

City of Long Prairie  
Council meeting  
7:00 P.M., Monday, May 1, 2017

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, May 1, 2017. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Randy Mechels, Lilah Gripne, Devin Hines, Tony Towle, and City Administrator/Clerk Brenda Thomes.

There were two additions to the agenda:

- Public hearing amendment to the 2016 Improvement Project which was scheduled for May 1, 2017, 7:15 p.m.
- Resolution 17-05-01:04 Supporting Local Authority

**Councilor Gripne motioned Hines seconded to approve the agenda with the additions. Motion carried.**

**Councilor Hines motioned Gripne seconded to approve the council minutes of Aril 17<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried.**

Kent Louwagie of Bolton & Menk presented the amendment to the road project for the following streets:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE
- 1<sup>st</sup> Street South

**Councilor Towle motioned Gripne seconded approve the following resolution:**

**Resolution 17-05-01:04**

**Resolution Ordering Improvement and Preparation of Plans**

WHEREAS, a resolution of the city council adopted the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2017, fixed a date for a council hearing on the proposed Amendment to the 2016 Street & Utility Improvements Project, the proposed improvement of the following streets:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE, from 4<sup>th</sup> St N to 6<sup>th</sup> St NE
- 1<sup>st</sup> St S, from Lake Charlotte Road to 1,390 feet north
- Lake Charlotte Road, from 1<sup>st</sup> Street S to 250-feet west

By reconstructing the street and utilities, and constructing new street and utilities, and

WHEREAS, ten days' mailed notice and two weeks' published notice of the hearing was given, and the hearing was held thereon on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2017, at which all persons desiring to be heard were given an opportunity to be heard thereon,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA:

1. Such improvement is necessary, cost-effective, and feasible as detailed in the feasibility report.
2. Such improvement is hereby ordered as proposed in the council resolution adopted the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2017.
3. Bolton & Menk, Inc. is hereby designated as the engineer for this improvement. The engineer shall prepare plans and specifications for the making of such improvement.
4. The city council declares its official intent to reimburse itself for the costs of the improvement from the proceeds of tax exempt bonds.

Adopted by the council this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2017.

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Brenda Thomes – City Administrator/Clerk

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Don Rasmussen - Mayor

**Motion carried.**

**Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to approve the following resolution:**

**Resolution 17-05-01:01**

**A Resolution Establishing support for application to the  
National Joint Powers Alliance Innovation Funding program  
for the CentraCare Wellness Center**

WHEREAS, the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) is providing Innovation Funding for cities and counties in Region 5, and;

WHEREAS, the City of Long Prairie along with regional partners, has identified a need for a community Wellness Center, and;

WHEREAS, CentraCare has prepared an application for \$100,000.00 with no match required to address the regional needs identified in the application, and;

WHEREAS, the City has prepared an Innovation Funding Agreement to be executed should NJPA application be awarded, and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Long Prairie approves the National Joint Powers Alliance Innovation Funding application for submittal and authorizes the Council Board Chair and City Administrator to execute all agreements pursuant to the project.

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Motioned by Board Member \_\_\_\_\_,

Second by Board Member \_\_\_\_\_,

to adopt the above Resolution was passed on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
City of Long Prairie Chairperson

**Motion carried.**

The Long Prairie Hockey Association would like the city council to consider selling pull tabs at the Riverside Liquor Store. Administrator Thomes and Liquor Store Manager Pam Koska talked about all the details for this venture. With approval by the city council, Administrator Thomes and Liquor Store Manager can go forward with working out the details with the Hockey Association before the final start of selling pull tabs at Riverside Liquor. 20% of the proceeds will go to Riverside Liquor.

**Councilor Gripne motioned Mechels seconded to allow the sale of pull tabs in support of the Long Prairie Hockey Association. Motion carried.**

**Mayor Rasmussen motioned Hines seconded to approve the following resolution:**

**Resolution #17-05-01-  
RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING DONATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Long Prairie has received the following donations during the month(s) of April, for the following purposes:

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Gaylord & Mary Saetre	\$50.00	police equipment fund
Heartland Chapter MN Dark House Association	\$500.00	fire department

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF LONG PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA THAT:** the City Council of the City of Long Prairie acknowledges and accepts the donations received the month of April.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:** the City Council of the City of Long Prairie expresses its thanks and appreciation for the donations to all Donor(s) listed.

