

City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., November 16th, 2020
City Council Meeting Held Via-Teleconference

The Long Prairie City Council met by phone at City Hall, 7:00 pm, on Monday November 16th, 2020. Mayor Jodi Dixon called the meeting to order with the following present by phone or at City Hall: Council members, Lilah Gripne, David Wright, Don Rasmussen, Randy Mechels, and City Administrator/Clerk Ted Gray.

Council member Mechels motioned Dixon seconded to approve the consent agenda with the addition (d) to the agenda:

- (a) Approve Agenda for November 16th, 2020**
- (b) Approve Minutes for November 2nd, 2020**
- (c) Approve Monthly Bills**
- (d) Item #7: Approve the closure of 1st Street S from 1st Ave to Central Ave on December 5th for a Drive by Santa Event.**

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Rasmussen, Mechels, Wright, Dixon. No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

(Appointments)

Terry Lanoue from Long Prairie Sanitation INC. presented to the City Council regarding the increase of the tipping fee at the Todd County Transfer Station. Terry explained that the tipping fee was increased on October 20th to \$15.00 a ton. This comes after two previous increase in 2018 and 2019 in which Long Prairie Sanitation INC. was able to absorb those increases. Terry is proposing a \$1.50 increase for Residential accounts and a 10% to 15%, not to exceed 15% on Commercial accounts to begin on January 1st, 2021. Terry commented that these are rates that he would like to discuss with the City of Long Prairie on a year to year basis.

Council member Rasmussen motioned Dixon seconded to approve the Long Prairie Sanitation INC. proposed rate increase of a \$1.50 for Residential accounts and a 10% to 15%, not to exceed 15% on Commercial accounts to begin on January 1st, 2021.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Wright, Rasmussen, Mechels, Dixon No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

Pat Schultz was in attendance at the meeting to follow up with questions that he had raised at the October 19th meeting. Administrator Gray had a discussion with the City Attorney regarding Pat's questions. Administrator Gray reported that under state law a city is prohibited from transferring real property to a private party without fair market compensation. The only way that the city could consider transferring the property in question back to a property owner is if evidence is provided showing that the city's survey is inaccurate. If evidence is provided, Administrator Gray will review the information with the City Attorney and bring the back request to the City Council. Pat understood this and had additional questions. He had mentioned that his original request was to also update the property lines and make corrections. He agrees with the city's survey and had presented an option to have an auction to sell 6.5 acres of property owned by the city that had been in question. Pat stated that this would be a fair way to sell this

portion of Riverside Park. Administrator Gray mentioned that he would have to consult on this option with the City Attorney. Pat continued to mention potential errors with neighboring property lines, and legal descriptions, which included a property with the parcel number 18-0025000. The claim for this request to update the legal descriptions of the properties in this area is because of the river and the changes that it may have caused to those descriptions. Mayor Dixon agrees that there are concerns with this area and that the descriptions should be cleaned up. Council member Wright stated that we should check with the League of Minnesota City's regarding this issue, to see if they have dealt with any requests like this. From this discussion Administrator Gray will need to gather information regarding the potential sale of 6.5 acres of City property, how to update the legal descriptions, the potential surveys of this area, and the total cost for this request.

(New Business)

Council member Gripne motioned Mechels seconded to approve Resolution 20-11-16-02 – Decertification of TIF District 1-3.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-11-16-02

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA APPROVING THE DECERTIFICATION OF TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT NO. 1-3 (A HOUSING DISTRICT)

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council (the “Council”) of the City of Long Prairie, Minnesota (the “City”), as follows:

Section 1. Recitals.

1.01 By Resolution No. 00-2-22-4, adopted on February 22, 2000, the City approved the establishment of Tax Increment Financing District No. 1-3 (a housing district) (the “TIF District”) within Master Development District No. 1, and approved a Tax Increment Financing Plan therefor (the “TIF Plan”).

1.02. The City desires to affirm the decertification of the TIF District on December 31, 2016 in accordance with the request of the Office of the Minnesota State Auditor to complete the process.

1.03. All conditions precedent to decertification of the TIF District set forth in Minnesota Statutes, Section 469.1763, Subdivision 4, and Section 469.177, Subdivision 12, have been met by December 31, 2016.

Section 2. Decertification. The TIF District shall be decertified on December 31, 2016.

Section 3. Directions to the City Administrator.

3.01 The City Administrator is authorized to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the County Auditor of Todd County, which shall serve as the Council's written request for decertification of the TIF District effective December 31, 2016.

3.02 The City Administrator is further authorized and directed to return to the County any tax increments from the TIF District that are not needed to pay administrative costs, for redistribution to all relevant taxing jurisdictions.

Adopted: November 16, 2020.

Mayor

Attest:

City Administrator

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Mechels, Rasmussen, Gripne, Wright, Dixon No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Mechels motioned Gripne seconded to approve Invoice from Braun Intertec in the amount of \$8,130.00 for Professional Services Rendered for CSAH 56 and CSAH 38 Improvements.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Rasmussen, Gripne, Wright, Mechels, Dixon. No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Gripne motioned Wright seconded to approve Pay Request #17 for Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements in the amount of \$285,675.60 payable to Rice Lake Construction Group.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Gripne, Wright, Mechels, Rasmussen, Dixon. No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Rasmussen motioned Gripne seconded to approve Deb Blake for contracted services at pay rate of \$30.00 an hour.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Wright, Mechels, Rasmussen, Gripne Dixon. No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Dixon motioned Mechels seconded to approve the St. Mary's Catholic Council of Women Quilt Raffle.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Mechels, Rasmussen, Gripne, Wright, Dixon. No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

The council reviewed the proposed ordinance regarding Sunday On-sale Liquor Licenses. Council member Gripne asked how many licenses can be given out within City Limits? Administrator Gray will complete research on that question and report back to the City Council. There were no other additional questions regarding the proposed ordinance.

Council member Wright motioned Gripne seconded to approve the closure of 1st Street S from 1st Ave to Central Ave on December 5th for a Drive by Santa Event.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Rasmussen, Gripne, Wright, Mechels, Dixon. No: 0. Motion carried unanimously.

(Council Reports)

Public Works: Council member Mechels gave a report on the Public Works Department. The department is currently working on putting up Christmas decorations.

Police Safety: Council member Wright gave a report on the Police and Fire Departments. The Police Department destroyed 243 pounds of prescription drugs. There will be no Bright Lights Parade this year, but there will be a drive by Santa on December 5th.

Community Concerns: Mayor Dixon had received questions regarding the creation of a compost site in town. Administrator Gray will work on gathering information regarding the creation of this.

Administration: Administrator Gray gave a report. First, a question was raised at the November 2nd Council meeting regarding continuing the Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) for the 2021 Road Improvement Project. The City is not liable to continue the study for Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) and LOMA's for property that may or may not be affected by the redefining of the flood zone. Second, there had been information requested regarding the EV Car Charger station grant. The grant was approved at the October 19th meeting. This was to approve the installation fee for the charging station, the fee will be covered by the grant that was written. For the cost to use the charger, there will be a representative from MN Power on the call at the December 7th meeting. The basics of his presentation is on the cost of service for this charger.

Council member Mechels motioned Gripne seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm. Motion unanimously carried.

Ted Gray
City Administrator/Clerk

Jodi Dixon
Mayor