

**City of Long Prairie
Council Meeting
7:00 P.M., Tuesday, September 3, 2013**

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 3, 2013. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Art Rowan, Tony Towle, Lilah Gripne, Bob Klick, and City Administrator/Clerk David Venekamp.

Council member Klick motioned Gripne seconded to approve the council minutes of August 19th and the August invoices. Motion unanimously carried.

Mayor Rasmussen called to order a 7:00 p.m. public hearing on proposed ordinance #13-09-03-03 titled "An Ordinance of the City of Long Prairie, Minnesota Annexing Land Located in Long Prairie Township, Todd County Minnesota, Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 414.033 subdivision 2 (1), Permitting Annexation By Ordinance". Those present for the public hearing were: Andrea Warnert, Stewart Sander, Mary Ann Sander, Linus Holler, Thomas Holler, John T. Mosby, Phyliss Mosby, Tom Sellnow, Kathy Sellnow, Kathy Rausch, Al Rausch, Kevin Langer, Doug Schmidt, Donna Schmidt, Larry Schmidt, Dale Moore, Connie Moore, Claire Rice, Sharon Rice, William Nelson, Jamie Flan, David Determan, Randy Meyer, Lyle Danielson, Jim Kreemer, John Ecker and Jasmine Ecker.

Mayor Rasmussen stated the purpose of the hearing is to adopt an ordinance annexing 14 acres of city owned land south of Lake Charlotte Park.

Tom Sellnow stated it was his understanding that the city's annexation of the property would lead to the possible development of the area for a Frisbee golf course. Sellnow indicated the area has wetlands within it and that access to the property from the north would not be feasible due to the amount of water in the area. The property also provides for control of water runoff to the lake and that any development of it could impact the quality of the lake. Sellnow questioned the fact that individuals may park along the road adjacent to the residents and try and access the property, individuals may also use the property for criminal type activities or scope out the homes of the adjacent property owners. Sellnow suggested the city could place restrictive covenants on the property and sell it if they desired.

Individuals at the meeting questioned the amount of security the city could provide for the golf course, the amount of parking available for those using the course as well as the lack of bathroom facilities and parking facilities at the current Lake Charlotte Park.

Individuals questioned why the city had not contacted individuals about the public hearing and wondered if they were trying to conceal their actions.

City Administrator Venekamp stated the city had contacted the county planning and zoning office concerning the use of the park and was told that the park use would be a semi-public use and would require a conditional use permit. Had the planning and zoning office determined the use was a public use, the city could have developed the land as a park without any public hearing or input. The city council did not agree with the county on the use of the park since all city parks

are public uses. The council decided to annex the property into city limits in order to allow the city greater control of the property. Under state statute, cities may annex city owned land by ordinance which would not require a public hearing for the annexation. Long Prairie however holds a public hearing on the adoption of any ordinance. The city does not mail out notices for the adoption of ordinances. The city published a notice for the public hearing on the ordinance in the paper, the use of the property as a disc golf course was a cover story in the Long Prairie Leader, it was in council minutes published in the paper, and the idea was discussed at prior meetings of the Park Board and City Council.

David Determan stated the idea of the Frisbee golf course came from a group of young adults and teenagers that he works with. As an activity available for people of the area, it was suggested that the city develop a Frisbee golf course. The city was able to obtain funds through his agency for the equipment and the design of the course.

Other individuals questioned the lack of bathroom facilities at the current Lake Charlotte Park as well as parking; and that the addition of another recreational facility would create greater use and therefore stress on those facilities. It was also mentioned that there were numerous weeds on the property.

City Administrator Venekamp stated that approximately 20 years ago, the city proposed nature trails through these woods and residents were opposed to that. The Frisbee golf course is another low impact use for the woods and it appears the residents are opposed to that also. Venekamp questioned if there was any public use the city would have for that property which would meet the approval of the adjoining property owners. Appearing that there may be none, then the city really has no use for the property and should sell it.

Council member Rowan stated the development of the Frisbee disc golf course would involve the removing brush in the area; however, the city would not look at digging up or altering the landscape of the wooded area. The impact on the groundwater and soils would be very minimal in the use of the property as a disc golf course.

There being no further questions or discussion, the public hearing was closed at 7:45 p.m.

Council member Towle motioned Rowan seconded to adopt the ordinance #13-09-03-03 titled “An Ordinance of the City of Long Prairie, Minnesota Annexing Land Located in Long Prairie Township, Todd County Minnesota, Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 414.033 subdivision 2 (1), Permitting Annexation By Ordinance”. Roll call: Yes; Rowan, Towle, Gripne, Klick, Rasmussen. Motion unanimously carried.

The council reviewed a request by Wildmen Properties (Bill Nelson) to rezone the east half of Lot 10 and part of Lot 9 and the east half of Lot 8 Block 4 Lee’s Addition from residential to highway commercial. Mr. Nelson stated the property has been used for commercial purposes and that every time they change the use of the property they need to apply for a conditional use permit since it is zoned residential. Over the years the property has been used as part of a cement plant facility, bus garage, storage facilities and small engine repair.

Council member Rowan stated that Planning and Zoning held a public hearing on the request and three property owners attended the public hearing. One of those individuals was strongly opposed to the rezoning of the property. The Planning and Zoning Commission had recommended on a 2 – 1 vote that the property be rezoned from residential to highway commercial.

Council member Gripne motioned Klick seconded to approve the rezoning of the east half of Lot 10 and part of Lot 9 and the east half of Lot 8 Block 4 Lee’s Addition from residential to highway commercial. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Gripne motioned Klick seconded to enter into a joint powers agreement with Todd County for pictometry involving aerial photography, and geo date software sharing with the county. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Rowan motioned Gripne seconded to approve the following resolution of sponsorship with Community Concern for Youth for 2014:

**RESOLUTION #13-09-03-09
RESOLUTION OF SPONSORSHIP**

Resolution authoring participation with the Community Concern For Youth Program with Todd-Wadena Community Corrections.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Long Prairie City Council that Todd County act as sponsoring unit of government for the project entitled Community Concern For Youth to be conducted by Todd-Wadena Community Corrections during the period from 01/01/14 through 12/31/14. Randy Neumann, Chairperson, Todd County Board of Commissioners, is hereby authorized to execute such agreements and funding as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the Long Prairie City Council.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Long Prairie City Council hereby agrees to contribute \$2,174.00 for the project entitled Todd-Wadena Community Concern For Youth during the period from 01/01/14 through 12/31/14, which is to be paid on 01/01/14.

It is understood that the Long Prairie-Grey Eagle School Board contributes \$2,747.00, and the Grey Eagle City Council contributes \$302.00, for a total community contribution of \$5,223.00.

I hereby certify that the above resolutions were adopted by the Long Prairie City Council on September 3, 2013.

Signed:

Witnessed:

Mayor

09/03/13

Clerk-Administrator

09/03/13

Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Gripne motioned Klick seconded to approve the following resolution on the proposed 2014 tax levy and budget:

**RESOLUTION #13-09-03-10
ADOPTING THE PROPOSED 2013 TAX LEVY, COLLECTIBLE
IN THE YEAR 2014**

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie, County of Todd, Minnesota, that the following sums of money are proposed to be levied for the current year, collectible in 2014 upon the taxable property in the City of Long Prairie for the following purposes:

Levy Purpose	
General Fund	\$ 261,861
2006 G.O. Bond	179,952
2010 G.O. Bond	<u>125,173</u>
Total Levy	\$ 566,986

David Venekamp
City Administrator/Clerk

Donald Rasmussen
Mayor

Roll call: Yes; Rowan, Towle, Gripne, Klick, Rasmussen. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Klick motioned Rowan seconded to authorize Mayor Don Rasmussen and/or City Administrator Dave Venekamp to sign the FAA Grant agreement for the funding of improvements at the Long Prairie Airport AIP project #3-27-0049-08-013. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Gripne motioned Klick seconded to adopt the following resolution on donations to the city for the month of August:

**RESOLUTION #13-09-03-11
RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING DONATIONS**

WHEREAS, the City of Long Prairie has received the following donations during the months of May and June, for the following purposes:

Donor	Amount	Purpose
Casey Pesta	\$ 25.00	donation
Linda Kielty	\$165.28	donation from garage sale
Vern Noland	\$ 50.00	donation
Hormel Foods	\$600.00	donation
Dan's Prize	\$165.00	donation

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF LONG PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA THAT: the City Council of the City of Long Prairie acknowledges and accepts the donations received the month of August.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: the City Council of the City of Long Prairie expresses its thanks and appreciation for the donations to all Donor(s) listed.

Adopted this 3rd day of September, 2013, by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie.

ATTEST:

David Venekamp
City Administrator/Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor

Motion unanimously carried.

Police Chief Kevin Langer stated they had 328 incidences in the month of August. On September 10th the department will go through a qualification shoot. The drug box for the drug drop off, to be placed in the city hall office lobby, has been delivered and should be installed in the near future.

The council also discussed the possibility of adopting a social host ordinance for the city and the council agreed to proceed with that.

Council member Klick stated the liquor store time clock has broken and that the department is looking at the purchasing of a new clock.

Council member Rowan motioned Gripne seconded to appoint Delray Mathiason and Jason Skiftun to the Long Prairie Planning and Zoning Commission. Motion unanimously carried.

City Administrator Venekamp stated the city and Long Prairie Packing have entered into a treatment agreement for wastewater to the mechanical plant. Long Prairie Packing is in the process of obtaining whatever permit they need from MPCA for the operation of the pretreatment facility.

The city was approached for the possibility of resident only parking in front of the apartment house along 2nd Avenue South between 3rd Street and 4th Street. The area is being utilized by the Todd County employees during the day and that it is difficult for residents to park along that street.

Council member Rowan motioned Rasmussen seconded to approve two “parking resident only” spots in front of the apartments on 2nd Avenue South as requested. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Rowan motioned Rasmussen seconded to authorize council members Gripne and Klick to attend the League of MN Cities regional meetings in Sartell on October 24th. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Rowan motioned Klick seconded to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

David Venekamp
City Administrator/Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor