

City of Long Prairie
Council meeting
7:00 P.M., Monday, August 1, 2016

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, August 1, 2016. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Devin Hines, James Ruiz, Tony Towle, Lilah Gripne and City Administrator/Clerk Brenda Thomes.

Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Councilor Towle motioned Gripne seconded to approve the council minutes of July 25, 2016. Motion carried.

Patty Weibye and Ann Burger were in attendance to discuss sewer backups that occurred at their property. They wanted the council to be aware of the backups. The city is reviewing the area where the backups occurred and asked Administrator Thomes to bring a plan back in the near future regarding a resolution to this issue.

Administrator Thomes stated she is working with Dan Spieker and the first item to do with the two backups will be to televise the line to see if there are roots in the line.

Councilor Gripne motioned Hines seconded to approve St Mary's church raffle. Motion carried.

Councilor Towle motioned Ruiz seconded to approve the renewal of the liquor license to the Long Prairie VFW Motion carried.

Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to approve the contractor's pay request number 1 in the amount of \$286,418.11 to RL Larson Excavating, Inc. Motion carried.

Councilor Gripne motioned Hines seconded to approve the following resolution for decertification of tax increment financing District#1-2:

**Resolution #16-08-01: 01
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DECERTIFICATION OF
TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT #1-2
OF THE CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE**

Councilor Gripne offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, on May 3, 1999, the City of Long Prairie (the "City") created its Tax Increment Financing District No. 1-2 (the "Housing District"); and

WHEREAS, location of Tax Increment Financing District No. 1-2 is located on an approximately seven-acre parcel on the south side of Highway 27 and east of the hospital.

WHEREAS, as of December 31, 2016, all obligations to which tax increment from the Housing District have been pledged have been paid in full and all other costs of the Project have been paid; and

WHEREAS, the City desires by this resolution to cause the decertification of the District after which all property taxes generated within the District will be distributed in the same manner as all other property taxes.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie, Minnesota, that Tax Increment Financing District 1-2 is hereby decertified effective December 31, 2016; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is hereby directed to notify Todd County of the decertification and termination of the district.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilor Hines and, the roll being called, the following vote was recorded:

Voting Aye: All Aye
Voting Nay: None
Not Voting: None

Whereupon said resolution was declared to have been duly adopted this 1st day of August, 2016.

Don Rasmussen
Mayor

Brenda Thomes,
City Administrator/Clerk

Council reviewed an affidavit in support of Administrative Search Warrant on the property of Gerard Hansen. This inspection allows our city building inspector to conduct an inspection of the property to identify the complaint on the visual inspection of the exterior and the interior conditions of the property. The basement of this property reportedly contains a significant amount of standing water. The inspector will complete an assessment report and report back to the city administrator.

Councilor Gripne motioned Hines seconded to approve the administrative search warrant and affidavit in support of the administrative search warrant to go and do an inspection of this property. Motion carried.

Council discussed a request by non-union employees to review section 13.1 of the City of Long Prairie Personnel Policy. This section talks about full time employees, upon retirement of years of service, looking for the city to make an adjustment of moving it back from 25 years back down to 20 year. Currently, in our policy, we have all full time employees upon retirement and with at least 25years of service to the city, the city shall contribute \$250 per month toward the employee's health insurance premium for a period of 5 years or until the employee qualifies for Medicare, whichever is shortest. Staff is looking for council to change it from 25 years back down to 20 years so it's consistent with all of our other retirement such as PERA and the police retirement.

Mayor Rasmussen motioned Towle seconded to approve the request by the non-union employees. Roll call: Yes; Rasmussen, Towle, Hines, Ruiz. No, Gripne. Motion carried.

Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to approve the following motion for the city to proceed with the EDA Grant request for expansion of the wastewater treatment plant:

RESOLUTION 16-8-1:02
CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE 2017
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
EXPANSION GRANT APPLICATION

BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Long Prairie act as the legal sponsor for project(s) contained in the Wastewater Treatment expansion Project Grant Program to be submitted on August 10, 2016 and that the City Administrator/Clerk and Mayor are hereby authorized to apply to the Department of Employment and Economic Development for funding of this project on behalf of City of Long Prairie.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City of Long Prairie has the legal authority to apply for financial assistance, and the institutional, managerial, and financial capability to adequate project administration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the sources and amounts of the local match identified in the application are committed to the project identified.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City of Long Prairie has not violated any Federal, State or local laws pertaining to fraud, bribery, graft, kickbacks, collusion, conflict of interest or other unlawful or corrupt practice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon approval of its application by the state, City of Long Prairie may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above referenced project(s), and that City of Long Prairie certifies that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulation as stated in all contract agreements.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the undersigned is hereby authorized to execute such agreements as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the applicant.

I CERTIFY THAT the above resolution was adopted by City Council of Long Prairie on August 1, 2016.

SIGNED:

WITNESSED:

(Authorized Official)

(Signature)

(Title)

(Date)

(Title)

(Date)

Council discussed the geese at Lake Charlotte Park. Public works has been working very diligently to try and get that all cleaned up out there.

Jim Kreemer talked a little bit about National Night Out. Kreemer stated with the road and sewer project going on, there were two different gas line breaks that the fire department had to attend.

Police Chief Kevin Langer stated they are working on updating the other 2 sirens. They had 373 incidents.

Councilor Gripne noted that August 22nd will be a variance request for a deck. The public hearing will start at 4:00 p.m.

Mayor Rasmussen noted Tourism will be next week.

Administrator Thomes noted that she is working diligently with broadband and wanted to confirm with council if she should go forward and send the contracts to Consolidated Telephone Company. Council agreed that we move forward by Administrator Thomes sending those agreements back to CTC.

Administrator Thomes noted that August 2nd – August 16th is registration for 2 – 4 year term council seats, and 1 – 2 year term council seat that is available.

City Engineer Kent Louwagie discussed the Fairview water and sewer line that was being replaced and asked council to go forward and make a motion to extend the future water and sewer line on Fairview going to the west.

Councilor Towle motioned Gripne seconded to extend the future water and sewer line for Fairview off to the west just outside of the roadway for future expansion. Motion carried.

Councilor Gripne motioned Hines seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

Brenda Thomes
City Administrator/Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor