

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 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 Krenik, Second by Squires, minutes from August 11, 2009 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Dinwiddie, Second by Fredrickson, notes from August 24, 2009 Workshop Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.
- C) Motion by Krenik, Second by Squires, minutes from September 4, 2009 Special Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.
- D) Council changes to proposed Agenda: Clerk **ADD**: ADMIN. C) Abate/ Nuisance request D) Central Health Care agreements E) 3.2% On-Sale Beer license.

III. APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

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

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

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

- 1) Fiberglass Fabricators- Mr. Hagelberger continues to deny they even owe the City any money on a loan. They seem to be hoping for the statute of limitations to run out for the City to prosecute this. Motion by Squires, Second by Fredrickson, City Attorney Moran have papers served to sue this out. Approved unanimously.
- 2) "Welcome to Le Center" signs- Motion by Krenik, Second by Squires, to accept EDA recommendation and approve up to \$25,000 of EDA money (tornado money) to purchase two signs. Committee will make recommendations to council on size, location, lighting, materials, etc. Approved unanimously.

Hayden reported: city 80 acre land plot lease will come up for bids this winter.

B) P & Z Report- Corey Block

- 1) Guardian Inn Motel plan said 16 ft. wide blacktop driveway around the motel; they went with only 12' wide. Is this sufficient for emergency vehicles? Let the fire dept. drive trucks around on the road, and if it works, then leave as is.
- 2) Motel dumpster location- hold off discussion until we receive a plan from the motel as to where it will go. Next P & Z meeting: Thurs. September 24 @ 6:00 pm.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

On-Sale Manager Mike Nelson gave the August report: Sales were \$80,382.59; up \$4,900 from July. Nelson reported the first Sunday open for NFL Football was not very successful- too nice out, too early in the season, etc.

D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of August: 132 calls/ 2,981 miles patrolled. Pfarr reported working on debit card thefts/ identity theft case solved/ thefts at Central Health Care/ gambling fund \$ shortages at the VFW Club.

- 1) After some discussion, Motion by Squires, Second by Dinwiddie, to order the new Police SUV Expedition now & lease over three year period. Approved unanimously.

E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks

- 1) Ruff's sanitary sewer @ 335 East Sharon Street: Supt. Roemhildt explained the letter he had sent to the Ruffs- based on his notes and findings. City and engineer's opinion is that the problem lies in the sanitary sewer lines under the house and *before* the new line from the 2006 Street Project starts.
- 2) Roemhildt explained the DNR letter and inspection comments regarding North Park- the park was built with Federal & State dollars in 1967 and must be kept up to DNR standards concerning accessibility. Curt will contact the inspector for an update and report back to the Council next month.

Public Works Superintendent Curt Roemhildt also gave his monthly report:

- Streets- reflective street signs will soon need to be purchased due to federal mandate costing several hundred thousand dollars/ streetlights along Commerce Drive have been installed by Steffen Electric/ blacktop done by the County on several stretches of Park Avenue.
- Refuse- more refuse truck transmission troubles & costs. Extra money stuck into it. Now, finally as good as new, and still a good deal.

F) Bolton & Menk Engineering- Joel Hawbaker

- 1) 2010-11 USRDA Street Project- Motion by Krenik, Second by Squires, to approve the Preliminary Engineering & Environmental Report. Approved unanimously.

- 2) 2010 Minnesota Street Project- see the Pre-Construction Informational Notice handed out to Council. City staff will mail them out to residents along the project.

G) Pool Report- Dorothy Dinwiddie

Dinwiddie gave final report: total receipts for 2009 were \$32,401.48- down \$4,500 from 2008. Expenses totaled approx. \$63,000.00. All attendance was down for the year. Fees, lessons, & passes may all have to be raised next year, especially for the “out-of-towners.” Remember: the pool was not meant to make money.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no petitions, requests, or communications from the general public.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Squires, Second by Krenik, to adopt Resolution No. 2009M, thereby approving the removal of a light and poles in courthouse park. Approved unanimous.
- B) Clerk Collins explained his notes from the City/School meeting on field leases and maintenance: school was requesting City consider installing a sprinkler system under the football field if they’re going to keep playing football there/ school would split the costs evenly with the city to help accomplish this/ there already is a hydrant installed next to the field for this purpose. Council agreed- there is no money to do this right now.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Krenik, Second by Squires, to approve the proposed preliminary 2010 Net Tax Levy for the amount of \$609,633; an increase of 25%. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Squires, Second by Fredrickson, to approve the proposed operating budget in the amount of \$1,908,475 for a 2010 Total Budget of \$3,234,407; an increase of 1%. Approved unanimously.
- C) Mayor Wetzel announced the “Public Comment Meeting” would be held on Dec. 8th @ 7:00 pm at Le Center City Hall.
- D) Clerk Collins announced that comments regarding the 2010 Levy and 2010 Total Budget would be accepted by him at Le Center City Hall, 10 West Tyrone Street, Le Center MN 56057 or at phone # 507-357-4450 until the Dec. 8th date.
- E) Motion by Fredrickson, Second by Squires, to approve the new language changes for the employee handbook regarding dependents under employee’s health insurance; as discussed at the Aug. 24 Workshop Meeting: Attorney Moran incorporate the following language into policy: After age 18, or until high school graduation; dependents must be either enrolled full-time in post-secondary college, or up to age 23, to still be considered as a dependent covered under their parent’s city coverage. Must give minimum 30 day notice to dependents as to change. Staff- keep track of this internally. Put this in the employee hand-book. Approved unanimously.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Motion by Krenik, Second by Squires, to make an offer of \$4500 to Le Center Area Fire Commission for the used fire tanker truck. Approved unanimously. No interest in the old pumper truck.
- B) Clerk Collins noted the “Thank You” from the Le Sueur County Fair Association.
- C) Motion by Wetzel, Second by Krenik, to approve sending the repeat nuisance offender at 122 South Maple Avenue over to the city attorney for prosecution. Approved unanimous.
- D) Motion by Squires, Second by Fredrickson, Council will decline to sign the agreements provided by Central Health Care (Potable Water Agreement, Water Disaster Plan). Approved unanimously.
- E) Council discussed an On-Sale 3.2% Beer license for West Park that was never picked up and liquor liability insurance was never purchased; yet beer was later found to be sold at the park. Council agreed: that group would not be allowed to use the city park in 2010.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

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

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