

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2011 - 7:00 PM**

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Mayor Wetzel, Bob Emmers, Brad Collins, Josh Fredrickson

Absent: Vacant spot

A) Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Collins, to approve Mayor's appointment of Emmett J. Krenik as new councilman; to serve the remaining 14 months of former Councilman Jason Squires' term. Approved unanimously.

B) City Administrator Collins administered the "Oath of Office" to Councilman Krenik.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Collins, minutes from October 11, 2011 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.

B) Council changes to proposed Agenda: None

III. APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

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

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

A) E.D.A. Report

Director Hayden briefed the Council on: LC Night Out/ Post Prom Wine Tasting/ LC Meet & Greet with So. Minnesota Tour Assoc./ Holly-Daze Parade Nov. 26th.

1) Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Collins, to approve an EDA Board recommended micro-business loan to Deb Claffey hair salon for \$5,000. Approved unanimously.

B) P & Z Report

Building Official Block reported: possible variance request coming in/ nothing new to report on Stoering building.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

On-Sale Mgr. Mike Nelson gave a brief October report: Sales were \$69,591.00: up \$2,000 from Sept.'11 but down \$1,000 from Oct.'10/ Wine Tasting participant/ new wine display area's in-store/ poker expenses down from \$150 to \$100 per night.

- 1) Discussion on new F/T employee hire: April 30 last day for Jan Nelson. Motion by Collins, Seconded by Fredrickson, to hire a F/T liquor employee to replace Jan; with wages & particulars determined by hiring committee. Voting Yes- Fredrickson, Collins, Wetzel. Voting No- Emmers, Krenik. Motion approved by 3-2 vote.

Motion by Wetzel, Seconded by Krenik, to open the position and hire only from within the current p/t list of employees; to start the process. Approved unanimously.

Entire council will serve as hiring committee to set the particulars @ Workshop Meeting on Friday, Nov. 18 at 4:00 pm at city hall.

D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of Oct.: 122 calls/ 3,155 miles patrolled. Pfarr also reported: Officer Steffen out with an injury/ more of a “normal” month for # calls.

E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks

Public Works Superintendent Curt Roemhildt gave his monthly report:

- ❖ Streets- purchased \$3000 worth of cold mix/ sand only again on Minnesota St.
- ❖ Parks- skating rink is near done/ tons of leaves being picked up or dropped off.
- ❖ Sewer- bad sewer main problem on North Park Avenue caused a back-up into a resident’s basement. Roots the main problem; checking into a “root cutter” that would attach to our jetter truck.
- ❖ Refuse- garbage pick-up will be on Wednesday before Thanksgiving/ Recycling center will be open on Sat. Christmas Eve and Sat. New Year’s Eve.

F) Bolton & Menk Engineering (Joel Hawbaker, Engineer)

- 1) 2010 Minnesota Street Project- Engineer Hawbaker reported the total cost of the project was \$2,280,887.00/ city cost would be \$653,774.77 of which the property owners abutting the project would be responsible for \$380,172.29 and the City would levy the balance over the entire city residents.
- a) Motion by Wetzel, Seconded by Collins, to approve Resolution No. 2011J, thereby “Declaring Costs To Be Assessed & Ordering Preparation of Proposed Assessment.” Approved by 4-0 vote; Councilman Emmers abstaining.
- b) Motion by Wetzel, Seconded by Krenik, to approve Resolution No. 2011K, thereby “Set Hearing On Proposed Assessment” for 2010 Minn. Street Project. Hearing set for Thursday, December 1st @ 6:30 pm at city hall. Staff send out all notices. Approved by 4-0 vote; Councilman Emmers abstaining.
- c) Motion by Collins, Seconded by Krenik, to adopt 20 yr. assessment pay-off and 4.0% int. rate on balance. Approved by 4-0 vote; Councilman Emmers abstaining.

2) 2012 Lexington Ave. Project- BMI is working on surveying & engineering numbers.

G) Fair Association- No report.

V. PUBLIC FORUM *(Including budget and/or levy comments)*

A) There were no comments from the general public on the proposed 2012 budget or levy.

B) Real Estate Agent Mike Nelson presented to council a letter asking the city to consider changing the “sewer ordinance” as it pertains to sold houses/ foundation drains/ and sump pumps. Some homes are unable to be televised by the city due to some plumbing schemes. That may potentially hold up the sale of a home between two parties. Council stated they would take the matter under advisement.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A) AT&T has made one last request to “de-commission” one water-tower site antenna-leaving the antenna, coax cables, & building to the city for a payment of \$5,313.92. Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Emmers, No- AT&T take down all equipment and building when they leave the site. Approved unanimously.

B) Request by BCM Const. for Final Payment #16 for \$20,051.28 from 2006 Street Project. Motion by Wetzel, Seconded by Emmers, to deny the payment request due to the following:
1) no #IC 134 paperwork fully completed. 2) final punch-list items never taken care of. Approved unanimously not to make final payment.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A) Pawnbroker’s Ordinance & Application for council review only. No action taken. Include on December meeting agenda to set public hearing to consider ordinance.

B) Motion by Krenik, Seconded by Collins, to approve the 2012 Police Union Contract as recommended by the city negotiation committee. Approved unanimously.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

A) Motion by Collins, Seconded by Krenik, to adopt “Policy on Fund Balances” as they relate to GASB No. 54. Approved unanimously.

B) For now: Councilman Krenik will assume the appointments of former Councilman Squires.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Motion by Krenik, Seconded by Emmers, for Mayor Wetzel to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 8:38 pm.