CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE
WORK SESSION MEETING
Long Prairie City Hall- 615 Lake Street
Wednesday, October 14th, 2026 at 6 P.M.

The Work Session for the Long Prairie City Council was called to order at City Hall at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday October 14th, 2026. Mayor Jim Kreemer called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members, Lilah Gripne, Clint Krueger, Gabrier Perez and JoAnn Schroeder. City Administrator/Clerk Candace Bruder, City Engineer Kent Louwagie, Ehlers Public Finance Todd Hagen-Others Present.

Council Member Gripne motioned to Approve Work Session Agenda; motion was seconded by Council Member Krueger.

Discussion was held on Water Rate Study Presentation. Overall, the utility fund is healthy, but some areas need recalibration to be more equitable for everyone. Residential, multifamily (apt building), rentals, commercial and industrial are the user classes. Other cities are also moving towards readjusting and recalibrating their rates and charges to make sure everyone is paying for what they are using, and the city isn't having to subsidize.

The Water Fund is an Enterprise Fund that the goal is to be self-sufficient. There has been review of the rate structure and tier breaks. Our current rate structure is that all customers pay a fixed monthly base fee for water services and are billed by gallons used. It's recommended to bill for meter size based on AWWA Factor Guidelines. Charge a higher fixed fee for larger meter sizes. Create a tiering structure to promote water conservation. Residential Tier 1 – 4,000 gallons, Tier 2 – 8,000 gallons, Tier 3 – 8,001+ gallons per month. Commercial Tier 1 – 5,000 gallons, Tier 2 10,000 gallons, Tier 3 – 10,001+ gallons per month. Currently, 25 to 30 accounts are using 15,000 gallons or more per month for commercial usage. Industrial Tier 1- 500,000 gallons, Tier 2 – 1,000,000 gallons, Tier 3 – 1,000,001+ gallons. There are 4 users in this category.

Council Member Krueger said the council has a resolution they want to add to the council agenda for the PFA funding for the Water Tower Project. PFA wants to be reassured that the city is implementing rate structures that will allow the city to pay the debt for this project. This is where the Water Rate Study is coming into play. Water rates will be reviewed annually.

Discussion was also held on Water & Sewer connection fees and SAC/WAC fees and having Ehlers doing a study on that as well.

There being no further discussion, Council Member Krueger motioned to adjourn the meeting; motion was Seconded by Council Member Gripne; unanimously approved meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

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Candace Bruder — City Administrator/Clerk

Jim Kreemer — Mayor