

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

The Long Prairie City Council met by phone at City Hall, 7:00 pm, on Tuesday September 7th, 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, Dave Ruda, and David Determan

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

- (a) Approve Agenda for September 7th, 2021, with the addition of item 8. Review and Approve The Red Lounge Sunday Liquor License.**
- (b) Approve minutes for August 16th, 2021**

Motion carried unanimously

(New Business)

The council reviewed the hazardous building letter and information for 305 E 8th Street. They also reviewed a letter presented to them by Darren Holen, the owner of the property. Mr. Holen requested additional time to complete the sale of the property. Discussion was had about the additional time but in review the fire that damaged this property took place in September of 2020 and very little repair was made.

Council member Klick motioned Gripne seconded to approve resolution 21-09-07-02, Notice of Order to Remove Hazardous Buildings. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-09-07-02
CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE
615 LAKE STREET SOUTH, LONG PRAIRIE, MN 56347
NOTICE OF ORDER TO REMOVE
HAZARDOUS BUILDINGS

To: Darren Holen

On October 8, 2020, your property in the City of Long Prairie, Todd County, located at 305 E 8th Street, Todd County, Minnesota, Parcel No. 36-0086200, was inspected for compliance pursuant to the Minnesota Statute §463.17 pertaining to the HAZARDOUS AND SUBSTANDARD BUILDING ACT. A “hazardous building” or “hazardous property” means any building or property, which because of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, physical damage, unsanitary condition, or abandonment, constitutes a fire hazard or a hazard to public safety or health.

There is located on your property a home which is determined by the City of Long Prairie to be damaged, decayed, dilapidated, unsanitary and unsafe to the extent that the

defects create a hazard to the health, safety and welfare of the general public. Specifically, the Council found that the following conditions exist:

1. Holes chopped through the roof as a means of accessing the fire in the roof area.
2. Broken windows.
3. Mold present on the main floor.
4. Smoke damage throughout the entire home.
5. Roof Sheathing, shingles, roof framing and walls charred black.
6. Damage to electrical and plumbing.

Pictures of the property is enclosed for identification.

THEREFORE, by this resolution, the City of Long Prairie hereby **ORDERS THE REMOVAL** of the hazardous buildings including the house and all outbuildings in their entirety and removal of all miscellaneous junk and garbage, within twenty-one (21) days after the date of service of this Order upon you. In accordance with Minnesota Statute §463.24, the owner or occupant must remove all personal property and/or fixtures that will reasonably interfere with the work within ten (10) days. If the property and/or fixtures are not removed and the City enforces this Order, the City may sell the personal property, fixtures and/or salvage materials at a public auction after three (3) days posted notice.

FURTHERMORE, a Motion for Summary Enforcement of the Order will be made to the District Court of the county in which the hazardous buildings or property is situated unless the building is removed within the specified time, or unless an Answer is filed within twenty-one (21) days from the date of service of this Order specifically denying such facts in this Order as are in dispute.

The foregoing resolution of Order to Remove Hazardous Buildings was duly approved and adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie on September 7, 2021.

Jodi Dixon, Mayor

Ted Gray, City Administrator

Council member Dixon motioned Mitchell seconded to approve resolution 21-09-07-03, Notice of Order to Remove Hazardous Buildings. Motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-09-07-03
CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE
615 LAKE STREET SOUTH, LONG PRAIRIE, MN 56347
NOTICE OF ORDER TO REMOVE
HAZARDOUS BUILDINGS**

To: Einar Gudjonsson

On June 2, 2021, your property in the City of Long Prairie, Todd County, located at Unit #17 at Fairview Avenue NW, Todd County, Minnesota, was inspected for compliance pursuant to the Minnesota Statute §463.17 pertaining to the HAZARDOUS AND SUBSTANDARD BUILDING ACT. A “hazardous building” or “hazardous property” means any building or property, which because of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, physical damage, unsanitary condition, or abandonment, constitutes a fire hazard or a hazard to public safety or health.

There is located on your property a home which is determined by the City of Long Prairie to be damaged, decayed, dilapidated, unsanitary and unsafe to the extent that the defects create a hazard to the health, safety and welfare of the general public. Specifically, the Council found that the following conditions exist:

- 1. Skirting around the unit is in terrible condition or missing.**
- 2. Missing storm door.**
- 3. Broken windows.**
- 4. Missing bottom board/belly board.**
- 5. Missing floor insulation and condition of the floor frame is very poor and rusty.**
- 6. Non metallic cable type wiring underneath trailer unprotected.**
- 7. Front steps are in poor condition.**
- 8. Light fixture by front door is hanging by bare wires.**
- 9. Water heater closet door on the west side of the trailer is missing and a sheet of plywood is fastened over the opening.**
- 10. Exit door on the west of trailer does not operate and there is no landing and stairs in place.**
- 11. Ceilings in areas are sagging and roof leaks in several places.**
- 12. Plastic grocery bags used to seal around the heat registers to keep bugs out.**
- 13. Electrical outlet missing wall plates.**
- 14. Weak floors.**
- 15. Bedroom windows are not compliant egress windows.**

Pictures of the property is enclosed for identification.

THEREFORE, by this resolution, the City of Long Prairie hereby ORDERS THE REMOVAL of the hazardous buildings including the house and all outbuildings in their entirety and removal of all miscellaneous junk and garbage, within twenty-one (21) days after the date of service of this Order upon you. In accordance with Minnesota Statute §463.24, the owner or occupant must remove all personal property and/or fixtures that will reasonably interfere with the work within ten (10) days. If the property and/or fixtures are not removed and the City enforces this Order, the City may sell the personal property, fixtures and/or salvage materials at a public auction after three (3) days posted notice.

FURTHERMORE, a Motion for Summary Enforcement of the Order will be made to the District Court of the county in which the hazardous buildings or property is situated unless the building is removed within the specified time, or unless an Answer is filed within twenty-one (21) days from the date of service of this Order specifically denying such facts in this Order as are in dispute.

The foregoing resolution of Order to Remove Hazardous Buildings was duly approved and adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie on September 7, 2021.

Jodi Dixon, Mayor

Ted Gray, City Administrator

The council reviewed a proposal for the 2nd Ave Apartments to plant arborvitae trees in the road right way across the street from the apartment building, as well as in the section between the apartments and storage units. The goal of this would be shield lights that are created by renters exiting the property. Discussion was had regarding if planting these trees across from the entrance of the 2nd Ave Apartments would have any effect on the shielding of lights. The council felt that the planting of trees between the apartment building and storage units would correct the issue. However it was felt that the proposal of planting trees in the road right away across from the entrance and exit to the apartment would not correct the issue. No decision was made on the proposal and Administrator Gray will continue to research and review this issue with the developer.

Council member Klick motioned Gripne approve Resolution 21-09-07-01 Adopting the Preliminary 2021 Tax Levy, Collectible in the Year 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION #21-09-07-01
ADOPTING THE PRELIMINARY 2021 TAX LEVY, COLLECTIBLE
IN THE YEAR 2022**

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie, County of Todd, Minnesota, that the following presents the final tax levy collectible in 2022 upon the taxable property in the City of Long Prairie for the following purposes:

Levy Purpose	
General Fund	\$513,137
2010A G.O. Bond	\$130,974
2012A G.O. Bond	\$ 76,472
2016A G.O. Bond	\$116,430
2018B G.O. Bond	<u>\$158,550</u>
Total	\$995,563

**Theodore Gray
City Administrator/Clerk**

**Jodi Dixon
Mayor**

Council member Gripne motioned Klick seconded to approve Pay Request #24 for Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements in the amount of \$385,939.31 payable to Rice Lake Construction Group. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Gray presented a request to have all the large maps, blueprints, and other related documents scanned into a digital format. This would allow for easier access and less storage for these documents.

Council member Dixon motioned Wright seconded to approve the Indigital Inc. proposal in the amount of \$5,780.00 for document scanning. Motion carried unanimously.

The council reviewed the Coalition of Greater MN Cities renewal invoices. Through the discussion, the city primarily uses the League of Minnesota City's for research items, informational updates, and for insurance purposes. At this time the City of Long Prairie will not renew its membership with the Coalition of Greater MN Cities.

The council reviewed the Sunday Liquor License request for the Red Lounge. The original request was presented on May 17th, 2021. At that time the council had expressed concerns in regarding the operations of the Red Lounge and tabled the Sunday Liquor License request for 3 months. Upon review the owners of the Red Lounge have not had any major incidents in the past 3 months.

Council member Wright motioned Dixon seconded to approve the Sunday Liquor License for the Red Lounge. Yes Votes: Mitchell, Klick, Wright Dixon, No Votes: Gripne, Motion Carried 4 to 1.

(Council Reports)

Public Works: Council member Mitchell reported that the Public Works daily water and wastewater rounds and samples are going fine. Public works will continue to patch holes, finish painting crosswalks, parking stalls, and winterizing parks. The August flow goal for water usage was 19.17 million gallons, the actual total flow for the month of August is 20.90 million gallons. With the recent rains and cooler temperatures flows should drop more for the month of September. We will continue to monitor flows at the water plant.

Police Safety: Council member Wright gave a report on the Police and Fire Departments. The Police Department had 315 calls in August. Chief Breiter gave an update on the body worn cameras. Fire Chief Laumeyer thanked Officer Larson for catching and assisting with a car fire that took place last month at the Timmerman Apartments.

Airport: Council member Klick reported that the Airport Commission met on August 18th and reviewed the next steps in the Airport Master Plan. They discussed several options to be placed in the plan for future expansion and growth. The possible items included an additional runway extension, cross wind runway, additional hanger space, and a taxi lane for aircraft.

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.

Library: Council member Gripne reported that the library is having a promotion to sign up for a library card or renew your library card for no charge.

Community Concerns: Mayor Dixon reported that the picnic for community concern for youth had limited attendance but was very informational. There will be no more meals at the Senior Center on Thursdays.

**Council member Dixon motioned Klick seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm.
Motion unanimously carried.**

Ted Gray
City Administrator/Clerk

Jodi Dixon
Mayor