

**City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., Monday, January 7, 2019**

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, January 7, 2019. Mayor Jodi Dixon called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members David Blanchard, Bob Byers, Lilah Gripne, Randy Mechels, and Interim City Administrator David Venekamp.

Council member Mechels motioned Byers seconded to approve the agenda with the addition of appointments to the EDA and the request for Sunday liquor by the American Legion for February 3, 2019 (Superbowl Sunday). Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Gripne motioned Mechels seconded to approve the council minutes of December 17, 2018.

Long Prairie Fire Department President Pete Nelson presented to the council for approval the departments recommendation that Jim Kreemer be appointed as Fire Chief for 2019.

Council member Gripner motioned Blanchard seconded to appoint Jim Kreemer as Fire Chief for 2019. Motion unanimously carried.

Mayor Jodi Dixon made the following liaison appointments for 2019:

MAYOR APPOINTMENTS

Public Works and Airport – Randy Mechels

Public Safety – David Blanchard

Liquor Store, Health and Library, Park & Recreation – Bob Byers

Planning & Zoning, & EDA – Lilah Gripne

**Administration, Community Concern for Youth, Tourism and Concern for Elders –
Jodi Dixon**

Council member Mechels motioned Blanchard seconded to appoint Lilah Gripne as acting mayor for 2019. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Blanchard motioned Mechels seconded to appoint the Long Prairie Leader as the official newspaper for the city for 2019. Motion unanimously carried

Council member Gripne motioned Byers seconded to designate the American Heritage National Bank, Minnesota National Bank, Mid-Central Savings & Loan, Central Minnesota Credit Union and other financially sound institutions which are in compliance with Minnesota Statutes governing city depositories as official depositories for the city for 2019. Motion unanimously carried

Council member Gripne motioned Blanchard seconded to appoint Schlenner, Wenner & Co. as the city auditor for 2019. Motion unanimously carried

Council member Gripne motioned Byers seconded to appoint the law firm of Brown, Krueger & Vancura as the city attorneys for criminal and civil work for the city for 2019. Motion unanimously carried

The council reviewed quotes for lighting improvements for Riverside Liquor Store. The proposals included replacing the overhead lighting throughout the store, the cooler door lighting and lighting inside the cooler with LED fixtures. The two quotes the city reviewed were ARC Electric Service for a total of \$3,861.35 and Central Electric for \$6327.12.

Council member Gripne motioned Mechels seconded to approve the quote of \$3,861.35 from ARC Electric Service for lighting improvements at Riverside Liquor. Motion unanimously carried.

The council reviewed the annual membership fee for the Coalition of Greater MN Cities.

Council member Byers motioned Mechels seconded to not join the Coalition of Greater Mn Cities. Motion unanimously carried.

The council reviewed possibly attendance at the LMC conferences for newly elected officials. Mayor Dixon stated she would like to attend the Brainerd conference and Byers may also attend depending upon his work schedule.

The council discussed the 2020 census and the need to establish a census committee. A census workshop will be held in Staples on January 17th which Gripne stated she will attend.

The council discussed the EDA board recommendations for new members. The EDA recommended Misty Lemke and Don Rasmussen as new board members replacing Jon Kringen and Brian Haugen.

Council member Mechels motioned Blanchard seconded to appoint Misty Lemke and Don Rasmussen to the EDA board. Motion unanimously carried.

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer stated the outside light (the word “Long”) on the fire hall is out. Apparently a driver for the light is out and will be replaced. Jim also indicated that Pete Nelson is the new president and Jason Sellnow is the vice president for the fire department

Council member Blanchard stated the police department has presented the council its annual report of police activities. The new squad has been ordered and will be delivered in mid-March.

Council member Gripne stated the Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Monday to review the TIF application for John Timmerman’s proposal.

Councilor Gripne motioned Mechels seconded to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

David Venekamp
Interim City Administrator/Clerk

Jodi Dixon
Mayor

