

City of Long Prairie
Council meeting
7:00 P.M., Monday, January 4, 2016

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, January 4, 2016. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Tony Towle, Devin Hines, and City Administrator/Clerk Brenda Thomes. Council members Lilah Gripne and Art Rowan were not in attendance.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to approve the council minutes of December 7th and the December bills. Motion carried.

Mayoral appointments as follows:

- Public Safety – Devin Hines
- Liquor Store, Health & Library, Park & Rec – Tony Towle
- Planning & Zoning, EDA – Lilah Gripne
- Administration, Community Concern for Youth, Airport, & Tourism – Mayor Rasmussen

Council appointment as follows:

- Acting Mayor – Lilah Gripne
- Official Newspaper – Long Prairie Leader
- Official Depositories:
 - American Heritage National Bank
 - Minnesota National Bank
 - Mid Central Savings Bank
 - Central MN Federal Credit Union
- City Auditor – Dennis Bacon
- City Attorney – Peters and Churchwell (Civil)
- City Attorney – Brown & Krueger (Criminal)

Mayor Rasmussen motioned Towle seconded to approve the appointments as presented. Motion carried.

Council discussed the two companies that submitted bids for fire inspection: Fire Construction Services and Summit Fire Protection. There was a long discussion in regards to the dollar amount for the wet system annual inspection and the wet system 5 year annual inspection.

Councilor Hines motioned Towle seconded to approve the proposal for Summit to do the wet system annual inspection service and the 5 year internal inspection system. Motion carried.

Mayor Rasmussen moved #8 to #1 under new business.

Councilor Art Rowan has sadly submitted his resignation to the council due to family developments.

Mayor Rasmussen motioned Hines seconded to accept the resignation of Councilor Joseph Rowan. Motion carried.

Now there is a vacancy for the council seat for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2016.

There was a brief discussion about filling the council seat, and Mayor Rasmussen and Councilor Towle spoke with James Ruiz to ask if he would like to fill the council seat.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to approve the appointment of James Ruiz to the council seat to complete the year of January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016. In November, there will be an election for the remaining 2 years of Councilor Rowan's term. Motion carried.

Council discussed a letter that was submitted in regards to the T.H. 27 Improvement Project. The council has requested Bolton & Menk to come up with an analysis of what the project will actually cost for 2017 to repair roughly 9 blocks on T.H. 27.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to do a cost analysis on T.H. 27 for the installation of new sewer and water infrastructure. Motion carried.

Bolton and Menk will bring a report back to the council at their next meeting.

There was a proposal to update the video camera, to install 2 new cameras, replace 1 old camera, and to install a larger hard drive to support the new cameras. There was also a discussion about replacing a new DVR, installing, and setting up. Total project is \$3,186.64.

Council discussed getting bids to install a freight door on the side of the liquor store.

Councilor Towle motioned Rasmussen seconded to approve the proposal for the video cameras for \$3,186.64 and to get bids on a freight door at the liquor store. Motion carried.

Police Chief Kevin Langer broke down the budgeted items for the new 2016 Chevrolet Tahoe:

- Budgeted amount for 2016 Tahoe \$38,000.00
- Purchase price of 2016 Tahoe \$37,220.00
- Approximate selling price of 2004 Explorer \$2,000.00
- Budgeted for squad computer replacement \$4,600.00
- Budgeted for light bar on 2016 Tahoe \$1,500.00
- Budgeted for computer software \$4,000.00

A squad computer grant was received in the amount of \$2,393.00.

Council Towle motioned Hines seconded to approve the 2016 Chevrolet Tahoe for the police department. Motion carried.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to approve the appointment of Bob Klick to the Planning and Zoning Board. Motion carried.

Mayor Rasmussen motioned Towle seconded to approve the assessments to the county. Motion carried.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to approve temporary liquor licenses to the VFW for January 17, 2016, and February 7, 2016. Motion carried.

Mayor Rasmussen motioned Hines seconded to approve the additional equipment for the

snow plow. Motion carried.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to approve pay application #6 to Eagle Construction Company. Motion carried.

The project should be completed for the water tower at the end of January.

Councilor Hines noted that public works is in the process of taking down all the Christmas lights and decorations. Public works is starting to work on reading meters for January.

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer noted that the annual meeting for election of officers is the only thing on the agenda for the department.

Police Chief Kevin Langer noted that there were 280 ICR's for November and 312 for December. Their record system has been upgraded by using the Dragon system that they just recently installed. It's really helping them get their ICR reports completed. There were 398 ICR's above last year's total. Their yearly training was in December for Taser and self-defense. This is a once a year renewal by the post board. The street light in front of the Christie house and along that side of the street are out. We have been having issues on and off with the street lights downtown.

Councilor Towle noted that the director for the library wants to come out and give a presentation on March 7th.

Mayor Rasmussen noted that there will be a public hearing out at Round Prairie Township on January 19th at 7:00 p.m. The council meeting that is set for January 19th will need to be set for 5:00 p.m. in order to accommodate the 7:00 p.m. Round Prairie public meeting.

Administrator Thomes briefly talked about Broadband. Looking at working on and trying to get another grant for Broadband. There will be several meetings and steps that will need to be worked out before we can start writing the 2016 grant for Broadband.

Police Chief Kevin Langer also submitted to everybody a meeting on January 13th at 6:30 p.m. at the Centra Care Board room. There will be a cultural presentation about Somali culture. Centra Care had a meeting of this sort back in September and now there will be another one available for everybody that is interested. This is going to be focused generally for public servants who have more contact with the general public.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Brenda Thomes
City Administrator/Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor