

**City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., Monday November 18th, 2019**

The Long Prairie City Council met in session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, November 18th, 2019. Mayor Jodi Dixon called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members, Lilah Gripne, Don Rasmussen, Randy Mechels, David Wright, and City Administrator/Clerk Ted Gray.

Council member Gripne motioned Mechels seconded to approve the council minutes from November 4th, 2019. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Rasmussen motioned Mechels seconded to approve the payment of bills from October to November. Motion unanimously carried.

(Appointments)

(New Business)

Council member Gripne motioned Dixon seconded to approve the recommendation per the negotiating committee to approve the increases to be paid by the city for the High Deductible HSA Plan for Single of \$38.00 and Family for \$115.50 and for the \$1500 Deductible CMM Plan for Single of \$46.50 and for Family of \$145.00 for the year of 2020. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Rasmussen motioned Gripne seconded to approve the recommendation to split the lot located at 544 1st Street South per the recommendation from Planning and Zoning.

The council discussed the construction timeline of the Hart Mall. There have been questions regarding the progress being made and the possible issues with the barriers set up around the front of the building. Administrator Gray had spoke with Mr. Weber, the owner of Hart Mall of possible solutions for the barriers to be moved in case of large snow falls and parking issues. There was continued discussion around the hazardous nature of the building. The council would like Administrator Gray to look into what can legally be done such as fines and condemning the building to keep the construction moving forward as well as find out a construction timeline from Mr. Weber. After discussion was had regarding the Hart Mall, there was questions raised about several other buildings located near the downtown area, the Bjerga Feed and Motl Plumbing building. The council is looking to options on how to handle old and failing buildings in the City of Long Prairie.

Council member Mechels motioned Gripne seconded to approve the pay increase for elections judges too: \$13.00 for head election judges and \$12.00 for regular election judges.

Council member Mechels motioned Dixon seconded to approve the proposal presented by XS Consulting to purchase new computers and service agreement in the amount of \$16,756.00 pending the clarification of the labor estimates for the service agreement to be \$95.00 and \$75.00 an hour for technicians to assist the city staff with computer issues.

(Additional New Business)

Council member Gripne motioned Rasmussen seconded to approve pay request #3 for Long Prairie Municipal Airport Runway 34 Extension for \$43,661.43. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Gripne motioned Mechels seconded to approve the payment to Braun Intertec of \$7,998.00 for professional services rendered through November 1st of 2019.

(Council Reports)

Public Works: Public Works Director Chad Bosl gave a report on the new Christmas Decorations that have been put up along Highway 71. The construction at the Wastewater Treatment plant is continuing on into the winter months. The airport is to have a meeting in January.

Public Safety Police: Council member David Wright read a report from Police Chief Kevin Langer. The Police Department destroyed 258 pounds of prescription drugs that had been dropped off at City Hall. The Bright lights Parade will be on Friday November 29th. The Police Department sold the 2013 Tahoe for \$7,100.00 on auction along with two other repossessed vehicles.

Public Safety Fire: Fire Chief Jim Kreemer gave a report regarding the fire department. The Fire Marshall inspected two remodeled apartments at the Armory Building. There are a few items the owner has to address in 30 Days to ensure the safety of the tenants in the building. The fire department has responded to 113 calls and just recently responded to a call where a dog had fallen through the ice at Lake Charlette. Fire Chief Kreemer stated this was good practice for the fire department.

Planning & Zoning: Council member Gripne gave a report on the Planning and Zoning held on meeting November 8th in regards to a lot split at 544 1st Street South.

Wellness: At the last wellness meeting there was discussion and information given regarding the suicide rate among farmers. There was information placed at the City Hall entrance.

EDA: EDA meeting to be held on Thursday November 21st at 5:15 pm.

Community Concerns for Youth/Senior Center: Pizza was served by Mayor Dixon for the 3rd grade class at the LPGE Elementary school for their participation in attending a presentation at the City Hall. The Senior Center kitchen fed 42 people during last weeks meal.

Council member Mechels motioned and Gripne seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 pm. Motion unanimously carried.

Ted Gray
City Administrator/Clerk

Jodi Dixon
Mayor