

City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., January 4th, 2021
City Council Meeting Held Via-Teleconference

The Long Prairie City Council met by phone at City Hall, 7:00 pm, on Monday January 4th, 2021 Mayor Jodi Dixon called the meeting to order with the following present by phone or at City Hall: Council members, Lilah Gripne, David Wright, Bob Klick, Dattrick Mitchell, and City Administrator/Clerk Ted Gray. Others present in person Dan Laumeyer, Jeremy Sovich, Luan Thomas-Brunkhorst, Wade Dixon, Chad Bosl, Theresa Sorenson, Kent Louwagie, and Kelly Hanson.

Council member Klick motioned Mitchell seconded to approve the consent agenda:

- (a) **Approve Agenda for January 4th, 2021**
- (b) **Approve Minutes for December 21st, 2020**

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

(Appointments)

Kent Louwagie from Bolton and Menk presented to the council regarding changes to the Riverside Drive Lift Station due to the 2021 Road Improvement Project. Kent presented maps of the area and explained that the new lift station would allow for additional depth and services for the city sanitary sewer in that area. The current lift station is around 20 years old and components of this station would be replaced with the 2021 Project at a cost of \$220,000.00. The new proposed lift station would have a cost of \$370,000.00. The council acknowledge this change in cost and would like Kent to move forward with the new lift station design, with the understanding that if costs rise for this new lift station, the city would be able to revert to the replacement of the current lift station.

(New Business)

Mayor Appointments:

- 1. Public Works – Dattrick Mitchell**
- 2. Public Safety & EDA – David Wright**
- 3. Liquor Store & Airport – Bob Klick**
- 4. Planning & Zoning, Health & Wellness, and Library – Lilah Gripne**
- 5. Administration, Concern for Youth, Park & Rec, and Concern for Elders – Jodi Dixon**

Council member Gripne motioned Klick seconded to approve the Official Paper, Long Prairie Leader; Financial Institutions, 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 2021; Auditors, Schlenner Wenner & Co.; Law Firm, Brown Krueger & Vancura; Insurance Agent, Advantage One Insurance; and that Council member David Wright to be acting Mayor if Mayor Dixon is unavailable.

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

Council member Dixon motioned Mitchell seconded to approve 2021 Legal Services Contract for Brown, Kreuger, & Vancura P.A.

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

Council member Wright motioned Klick seconded to Pay Request #19 for Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements in the amount of \$288,298.39 payable to Rice Lake Construction Group.

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

Luan Brunkhorst presented to the City Council a report regarding options for an outdoor ice-skating rink. Luan presented 3 options for portable outdoor rinks to be set up at Soldiers Field, an EZ Rink, A Tarp from Blue Lake Plastic, and Wooden Boards. Luan also discussed the feasibility of the set up for an outdoor rink. There was interest from the Long Prairie Hockey Association to donate up to \$2,500.00 towards the EZ Rink. Luan had also spoken with Retired Public Works Director Dan Spieker, Current Public Works Director Chad Bosl, and the rink manager for reference on this subject. There were concerns with time consumption to flood the rink, as well as time labor needed to clean the rink off after a snow fall. Luan presented options for volunteer workers to assist in the setup and removal of snow from rink. Through discussion, Chad Bosl recommended the possible use of Harmony Park's pond due to the potential difficulty due to the time of year to flood a rink at Soldiers Field. This would also allow for additional time for Luan to start and continue fund raising for a portable outdoor rink. The council agrees that this would be the best option for now and the city will check Harmony Park to confirm that it is safe to use for skating.

(Council Reports)

Public Works: Public Works Director Chad Bosl gave a report to the council. The daily water/wastewater rounds, and samples are going fine. We will be working on equipment maintenance, trimming trees, cutting a few more trees at frisbee golf, and taking down Christmas decorations in the next few weeks.

Police Safety: Council member Wright gave a report on the Police Department. The Police Department responded to 3,788 incidents in 2020. Chief Langer will provide a more detailed list of these incidents at the next council meeting.

Administrator Gray gave a report to the council. Public Works Employee Ryan Twardowski has resigned, his last day was December 31st, 2020. The City would like to thank Ryan for his years of services. We will be looking to post for his replacement by next week. Administrator Gray will be working with the Police Department and the Long Prairie Grey Eagle School to discuss the School Resource Officer position. Gray will also be meeting with Elementary Principal

Tammy Cebulla to observe the traffic on 1st Street by the Elementary School. There will be upcoming public hearings on ordinances updates for the Sewer Ordinance, Sunday Liquor, and Swimming Pools.

Council member Klick motioned Gripne seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 pm. Motion unanimously carried.

Ted Gray
City Administrator/Clerk

Jodi Dixon
Mayor