

City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., Monday, June 1st, 2020
City Council Meeting Held Via-Teleconference

The Long Prairie City Council met by phone at City Hall, 7:00 pm, on Monday, June 1st, 2020. Mayor Jodi Dixon called the meeting to order with the following present by phone: Council members, Lilah Gripne, Don Rasmussen, David Wright, Randy Mechels, and City Administrator/Clerk Ted Gray.

Council member Mechels motioned Gripne seconded to approve the consent agenda items:

- (a) Approve Agenda for June 1st, 2020 with additional items:**
- (b) Approve resolution 20-06-01-01**
- (c) Review and Approve Temporary Permits for Bars and Restaurants to provide outdoor service.**
- (d) Discuss the reopening of City owned Public Bathrooms and Picnic Shelters**
- (e) Discuss putting out docks at the beach**
- (f) Discuss the option of renting picnic tables to be used by local bars and restaurants for outside seating**
- (g) Approve resolution 20-06-01-02 – Authorizing the Long Prairie Fire Department to apply for a grant to purchase two hose testers and all related hardware.**
- (h) Approve Minutes for May 18th, 2020**

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mechels, Gripne, Rasmussen, Wright, Dixon

No: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

(New Business)

Council member Gripne motioned Dixon seconded to approve resolution 20-06-01-01 Delegating Authority to the City Administrator to Enter into Temporary Use Agreement(s) for Use of Public Property by Long Prairie Restaurants and Bars in Response to Governor Walz Executive Order 20-56.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Gripne, Rasmussen, Mechels, Wright, Dixon

No: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION: 20-06-01-01

Resolution Delegating Authority to the City Administrator to Enter into Temporary Use Agreement(s) for Use of Public Property by Long Prairie Restaurants and Bars in Response to Governor Walz Executive Order 20-56

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 6.01 of the Long Prairie City Code (the “City Code”), the City Administrator is the chief administrative officer of the City of Long Prairie; and

WHEREAS, Governor Walz issued Executive Order 20-56 to allow restaurants and bars to safely reopen their business on June 1, 2020, for outdoor dining and alcohol sales with certain guidelines and restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota has issued guidance to allow Cities and Counties the authority to allow restaurants and bars to use public property, sidewalks and parking lots, to create temporary outdoor seating “compact and contiguous” to the business, if none currently exists; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to help Long Prairie businesses to safely reopen under Executive Order 20-56; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further desires to create administrative efficiencies by authorizing the City Administrator to enter into Temporary Use Agreement for restaurants and bars to use public property for outdoor dining and alcohol consumption;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie, Minnesota as follows:

- 1. The City Administrator is hereby authorized to enter into and execute a Temporary Use Agreement(s) with a restaurant or bar business for the use of public property such as sidewalks, right-of-way, or public parking lot adjacent to their business for outdoor seating without further action by the City Council.**
- 2. Temporary Use Agreements entered into pursuant to this authority will be available for review and inspection by any member of the City Council at any time upon reasonable request.**
- 3. The authority granted herein shall terminate on December 31, 2020, and be of no force or effect.**

PASSED: June 1st, 2020 by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie.

APPROVED BY:

ATTEST:

Jodi Dixon, Mayor

Theodore Gray, City Administrator

Council member Rasmussen motioned Dixon seconded to approve the Temporary License Permit to allow for Bars and Restaurants to provide outdoor service.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Rasmussen, Mechels, Wright, Gripne, Dixon

No: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

The council discussed the reopening of public bathrooms, picnic shelters, and putting the docks out at the beach. Through discussion, the shelters would remain closed at this time, no more than 10 people.

Council member Rasmussen motioned Gripne seconded to open the public bathrooms and put the docks out at Lake Charolette.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mechels, Wright, Gripne, Rasmussen, Dixon

No: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

The council discussed options for renting picnic tables to be used by local bars and restaurants for outdoor seating. Administrator Gray will do research to find out how many tables would be available to be used, what insurance coverage would be needed, what would the rental charge be, and an agreement to rent the tables to be signed by the business owner and the city.

Council member Rasmussen motioned Mechels seconded to approve resolution 20-06-01-02 authorizing the Long Prairie Fire Department to apply for a grant to purchase two hose testers and all related hardware.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Wright, Gripne, Rasmussen, Mechels Dixon

No: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE RESOLUTION #20-06-01-02

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LONG PRAIRIE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR A GRANT TO PURCHASE TWO HOSE TESTERS AND ALL RELATED HARDWARE

At the meeting of the Long Prairie City Council on June 1, 2020, the following resolution was approved:

Be it resolved:

That the Long Prairie City Council fully supports the entity in collaborating with the Long

Prairie Fire Department in implementing two hose testing devices to be shared by all fire departments in Todd County. The Long Prairie City Council further supports the Long Prairie Fire Department in submitting an Innovation Funding application to Sourcewell to request financial support for the two hose testing devices.

Adopted by the City of Long Prairie on this date, June 1, 2020.

Theodore Gray
City Administrator/clerk

Jodi Dixon
Mayor

Council member Gripne motioned Dixon seconded to approve the Cooperative Construction Agreement between the City of Long Prairie and Todd County for the 2021 Road Improvement Projects

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Gripne, Rasmussen, Mechels, Wright, Dixon

No: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Rasmussen motioned Wright seconded to approve Pay Request #12 for Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements in the amount of \$998,453.61 payable to Rice Lake Construction Group.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Rasmussen, Mechels, Wright, Gripne, Dixon

No: 0

Motion carried unanimously

Council member Dixon motioned Gripne seconded to approve the Conditional Use Permit for Darrin and Becky Hensley with the conditions that there is only use of light chemicals, no accumulation or storage of scrap metals, and no discharge of animal or hazardous waste.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mechels, Wright, Rasmussen, Gripne, Dixon

No: 0

Motion carried unanimously

Council member Dixon motioned Mechels seconded to approve the variance to add an addition to a garage for Peter Haugen with the conditions that two temporary buildings be removed, garage is no closer to the alley, no closer than three feet to the property line, and no more additional buildings or impervious surfaces be added to the property.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Gripne, Wright, Mechels, Rasmussen, Dixon

No: 0

Motion carried unanimously

The city council reviewed a request from the LPGE School Board to turn over the school-owned parking lot and the land located at Harmony Park, to the City of Long Prairie.

Council member Mechels motioned Wright seconded to authorize Administrator Gray to contact the LPGE School Board to notify them that the City of Long Prairie respectively declines the offer, but would be willing to look into a collaborative agreement to help maintain the parking lot.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Wright, Mechels, Rasmussen, Gripne Dixon

No: 0

Motion carried unanimously

The city council reviewed a memo presented by Administrator Gray regarding vacation options for city employees due to COVID-19. Administrator Gray explained that of the cities and other government entities he spoke too, they were not at this time looking to change their vacation program for employees due to COVID-19. Administrator Gray recommends that at this time no decision should be made on paying out or rolling over vacation that is unused.

Council member Mechels motioned Dixon seconded to delay any decision until a later date on the rolling over or paying out vacation.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Wright, Rasmussen, Mechels, Gripne, Dixon

No: 0

Motion carried unanimously

Council member Mechels motioned Rasmussen seconded to approve the amount of \$8,405.53 for additional seal coating streets in 2020.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Gripne, Wright, Mechels, Rasmussen, Dixon

(Council Reports)

Public Works: Council member Mechels gave a report on Public Works department. The wastewater plant continues to move along without any major delays. The public works staff has been mowing the ball fields and parks. They are working on crack filling and patching the areas to prepare for the upcoming seal coating.

Public Safety: Council member Wright gave a report for the Police Department. The graduation parade was well organized, and no major issues occurred. The department received its new office chairs last week. The Fire Department will have its first meeting since the COVID-19 outbreak on June 3rd.

Liquor Store: The liquor store will be closed on Sunday July 5th. They will be open on July 4th with limited hours.

Planning & Zoning: Council member Gripne gave a report on Planning & Zoning. They will meet on June 8th at 4:45 pm for variance hearing.

EDA: Council member Gripne stated the EDA will have a regular meeting June 17th.

Library: Council member Gripne gave a report on the Library. Nancy Potter retired from her position at the Library on May 27th. The summer reading program will be held June 1st through July 31st. If you are interested in this program, please contact that library.

Concern for Community: Mayor Dixon stated the Senior Center will remain closed as some businesses start to reopen.

Council member Dixon motioned, and Mechels seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm. Motion unanimously carried.

Ted Gray
City Administrator/Clerk

Jodi Dixon
Mayor