

City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., Monday March 18th, 2024
City Council Meeting Held in Person & Via-Teleconference

The Long Prairie City Council met in person and by phone at City Hall, 7:00 pm, on Monday March 18th, 2024, Acting Mayor David Wright called the meeting to order Council members Jim Kreemer, Clint Krueger, and Lilah Gripne present.

Council member Kreemer motioned Gripne seconded to approve the consent calendar: Motion Passed.

- (a) Approve Agenda for Monday March 18th, 2024.**
- (b) Approve Council Meeting Minutes from March 4th, 2024.**
- (c) Approve Bills from February 16th, 2024 -March 15th 2024.**

A public hearing was held to review resolution 24-03-18-07 Vacating Streets in Alleyways located in East Acres Estates and Woodland Additions. This discussion revolved around being able to combine the lots for a new development to come in. With much conversation held, majority of the homeowners in the effected area signed a petition allowing the changes to be made.

(New Business)

Long Prairie Lions Project Proposal for Pickle Ball Courts.

The City Council reviewed the applications for the council member vacancy. The applications that were received were from Robert Klick, Larry Schroeder and Joanne Schroeder. Discussion was had after reviewing the three applicants resumes.

Council member Kreemer motioned seconded by Wright to recommend Joan Schroeder to be a member of the City Council. Council Member Gripne abstained from voting. Motion Passed.

The city council reviewed the city clock repair quotes along with banner and flower costs for main street. There was further debate on either replacing the clock in it's entirety or repairing the current one they have.

Council member Gripne motioned seconded by Mayor David Wright to approve the costs of repairing the clock along with having this be a task for the Public Works Department to be taken care of.

Luan presented the review of the updated video banner proposal council which was a proposal for drone footage that would be obtained of Long Prairie and be used as an advertising tool for the website and other city functions. The costs and cost breakdown of this proposal were discussed further with an updated figure. Previously the options discussed were budgeted at \$10,000.00 and \$20,000.00 but after further negotiations between LuAnn and Golden Shovel she was able to get a agreed upon price of \$8,5000.00.

Council member Kreemer motioned second by Gripne to table the video banner project until final figures have been confirmed.

Mayor Wright motioned seconded by Krueger to approve the Christie House Society 2023 Income and Expense report. Motion passed unanimously.

The city council reviewed the recommendation to hire Jeremy Puff as a part time police officer. Further details were provided including that he has the education and experience necessary. Discussions were also held around the budget for this position, tabled until the next week.

Mayor Wright motioned seconded by Kreuger to table the hiring of Jeremy Puff as a part-time police officer for the City of Long Prairie.

Council member Gripne motioned to approve the Viva Bar LLC Liquor License Request, seconded by Kreemer. Motion passed.

City council had discussion for the hiring process of the City Administrator/Clerk. They spoke about interviewing the top 5 ranking candidates based on a scoring system. The council discussed holding the interviews in an open meeting that way all of the council would be able to be involved in the interview process. They would need to set a date for a special meeting to be called in order to set this up.

(Council Reports)

Public Works: Council Member Krueger presented the council public works report. The daily water/ wastewater rounds and samples are going fine. Public Works has been busy with trimming trees, sweeping streets, and equipment maintenance. In the next few weeks we will be plowing snow as needed, repairing/painting picnic tables.

Public Safety: Mayor Wright reported on Public Safety. The Police Department completed their annual OSHA training on Wednesday, March 6th.

EDA: No report, just a reminder that there is an upcoming EDA meeting to be held on Wednesday March 20th, 2024 at 4:30 pm.

Liquor Store: Council member Kreemer reported on liquor store activities. The work to replace the compressor system began on Tuesday March 5th.

Library: Council member Gripne stated that Kevin Klimek and the Sidewinders will be performing at the library at 5:30 pm this Friday March 22nd from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm and a mosaic artist will be presenting on how to make mosaic flower pots.

Planning and Zoning meeting to be held on Tuesday March 25th, 2024 at 5:00 pm. With the next Chamber meeting on Wednesday March 27th, 2024 at 3:30 pm. Lastly the next council meeting will be on Monday April 1st, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

There being no further business, motioned by Gripne seconded by Kreemer to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Ted Gray, Interim City Administrator/Clerk

David Wright, Mayor