

**City of Long Prairie  
Council meeting  
7:00 P.M., Tuesday, February 20, 2018**

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 20, 2018. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Tony Towle, Lilah Gripne, Devin Hines and City Administrator/Clerk Brenda Thomes. Randy Mechels was absent.

**Councilor Gripne motioned Hines seconded to approve the agenda with one addition Admin MN Surplus Division. Motion carried.**

**Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to approve the council minutes of February 5, 2018, with two changes. 1. Chad Bosl will be on a one year probation to monitor and make sure everything goes smoothly his first year. 2. Jon Kringen was voted as Vice President of EDA. Motion carried.**

**Councilor Gripne motioned Hines seconded to approve the bills for February. Motion carried.**

Dan Swenson and Nicole Bjerke addressed the city asking for a donation of \$100,000 for CentraCare new Regional Community Well-Being Campus. The request was reviewed by the City Attorney Joe Krueger briefly outlining some of the items and rules about donations. The council felt the presentation was very good from CentraCare and hope the project moves forward.

**Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to see if the City Attorney can talk with CentraCare regarding a donations from the city to a non-profit organization. Motion carried. Administrator Thomes will bring back to next City Council meeting.**

Nancy Potter from the library gave a brief update of what's happening at the library. Everything is going very well over at the library. There was no further questions.

Councilor Gripne asked if there was any updates on the Long Prairie Fire Department physicals. At the time, Dr. Van Gorp was still working with CentraCare on getting the right tests included in the physicals for the department.

Kent Louwagie and Paul Saffert of Bolton and Menk presented a memorandum to the council. Paul started the conversation talking about short term and long term goals for the city. The immediate needs for the city are replacing RAS pumps prior to the wastewater treatment expansion. Paul repeated discussion about the RAS pumps. We have a total of 3 pumps. His suggestion is to replace one RAS pump now prior to the project starting and then during the project, do the other 2 pumps.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> need the wastewater treatment improvements with a total project cost estimated between \$11,000,000 and \$14,000,000. That is a project that should start this summer.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> item - the city has been searching for a very longtime to do a water meter replacement project. Our current meters are wearing out and my not collect all the flows for the water properly. We have issues with the current palms and the software isn't compatible with our newer computers. The request is to replace of all meters and add fixed-base radio reads. Those are our current needs.

**Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to approve replacement of 1 RAS pump prior to the project starting the estimated cost is \$32,000 and then replace the other 2 while the project is going. The estimated cost is between \$11,000,000 and \$14,000,000 and the estimated cost to replace the meters is \$850,000. The proposed meters are solid state matched with fixed-base radio read equipment. Motion carried.**

Paul and Kent went on to talk about future needs:

1. The main lift station replacement 1 to 3 years - \$400,000 to \$500,000
2. Biosolids Handling Project - \$4,000,000 to \$8,000,000

Disposal of biosolids generated at the wastewater treatment facility is becoming more difficult every year with the hauling out to the farmer's field to dispose of it.

3. Water treatment – up to \$20,000,000

We have to address the wastewater Chloride needs

4. Redoing the roads, water and sewer under CSAH 38 (2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SW) and CSAH 5 (6<sup>th</sup> Street NE) – roadwork and buried utilities

The plan is to mill and overlay CSAH 38 in FY 2019 and CSAH 5 in FY 2021.

5. Watermain looping – fire flow availability to Long Prairie Packing Area

The Minnesota DMV would like to renew their lease with the city for another 3 years.

**Councilor Gripne motioned Rasmussen seconded to approve the lease with the State of Minnesota. Motion carried.**

Council asked Administrator Thomes to bring back to the next council meeting some information on a property that Todd County has set for auction. The cost of the property, what the current value of the property is and a map of the parcel.

**Councilor Gripne motioned Towle to approve the Application for Eligibility to Receive Federal Surplus Property. Motion carried.**

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer noted the following for the fire department:

- The township meeting went very well
- We did approve to go forward with Froggy Sign Works to get the sign done for the fire department

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

- Everything is going well with the library
- Liquor store no items to discuss
- Park and Rec will not have a meeting until April

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

- The next EDA meeting is March 22<sup>nd</sup>

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

- The bids for the Federal Grant will go out in May and the projects estimated start is late July to early August

**Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Motion carried.**

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Brenda Thomes  
City Administrator/Clerk

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Don Rasmussen  
Mayor