

City of Long Prairie
Council meeting
7:00 P.M., Monday, March 6, 2017

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 6, 2017. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Devin Hines, Tony Towle, Randy Mechels and Deputy Clerk Debra Blake. Councilor Lilah Gripne and Administrator/Clerk Brenda Thomes were absent.

Councilor Mechels motioned and Towle seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to approve the council minutes of February 21, 2017. Motion carried.

Council discussed a variance application for Richard and Rosemary Robinson. Planning and Zoning approved the variance at the public hearing on February 27, 2017.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to approve the variance request for Richard and Rosemary Robinson as recommended by Planning and Zoning. Motion carried.

Council discussed a purchase agreement between the City of Long Prairie and Todd County for Lot 6, Block 2 in the Industrial Park. There was a change to the purchase agreement to 14. (a) Examination of Title.

Councilor Towle motioned Mechels seconded to approve the purchase agreement between the City of Long Prairie and Todd County with the change. Motion carried.

Mayor Rasmussen stated CTC had met with the city and would like to start the broadband project by April 1st. A driver has run over a light pole in the Industrial Park while unloading some of the equipment for the project.

Councilor Towle stated the Firemen are upset about the camera placement in the bay area of the fire hall.

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer stated the firemen don't like where the camera is located. This area is where they assemble after a fire or rescue and discuss the events that occurred. The firemen don't like the fact that they are or can be watched on camera during those times. Kreemer felt it would be better to move the camera to cover the overhead doors so you can see people entering and exiting the building when the trucks are out. Kreemer stated ads placed for firemen have not seen any response.

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer also expressed their concerns over the rental of the training room leaving the fire hall and bay area unsecured during those times. The city hall building is open, at times, before city staff arrives at 8:00 a.m. with doors unlocked and propped open from the front door to the back of the building.

Police Chief Kevin Langer stated they too had concerns over data privacy with people wandering the halls while they are interviewing crime victims as was recently the case.

It was suggested that the rental of the council chambers is the only place that would be secure

enough.

Police Chief Kevin Langer stated there were 282 incident in February. Officer Josh Nice has resigned from the police department and taken a job with the county. The city has hired Kristy Brackett as a part time police officer.

Councilor Hines stated there was a sewer backup at the library. Mike Baum has been contacted to help with the cleanup from that incident. The new Bobcat has been delivered to the public works department.

Councilor Towle asked if they could burn some of the brush at Mosquito Park as they can't get the wood chipper in there. The city will get a burning permit to burn the brush.

Council discussed the new Sunday liquor sales starting in July.

Mayor Rasmussen stated the city should have a trial period for Sunday sales and that the liquor store manager was in agreement with that. The city would have to compare the cost of labor to the cost of sales after the trial period.

Police Chief Langer stated there is talk of cutting out the 3.2 liquor sales at some point which could increase Sunday sales.

Mayor Rasmussen stated Community Concern for Youth will meet in March. The airport is working on the 500 foot extension.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to adjourn at 7:32. Motion carried.

Debra Blake
Deputy Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor