

CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2009 - 7:00 PM

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Mayor Wetzel, Emmett Krenik, Dorothy Dinwiddie, Josh Fredrickson, Jason Squires
Absent: None

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A) Motion by Squires, Second by Krenik, minutes from February 10, 2009
Public Hearing be approved. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Krenik, Second by Dinwiddie, minutes from February 10, 2009
Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.
- C) Council change to proposed Agenda: ADD: VIII. ADMIN. D) Dept. Heads
MOVE UP: VI. OLD BUS. A) Simonettes

III. APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

Council reviewed the bills to be paid. Motion by Squires, Second by Dinwiddie,
to pay the bills listed and due. Approved unanimously.

**** MOVE UP OLD BUSINESS A) Simonette Family request for private easement**

After a brief closing argument by Simonette Family: Motion by Krenik, Second by
Squires; to deny the request for a private easement over city property based on the fact
that it does not benefit the city in any way. Approved by 4-1 vote, Dinwiddie vote No.

IV. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, COMMITTEES, & DEPARTMENTS

A) E.D.A. Report- Don Hayden

- 1) Karl Pelovsky request for a TIF district: brief explanation of his project/ would
provide low rent senior housing/ \$1400 monthly rent vs. \$2300 approx./ would
try to use local contractors/ would create 5-6 new jobs/ EDA recommended.
Motion by Dinwiddie, Second by Krenik, adopt Resolution No. 2009D, thereby
calling for a public hearing to consider TIF District 16. Approved unanimously.
- 2) Motel update- March 1st open house had some 160 people attend/ temporary signs
are going up until the permanent lighted sign goes up in front/ city assessment of
\$11,557.12 was paid in full to the county by Guardian Inn.
- 3) Fiberglass Fabricators- Council & Attorney Moran stated they did not wish to
put Fiberglass out of business into Chapter 11 by sending them letters. Director
Hayden meet with Fiberglass to try to reach some agreement with them.

B) P & Z Report- Corey Block

- 1) Central Health Care request for Conditional Use Permit to build an Assisted Living Facility in an R-3 Zone (Horizon Addition). P & Z had recommended approval with all conditions met. Motion by Squires, Second by Krenik, to approve the C.U.P. provided all conditions be met. Approved unanimously.
- 2) Motion by Krenik, Second by Dinwiddie, to adopt Ordinance No. 2009-3, thereby amending Zoning Ordinance Section 46-601 Driveway widths; being allowed up to 30 ft. widths. Approved unanimously.
- 3) Motion by Fredrickson, Second by Krenik, to adopt Resolution No. 2009E, thereby approving the new Building Permit Fee Schedule increase (1994 + 10% schedule) as had been discussed at the Workshop Meeting. Approved unanimously.
- 4) Motion by Krenik, Second by Squires, to appoint two new members to the Planning & Zoning Commission: Bruce Meidlinger & Tom Oak. Approved unanimously. ***“Applause & Thank You!”*** to P & Z Chairman Dick Bradshaw who has retired from the P & Z Board after serving for some 35+ years.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

On-Sale Manager Mike Nelson gave the February report: Sales were \$61,649.57; down \$6,700 from January. Nelson reported: bar sales are slipping, but Off-Sale slightly ahead/ Feb. entertainment tanked/ ranked 9th in 2007 for Sales-per-capita according to the final 2007 State Report.

D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of February: 123 calls/ 2,387 miles patrolled. Pfarr reported we were not awarded the Ag-Star grant applied for/ Feb. 26 @ 6 pm LCPD officer used police AED to help save a life in city/ Council needs to set a motorized golf cart fee rate and permit form: \$10 per year sold as three year \$30 permit/ Chief & Clerk come up with a form.

Officer working at school dances: Council agreed- should not wear city uniform or drive city vehicle to event if being paid by the school. Chief & Clerk meet with school administration to work out a compromise.

E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks

Public Works Superintendent Curt Roemhildt gave his monthly report: electric cost= \$.40 per 1000 gal. & chemical cost= \$.60 per 1000 gal. (total \$1.00) per 1000 gal. treated water produced/ spring sweeping has started/ some tree removals from last summer wind storm done/ receiving “Operator’s Award” from MPCA for wastewater treatment plant operations/ five streetlight poles are available for Commerce Drive installation (motel street)/ staff priced \$25,700 for one, \$29,000 for another, to purchase park equipment for any new park.

F) Bolton & Menk Engineering- Tim Loose

- 1) 2006 Street & Utility Project: surveys on Sharon & Minnesota streets are done- calculations are being written up.
- 2) 2009 Street Project (proposed): Park Avenue- county commissioners will discuss at their next county meeting. City engineer and staff will attend.
- 3) 2010 Minnesota Street Project: approx. 75% of calculations are done/ need some "aesthetics" finalized by property owner/citizen committee. Will streetlights and concrete pillars along Minnesota Street need to be removed? Yes.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

Nancy Stauff & Jerry Cooney were in attendance representing the Le Sueur Co. Fair Assoc. They were seeking permission to use the enclosed baseball outfield for controlled "Laser Tag" game at the 2009 fair. Motion by Dinwiddie, Second by Fredrickson, to allow fair assoc. to use the outfield. Approved unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) See previous discussion above.
- B) Rental inspection at Center Mall: Inspector Block reported he just received the structural report from LS Engineering. Contains several recommendations. Most concerned about the two deteriorating structural columns in the back of building. Apartments are being cleaned up better than ever/ material found is not asbestos/ no bare wires showing anymore/ all fixtures have been secured to walls/ new replacement windows are ordered. Owner has hired architect to re-do the inside building/ being rewired this week. Motion by Squires, Second by Dinwiddie, to allow additional 30 days (April 15) to finish. Approved unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) As discussed at Workshop Meeting: raise sewer, water, and refuse prices. Water= \$.50 per 1000 gal./ Sewer= \$.50 per 1000 gal./ Solid Waste + \$3.00 per month towards new garbage truck. Motion by Krenik, Second by Squires, to approve the slight increases as of April 1st usage. This would add \$5.00 per month to an average monthly use 2000 gallon water bill. Approved unanimously.
- B) As discussed at Workshop Meeting: Motion by Fredrickson, Second by Krenik, to set the Guardian Inn Motel EDU's at: Water- \$3.00 x 11 units = \$33.00 per month and Sewer- \$3.00 x 11 units = \$33.00 per month until January 1, 2010. This is the same as several other multi-unit facilities. Approved unanimously.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Budget reductions: Council generally agreed- all departments try to meet the targeted goals set at the Workshop Meeting.
- B) Motion by Squires, Second by Krenik, to adopt Resolution No. 2009F, thereby conveying Lot 3 of Block 1 in Emery's Addition to the Le Center Area Fire Commission along with the EMS building. Approved unanimously.
- C) Motion by Fredrickson, Second by Krenik, to set the city "Board of Review" for Thursday, April 2, 2009 @ 10:00 am – 6:00 pm at county assessor's office. Approved unanimously.
- D) Council agreed: all department heads attend and stay at entire city council meetings.
- E) Hiring committee recommended Council appoint Tammy Anderson of Le Center as the new F.T. Office Assistant starting April 1st. Motion by Krenik, Second by Dinwiddie, to appoint Ms. Anderson to the position contingent upon her passing a city background check. Approved unanimously. (Note: 88 applicants)

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Motion by Squires, Second by Krenik, for Mayor Wetzel to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously.

Chris L. Collins, City Clerk, City of Le Center, MN