

City of Long Prairie
Council meeting
7:00 P.M., Monday, April 16, 2018

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, April 16, 2018. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Tony Towle, Devin Hines, Randy Mechels and City Administrator/Clerk Brenda Thomes. Council member Lilah Gripne was absent.

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

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to approve the council minutes of April 2nd and the April bills. Motion carried.

Mayor Rasmussen called to order a public hearing at 7:05 for the rental ordinance. Those in attendance for the meeting: Jeremy Weber, Jim Kreemer, Kevin Langer, Trevor Larson, Chris Haasser, John Ardolf, Ron Richter, Luan T. Brunkhorst, Cody Nelson, and Douglas Schmidt. Administrator Thomes described the definitions of the rental ordinance. Thomes explained that the rental inspector will be somebody from NJPA that recommended this rental ordinance inspector. The areas discussed were the registration requirements. There was a little bit of discussion about the application, manner of registration for renewal, transfer of property, any exemptions, maintenance records, maintenance standard, inspection and investigations, failure to grant registrations, revocations, suspensions and failure to renew registrations, violations, written notices, effective dates, and background checks. There were several different discussions that went on with some of the landlords. After the discussions, it was brought back to the council and Mayor Rasmussen called for a motion.

Councilor Mechels motioned Towle seconded to approve the Rental Ordinance Registration and Inspection. Roll call: Yes; Mechels, Towle, and Rasmussen. No; Hines. Motion carried.

The public hearing closed at 7:40.

Lou Brunkhorst of the Chamber Office presented her information for Prairie Days. The council reviewed the map and the downtown plan for Central Avenue on Prairie Days.

Councilor Towle motioned Mechels seconded to approve plan for Prairie Days and to close Central Avenue. Motion carried.

Cody and Sarah Nelson came to the city asking if the city would help in some way support them building two townhomes in the place of the old VFW was. The city is working with them on a TIF and they are also going to work with them on the housing rehab grant.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to work with Cody and Sarah Nelson on an up and coming TIF at 111 First Avenue South, Long Prairie; and work with them on the housing rehab grant. Motion carried.

Jerry Bauer of Automatic Systems was at city hall and explained to Chad Bosl and Administrator Thomes about the back-up dialers at the water treatment plant. Currently, the system, if it gets called out, it calls out to the wastewater plant and then the dialers call out and dispatch somebody to come fix the problem. If we would ever have a problem with power outages, there could be an issue with the water treatment plant not getting a call out to get somebody to come. Jerry thought that it would be really important for us to get a back-up dialer at the water treatment plant. So enclosed was a proposal for \$3,632 to install a back-up dialer at the water treatment plant.

Mayor Rasmussen motioned Mechels seconded to approve the back-up dialer at the water treatment plant. Motion carried.

Mayor Rasmussen discussed at the meeting that he spoke with Steve Laumeier about the deferred assessment and he was under the impression that he wanted to continue with it so it was table until the next city council meeting. Administrator Thomes will work with Steve Laumeier.

Council received two bids from Bolton & Menk regarding RAS pumps at the wastewater plant. The low bid was \$59,750 to Rice Lake Construction of Deerwood.

Councilor Towle motioned Hines seconded to approve those one RAS pumps. Motion carried.

Councilor Mechels noted that public works is working on getting the sweeping done. They're having a little bit of difficulty with the old sweeper. We can't wait until the new sweeper gets in.

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer noted the following:

- They are looking at getting another person on and this will be Josh Meyer so they are hoping that everything goes through with him
- On Wednesday, there will be cold water rescue training at Lake Charlotte
- There was a training for Firefighter I and Firefighter II at city hall and that's why the vehicles were in the back

Councilor Towle noted the following:

- Todd County Health and Human Services will be hosting their annual Child Protection Supper at the First Baptist Church April 19th from 5:00 – 7:00
- The police department will be participating in the American Legion Safety Day on April 21st from 3:00 – 6:00 at the Legion
- The police department received a \$500 grant from Minnesota AAA and the money will be used to purchase a new portable pedestrian crosswalk sign

Planning and Zoning will hold a public hearing on May 14th.

Mayor Rasmussen noted the following:

- There will be an Airport meeting on May 2nd

Administrator Thomes noted from the liquor store that Pam was working with her team and she was asking if on Memorial weekend if they could be closed Sunday and Monday. She is having a difficult time having people work those days. The only comment from the council was just to make sure there is a notice in the paper that everybody knows that the liquor store will not be open and a notice on the door.

Councilor Mechels motioned Towle seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried.

Brenda Thomes
City Administrator/Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor