

City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., Wednesday, July 9th, 2025
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 Wednesday July 9th, 2025. Mayor Jim Kreemer called the meeting to order with Council Members JoAnn Schroeder, Clint Krueger, Gabriel Perez, Lilah Gripne present. Also, present: City Administrator/Clerk Candace Bruder, Chief of Police Ryan Hanson, Fire Chief Dan Laumeyer. Members of the public present: Steven Jones, Jody Debault and Renee Kreemer.

Council Member Krueger motioned, and it was seconded by Council Member Schroeder to approve the consent calendar and to add an agenda item as Number Eight requests from Police Chief. Unanimously approved.

- a. Approve Agenda for July 9th, 2025**
- b. Approve Meeting Minutes for June 25th, 2025**
- c. Approve Donation Resolution No. 25-7-9-20 for June 2025**
- d. Review and Approve Mobile Food License for Axe Kitchen on July 5th, 2025**

Resolution #25-07-09-20

RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING DONATIONS

WHEREAS, the City of Long Prairie has received the following donations during the month(s) of June 2025 for the following purposes:

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Amanda Hinson	\$391.00	4 th of July Advertisement
Long Prairie Packing	\$500.00	4 th of July- Fireworks

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 in the month of June 2025.

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 on this 9th day of July 2025 by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie.

ATTEST:

Candace Bruder

City Administrator/Clerk

James Kreemer

Mayor

Public Comments:

Mayor Kreemer reminded the audience of the requirements and time limits for public comments.

Jody Debault wanted to speak to the city council members about the situation and condition of the city and verify that staff are completing the tasks and complaints. Specifically, regarding garbage, boarded up windows, lawns that are not being mowed. She stated that our city has become an embarrassment to Minnesota & Todd County. Between each and everyone of us regardless of race we need to all be held to the same standard. Someone needs to enforce the laws of the city – the people of the city are paying the salaries of those in charge of these ordinances, and they need to be taken care of.

Renee Kreemer followed up upon the previous complaint that she has had numerous citizens contact her home because her husband is the mayor, but he is one person what is supposed to be done. Her main complaint is regarding the loud music, every weekend, they are unable to hear the tv in their own home due to it, from music a whole block away. They make the calls, but nothing is done. It is the same with the lawn mowing, the cops do not stop and take care of this. Fireworks – they live on 6th street – people were shooting them off Friday and Saturday evening. Same with the junked cars that are parked in yards – one has been sitting for four years. She is reiterating that the council needs to make sure that the police department is accountable and doing their duties to create a better atmosphere for the citizens of Long Prairie.

Council Reports

Public Works: Council Member Krueger informed the council that Public Works have been mowing, trimming, patching holes, crack fillings, painting parking stalls/crosswalks and no parking zones. Public works department is planning on liquidating a few pieces of equipment and will be looking for resources to handle the sale. The next few weeks they will continue mowing, crack filling in the seal coat area, and the daily water and wastewater rounds/samples. No other updates at this time, airport project currently has a tentative meeting scheduled for August 11th. Federal funds are still on hold so there are no updates or anything to meet regarding this until after they are approved.

Planning & Zoning: Mayor Kreemer informed council there is an agenda item related to this department and that Steven Jones will be addressing this.

Police Department and Fire Department: Mayor Kreemer provided an update that over the past two weeks of 06/25/25 to 7/8/2025 the LPPD had 212 calls with an average of 15.14 calls per day. This includes: 15 with suspicious activity, 71 traffic related, 3 juvenile, 2 medicals, 7

disturbance-domestic-assaults, 1 Theft, 69 assists, and ordinance specific are: 3 fireworks related, 9 animal-related, 8 noise related, and 14 specific ordinances. The chief notes that law officer's firearm training was completed on June 24th. Officers successfully covered the Todd County Fair from June 26-29th with no major incidents occurring. There was a protest held on Saturday June 28th and that was held without incident. The fourth of July weekend went well with only 3 complaints being called into the Long Prairie PD. They purchased two new batteries and a charging unit for the police department office. The Fire Department worked at the Todd County Fair also and it went well. The flashing sign for the fire hall on 4th Street flashes intermittently and should not, the company has been contacted to take care of this. Last week they did an inspection at the new apartment building, and it all went well. Tentatively they'd have a July 12th grand opening just for American Foods with a July 15th move in date. Just a couple items left on the punch list and will be set for the grand opening.

Liquor Store / Parks & Rec: Council Member Schroeder said that it was very busy at the liquor store with the fourth of July. Parks & Rec reported that at Lake Charlotte for the fifth of July – they had a great turn out and we received a lot of praise for all the activities as well as a great firework display.

