

**City of Long Prairie
Council Meeting
7:00 P.M., Monday, October 7, 2013**

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

Council member Klick motioned Gripne seconded to approve the council minutes of September 16, 2013. Motion unanimously carried.

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer stated approximately 3 years ago the vehicle industry began using boron in the manufacture of new vehicles. The boron is stronger than steel and the city's Jaws of Life tools are unable to cut the boron. Jim stated the department received the following two quotes for a new cutter for their Jaws of Life which would allow them to cut the boron:

- Alex Air Apparatus of Alexandria - Hurst S700 Cutter with couplers- \$6,400.00
- Pat's Pump Service - Hurst S700 Cutter with couplers- \$6,550 plus shipping

Jim stated the department would like to use the money from their small tools account and the balance would come from their fund raiser mailing to purchase the new cutter.

Council member Gripne motioned Klick seconded to purchase the Hurst S700 cutter from Alex Air Apparatus in the amount of \$6,400. Motion unanimously carried.

The council discussed the development of the Frisbee golf course on 14 acres of land the city recently annexed. The city's park board had discussed the issue at their last meeting and again recommended to the council that the city proceed with the development of the course. Council member Klick stated he felt the city should either use the land for the golf course or they should sell it. Council member Rowan indicated the request for the course came from youth within the community.

Council member Rowan motioned Towle seconded to proceed with the development of the 14 acres as a Frisbee golf course. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Gripne motioned Klick seconded to approve the following resolution for donations to the city:

**Resolution #13-10-07-13
RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING DONATIONS**

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

Donor	Amount	Purpose
Class of 1963	\$475.00	Fire Dept 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 September.

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 7th day of October, 2013, by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie.

ATTEST:

David Venekamp
City Administrator/Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor

Motion unanimously carried.

The council discussed improvements to the hydrostatic system on the city street sweeper. The city had purchased the street sweeper from McQueen Equipment several years ago. McQueen estimated the cost of the repair would be no greater than \$14,000 but more realistically would be in the area of \$7,000 to \$10,000. If the work is done next year, the city would not have to pay sales tax and the cost of the repairs would be cheaper.

Mayor Rasmussen motioned Klick seconded to have McQueen Equipment repair the street sweeper with the work to be done after the 1st of the year to take into account tax savings on the repair. Motion unanimously carried.

The council discussed possible attendance at the Manufacturer's Breakfast for 7:00 a.m., October 22nd. Mayor Rasmussen and council members Gripne, Rowan, and Towle all indicated they may be able to attend.

The council discussed the public works position applications. The city had received 21 applications of which 3 individuals were interviewed for the position. Council member Towle stated the committee doing the interviews would like to recommend the hiring of Chris Haasser for the public works position.

Council member Towle motioned Gripne seconded to approve the hiring of Chris Haasser pending his physical as the new public works employee. Motion unanimously carried. It was noted that Chris would most likely start work October 21st.

Mayor Rasmussen stated that earlier in the day, council member Gripne, city administrator Venekamp, and he had met with the Long Prairie Township board to discuss the township's suggestion that the city maintain the roads around the 14 acres recently annexed by the city. Rasmussen stated the city had presented a map to the township of all of the roads that the city currently maintains which are city, county, and township responsibilities. After reviewing the map, the township agreed that they would continue to maintain the roads as they have done in the

past. They also suggested that perhaps the city and township could enter into an agreement, whereby, the maintenance of each road between the city and township are laid out.

Mayor Rasmussen called to order a 7:30 p.m. public hearing on proposed ordinance #13-10-07-04 “Amending Certain Provisions of Chapter 9” regarding refuse and garbage collection. Those in attendance for the public hearing were Larry Schmidt, Lyle Danielson, and Jim Kreemer.

The purpose of the ordinance was to clarify the definitions of solid waste and refuse. The city council had recently changed the garbage hauling contract; and the definitions in the contract and the definitions within the ordinance did not coincide. There being no comments from the public, Mayor Rasmussen closed the public hearing at 7:35 p.m.

Council member Gripne motioned Rowan seconded to adopt ordinance #13-10-07-04 “Amending Certain Provisions of Chapter 9”. Motion unanimously carried.

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer stated the department held an open house in conjunction with the Police Department on Sunday. Life Link provided a few aerial rides with their helicopter and the department did fire and vehicle rescue demonstrations.

Council member Gripne stated the police department had 259 incidents in the month of October.

Mayor Rasmussen stated he met with Representative Ron Kreska and two other representatives concerning local issues within the communities. Rasmussen also stated he attended the Agua Gorda meeting concerning the vegetable produce raised by the group.

City Administrator Venekamp stated the city has been notified they will receive a Minnesota Department of Health grant for the sealing of wells within the city’s wellhead protection area. The grant will also fund the review of sanitary sewer systems within the wellhead protection area.

Venekamp stated the city has received a complaint concerning the parking of vehicles too close to the alley along 1st Avenue South thereby blocking the vision of those coming out of the alley. The public works director has gone over and talked to the owner of the business (K-Bid) and was informed that he will move them. Venekamp stated the council may want to put no parking areas along the alley to allow individuals using the alley better visibility onto 1st Avenue South. The council also discussed other possible parking issues along the road which may need to be addressed in the future. Consensus of the council was to watch the use of the road.

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

David Venekamp
City Administrator/Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor