

**City of Long Prairie  
Council Meeting  
7:00 P.M., Tuesday, January 21, 2014**

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 21, 2014. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Tony Towle, Bob Klick, Art Rowan, and City Administrator/Clerk David Venekamp. Council member Lilah Gripne was absent.

**Council member Klick motioned Towle seconded to approve the council minutes of January 6, 2014 and the January invoices. Motion unanimously carried.**

Becky Hillig stated Prairie Fest will be a three day event, June 20<sup>th</sup> thru June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The parade would be June 21<sup>st</sup> and it will follow the same route as last year. Becky asked for the council's approval for the parade route.

**Council member Klick motioned Rowan seconded to approve the parade route for Prairie Fest as presented. Motion unanimously carried.**

Council member Rowan reviewed the City Administrator/Clerk's job description, the advertisement for the new City Administrator/Clerk and the starting wage scale. The council had appointed Rowan, Gripne and Venekamp to prepare the proposed job description, advertisement and wage scale.

**Council member Rowan motioned Klick seconded to approve the City Administrator/Clerk's job description as presented. Motion unanimously carried.**

**Council member Klick motioned Towle seconded to waive the monetary limits on the city's tort liability insurance. Motion unanimously carried.**

The council reviewed proposed ordinance #14-01-06-01 titled "An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3 Officers, Boards, Commissioners and Employees". The public hearing for the ordinance was at a previous council meeting however the council had tabled the adoption of the ordinance until this meeting.

**Council member Rowan motioned Klick seconded to adopt ordinance #14-01-06-01 as presented. Motion unanimously carried.**

Mayor Rasmussen appointed council members Rowan, City Administrator/Clerk Venekamp and himself to the committee to interview the new City Administrator/Clerk.

Council member Rowan stated the public works crew has been busy plowing the streets.

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer stated the fire department responded to 100 calls in 2013 and presented the council with a breakdown of the types of calls. Kreemer stated the FEMA radio grant which was awarded to city has been completed. Under the grant all of the fire departments in Todd

County, as well as two ambulance services, and the county received new radio equipment. The City of Long Prairie received over \$96,000 in radio improvements and training, the City of Staples received just under \$96,000 and the Todd County Sheriff's Department \$411,000. The city fire departments, within the county, received anywhere from \$35,000 up to \$97,000 in radio improvements to meet the 800 MHz radio system requirements.

**Council member Rowan motioned Klick seconded to appoint Jim Kreemer as the Fire Chief for 2014 as recommended by the department. Motion unanimously carried.** It was also noted that Brandon Hudalla has been appointed the President of the Fire Department for 2014.

Police Chief Langer stated DARE classes will be starting tomorrow. During 2013 the police department handled 3,580 ICR's. Langer indicated the department is handling a lot of calls during the daytime and asked the council about the possibility of adding some additional help during the day in the form of another fulltime officer. Langer had contacted other communities as to their staffing of the police departments and in all of the incidences; those departments have a secretarial staff as well as similar numbers of police officers as Long Prairie.

The council discussed a request by Agua Gorda to lease some additional land in the very south end of the city's industrial park. Last year the organization leased approximately three acres of land for \$1,000. The city has about two to three acres of additional land in this area for possible lease.

Council member Rowan motioned Klick seconded to lease the land from last year along with the additional land to Agua Gorda, should they so desire, for a total of \$1,200. Motion unanimously carried.

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

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David Venekamp  
City Administrator/Clerk

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Don Rasmussen  
Mayor