EDA, Library/Health and Wellness: Council Member Gripne informed the council that the traveling treehouse program is available from now to August 15th from 11 am to 12:15 pm at the Elementary School Playground. The program is designed for Pre-Kindergarten through Elementary. All ages are welcome – children must be supervised by a parent or guardian. This is sponsored by United Way. The Wellness Club will meet July 16th, July 30th and Aug 13th from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm in the community gardens. This is for families with children and youth (6-16 years of age). Participants will learn to plant, care for, and harvest plants as well as learn about nutrition. For the EDA the July 16th meeting has been cancelled due to Luan going on vacation. The next meeting will be held on August 20th. A childcare grant has been applied for in the amount of \$10,000. Also, applicants for grants from Lakewood and CentraCare will be applied for. These are childcare grants. The library's Thursday afternoon book club continues to meet once a month. Next meeting will be on July 10th with discussion of the books "Seed Keeper". On Wednesday July 23rd from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm the mosaic mushrooms for ages 10 and up with Laura Ruprecht will take place. Registration is required and is limited to 10. This gives an opportunity to create your own mosaic mushroom. Funding for this was provided by Minnesota Clean Water Land & Legacy Amendment.

Tourism and Community Concern: Council Member Perez informed the council that the fireworks were beautiful. The senior center bingo is going well. The Lion's Club is going to host the luncheon next Wednesday as well at the senior center. We all need to work together to create a cohesive environment. He noted that having one person by themselves is not good, it is good when we all work together.

Engineer Road Project Report was given by City Administrator/City Clerk Candace Bruder to the City Council since City Engineer Kent Louwagie was absent. The contractors informed us of the progress on the County Road 56 and County Road 38 project the week of June 23rd they sprayed for weeds, fertilized & overseeded with hydro mulch the residential turf. They did the same at Riverside Drive and 2nd Ave SW project area and will continue to monitor these areas

for germination and acceptable turf establishment. The main lift station initial startup on June 25th identified some programming issues that need to be resolved. Additional programming for the pumps and controls was scheduled for July 9th (today). Once the permanent power supply is installed (estimated 4 weeks from now), the new lift station can be operated. The new lift station also is required to operate for 30 days prior to demolishing the old equipment and building. The trunk Highway 287 project update includes the removal for concrete walks and curbs as well as new concrete construction is planned to be underway this week. New releases and social media venues are managed by MnDOT, if further information is needed, please reference there.

Administration: Candace attended a meeting today in Staples at Sourcewell about all the new grants that are coming out along with a new portal system launching on July 15th. There seems to be a lot of potential grants that the city could benefit from. On July 15th the city can apply for another boost grant, other departments such as police & fire can also apply for additional grants so the city overall can have more funds. Internship potential that they would be able to be reimbursed for. They have separate grants for so many different areas that we can apply for to improve the city. It was noted that maybe we could use these funds for the senior center energy issues. It was noted that the new employee as a finance officer is doing very well and has helped with a lot of tasks and is helping finish up audit requests, starting on some budget work. Once the audit is complete the budget is a top priority. The audit completion date is August 15th.

New Business

ORDINANCE NO. 25-07-09-02

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP

THE CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE MINNESOTA DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. AMENDMENT OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 16, PLANNING AND LAND USE CONTROL. Chapter 16 of the Long Prairie Municipal Code is hereby amended by amending and adding dates of establishment of the Official Zoning Map as follows:

16.3914 Establishment of Official Zoning Map. The Official Zoning Map together with all attached material are hereby adopted by reference and declared to be a part of the official zoning map and this ordinance. The attached material shall include the Flood Insurance Study, Todd County, Minnesota, and Incorporated Areas, Flood Insurance Rate Map panels therein numbered 27153C0432D, 27153C0451D, 276153C0452D and 27153C0453D; and the Flood Insurance Rate Map Index (Map Number 27153CIND2A), all being dated February 4, 2011; as updated by FEMA Letter of Map Revision Case 24-05-0435P effective May 15, 2025; and all prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The Official Zoning Map shall be on file in the Office of the Zoning Administrator.

Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect 30 days after publication.

Passed by the City Council of Long Prairie this ____ day of _____, 2025.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

James Kreemer, Mayor

Candace Bruder, City Administrator

Steve explained that the reason for the mapping change is due to the 2022 project that increased the culvert sizes which changed the floodplain elevations. This is a very positive development which reduces the chance of flooding in particular areas which in turn allows the city with this approval to amend their flood plain maps and accurately represents the decreased flood risk on the zoning map. This only changes the mapping itself, it will benefit residences for cheaper insurance due to smaller flood zones.

Council Member Gripne motioned to approve the Ordinance 25-07-09-02 Amending the “Official Zoning Map for the City of Long Prairie”, seconded by Council Member Schroeder. Motion carried.

Council Member Gripne motioned to approve the Lot Combination request of Parcel #36-0125300 with #36-0125400 to create one parcel, making the new parcel number #36-0125400. Motion was seconded by Mayor Kreemer. Motion carried.

Council Member Gripne motioned to approve the payment for the invoice from Braun Intertec for construction testing for \$1,014.80 for the Main Lift Station. Motion was seconded by Council Member Krueger. Motion carried.

Mayor Kreemer motioned to approve the payment for the invoice for Braun Intertec for topsoil testing for \$1,227.50 for the CSAH 56 & CSAH 38 Project. Motion was seconded by Council Member Gripne. Motion carried.

Council Member Krueger motioned to approve the payment for the invoice for Pay App. No. 6 to C & L Excavating for \$236,550 for the Main Lift Station this represents roughly 73% of the work completed at this time. Motion was seconded by Council Member Gripne. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION OF SPONSORSHIP

Resolution No. 25-07-09-21

Resolution authorizing participation with the Community Concern for Youth Program with Todd-Wadena Community Corrections.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Long Prairie City Council that Todd County act as sponsoring unit of government for the project entitled Community Concern for Youth to be conducted by Todd-Wadena Community Corrections during the period from 01/01/26 through 12/31/26. Lew Noska, Chairperson, Todd County Board of Commissioners, is hereby authorized to execute such

agreements and funding as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the Long Prairie City Council.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Long Prairie City Council hereby agrees to contribute \$3,528.00 for the project entitled Todd-Wadena Community Concern for Youth during the period from 01/01/26 through 12/31/26, which is to be paid on 01/01/26.

It is understood that the Long Prairie-Grey Eagle School Board contributes \$4,123.00, and the Grey Eagle City Council contributes \$379.00, for a total community contribution of \$8,030.00.

I hereby certify that the above resolutions were adopted by the Long Prairie City Council on _____.

Signed:

Witnessed:

(Signature)

(Signature)

Mayor

Clerk-Administrator

(Title)

(Date)

(Title)

(Date)

Council Member Schroeder motioned to approve the donation Resolution No. 25-07-09-21 for \$3,528 to the Community Concern for Youth Program with the Todd-Wadena Community Corrections. Motion was seconded by Council Member Perez. Motion carried.

The Chamber of Commerce is requesting a donation to the 1st Annual Latino Festivals on July 26th, and their donation goal is \$15,000 and they are still in need of \$3,000. This donation request is to come from the liquor store donation budget.

Council Member Krueger motioned to approve a request for a Donation to the Latino Festival on July 26th in the amount of \$1,500 from the Liquor Store Funds. Motion was seconded by Council Member Schroeder. Motion carried.

The Police Chief had additional agenda items and general information that was presented to the council. The first item to note is National Night Out on Tuesday August 5th from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. at Lake Charlotte Park. The city has previously provided root beer, napkins, cups, straws, spoons, and ice cream and all council members are encouraged to attend this community event and to assist in handing out the root beer floats. Council Member Krueger stated that his business Griff's Pizza will provide Root Beer for this event for free and the city has agreed that they will provide the other requests. It was also noted that Officer Larson is planning on tentatively retiring in the Fall of 2025. This brings up a request to start the hiring process for the three part-time officers that have applied for this position. The new requirement is that all part-time applicants must go through background checks, interviews, physical, etc. according to state

requirements. The chief's request is to start the process of hiring all three part-time applicants, prior to the retirement of the senior officer. If they do not pass the background check, they will be cut from the list of potential candidates to be interviewed. The next step will be an interview with a committee panel.

Council Member Krueger motioned to approve starting the interview process with the three part-time police officer candidates, noting that they must first pass a background check then they will be interviewed by a committee consisting of Council Members Gabriel Perez and Clint Krueger, City Administrator Candace Bruder and Police Chief Ryan Hanson. Motion was seconded by Council Member Schroeder. Motion carried.

Mayor Jim Kreemer motioned to table the decision to hire a 7th officer until there are more details after the budget is complete after the audit to have more details are available, it was noted that a work session will need to be planned for all departments as well. Motion was seconded by Council Member Gripne. Motion carried.

An additional top is that per state statues the city must have the officer's bodycam data audited to verify that the cameras are being used properly and the events in which they are being recorded are being done within the mandatory retentions. It is required by the state to be done every two years. The council received two different quotes from two separate sources, one from The Axtell Group for \$2,500.00 and one for Rampart Audit LLC for \$2,754.20. Both seem to be reputable. The rampart audit also mentioned they would pop into the evidence room and verify the data is being kept correctly.

Mayor Jim Kreemer motioned to table the discussion on the BodyCam Data Audit until the council is able to get more details on the specifics. Motion was seconded by Council Member Schroeder. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Council Member Gripne motioned to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Council Member Perez; unanimously approved- meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Candace Bruder, City Administrator/Clerk

James Kreemer, Mayor