

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2009 - 7:00 PM**

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

**** PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2010 TOTAL BUDGET & TAX LEVY ****

There were no members of the general public present at the hearing & no phone calls or letters concerning the 2010 budget or levy were received at city hall. Clerk Collins gave a presentation explaining why the city was needing to raise the levy by 25% and also raising the sewer & water fee's at the same time to cover the city debt service.

- 1) Motion by Fredrickson, Second by Squires, to approve the 2010 Net Tax Levy of \$609,633 (+ 25.0% increase). Approved unanimously.*
- 2) Motion by Squires, Second by Dinwiddie, to approve the 2010 Total Budget of \$3,234,407 (+ .75% increase). Approved unanimously.*

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A) Motion by Krenik, Second by Fredrickson, minutes from November 10, 2009 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.
- B) Council changes to proposed Agenda: No changes

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- Director Hayden update: see letters/ just waiting for court.
 - 2) Motion by Squires, Second by Dinwiddie, to approve & adopt the new "Revolving Loan Application" as written. Approved unanimously.
 - 3) "Welcome To Le Center" sign- committee of Mayor Wetzel, Director Hayden, Councilwoman Dinwiddie, & W. Blaschko will meet to finalize the sign plans.

B) P & Z Report- Corey Block

- 1) Spruce Board & Lodging update: Spruce has responded to city attorney pressure by registering with the County as a “motel”. County will do the regular inspections now.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

On-Sale Mgr. Mike Nelson gave a brief November report: Sales were \$69,336.02; down \$3,500 from October. Nelson gave updates on sales, insurance, expenses, misc.

- 1) City Clerk Collins reported that a contractor (Meisner Roofing) had been hired to do the roof/gutter repairs as soon as weather permitted.

D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of November: 120 calls/ 2,340 miles patrolled. Pfarr reported: calls were up 9% and miles down 5% for the year/ new SUV squad coming Dec. 14 and then sent out for detailing.

- 1) Council agreed: scrap out the old 2003 squad car for \$500.00 and be done with it.

E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks

Public Works Superintendent Curt Roemhildt gave his monthly report:

- Parks- skating rink has been flooded twice/ lights have been repaired/ hope to be open by kids’ Christmas vacation.
- Wastewater- brief report on activities/ two tours of plant recently given to students.

- 1) Council agreed: get rid of old 1984 garbage truck while it’s still worth something; either Fahey’s Auction or sell for scrap.
- 2) Roemhildt gave a review of Dianne’s (Menu Inspiration) new billing amount for 2010; going up slightly for next year.

F) Bolton & Menk Engineering- Joel Hawbaker

- 1) 2010-11 USRDA Street Project- no new information to report from USDA.
- 2) 2010 Minnesota Street Project- streetlight plan being reviewed by USDA engineer/ checking into LED lights for Minnesota Street/ shooting for an early spring bidding.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

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

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Krenik, Second by Squires, to adopt Resolution No. 2009O, thereby approving the “Cooperative Agreement” (thru Region Nine) along with other cities in Le Sueur Co. applying for a Small Cities Grant to State of Minnesota DEED. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Krenik, Second by Dinwiddie, to refuse the offer by Le Sueur County to use any of their leftover federal ARRA bonds available to the City. Approved unanimously.
- C) Note the letter from Attorney Moran written to Le Sueur County Fair Association agreeing to the storage of carnival rides on the county fairgrounds over winter.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Fredrickson, Second by Squires, to approve the “Special Assessments” list, notice to be given, and public hearing to be held at January 12 council meeting before the list will be certified to the county auditor for collection. Approved unanimously.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Motion by Squires, Second by Krenik, to approve the 2010 Ambulance Agreement for the same monthly fee (\$1605.00) as in 2009. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Dinwiddie, Second by Fredrickson, to approve the 2010 Employee Wage Sheet across the board as written. Approved unanimously.
- C) Mayor Wetzel & Council set the January Workshop Meeting with dept heads for Monday, January 4th @ 11:00 AM luncheon at city hall. Approved unanimously.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

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

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