

**City of Long Prairie**  
**7:00 P.M., Monday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**  
**City Council Meeting Held in Person & Via-Teleconference**

The Long Prairie City Council met by phone at City Hall, 7:00 pm, on Monday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 Mayor Dixon called the meeting to order with the following present by phone or at City Hall: Council members, Bob Klick, Lilah Gripne, Dattrick Mitchell, David Wright, and City Administrator Ted Gray. Others present Fire Chief Dan Laumeyer, Officer Trevor Larson, Officer Ryan Hanson, Office Doug Rakow, Kent Louwagie, Todd Hagen, Daiv Freeman, Pat Schultz,

For the Consent Agenda, Administrator Gray discussed the corrections to the resolution numbers presented in the agenda.

**Council member Wright motioned Klick seconded to approve the consent agenda with the corrections to resolution numbers:**

- (a) **Approve Agenda for May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**
- (b) **Approve Council Meeting Minutes from April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022**
- (c) **Approve Donations Resolution 22-05-02-15**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Resolution #22-05-02-15**  
**RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING DONATIONS**

**WHEREAS, the City of Long Prairie has received the following donations during the month(s) of April for the following purposes:**

<b>Money found in squad</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>	<b>Police donations</b>
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**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF LONG PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA THAT: The City Council of the City of Long Prairie acknowledges and accepts the donations received the month of April.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The City Council of the City of Long Prairie expresses its thanks and appreciation for the donations to all Donor(s) listed.**

**Adopted this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2022, by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie.**

**ATTEST:**

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**Theodore Gray**  
**City Administrator/Clerk**

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**Jodi Dixon**  
**Mayor**

At 7:01 p.m. Mayor Dixon called a public hearing for the Long Prairie Street Reconstruction Financing Plan. Todd Hagen from Ehlers Financial presented to the city council the Financing Plan for the upcoming CSAH 38 and CSAH 56 road projects. The plan provides the authority of the city in collaboration with Ehlers financial to issue bonds for construction projects. The

approval of the presented resolution will allow the city to move forward in the issuance of the bonds for this project, with the bond sale date scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

After no further comments or questions, Mayor Dixon closed the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

The council reviewed four resolutions for consideration regarding the preliminary approval to issue bonds for the upcoming road project.

**Council member Klick motioned Dixon seconded to approve Resolution 22-05-02-16 giving Preliminary Approval to Issue Bonds. Motion carried unanimously.**

**CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE  
COUNTY OF TODD  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-05-02-16**

**RESOLUTION GIVING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL  
FOR THE ISSUANCE OF THE CITY'S GENERAL OBLIGATION  
STREET RECONSTRUCTION PLAN BONDS IN AN AMOUNT  
NOT TO EXCEED \$1,100,000 AND  
ADOPTING THE CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA STREET  
RECONSTRUCTION PLAN THEREFOR**

**A. WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Long Prairie, Minnesota (the "City") proposes to issue its general obligation street reconstruction plan bonds in one or more series from time to time (the "Bonds") and adopt the City of Long Prairie, Minnesota Street Reconstruction Plan of 2022 through 2026 for the reconstruction of certain streets in the City (the "Plan"); and**

**B. WHEREAS, the City has caused notice of the public hearing on the intention to issue the Bonds and on the proposed adoption of the Plan to be published pursuant to and in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.58, Subdivision 3b; and**

**C. WHEREAS, a public hearing on the intention to issue the Bonds and on the proposed Plan has been held on this date, following published notice of the hearing as required by law; and**

**NOW, THEREFOR, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie, Minnesota, that the City hereby gives preliminary approval for the issuance of up to \$1,100,000 aggregate principal amount of the Bonds. The Plan is hereby adopted, the same being before the City Council and made a part of these proceedings by reference. The City declares its official intent to reimburse itself for the costs of the Plan from the proceeds of the Bonds.**

**Member Bob Klick moved for the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Jodi Dixon and, after full discussion thereof and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Lilah Gripne, Datrick Mitchell, David Wright, Bob Klick, Jodi Dixon**

**and the following voted against the same: None**

**whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.**

**Dated this 2nd day of May, 2022.**

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**City Administrator**

**[Bonds and SRP must be approved by at least two-thirds vote of the members present.]**  
**[Issuance of Bonds is subject to a 30-day reverse referendum after the public hearing.]**

(Appointments)

Administrator Gray presented to the city council on behalf of Luan Brunkhorst on the upcoming Prairie Day's Festival and parade. Through the discussion the council raised two concerns, they would like to see additional hand washing stations at the restroom locations. Secondly, they would like to see additional garbage cans in place. There were no concerns regarding the parade route.

