

City of Long Prairie
Council meeting
7:00 P.M., Monday, December 4, 2017

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, December 4, 2017. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Tony Towle, Randy Mechels, Lilah Gripne, Devin Hines and City Administrator/Clerk Brenda Thomes.

There were two additions to the agenda:

- **Holiday Gas Station**
- **Long Prairie American Legion**

Councilor Towle motioned Gripne seconded to accept the additions to the agenda. Motion carried

Councilor Towle motioned Gripne seconded to approve the council minutes and bills of November 20th. Motion carried.

Mayor Rasmussen called to order a public hearing at 7:03 p.m., on Resolution 17-12-04:01 2016 Road Project.

City Engineer Bolton & Menk presented the overall project cost and an explanation of all the streets that are involved in the project and what the beginning of the project was to the very end. The total assessment amount is \$1,056,438.92. The overall project was a total of \$6,837,454.00.

The breakdown of that amount is:

- \$684,291 - County's portion
- \$1,683,425 - CentraCare's portion
- \$4,469,739 - City's portion

The total additions was \$950,600

There were two people at the public hearing, Steven Laumeyer and Deb Bruder that were requesting the council to defer their assessments because of their disability. Steven Laumeyer presented the paperwork from his attorney and from social security administration declaring the disability adjustment. We do not have the paperwork for Deb Bruder.

Mayor Rasmussen closed the public hearing at 7:12 p.m.

Councilor Mechels motioned Towle seconded to approve the following Resolution 17-12-04:01 contingent upon Steven Laumeyer supplying the documentation for the deferred assessment and Deb Bruder supplying the documentation for the deferred assessment. Administrator Thomes will take the documentation and present it to our city attorney for final approval of the deferment.

Resolution 17-12-04:01

Adopting Assessment

WHEREAS, pursuant to proper notice duly given as required by law, the council has met and heard and passed upon all objections to the proposed assessment for the 2016 Street and Utility Improvements Project, the improvement of the following streets by reconstructing the street and utilities

8th Street SE/NE (CSAH 40) from 4th Avenue SE (TH 287) to 1st Avenue NE (TH 27),
8th Street NE from 1st Avenue NE (TH 27) to 2nd Avenue NE,
2nd Avenue NE from 6th Street NE to 9th Street NE,
7th Street NE from 1st Avenue NE (TH 27) to 6th Avenue NE,
4th Avenue NE from 6th Street NE to 7th Street NE,
Fairview Avenue NW (CR 86) from Riverside Drive (CSAH 56) to 550' west, and
2nd Ave N, from 4th St N to 6th St NE
1st St S, from Lake Charlotte Road to 1,390 feet north
Lake Charlotte Road, from 1st Street S to 250-feet west

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

1. Such proposed assessment, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, is hereby accepted and shall constitute the special assessment against the lands named therein, and each tract of land therein included is hereby found to be benefited by the proposed improvement in the amount of the assessment levied against it.
2. Such assessment shall be payable in equal annual installments extending over a period of ten (10) years, the first of the installments to be payable on or before the first Monday in January 2018, and shall bear interest at the rate of three (3) percent per annum from the date of the adoption of this assessment resolution. To the first installment shall be added interest on the entire assessment from the date of this resolution until December 31, 2018. To each subsequent installment, when due, shall be added interest for one year on all unpaid installments.
3. The owner of any property so assessed may, at any time prior to certification of the assessment to the county auditor, pay the whole of the assessment on such property, with interest accrued to the date of payment, to the city treasurer, except that no interest shall be charged if the entire assessment is paid within 30 days from the adoption of this resolution; and he/she may, at any time thereafter, pay to the city treasurer the entire amount of the assessment remaining unpaid, with interest accrued to December 31 of the year in which such payment is made. Such payment must be made before November 15 or interest will be charged through December 31 of the next succeeding year.
4. The clerk shall forthwith transmit a certified duplicate of this assessment to the county auditor to be extended on the property tax lists of the county. Such assessments shall be collected and paid over in the same manner as other municipal taxes.

Adopted by the council this 4th day of December, 2017.

Mayor

City Clerk

Motion carried.

Mayor Rasmussen called to order a public hearing at 7:13p.m., on Resolution 17-12-04:02 Adopting the Final 2017 Tax Levy.

Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #17-12-04:02
ADOPTING THE FINAL 2017 TAX LEVY, COLLECTIBLE
IN THE YEAR 2018**

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie, County of Todd, Minnesota, the following sums of money are levied amounts for the current year, collectible in 2018 upon the taxable property in the City of Long Prairie for the following purposes:

Levy Purpose	
General Fund	\$352,775
2010 G.O. Bond	170,000
2012A G.O. Bond	<u>180,000</u>
Total Levy	\$ 702,775

Brenda Thomes
City Administrator/Clerk

Donald Rasmussen
Mayor

Mayor Rasmussen closed the public hearing at 7:16 p.m.

