

City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., Monday, August 3rd, 2020
City Council Meeting Held Via-Teleconference

The Long Prairie City Council met by phone at City Hall, 7:00 pm, on Monday, August 3rd, 2020. Mayor Jodi Dixon called the meeting to order with the following present by phone or at City Hall: Council members, Lilah Gripne, Don Rasmussen, David Wright, and City Administrator/Clerk Ted Gray. Council member Mechels was absent.

Council member Rasmussen motioned Gripne seconded to approve the consent agenda items:

- (a) Approve Agenda for August 3rd, 2020**
- (b) Approve Minutes for July 20th, 2020**

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Rasmussen, Gripne, Wright, Dixon. No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

(Appointments)

The Luan Brunkhorst and Nicole Bjerke presented to the City Council on the creation and plans for the Welcoming Committee. The Welcoming Committee Group was created and assisted by Region 5. The goal for the group is to assist the community in creating a more welcoming environment. The members of this committee are Jodi Dixon, Luan Thomas-Brunkhorst, Mary Schmidt, Nicole Bjerke, Rick Utech, and Dawn Espe with Region 5. The Welcoming Committee received a \$10,000.00 grant from Region 5 to complete a Welcoming Communities Project. The project area would be at Harmony Park. They would look to use the funds to add additional trees, add natural vegetation to the pond, new seating areas, and possible a shade structure. The City Council gave preliminary approval to keep moving forward with the project, with the stipulation that there needs to be a review of the boundaries on where the trees would be located to remain on city property and if there can be vegetation added to pond.

(New Business)

The City Council held a Public Hearing at 7:25 p.m. on the Vacation of Utility Easements located in the Whispering Prairie Development. Vacation of the Utility Easements was brought before the City Council by petition on July 17th, 2020. There was no comment or discussion and the Public Hearing was closed at 7:27 p.m.

Council member Gripne motioned Dixon seconded to approve resolution 20-08-03-01, a resolution vacating utility easement upon petition of a majority of abutting landowners.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Gripne, Rasmussen, Dixon. No: 0. Abstain: Wright, Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. #20-08-03-01
A RESOLUTION VACATING UTILTIY EASEMENTS UPON PETITION OF A MAJORITY OF ABUTTING LANDOWNERS.

WHEREAS, a petition signed by the majority of property owners abutting utility easements located in the Whispering Prairie Development in the city of Long Prairie was received by the City Administrator/Clerk on the 28th day of June, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the petition requested that the City Council pursuant to Minnesota Statute § 412.851 vacate utility easements legally described as:

Utility easements located along the westerly line of Lot 1, Block 3, the easterly line of Outlot B, the easterly line of Lot 8 and the westerly line of Lot 9, Block 2 in the plat of Whispering Prairie, in the City of Long Prairie.

WHEREAS, the City Administrator/Clerk reviewed and examined the signatures on said petition and determined that such signatures constituted a majority of the landowners abutting upon the utility easements to be vacated; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing to consider the vacation of such street was held on the 3rd day of August, 2020, before the City Council in the City Hall located at 615 Lake Street S at 7:00 p.m. after due published and posted notice had been given, as well as personal mailed notice to all affected property owners by the City Administrator/Clerk on the 17th day of July, 2020 and all interested and affected persons were given an opportunity to voice their concerns and be heard; and

WHEREAS, the Council in its discretion has determined that the vacation will benefit the public interest because of potential development of these lots

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF , MINNESOTA AS FOLLOWS:

That such petition for vacation is hereby granted and the utility easements described as follows is hereby vacated:

Utility easements located along the westerly line of Lot 1, Block 3, the easterly line of Outlot B, the easterly line of Lot 8 and the westerly line of Lot 9, Block 2 in the plat of Whispering Prairie, in the City of Long Prairie.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Administrator/Clerk are hereby authorized to sign all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this resolution and file notice of the vacation as required by law.

Passed by the City Council of Long Prairie, Minnesota this 3rd day of August 2020.

Mayor

Attested:

_____ **City Administrator/Clerk**

The City Council reviewed a Variance for 409 Todd St N. The request was to add an additional prebuilt shed to the property. Planning and Zoning had met regarding this and provided a recommendation of approval of this variance.

Council member Dixon motioned Wright seconded to approve the Variance for 409 Todd St N, to add an additional prebuilt shed to the property.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Wright, Rasmussen, Gripne, Dixon. No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Gripne motioned Rasmussen seconded to approve Pay Request #14 for Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements in the amount of \$363,572.77 payable to Rice Lake Construction Group.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Gripne, Rasmussen, Wright, Dixon. No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Gripne motioned Wright seconded to approve HACH Service Partnership quote in the amount of \$9,441.00 for annual service.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Rasmussen, Wright, Gripne, Dixon. No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Gripne motioned Wright seconded to approve Renewal of Liquor, Wine, Club or 3.2% License for the Long Prairie American Legion Post 12.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Wright, Gripne, Rasmussen, Dixon. No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Gray gave an update on the Police Officer Grant that was received and the use of it for a School Resource Officer. Gray presented the proposed plan and financial impact to the City Council. The proposal was well received, and the City Council should support for the proposed plan. Council member Wright wanted to thank the officers who attended the School Board meeting July 27th to present this proposal.

(Council Reports)

Police Safety: Council member Wright gave a report on the Police and Fire Departments. The Police department reported 302 incidents in July. They are having their firearms qualification shoot on August 5th. The 2019 Police Squad was sent to Nyhus for repairs, the repairs were covered by the warranty.

The Fire Department will be having a drive through Chicken and Corn feed on Thursday August 13th. Les Levin, Smoke n Motion, and Bret and Briana Wold donated items for this event. Donations will be used to purchase battery operated lights.

EDA: Council member Gripne gave a report on the EDA. The Long Prairie EDA will meet on August 19th at 4:30 p.m.

Administrator Report: Administrator Gray gave a report. Gray is finishing up the 2021 Budget and has been reviewing applications for the new Utility Clerk Position.

Council member Dixon motioned and Gripne seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm. Motion unanimously carried.

Ted Gray
City Administrator/Clerk

Jodi Dixon
Mayor