(Public Comment)

Pat Schultz addressed the council regarding several concerns. Mr. Schultz asked about the assessment related to Parcel 36-0081800 for the upcoming project. Administrator Gray and City Engineer Kent Louwagie will be working through the waiver of appeal process to gain agreement for the assessment of that parcel. Mr. Schultz questioned if there was a platted alley way in the area of his driveway. Administrator Gray would have to complete research if there was a platted alley way in this area. Mr. Schultz raised concerns regarding the noise and vibrations from Long Prairie Packing. Through the discussion it was asked for Administrator Gray to discuss with the Long Prairie Packing to the potential location of the noise and vibrations. Mr. Schultz questioned if the city had ever located the property deeds for the city owned land of Riverside Park, Westside Park, and the city parcel located to the west of Westside Park. Administrator Gray stated that some of the abstracts had been located but would confirm that the city has these documents.

(Council Reports)

Public Works: Council member Mitchell reported that the public is starting to prepare the parks and ball fields for upcoming spring activities.

Park & Recreation: Council member Mitchell reported that the park board discussed the lifeguards and beach supervisors for Lake Charlotte. If any of the individuals would like to obtain their lifeguards license, they would like to reimburse them for the training. The park board discussed the trail reconstruction to occur at Riverside Park.

EDA: Council member Wright reported at the EDA meeting and gave updates on the childcare center, the Prairie Foods Building, and the Hometown Furniture store repurposing. There were also updates provided that Bob Klick would be the new Vice Chair of the EDA board and that the Welcome to Long Prairie signs are to be repainted.

Public Safety: Council member Wright reported that the Police department had 160 ICRS for the month of April. Office Wise will be attending TAC Training in the upcoming weeks.

Liquor Store: Council member Klick presented the monthly liquor store sales report.

Planning & Zoning: Council member Gripne reported on the Planning and Zoning meeting from April 25<sup>th</sup>. They approved variance requested by Jan & Karin Fearing for a garage with a condition to remove the current storage shed and reduce the size of the proposed garage to meet the set back requirements. Council member Gripne reported on the conditional use request for the Hometown Furniture store to add 5 apartments. Concerns and questions were raised by several residents and business owners and there was a correction to the plans provided. The commission tabled the discussion until May 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:45 p.m. at City Hall.

Community Concerns: Mayor Dixon reported the school's color run will be taking place on May 13<sup>th</sup> at Harmony Park.

Administration: Administrator Gray gave update on upcoming police chief interviews, which will be held on May 12<sup>th</sup>. Administrator Gray discussed the delay in the audit until the end of May for completion. After no additional questions, Administrator Gray moved to City Engineer Kent Louwagie to provide an update on the road project. Kent reviewed the upcoming schedule and timing of construction portions of the project. Kent also provided the council with web address, [www.longprairieconstruction.com](http://www.longprairieconstruction.com) for frequent updates on the road project. This will also be advertised in the newspaper and on the city's website. Kent discussed various questions that came up during the assessment hearing and from residents. If the property owner would like to have their individual water & sewer service repaired or connected to their homes, they should contact a local plumber and excavator to assist in this. Kent answered questions from council members on the relocation of mailboxes, which those residents will notified of the locations around the areas of 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave SW.

(Old Business)

The council reviewed a proposal on the entrance and exit for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave Apartments. The council was in favor of the two rows of trees being planted on the West side of the property. The council has additional questions regarding the divider at the entrance and exit. They asked if the intentions of the developer would be adding a structure or vegetation into the divider? At this time the presented divider would be the same height as the curbing. Administrator Gray will contact the developer to discuss this.

(New Business)

**Mayor Dixon motioned Mitchell seconded to approve Resolution 22-05-02-17, a Resolution Committing to Certain Financial Obligations for the Sewer System in Conjunction with**

**Federal and State Funding for the 2022 Infrastructure Improvement Project. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Resolution 22-05-02-17**

**A Resolution Committing to Certain Financial Obligations for the Sewer System in Conjunction with Federal and State Funding for the 2022 Infrastructure Improvement Project**

**WHEREAS, the City of Long Prairie (the “City”) has submitted application to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority (the “PFA”) for a Clean Water Improvement Project (the “Project”); and**

**WHEREAS, PFA has committed to supporting the Project through the following funding sources and amounts:**

**Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund:       \$4,776,440**

**Subject to certain financial commitments from the City.**

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF LONG PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA, THAT:**

- 1. The City will annually review the revenues and expenditures of the Sewer System and ensure that revenues are sufficient to pay for system expenses, including debt service and operations/maintenance.**
- 2. The City will renegotiate Significant Industrial User Agreements in 2025 to take effect starting in Budget Year 2026, and henceforth renegotiate every five years after this, at which time any necessary increases to Industrial Strength Discharge and Industrial Capital Base charges will be part of the negotiated agreements.**
- 3. In the event net revenues are not sufficient in covering Sewer System expenses the City will utilize any or all of the following actions:**
  - A. Additional increases to Sewer System User and Base Rates**
  - B. Cash Reserve from the Sewer Fund.**

**Adopted by the council this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2022**

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**Jodi Dixon, Mayor**

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**Theodore Gray, City Administrator**

**Council member Gripne motioned Klick seconded to approve Resolution 22-05-02-18 a Resolution in Support for LGA (Local Government Aid) Appropriate Increase. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Resolution on LGA Formula Update and \$99 million Appropriation Increase  
City of Long Prairie  
State of Minnesota  
Resolution 22-05-02-18**

**WHEREAS, Local Government Aid (LGA) is an essential aid program to Minnesota cities, helping to restrain local property taxes: and**

**WHEREAS, LGA helps cities pay for critical needs and services such as public safety, street maintenance & prepares, libraries, park and trails, economic development, and housing; and,**

**WHEREAS, the LGA formula is reviewed and updated approximately every ten years after the completion of the decennial census; and,**

**WHEREAS, organizations representing cities have worked together to produce a formula update that they agree on; and,**

**WHEREAS, the LGA formula proposal included in SF 3971/HF 4064 provided a much-needed update to the formula to better reflect city needs and changes in our communities since the last major revision to the formula in 2013; and**

**WHEREAS, the cost of providing city services continues to rise due to a significant increase in inflation; from 2009 to 2022, inflation has grown 41%, LGA has only grown by 18% and,**

**WHEREAS, the share of the state general fund spent on LGA has decreased to just 2.12% and,**

**WHEREAS as \$90 million increase to the LGA appropriation is essential to fund the formula and is modest compared to the \$9.3 billion state budget surplus; and,**

**WHEREAS, the City of Long Prairie will use the increase from LGA to continue to fund our general government operations such as Police Department, Street Department Fire Department Parks and Recreation Economic Development and other general government needs.**

**BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Long Prairie, Minnesota urges through this Resolution to its lawmakers that the state pass the LGA formula proposal and to increase the LGA appropriation by \$90 million; and,**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution to transmitted to State Representative Ron Kresha, State Senator Paul Gazelka, Speaker of the House Melissa Hortman, Senate Majority Leader Jeremy Miller, House Minority Leader Kurt Daudt, Senate Minority Leader Melissa Lopez Franzen, and Governor Tim Walz.**

**Adopted:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Council member Klick motioned Wright seconded to approve the gambling permit for St. Mary of Mount Carmel Parish for September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Council member Klick motioned Dixon seconded to approve the purchase of Chevrolet 2500HD public works truck in the amount of \$41,545.53, pending the notification of the qualification for the State of Minnesota competitive bid process. Motion carried unanimously.**

**There being no further business, motion by Gripne seconded by Klick to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.**

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Ted Gray, City Administrator

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Jodi Dixon, Mayor