

**City of Long Prairie
Council Meeting
7:00 P.M., Tuesday, September 2, 2014**

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 2, 2014. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members, Lilah Gripne, Tony Towle, Art Rowan, Bob Klick, and City Administrator/Clerk Brenda Thomes.

Council member Rowan requested an amendment to the council minutes of August 18, 2014, adding Brandon's last name to the minutes.

Council member Klick motioned Towle seconded to approve the council minutes of August 18, 2014, with the request by Rowan to add Brandon's last name to the minutes. Motion unanimously carried.

Patrick Buen addressed the council to discuss his ownership of three dogs. He has one medical dog and two trained service dogs; both of which are puppies. The medical dog is used to care for his significant other; and the other two are service dogs used for crowd control. The service dogs are a little over six months old and have completed six months of training.

Council discussed the dogs and issues with property owners having more than two dogs. Property owners are looking at putting up a fence around their property to keep the kids out and to keep the dogs in. They are also looking at starting a bail bonds business here in Long Prairie. At that time, the service dogs would be used to assist the business and one of the dogs would stay at that location.

Council member Rowan inquired about visiting the location and at this time, this will be tabled until the next council meeting. We will have the ordinance that references how many dogs are allowed and some of the council members will go to 119 6th Street NE.

Council member Rowan motioned Towle seconded to table a decision on the dogs until the next meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Gripne explained to the council a variance application by David Sovich to replace his cement steps with wood and put a roof over the top of the steps. Planning and Zoning Commission approved this application citing a roof will help decrease snow accumulation and injuries. Joseph Bleess and Florence Westerberg, two neighbors who attended the meeting, approved the updates that Mr. Sovich was doing to his property.

Council member Klick motioned Towle seconded to approve the variance application for David Sovich. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed a variance application by McDonald's to raise the height of their sign and to move it four feet south of the current location. Planning and Zoning has approved the variance and has forwarded it on to city council.

Council member Rowan motioned Klick seconded to approve McDonald's variance request to increase the height of the sign from 35' to 45'; and to move the sign from the existing location four feet south as recommended by Planning and Zoning. Roll call: Yes; Rowan, Klick, Rasmussen, Towle. No; Gripne. Motion carried.

Council discussed the walking bridge over the lowland area at Lake Charlotte for the Frisbee Golf. A permit will be needed to work in the wetland area. City Administrator/Clerk Thomes has submitted a permit application to construct a walk-way bridge and access from the Frisbee Park to the other portion of Lake Charlotte Park. There will be two small walkway approaches made from one side of Lake Charlotte Park going across the road down to the other side of Lake Charlotte's Frisbee Park. These two areas will not exceed 400 sq. ft.

Tim Mackey assisted with placing lanes at the Frisbee Park, marking trees, and setting up the Frisbee baskets. Tim will be sending an invoice for half of his final payment of \$700.00 within the next two weeks.

Council discussed a resolution calling for a public hearing by the city of St. Cloud on behalf of Centra Care Health for the issue of revenue bonds at the council meeting on October 6, 2014. Centra Care is in the process of reissuing their bonds. Since the City of Long Prairie was under this revenue bond, the city needs to go forward with approving this bond along with the City of Melrose, the City of St. Cloud, and the City of Monticello. This bond hearing is called a Tefra Bond Hearing. The attorney for Centra Care, Thomas Matthews, was in attendance at the meeting and explained to the council the reasoning for this public hearing. Matthews will be noticing this public hearing and the city will be holding the public hearing at our location on October 6, 2014.

Council member Rowan motioned Klick seconded to schedule a public hearing resolution calling for a public hearing on the issuance of revenue bonds by the City of St. Cloud on behalf of Centra Care Health. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Rowan discussed public works/firemen going on fire calls. He would like to see the city go back to more of a six person public works department. Rowan requested City Administrator/Clerk Thomes to add in wages to the budget for another public works employee.

Council asked City Administrator/Clerk Thomes to send a letter/memo to Public Works Director Dan Spieker. Rowan thought it would be better if we would spell it out in a policy. Rowan suggested Dan Spieker and Jim Kreemer sit down with City Administrator/Clerk Thomes and work on a policy for public works/firemen. City Administrator/Clerk Thomes stated it would be good to get everybody's input.

Council member Rowan was nominated to sit in on this meeting. Dates of the meeting to discuss policy for public works employees to go to fires will be set in the forthcoming days.

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer stated the fire today, Tuesday, September 2, 2014, at Central Bi went very well with the assistance of the two public works employees.

Council member Rowan motioned Towle seconded to set a public works policy for fire calls outlining when employees can leave for calls to a fires. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed the Jacob Brower Trail. This trail will run from the Stearns County Line all the way to Wadena County. The cities along Highway 71 corridor are working together to create a walking, biking, and multi-purpose trail. At this time, we are asking that city council review the letter that all the cities have submitted on behalf of the National Joint Powers Innovation Program.

Council member Rowan motioned seconded by Klick to approve the application to the National Joint Powers Innovation Program. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed the budget for 2015. City Administrator/Clerk Thomes highlighted some of the items within the budget:

- Fulltime public works employee
- More hours for the part-time police officers – approved in 2014
- Joining with Todd County in regards to septic inspections starting 2016
The city will contribute \$7,000 total for septic inspection project and Todd County would do a grant of \$30,000 for the rest of the project. This \$7,000 would be split up over two years; 2015 budget \$3,500 and 2016 budget \$3,500.
- Setting aside \$55,000 towards seal coating for 2015
- Contribution to the Christy house for work that needs to be done there. The city still, however, requires a financial statement before the contribution is made.