Council Gripne motioned Towle seconded to approve Contractor's Pay Request No. 12 in the amount of \$241,706.21. Motion carried.

Council discussed a memo regarding a request by the Trinity Lutheran Church. Council decided to set up a meeting with the members of the Trinity Lutheran Church to explain to them how the assessment would work. Administrator Thomes will be working with Trinity Lutheran Church to set up a special council meeting.

City Attorney, Joe Krueger, put together a memorandum outlining what the city needs to do about the Twist's dogs. Administrator Thomes will get in touch with Dorie Twist and ask her to fill out a variance application for her two additional dogs that are considered companion dogs with her disability. Once the variance request is filled out, there will be a public hearing on the variance and neighbors within 350 feet will be notified of that request.

Councilor Mechels motioned Towle seconded to approve the renewal of Liquor, Wine, Club or 3.2 License for Taqueria Chavez. Motion carried.

There was an email from our city attorney regarding the Bellamy property and also from the MPCA outlining the contaminants at the property. Administrator Thomes will be working with MPCA to find out what exactly is the contaminants. If it's just from the dry cleaner and then Administrator Thomes will bring it back to the city to determine if we would even consider buying the building

to tear it down; or tearing down the property and the Bellamy's would donate the property to the city.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded for Administrator to put the information together from the MPCA regarding what type of contaminants and to get quotes on demolition and the to bring back to the city council. Motion carried.

Councilor Mechels motioned Towle seconded to approve the renewal of Liquor, Wine, Club or 3.2 License for Holiday Gas. Motion carried.

Councilor Gripne motioned Hines seconded to approve a permit for a 4 day temporary on-sale liquor license for Long Prairie American Legion Post 12 for December 31st. Motion carried.

Council member Towle asked the city if public works could go out to Mosquito Park. Pat Schultz is working on cutting down trees and there's a bunch of brush that needs to be burned.

Mayor Rasmussen motioned Towle seconded to have public works burn all the brush out by Mosquito Park. Fire Chief Jim Kreemer said there needs to be at least 3 inches of snow on the ground in order for them not to get a permit. That will be the request going to public works, once there is 3 inches of snow on the ground, public works can go out and burn out at Mosquito Park without a permit. Motion carried.

Councilor Mechels noted the following for Public Works and Broadband:

- Broadband is still continuing residential connects; although, be it slow, residential connections are continuing.

Administrator Thomes made a request on behalf of Public Works Director Dan Spieker. Dan Spieker's water and wastewater licensing will be running out here shortly and his request was to renew his license one more time if the city would consider his training for one more term.

Councilor Mechels motioned Hines seconded to approve Dan Spieker to go to training to renew his water and wastewater license one more time. Motion carried.

Councilor Towle read a report from Chief Langer on the Police Department:

- 280 incidents for the month of November
- the trial for the 2nd degree murder came in with a conviction
- Chief Langer wanted to commend Officer Breiter on a wonderful job

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer gave a report on the Fire Department:

- Santa Claus went well for the day after Thanksgiving
- there was roughly 250 bags of candy that were given out
- fireworks was a success
- they are having issues with the pumper truck and it is over in Alexandria and they are working on getting the pumper fixed
- PJ Signs have not submitted their quote yet for the Fire Department and Jim Kreemer will reach out and see if they still want to submit a bid

Councilor Hines noted the following for Liquor Store, Health & Library, Park & Rec:

- the liquor store is switching their credit card company over to Clearnet
- Mosquito Park as was talked about earlier

Councilor Gripne noted the following for Planning & Zoning, & EDA:

- EDA meeting will be December 21st
- December 13th, Lilah will be coming to city hall to discuss the rental ordinance

Mayor Rasmussen noted the following for Administration, Community Concern for Youth, Tourism and Airport:

- Tourism wants to take a look at helping the city with events that go on during the year. Other cities have their Tourism or have a committee looking at the events so there is not too many events for one single day for one particular city. Tourism will bring back some more information on that.
- The Airport project is getting ready to start in next year for the 500 ft. extension

Administrator Thomes noted the following.

- The union employees have voted are going with the current plan and also the \$1500 deductible plan. Both of them have copays
- 7 out of the 10 families switched coverage to the little bit higher deductible
 - 300 plan – each pay period withdrawal amount is \$256.78
 - 1500 plan – each pay period withdrawal amount is \$205.28
- The overall monthly premium cost for the city will be \$12,454.98 and the employees will be \$2,873.93

Councilor Towle motioned Gripne seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried.

Brenda Thomes
City Administrator/Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor