

**City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., Monday, June 17th, 2019**

The Long Prairie City Council met in session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, June 3rd, 2019. Mayor Jodi Dixon called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members, Lilah Gripne, David Blanchard, Randy Mechels, Bob Byers and City Administrator/Clerk Ted Gray.

Council member Gripne motioned Blanchard seconded to approve minutes from June 3rd, 2019.v

Council member Gripne motioned Mechels seconded to approve bills for June

Council Member Gripne motioned Mechels seconded to approve the Resolution 19-06-17-01 for April Donations

(Appointments)

Adam Morrill from ARC Electric gave a demonstration on how the downtown lights are currently wired and some of the difficulties that are associated with the project. The current wiring harness is in the shape of a “T” and the wiring is connected between the lights. However, this form of wiring has had some issues with erosion and decay due do the elements. With not knowing the extent of the damage it has been difficult for companies to make accurate bids. The council suggested to us Adam with ARC Electric as a consultant to write a proposal on what would be needed to complete this lighting project.

(New Business)

A memo was presented to the Council regarding the Bjerga Feed’s building. Several questions came out of a discussion regarding how the funds would be collected for the demolition of the building? What legal steps can be taken to collect the funds from the owners of Bjerga Feed’s? What would the county be willing to contribute to this project if they would like to use the lot as a parking lot? The Council suggested that Joe Krueger, the city attorney to be present at the next meeting on July 1st to clarify some of these items for the council.

Council member Mechels motioned Blanchard seconded to approve the recommendation to participate in the 2020 Pictometry Flyover at the promotion cost of \$3,522.15.

Vote: Yes’s: Mechels, Blanchard, Dixon, Gripne

No’s: Byers

An update was given by the City Administrator/Clerk Ted Gray on the water meter project. Notices had been sent out with information on how to have the water meters changed to the remaining 240 citizens who have not changed their water meter. A Final notice will be sent stating that if there is non-compliance the city will turn off the water to homes that do not have the new water meters.

There was discussion regarding grass/yard and snow removal ordinances. There questions and complaints being raised by citizens about these issues on regular basis. Mayor Dixon has been in contact with our City Attorney to investigate options to lower the length of time related to when

a citizen will get a fee for not complying with the ordinances. Questions were discussed on if we have the manpower to enforce these ordinances. Police Officer Trevor Larson was in attendance and talked through the process he takes to enforce these ordinances. More questions were raised, can we legally do shorter time frame, can we have a higher fee for non-compliance, do we have to wait for a complaint to be filed, can we hire an outside lawn mowing/snow removal company to care of the non-compliant home owners? The City Administrator/Clerk Ted Gray will look into answering these questions and report back to the council.

(Additions to the Agenda)

Council Member Byers motioned and Gripne seconded to approve the contract for the city to use DJV Municipal Consulting.

Council Member Gripne motioned and Byers seconded the approval of the Tobacco license for the Dollar General

(Council Reports)

Public Works: Council Member Mechels gave a report on the Harmony Park questions that were raised at the June 3rd meeting. Mechels had discussed with Public Works director Chad Bosl regarding sprays that had been used around the holding pond in the middle of Harmony Park. There were questions raised regarding improvements to add rocks or grasses back to the edges of the pond. Could we use a chemical to remove the green scum from the top of the pond? There will be continued discussion on what we can do to improve Harmony Park.

Airport Runway extension begins on June 24th, the airport will be closed until an estimated date of September 9th.

Public Safety

Fire Department: Jim Kreemer addressed the council regarding a repair bill needed for a door on one of the fire trucks. City Administrator/Clerk Ted Gray will be sending a claim to the League of MN cities for reimbursement.

Police Department: Kevin Langer addressed the council regarding the new squad that had been delivered, it is currently in the shop having the stripes put on and equipment installed.

Park Board: The Long Prairie Area Baseball association will be holding a baseball tournament on July 13th at Rosen Fields.

Liquor Store: Pam provided a statement of sales for May for the Liquor store. Council Member Byers stated that Pam will be having some minor maintenance on the floors this fall. The Liquor store is also looking into upgrading one of their computers for transaction purposes.

EDA: Next EDA meeting will be Wednesday June 19th at 5:15.

Council Member Mechels motioned Byers seconded to adjourn at 8:20 PM. Motion unanimously carried.

Ted Gray
City Administrator/Clerk

Jodi Dixon
Mayor