**RESOLUTION #14-09-02-17
ADOPTING THE PROPOSED 2014 TAX LEVY, COLLECTIBLE
IN THE YEAR 2015**

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 2015 upon the taxable property in the City of Long Prairie for the following purposes:

Levy Purpose	
General Fund	\$ 279,300
2006 G.O. Bond	145,000
2010 G.O. Bond	<u>180,000</u>
Total Levy	\$ 604,300

Brenda Thomes
City Administrator/Clerk

Donald Rasmussen
Mayor

Council member Rowan motioned Gripne seconded to approve resolution 14-09-02-17 Adopting the Proposed 2014 Tax Levy, Collectible in the year 2015. Total Levy amount is 604,300. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed resolution from Charter Communication to merge with Comcast Corporation.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-9-2-18
CONSENT TO TRANSFER OF
CONTROL

WHEREAS, CC VIII Operating, LLC ("Franchisee") is the duly authorized holder of a franchise, as amended to date (the "Franchise"), authorizing Franchisee to serve the City of Long Prairie, MN (the "Franchise Authority") and to operate and maintain a cable television system there; and

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2014, Comcast Corporation ("Comcast") and Time Warner Cable Inc. ("TWC") entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger; and

WHEREAS, on April 25, 2014, Charter Communications, Inc. ("Charter") and Comcast entered into the Comcast/Charter Transactions Agreement, and contingent upon Comcast's consummation of its acquisition of TWC, Charter shall undertake a *pro forma corporate* restructuring pursuant to which Charter will merge with and into a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of Charter which will become "New Charter," which shall become the ultimate parent of Franchisee ("Transaction"); and

WHEREAS, the ultimate control of Franchisee will not change as a result of this corporate restructuring, and the stockholders of Charter shall become the stockholders of New Charter; and

WHEREAS, Franchisee has filed an FCC Form 394 with the Franchise Authority; and WHEREAS, the Franchise Authority has considered and consents to the Transaction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FRANCHISE AUTHORITY AS FOLLOWS:

The foregoing recitals are approved and incorporated herein by reference.

1. The Franchise Authority consents to the Transaction.
2. The Franchise Authority confirms that the Franchise is valid and outstanding and in full force and effect and there are no defaults under the

Franchise. Subject to compliance with the terms of this Resolution, all action necessary to approve the transfer of control of the Franchisee to Charter has been duly and validly taken.

3. Charter, New Charter or the Franchisee may (a) assign or transfer its assets, including the Franchise, provided that such assignment or transfer is to an entity directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by or under common control with Charter or New Charter; (b) restructure debt or change the ownership interests among existing equity participants in Charter or New Charter; (c) pledge or grant a security interest to any lender(s) of Charter's or New Charter's assets, including, but not limited to, the Franchise, or of interest in Charter or New

Charter, for purposes of securing any indebtedness; and (d) sell equity interests in Charter or New Charter or any of Charter's affiliates.

4. Upon closing of the Transaction, the Franchisee shall remain bound by the lawful terms and conditions of the Franchise.
5. This Resolution shall be deemed effective upon adoption.
6. This Resolution shall have the force of a continuing agreement with Franchisee, and the Franchise Authority shall not amend or otherwise alter this Resolution without the consent of Franchisee and Charter or New Charter.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 2 day of September, 2014.

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

ATTEST:

Clerk

Council member Rowan motioned and Rasmussen seconded to approve resolution 14-09-02-18 Consent to Transfer of Control. Motion unanimously carried.

Arvig Communications submitted a request to install a large control cabinet for the Freshwater District and to service requests from businesses within Long Prairie. The cabinet will be 84in. L

x40in.Wx68inT. There will be direct power connection, and has a self contained heating and cooling system. The backup power source for this unit is batteries, so there is minimal noise from the unit. The fan that runs from both the heating and cooling is similar to a window air conditioner. After Arvig conducted an onsite visit they identified an area near Well House #6. Arvig asked if the City of Long Prairie would consider giving an easement behind the fight of way on city property for this piece of equipment.

Council member Klick motioned and Towel seconded to approve the request from Arvig Communications. They are only able to install equipment stated in this request any future equipment will need to be presented to council. Motion unanimously carried.

Councilor Rowan noted Public Works will work with Administrator Thomes and Fire Chief to develop a policy for public works employees to go on fire calls.

Public Safety Jim Kramer the Fireman's Picnic was a success. There were active and retired in attendance at the picnic.

Kevin Langer reported there were 313 reports and 30 of the complaints were relating to dogs. Kevin said the active shooter went very well, there were a few areas that have issues that need to be resolved. The first day of school went very well no incidents.

Councilor Klick noted the Liquor Store has received their new smocks. This month at the Library they are trying to get new members to register for library cards.

Councilor Gripne noted there will be a Planning and Zoning meeting on September 22 at 4:30p.m. The EDA meeting will be on September 18th at 4:30 there was no meeting last month.

Mayor Rasmussen noted the Airport Commission met to here an application from Prairie Lakes to install a new grain dryer. The Commission approved the request. The Commission also asked for Prairie Lakes to install a new light onto of their bins. City staff emailed over the specs to install a new light.

Council member Klick motioned Gripne seconded to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Brenda Thomes
City Administrator/Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor