
Council Meeting
7:00 P.M., Monday, April 16, 2012**

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, April 16, 2012. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Bob Klick, Art Rowan, Tony Towle, and City Administrator/Clerk David Venekamp. Council member Lilah Gripne was absent from the meeting.

Council member Klick motioned Towle seconded to approve the council minutes of April 2nd and the April invoices. Motion unanimously carried.

City Administrator Venekamp stated the future owner of the property north of Prairie Lane has entered into a purchase agreement for the property abutting his rezoning request. The council had approved the rezoning provided the owner obtained access to his property without using the city street. It appears the individual will be closing on a deal with Alice Siegle for the purchase of land which allows him access off of old Highway 27 to the property. Once the sale has been completed, Venekamp stated the council would then approve a rezoning ordinance for the land.

The council discussed the change in the state law regarding water conservation rates. The previous law required public water suppliers serving more than 1,000 individuals to implement water reduction rates. The effective date of the law has been changed to January 1, 2015. In addition, the law was changed to allow cities to implement either a water conservation rate or use a uniform rate structure with a water conservation program.

The council reviewed an industrial wastewater treatment agreement for Long Prairie Packing. The city is proposing a similar wastewater treatment agreement as the ones they have with Dan's Prize, Daybreak Foods, and Central Bi Products. The agreements are essentially the same except for the debt service costs and the amount of flows and loadings that each industry can contribute to the wastewater treatment system. The city will be meeting with the industry at the end of April to discuss the agreement.

The council discussed possible attendance at the League of Minnesota Cities annual conference in Duluth. Council member Klick stated he would like to attend the conference.

The council reviewed 3 bids on the replacing of carpet at the city office complex. The city obtained the following price quotes:

- Jerry Vearrier, Long Prairie \$18,562.43
- Floor to Ceiling Carpet Once (Bud Roman) \$19,839.09
- Denny's Floor Covering, Little Falls \$15,883.44 to \$17,196.82
(dependent upon carpet choice)

Council member Rowan motioned Klick seconded to approve the bid to Denny's Floor Covering in the amount not to exceed \$17,196.82. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Towle stated the contractor for the wastewater treatment facility has hooked up the waterline at the wastewater plant. Tony mentioned Sentence to Serve may be doing some curb work along the library parking lot.

Police Chief Kevin Langer stated the week of April 19th is Tornado Awareness Week and the tornado sirens will be sounded at 1:45 p.m. and 7:55 p.m. on April 19th.

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer stated the department has purchased 2 sets of bunker gear and boots at a cost of \$1700. The department received a DNR grant to pay half the cost of the equipment. Jim also indicated several cities within the county are discussing the use of mutual fire aid. In the past, the City of Staples has not signed a mutual aid agreement with the other cities and it now appears they are likely to do so.

Council member Klick stated the new camera system is in at the liquor store. The park board awarded a bid on replacing 700 ft. of the bicycle path to J & S Concrete. The park board has also purchased 3 new docks for Lake Charlotte Park and the docks should be delivered within the next couple of weeks.

Mayor Rasmussen stated the airport commission will be interviewing engineering firms for engineering work at the airport on Wednesday, April 25th.

City Administrator Venekamp stated several items have been placed on K-bid for sale. Some of the items include: public works pickup truck, mower, docks for the beach, a small tractor, office cubicles, and some miscellaneous tools. The sale date is April 24th.

City Administrator Venekamp stated that public works employee, Chad Bosl, has passed his A Wastewater Treatment license test. The city's wastewater treatment plant will go from a Class B plant to a Class A plant once the additions to the plant go on line. Venekamp stated an individual, in order to even take the test, must work in a Class B wastewater treatment facility for 8 years. The city's wastewater treatment facility was designated as a Class B plant in 2003 and Bosl has worked in that facility over the past 8 years. Venekamp stated it is a major accomplishment for someone to obtain their A license. Prior to obtaining the A license an individual must obtain lower licenses (eg. C license then a B license) before taking the A license test. Chad is the only A licensed operator the city has for the wastewater plant.

Council member Klick motioned Rowan seconded to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

David Venekamp
City Administrator/Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor