

City of Long Prairie
Council meeting
7:00 P.M., Monday, March 21, 2016

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 21, 2016. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Lilah Gripne, Devin Hines, James Ruiz, Tony Towle and City Administrator/Clerk Brenda Thomes.

Councilor Towle motioned Gripne seconded to approve the council minutes of March 2nd and March 7th, and the March bills. Motion carried.

Melissa Kolstad addressed the council with a diagram for Prairie Days to be held on June 18, 2016. The proposal is on Central Avenue from 4th Street North to 2nd Street North on the south side of the street; and on the north side of the street stopping just short of Thrifty White Drug. There will be vendor booths on both sides of the street on Central Avenue with a fire lane open in case of emergency. The street will be blocked off to through traffic. There will also be a petting zoo and clowns on 3rd Street North as we have done for the Friday Night Bright Lights.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to approve the Prairie Days Festival diagram. Motion carried.

Council received a letter submitted by Owner/Operator Kris Genck of McDonald's. McDonald's is requesting semi parking along 3rd Avenue South. Council will review the information and get back to her if there is a possibility that we could do something in that area.

Dan Swenson addressed council on the CentraCare project. Dan stated, at this point, with the cost of everything increasing so much, CentraCare is only able to contribute 1.5 million dollars to the road portion of the infrastructure part of the project. They submitted two diagrams: one with the estimate for the street and utilities and the second one was CentraCare's proposal for the street and utilities for 1.5 million. Dan Swenson noted that for the assisted living there will be about 10 – 12 new full time jobs and the same for the medical campus. There are roughly 226 fulltime employees at CentraCare and a total of 280 employees including the part time employees.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to repeal TIF, repeal the Sewer Access Charge and the Water Access Charge that we originally had in our developer's agreement. To take the whole infrastructure project back under the city's wing for the city to go out to bid for the complete road, sewer and water infrastructure over at the CentraCare Campus. CentraCare will contribute 1.5 million to the project. Council, at this point, will contribute \$500,000 not to exceed \$500,000. Council wants the developer's agreement completed. Motion carried.

Councilor Towle motioned Ruiz seconded to approve the no parking sign as requested by Miguel Botello. Motion carried.

Mayor Rasmussen motioned Towle seconded to set a public hearing 5:00 p.m., Monday, April 11, 2016, on a resolution titled "RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ISSUE OF REVENUE BONDS BY THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD BEHALF OF CENTRACARE HEALTH SYSTEM". Motion carried.

The council has now switched to the 2nd and the 4th Mondays for council meetings. The 1st April council meeting on the 11th will be at 5:00 p.m. due to a conflict the Mayor has with another

meeting that day.

Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to move the April 11th city council meeting to 5:00 p.m. Administrator Thomes will need to notice this council meeting of the change. Motion carried.

Councilor Hines noted there has been an employee out ill in the public works department.

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer noted they had their ISO insurance inspection and they did a very good job. They are still remaining at a 4 for the ISO rating which is very good.

Police Chief Kevin Langer and Fire Chief Jim Kreemer had noticed a gas leak in the furnace room and in the bay area. Fire department had their sniffer out and they could detect a slight smell so we will get in touch with the plumber and get this problem taken care of.

Police Chief Kevin Langer noted that there is a property management training class set for March 22nd. They have done two interviews to date for the full time position and will conclude with the other 4 on Thursday. Hopefully, we will have a decision on the new police officer to bring to the council on April 11th.

Councilor Towle noted that the door for the liquor store is in. They will install once the weather is better.

Council Gripne noted Planning and Zoning will have a meeting to approve the CentraCare CUP and Final Plat. EDA has a meeting on Thursday at 4:30 p.m. and an open house on the 29th.

Mayor Rasmussen noted there will be a Community Concern for Youth meeting in April. All the items for music in the park have started. Tourism is very excited about it this year.

Mitch Zastrow will not be returning this summer so the city is looking for somebody to mow lawns.

The next city council meeting will be Monday, April 11, 2016.

Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Brenda Thomes
City Administrator/Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor