

**City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., Monday January 6th, 2020**

The Long Prairie City Council met in session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, January 6th, 2020. Mayor Jodi Dixon called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members, Lilah Gripne, Don Rasmussen, David Wright, Randy Mechels and City Administrator/Clerk Ted Gray.

Council member Mechels motioned Dixon seconded to approve the council minutes from December 16th, 2019. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Wright motioned Mechels seconded to approve Resolution 20-01-06-01 approving donations. Motion unanimously carried.

(New Business)

Mayor Jodi Dixon made the following liaison appointments for 2019.

MAYOR APPOINTMENTS

Public Works – Randy Mechels

Public Safety – David Wright

Liquor Store, Park & Recreation, and Airport – Don Rasmussen

Planning & Zoning, Health & Library, and EDA – Lilah Gripne

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

Council member Dixon motioned Gripne seconded to appoint the Long Prairie Leader as the official newspaper for the city for 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Gripne motioned Mechels 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 2020. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Mechels motioned Gripne seconded to appoint Schlenner, Wenner & Co. as the city auditor for 2020. Motion unanimously carried.

In regards to approving the City Attorney and Insurance company for the City of Long Prairie, the council tabled the item. There was a question regarding the City having to gather requests for proposals in regards to these contracted services. Administrator Gray will confirm and report back to the council for approval.

Council member Mechels motioned Dixon seconded to approve the recommendation to purchase the 2020 Ford F-450 for \$59,788.29 from Nelson Auto Center and the 2020 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 from Erickson Chevrolet Fleet Department for \$25,819.74 and sell the 2006 Ford F-450 and 200 Chevrolet 1500. Motion carried unanimously

Council member Gripne motioned Rasmussen seconded to approve the increase for the Public Works Part Time and Permanent Part Time Employee wage to match the Part Time Liquor Store and City Hall Employee Wage. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Mechels motioned Wright seconded to approve the Gambling Permit for Midwest Outdoors Unlimited. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Rasmussen motioned Mechels seconded to approve the temporary liquor license for the American Legion Post 12 for February 2nd, 2020 for Super Bowl Sunday. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Gripne motioned Dixon seconded to approve the Braun Intertec Corp Invoice B198485 of \$2,544.00 for construction materials testing at the wastewater treatment facility update. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Gray went over the memo regarding the Sewer Rate Increase. Gray explained the steps taken to complete the cost of service study with the help of Ehlers. The study started in 2018 and with many hours of working with Ehlers and Bolton & Menk we have the proposed rate increase to spread between the Industries and Residents. The rate increase will be to stabilize Sewer Revenue Fund, since 2016 we have shown a deficit in this fund with the largest deficit in 2018. The Dollar Amount Increase to the Sewer Revenue Fund to meet expenses is \$510,097.00, along with a 3.00% increase every year to maintain the fund. This information was shown in table 4 of the handout. Table 11 shows the increases to the rates, as shown below:

- \$18.90 – Customer Charge Per Month
- \$2.14 – Volumetric Rate Per 1000 Gal
- \$0.21 – BOD Penalty Charge Per Ib
- \$0.21 – TSS Penalty Charge Per Ib
- \$7.62 – P Penalty Charge Per Ib
- \$1.66 – N Penalty Charge Per Ib

The next two tables presented by Gray were showing the bill changes for the industries and residents. The increase for an average user is around \$9.40. The time frame for implantation would be to approve the rate increase on the January 21st meeting to be effective for the month of January.

(Council Reports)

Public Works: Public Works Director Chad Bosl read a report to the council. Bosl stated that the wastewater plant project is moving along, still pouring some concrete, piping, and site work, along with moving snow. Public works has been plowing snow, working on equipment in the shop, and the daily water/wastewater rounds and samples. This week we will be taking down Christmas decorations. This last weekend we had a broken water main on 1st Ave SE between 8th St and 9th St which was repaired today.

Public Safety Police: Police Chief Kevin Langer gave a report to the council. The Police had 290 incidents in December. They received a \$1,000.00 donation from Central Bi. The Sheriff's Office conducted tobacco compliance checks within the county and all license in Long Prairie

passed. Police Chief Langer provided the council with the end of the year stats. The Long Prairie Police department had 554 less incidents than 2018, but theft calls increased.

Public Safety Fire: Fire Chief Jim Kreemer gave a report regarding the fire department. The annual Fire Department meeting would be on Wednesday January 8th and the Township meeting would be on Wednesday February 5th. Fire Chief Kreemer made a request to have all the fire hydrants in town cleared out of snow. Public Works Director Bosl will start right away on this.

Liquor Store: Administrator Gray mentioned that they had an audit completed on January 1st. And the Liquor store will be getting new computers.

Parks & Rec: Parks and Recreation will be having a meeting on January 13th to discuss and approve a plan for Riverside Park.

Community Concern for Youth/Senior Center: Mayor Dixon gave a report that the Sentence to Serve finished painting the Senior Center.

Council member Mechels motioned and Gripne seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 pm. Motion unanimously carried.

Ted Gray
City Administrator/Clerk

Jodi Dixon
Mayor