

City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., Wednesday February 11th, 2026
Regular City Council Meeting Held in Person

The Regular Long Prairie City Council Meeting was called to order at City Hall at 7:00 pm, on Wednesday February 11th, 2026. Mayor Jim Kreemer called the meeting to order with Present Council Members Clint Krueger, Gabriel Perez, Lilah Gripne, and JoAnn Schroeder. Also, present: City Administrator/Clerk Candace Bruder, City Engineer Kent Louwagie, Chief of Police Ryan Hanson, Police Officer Melissa Morazan, Fire Chief Dan Laumeyer, Volunteer Firefighters: Jeremy Sovich and Jason Sellnow. Members of the public present: Daniella Chavez, Kelly Hanson, Gwen Spieker, Larry Schroeder, and Walter Zastrow.

Council Member Krueger motioned to approve the consent calendar as listed below; motion was seconded by Council Member Schroeder. Unanimously Approved.

- (a) **Approve Agenda for February 11th, 2026**
- (b) **Approve Meeting Minutes for January 28th, 2026**
- (c) **Approve Donation Resolution No. 26-02-11-02 for January 2026**

Resolution #26-02-11-02

RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING DONATIONS

WHEREAS, the City of Long Prairie has received the following donations during the month(s) of January 2026 to date for the following purposes:

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
American Legion Post 12	\$1,500.00	Summer Concerts in the Park
American Legion Post 12	\$2,000.00	Prairie Days
American Legion Post 12	\$1,000.00	Outdoor Ice Rink

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF LONG PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA THAT: The City Council of the City Council of the City of the City of Long Prairie acknowledges and accepts the donations received in the month of January 2026 to date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The City Council of the City of Long Prairie expresses its thanks and appreciation for the donations to all Donor(s) listed.

Adopted on this 11th day of February 2026 by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie.

ATTEST:

Candace Bruder **City Administrator/Clerk**

James Kreemer **Mayor**

Public Comment

Walter Zastrow, representing Long Prairie Township, spoke regarding the upcoming Long Prairie Township Project extending on 6th Street from 287 intersection to Lake Charlotte Ball Field. This project is in a portion of the city and some of the city's expense since part of the road is within city limits. The Twp has received two bids at this time; they hope to have that process completed by the end of February. Essentially what is being proposing is a 4-inch mill on the whole road and re-grade. The estimates currently are between \$220k-\$250k for the whole project. The city's portion of the project is estimated to between \$60k-85k.

Larry Schroeder, a resident of Long Prairie, was there to inform the city that he is filing a \$10 million dollar lawsuit against us and one of our officers. The officer is said to have broken confidentially two weeks ago during an incident by informing others of an issue with Larry. He stated that he was upset with the lack of enforcement of multiple laws and ordinances and feels targeted. He states there is no enforcement on snow removal on sidewalks and cars on lawns.

Council Reports

Tourism & Airport: Council Member Krueger informed the council that he has no update for Tourism at this time, and the Airport has a meeting scheduled for March 16th at 2:00 pm.

Planning & Zoning: Mayor Kreemer informed the Council that Planning and Zoning has an upcoming meeting on February 24th at 5:00 pm.

Police Department and Fire Department: Mayor Kreemer provided an update that over the past two weeks of 01/28/26 through 02/11/26 the LPPD had 307 calls with an average of 21.93 per day. This includes 4 with suspicious activity, 2 civil related, 63 traffic related, 9 juvenile, 15 medicals, 5 disturbance-domestic-assaults, 163 assists, 6 thefts, and ordinance specific are 2 animal-related, 1 noise-related and 13 snow-ordinance (1 garbage-related, 23 vehicle-related) complaints. The chief notes that DMT-G Certification Training is held from February 9th through the 12th for Officer Puff and Officer Steuck at the BCA Training Center in St. Paul, MN. Both Officers Morazan and Harden attended a free training session on Evidence Collection, at the Morrison County Sheriff's Office on February 9th, 2026. The BCA Security Audit was approved and finalized on February 9th, to be audited again in 2028. Fire Chief Laumeier informed the council that the Department of Interior has money for grants for skid/slipping units – the units that go into the UTV or Grass Rig Truck. The city does qualify for this, and they will apply for the funds.

Administration Report: City Administrator Candace Bruder informed the council she has been busy updating the Personal Policy with suggestions from the City Attorneys to meet all requirements related to labor laws and union negotiations and once this is complete it will come to the council for final approval. The creation of an employee review form to coincide with employee evaluations has started and will be used on all employees within the city, and supervisors will conduct them on their own employees in each department. Another policy that is being worked on is a Respectful Workplace Policy for all staff and this policy will be coming soon to the council for approval as well. Candace also attended an HR Administrators Network session at Sourcewell in Staples and the topic was Introduction to Conflict Resolution and Theory. It featured a

presentation by Angela Frie, Associate General Counsel at Sourcewell and certified ADR professional with experience mediating complex disputes and training mediators across courts, communities, and workplaces. Work on the energy rebate with MN Power and Frontier Energy is set for February 18th and on that date, they will meet with me, the PW Director, and the City Engineer to discuss past projects and to conduct an energy audit at the senior center. The township fire contracts have been completed, and letters were sent to each township with the estimate for township fire coverage in 2027 today. Extra security has been installed in the past week for City staff with the installation of additional cameras and an extra monitor has been installed as well for additional accountability. A new system of door locks is being researched and quoted as well, and this would be for the internal rooms areas of the city that should be only accessible by permitted employees, i.e. present employees. The new potential system would have the capability to track when workers use their code to enter locations within city hall. It will also have the capability to delete users if an employee retires or leaves employment with the City of Long Prairie. There are three different models that we will be getting a quote for.

Liquor Store Park & Recreation: Council Member Schroeder reported that Parks & Recreation has been quiet. Reta has been busy maintaining Riverside Park. As for the liquor store, it has been busy as usual.

EDA, Library/Health and Wellness: Council Member Gripne informed the Council that the Thursday afternoon book club will meet on Thursday, February 12th from 2:00 to 3:00 pm. Discussion of “Hidden Figures”, the story of NASA, space flight and the engineers (both male and female) who made it possible for space flight. Book was written by Margot Lee Shetterly. As for the EDA council received a report in their packets from Lu as to what was done in January. The next EDA meeting will be held on March 18th. A Childcare Appreciation dinner will be held February 25th at the Long Prairie Country Club.

Community Concern for Youth & Public Works: Council Member Perez informed the council that tomorrow is a lunch at the Senior Center with bingo. As for the Public Works over the last few weeks, they have been busy with snow removal equipment maintenance, maintenance at the wastewater treatment plant, and the normal daily rounds at the treatment facilities. The next few weeks public works will be plowing snow as needed, building picnic tables for the Lake Charlotte park picnic shelters, and some snow removal at lake charlotte park to provide access to main shelter for removal of roof. There have been various street signs ordered for areas around the LP middle school and courthouse, public works will be putting them up as soon as they receive them.

Engineer Report: City Engineer informed the council on the CSAH 56 & CSAH 38 projects, that we are awaiting paperwork from the contractor to proceed with final payment and project closeout. The new Main Lift Station is operational. Grading, paving and seeding will occur this spring. As for the Water Treatment Plant and Well No. 6 Generators, the water plant generator is fully operational. This portion of the project is complete, and we are coordinating with the contractor on final payment paperwork. Generator startup and controls integration will occur once the transfer switch is delivered and installed. At Riverside Park, awaiting paperwork from the contractor that completed the initial phase of park improvements to proceed with final payment for his scope of work. The revised scope and budget have been approved. We will need to wait for snowmelt to perform some surveying necessary for the next phase of work. At 6th Street SE we are currently

coordinating with Wally Zastrow (Long Prairie Township) regarding a potential pavement maintenance project that was discussed in public comment. As for 2026 projects we are coordinating with staff on the following: creating a map of past sealcoats and identifying the streets to be seal coated this year, exploring options to inventory, assess, and develop a replacement plan for street signs, ongoing discussion with Minnesota Fresh regarding utility extensions to their facility, and development of a street and utility capital improvement plan.

New Business

Resolution #26-02-11-03

CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2025 TODD COUNTY

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the City of Long Prairie recognizes the threat of natural hazards to people and property within the City of Long Prairie; and

WHEREAS, the City of Long Prairie has participated in the development of the 2025 Todd County Hazard Mitigation Plan in accordance with Federal laws, including the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended; the National Flood Insurance act of 1968, as amended; and the National Dam Safety Program Act, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 Todd County Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property within the City of Long Prairie from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

WHEREAS, by adoption by the City of Long Prairie demonstrates its commitment to hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in the 2025 Todd County Hazard Mitigation Plan,

WHEREAS, approval of the 2025 Todd County Hazard Mitigation Plan by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will make Todd County and participating jurisdictions eligible to apply for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Long Prairie supports the hazard mitigation planning effort and wishes to adopt the 2025 Todd County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

This Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted and was signed by the Mayor and attested to by the City Administrator/Clerk this 11th day of February, 2026.

Approved: _____

James Kreemer, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Candace Bruder, City Administrator/Clerk

Council Member Krueger motioned to approve Resolution No. 26-02-11-03 to Adopt the 2025 Todd County Hazard Mitigation Plan; motion Seconded by Council Member Gripne. Unanimously Approved.

Jason Sellnow, Treasurer of the Fire Relief Association for the Long Prairie Fire Department, presented a case to increase the retirement contribution from \$2,000 to \$2,500 within their fire relief fund. They currently have a significant surplus that would allow this change for future retirees but wanting to be conservative they are only asking for a \$500.00 increase instead of \$1,000.00. The fire relief association voted at two consecutive meetings, and it was approved and is now being brought to the council for approval.

Council Member Schroeder motioned to approve the Fire Relief Association yearly increase to their retirement contributions from \$2,000.00 to \$2,500.00; motion Seconded by Mayor Kreemer. Unanimously Approved.

Jason Sellnow, Treasurer of the Fire Relief Association for the Long Prairie Fire Department, presented that they are migrating from Jeff Berg Financial to LPL Financial Advisor since the business has sold. At this time, they are also asking to update the Investment Policy that was also approved at their last meeting. The last time that it was updated was in 1997 and is set at 50%, which they are asking now is to be able to have 80% of the funds invested.

Council Member Schroeder motioned to approve the request from the Long Prairie Fire Relief Association to update their Investment Policy Statement; motion Seconded by Council Member Gripne. Unanimously Approved.

Discussion on calling a Public Hearing on Proposed Application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding, and this is related to the Small Cities Grant. The date that is requested is for the March 11th meeting so that we can meet the deadline for the application on March 25th. At the meeting on March 11th a representative will be here to explain all the resolutions that will need to be passed to complete the application to DEED.

Mayor Kreemer motioned to call for a public hearing on March 11th at 7:00 pm for the Proposed Application for Community Development Block Grant; motion Seconded by Council Member Gripne. Unanimously Approved.

There being no further business, Council Member Gripne motioned to adjourn the meeting; motion Seconded by Council Member Krueger; unanimously approved- meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Candace Bruder, City Administrator/Clerk

James Kreemer, Mayor