Adopted this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2017, by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brenda Thomes  
City Administrator/Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Don Rasmussen  
Mayor

**Motion carried.**

The city is looking at purchasing another volute and gasket for our pumps at the wastewater treatment plant and also to consider a new Hydromatic S4KXP, Premium Efficient, 40hp, Exproof Submersible pump in the amount of \$12,788. The reason for this purchase is for the backup pump out at the wastewater treatment plant and also it will be a different style compared to the previous two pumps that we have.

**Councilor Towle motioned Gripne seconded to move forward with this purchase. Motion carried.**

**Councilor Towle motioned Gripne seconded to continue with the lease agreement with Agua Gorda Cooperative. They've been such a wonderful partner with the city. Motion carried.**

**Councilor Gripne motioned Mechels seconded to approve the following resolution:**

**RESOLUTION # 17-05-01:03  
A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LOCAL  
DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY**

**WHEREAS**, local elected decision-makers are in the best position to determine what health, safety and welfare regulations best serve their constituents; and

**WHEREAS**, just like state legislative leaders, local elected officials are held accountable through Minnesota's robust elections process; and

**WHEREAS**, ordinances at the local level are enacted only after a comprehensive, legal and open process; and

**WHEREAS**, local units of government are required to publish notices about meetings where policies will be discussed and decisions will be made; and

**WHEREAS**, under the state's Open Meeting Law, public policy discussions and decisions must occur in meetings that are accessible to members of the public; and

**WHEREAS**, cities are often laboratories for determining public policy approaches to the challenges that face residents and businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, preservation of local control in Minnesota has yielded statewide benefits such as the 2007 Freedom to Breathe Act, an amendment to the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act; and

**WHEREAS**, more than two dozen bills that restrict local decision-making have been introduced in 2017 to date.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE** that this Council supports local decision-making authority and opposes legislation that removes the ability for local elected officials to respond to the needs of their businesses and constituents.

**ADOPTED** by the Long Prairie City Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

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Brenda Thomes, City Administrator/Clerk

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Don Rasmussen, Mayor

**Motion carried.**

Councilor Mechels noted that the installation of the Broadband is going pretty well. He's heard a lot of positive comments.

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer there was a discussion about new firefighter applications. There is still one opening for the fire department.

Police Chief Kevin Langer noted the following happenings for the police department:

- 355 incidents for the month of April
- April 29<sup>th</sup> – prescription take back day and collected 19.8 lbs. of pills
- May 1<sup>st</sup> – Passed the POST Board Audit meeting our mandatory trainings and polices
- May 5<sup>th</sup> – assisting the fire department with an exercise at the hospital at 1300
- May 5<sup>th</sup> – participating at Cinco De Mayo event at the secondary school
- May 7<sup>th</sup> – Page One Auto will be having a Grand Opening Event (Formerly South Side Auto) that will include a DJ & Food
- May 14<sup>th</sup> – 20th is National Police Week and the 15<sup>th</sup> is Nation Pease Officers Memorial Day
- May 16<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m., the Rotary Club will sponsor the 2<sup>nd</sup> Law Enforcement Appreciation Night at the secondary school

Council discussed the Frisbee Park. We are in the process of getting that open.

The liquor store is looking at putting in new counters to make it ADA compliant.

Councilor Gripne noted that there is no Planning and Zoning meeting. The EDA is looking at doing the downtown plan which includes the ten blocks downtown off of Central. There are about 13 people to serve on the Ad Hock Committee for the EDA for the downtown plan. May 18<sup>th</sup> will be the EDA meeting. May 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the Ad Hock Committee meeting to start for the vision planning.

Mayor Rasmussen was at the Aviation Conference in Mankato which he learned about several new ideas and opportunities for the city to help out our airport in safety prevention.

**Councilor Gripne motioned Hines seconded to adjourn at 8:30. Motion carried.**

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Brenda Thomes  
City Administrator/Clerk

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Don Rasmussen  
Mayor