

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2012 - 7:00 PM**

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Mayor Wetzel, Josh Fredrickson, Bob Emmers, Emmett Krenik
Absent: Vacant spot

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) Motion by Emmers , Seconded by Krenik, Minutes from March 13, 2012 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.

B) Motion by Krenik, Seconded by Fredrickson, Notes from April 3, 2012 Workshop Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.

C) Council changes to Agenda: ADD: Admin. D) Approve 2012 Pool fees

III. APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

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

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

A) E.D.A. Report

Director Hayden reported: LJP Bldg. may be sold/ Initiative Foundation trip report/ Chamber luncheon on Wed. at Legion/ Fiberglass paid us \$1,000 towards their loan.

B) P & Z Report

Building Official Block reported: Stoering building deal looks to be off. They weren't willing to meet the P & