

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2010 - 7:00 PM**

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A) Motion by Squires, Seconded by Dinwiddie, minutes from April 13, 2010 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Dinwiddie, Seconded by Squires, minutes from April 27, 2010 Special Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.
- C) Council changes to proposed Agenda: ADD: EDA 2) "Welcome" sign report
MOVE UP: OLD A) Approve refunding of Water Revenue Bonds of 2000, and PUBLIC 3) Tim Kelly spare lot @ Rolling Hills Drive.

III. APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

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

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

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

- 1) Welcome Mick McGuire, Mayor of Montgomery. Mr. McGuire is a candidate for Minnesota House of Representative 25A. His main focus is the struggles of local governments and schools.
- 2) "Welcome To Le Center" sign update by Wally Blaschko: mid-summer set in place/ original Kasota Stone 12' x 4' x 2' wide/ state piece will be 7' x 4' x 1' wide/ 3 flags will fly behind sign/ eagle may be redone to be cheaper price/ many LC businesses and contractors are contributing towards the sign.

NOTE: July 6 Med Clinic Open House (private) & July 7 Open House (public).

B) P & Z Report- Corey Block

- 1) Jared Borchardt "Letter of Credit" for 198 No. Cordova Avenue- letter was extended one month by staff. Work should be completed by then he promised.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

On-Sale Mgr. Mike Nelson gave a brief April report: Sales were \$74,707.00; up \$4,000 from March and same as April 2009.

- 1) Paul Donna of Northland Securities was present to explain the “Lease Purchase Agreement” for \$150,000 to be financed by the Muni thru First National Bank to purchase the former Elmer’s Building: Northland had to set up an “annual appropriation lease” instead of Liquor Revenue Bonds (as originally suggested) to satisfy the state statutes per bond council opinion/ must have a line-item appropriation amount set in the budget each year to make the payment/ had to figure a tax exempt interest rate vs. a taxable rate of interest/ interest rate changed when city was unable to use the revenue bonds to purchase the building. Liquor Committee will recommend a monthly rental \$ amount to the full council.

Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Squires, to approve Resolution No. 2010E, thereby approving the “Lease Purchase Agreement” to finance \$150,000 thru the First National Bank for the purchase of the former Elmer’s Building. Roll call vote: Yes= Fredrickson, Squires, Mayor Wetzel. No= Krenik, Dinwiddie. Motion passes by 3-2 vote to approve Resolution No. 2010E.

❖ MOVE UP: OLD BUSINESS A) APPROVE REFUNDING

Paul Donna of Northland Securities explained the process: city will save approx. \$163,000 over the remaining 30 years of bond payments/ city bond rating improved from Baa1 to A1 due mostly to a banking industry correction for municipalities; this being slightly above average for a city our size. Motion by Squires, Seconded by Krenik, to adopt Resolution No. 2010F, thereby approving the terms of the new refunding of G.O. Water Revenue Bonds of 2000 (\$1,470,000). Approved unanimous.

D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of April: 125 calls/ 2,493 miles patrolled. Pfarr reported: city calls down 10%, miles up 4%/ applied for in-vehicle camera grants/ much destruction in city parks.

E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks

Public Works Superintendent Curt Roemhildt gave his monthly report:

- Streets- minor street patching/ plan to patch & sealcoat Rolling Hills Drive and 2004 Street Project streets.
- Parks- Pool to open June 11th/ Fredrickson Paint Shop doing pool repairs on the collar/ pool is 60 yrs. old.
- Water- Well #4 failed on April 16th/ probably not covered by insurance or warranty/ city may have to cover the cost/ many experts trying to determine the exact cause.

Hand-held water meter reader is failing/ won't pick up the new meters being installed; must walk right up to the house meter/ we need a new updated reader. Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Squires, to purchase a new updated meter reader at a cost of \$5,100.00 from Dakota Supply Group. Approved unanimously.

F) Bolton & Menk Engineering- Engineer Joel Hawbaker

- 1) 2010-11 USDA Project- no information on the report status.
- 2) 2010 Minnesota Street Project- Hawbaker reported we were advertising now in the LC Leader and the Minneapolis Tribune, since the Construction Bulletin folded. Motion by Krenik, Seconded by Fredrickson, to allow City Clerk Collins to proceed with the bonding process as needed. Approved unanimously.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

- 1) Tim Kelly spare lots at 410 E. Sixth Street: He paid \$13,100 back in 1996 for his assessments; what did he get for his \$13,100.00? What did everyone else pay and what did they get on the project? Can he get water service without having to pay sewer too? Can he eventually get sewer service directly into the lift station like he was told back in 1996? Staff and city engineer check into all of this.
- 2) Steve Brockway at 450 South Cordova Avenue was contesting his junk abate nuisance order. He disputes his zoning as "Residential." When did he become zoned residential and not "Business" like he was when he was annexed into the city? He would like to know when his zoning was changed, claims he was never notified. He would like to be able to keep his used mowers outside of his shed. City Clerk pointed out that outside junk storage is not allowed in any zone, whether business or residential, and the outside yard would still have to be cleaned up. Council concurred. Council granted an additional 30 days from May 15th to clean the property up.
- 3) Tom Erkel and trailers- he was not present to contest his junk abate nuisance order. His trailers had been moved within the 10 day notice but Mr. Erkel wanted to contest.

Clerk Collins asked council for direction on several additional abate nuisances.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) See above discussion.
- B) Motion by Squires, Seconded by Dinwiddie, to approve the one year lease agreement with Rural Cellular for \$500 per month for tower antenna rent with our provision to renegotiate the contract at the end of the one year included. Approved unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Approve 2010 liquor licenses including: Club Licenses= VFW Post & American Legion. 3.2% beer= Le Center Lanes, Men's Softball League, Braves Baseball, St. Mary's Church Festival, LC Fire Department, LC Community Club, LS County Sheriff's Posse Ride, LC Sportsman's Club, St. Mary's Church Block Party, Cornerstone Pizza & Pasta. Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Krenik, to approve licenses. Approved unanimous.

- B) Motion by Krenik, Seconded by Squires, to approve Swimming Pool fees for 2010; with rates staying the same as last year. Approved unanimously.
- C) Motion by Squires, Seconded by Fredrickson, to deny a resident's request to water trees from a fire hydrant- only allow residents and contractors to take bulk water from the metered city shop hydrant as needed. Approved unanimously.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Motion by Squires, Seconded by Dinwiddie, to approve the end of the one year of employee probation for Tammy Anderson. Approved unanimously.
- B) Council discussed and generally agreed: they will reinstate the practice of doing the "performance appraisals" for the department heads starting this fall.
- C) See discussion above.
- D) Reviewed the 2010 Census return rates: City= 84% State= 80% National= 72%.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Motion by Krenik, Seconded by Squires, for Mayor Wetzel to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 8:50 pm.

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