

City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., Monday August 16th, 2021
City Council Meeting Held Via-Teleconference

The Long Prairie City Council met by phone at City Hall, 7:00 pm, on Monday August 16th, 2021, Mayor Dixon called the meeting to order with the following present by phone or at City Hall: Council members, David Wright, Lilah Gripne, Bob Klick, Datrik Mitchell and City Administrator/Clerk Ted Gray. Others present Kent Louwagie, Police Chief Duane Breiter, Officer Trevor Larson, Officer Ethan Wise, Officer Ryan Hanson, Fire Chief Dan Laumeyer, Public Works Director Chad Bosl, Dave Ruda, Dick Smith, Tammy Cebulla, Barton Rud, Jon Kringen, Rick Heist, Teresa Sorenson, and Luan Brunkhorst.

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

- (a) Approve Agenda for August 16th, 2021, with the addition of the discussion on 2nd Ave Apartments to Old Business.**
- (b) Approve minutes for August 2nd, 2021**
- (c) Approve Bills for July-August**

Motion carried unanimously

(Appointments)

Long Prairie Grey Eagle Elementary Principal Tammy Cebulla presented to the council a proposal to convert 1st ST S from Highway 287 to 2nd Ave S into a one-way street. The conversion of this street to a one-way would be for safety purposes due to high levels of traffic in that area during school hours. Tammy presented several maps which included proposed loading zones and signage changes. Concerns were raised by the council on the complete conversion of this portion of 1st ST S to a one-way. Many residents in the community use 1st ST S instead of Highway 71 to travel to the South end of town. The council heard several additional comments from school staff, police officers, and other members of the community. Administrator Gray stated the council had several options, approve the one-way street, approve a temporary one-way street, or no change to the street.

Council member Mitchell motioned Klick seconded to approve a temporary one way on 1st St S from Highway 287 Northbound to 2nd Ave S with barriers placed on each end of 1st ST S, on 3rd Ave S and on the alleyways entering 1st ST S. Motion carried unanimously

Rick Hest from Hilltop Regional Kitchen presented to the council regarding a donation request. Rick gave a brief history on the Hilltop Regional Kitchen and the benefits that it has provided to our local communities. For the City of Long Prairie Hilltop Regional Kitchen provided 6,533 meals to residents as well as 6,540 meals to Trinity Learning Center and Long Prairie Head Start. Based on the new census data the donation request would be for \$3,271.00. Council member Gripne commented to Mr. Hest that when Hilltop Regional Kitchen first started the City of Long Prairie was approached for a one-time donation, not a yearly donation. Rick was not a part of Hilltop Regional Kitchen during the time of the initial request but assumed that the original donation request was for the startup of the kitchen and that there would a donation a request yearly from the 10 communities that the Hilltop Regional Kitchen serves. With no additional questions Rick thanked the council for their consideration of this donation. Administrator Gray that this donation request was presented at the council meeting on July 19th, 2021, and failed to

pass due to a tie vote. During that vote Administrator Gray had advised Mayor Dixon that she could not vote, however in review of this situation there is no conflict of interest and Mayor Dixon may vote on the issue if she chooses.

Council member Wright motioned Mitchell seconded to approve the Hilltop Reginal Kitchen donation request in the amount of \$3,271.00. Yes Votes: Wright, Mitchell, Dixon; No Votes: Klick, Gripne; Motion Carries 3 to 2.

(Old Business)

The council discussed a proposal for shielding of lights at the 2nd Ave Apartments. The developer would be willing to plant around 45 Arborvitae trees located between the apartments and the storage sheds to shield lights from the houses down from the apartments. The council understood the proposal but made no decision. This is because this may correct some of the light issues, but not all of the for the light issues for residents on 2nd Ave. The council directed Administrator Gray to continue to make sure this issue is corrected.

(New Business)

Council member Gripne motioned Dixon seconded to approve updated HACH Service Agreement in the amount of \$16,443.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Klick motioned Gripne seconded to approve Temporary Liquor License for St Mary of Mount Carmel Catholic Church for September 12th, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Klick motioned Gripne seconded to Oath of Commissioner of Housing and Redevelopment Authority of Long Prairie Minnesota for William Pesta. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Klick motioned Wright seconded to approve Option 3 changing the office hours to 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with at least one staff member starting at 7:00 a.m. and work until 3:30 p.m. and at least one staff member starting at 7:30 a.m. and work until 4:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Gray presented to the council the annual budget information. The council discussed various expenses, including the usage of American Rescue Plan funds, change in the Police Squad purchasing schedule, and to look into the costs of a New Rescue Truck for the Fire Department. In comparison between 2022 and 2021's General Fund Budget, expenses increased \$30,750.00. The council will review the preliminary tax levy for 2022 at the September 7th meeting.

Council member Dixon motioned Mitchell seconded to approve the Facility Plan Engineering Proposal in the amount of \$11,120.00 Motion carried unanimously.

(Council Reports)

Public Works: Council member Mitchell reported that the Public Works daily water/ wastewater rounds, and samples are going fine. The sealcoating was completed last week. We will continue

to patch holes, finish painting crosswalks and parking stalls. We will also continue to monitor flow at the water treatment plant to try and meet the August flow goal.

Police Safety: Council member Wright gave a report on the Police and Fire Departments. The Fire Departments chicken and corn drive through went very well. The Fire Department would like to thank all the sponsors and supporters of this event. The Fire Department will be assisting with events at the Bike and Trike Rally on August 27th and 28th.

Airport: Council member Klick reported that the Airport will be holding a meeting on Wednesday, August 18th, 2021

Liquor Store: Council member Klick reported that the Liquor Store is looking for part time help. If anyone is interested, please visit Pam at the Liquor Store or City Hall.

Planning & Zoning: Council member Gripne reported that Planning & Zoning met on August 9th to continue discussion on updates and implantation of the city's rental ordinance.

**Council member Klick motioned Gripne seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm.
Motion unanimously carried.**

Ted Gray
City Administrator/Clerk

Jodi Dixon
Mayor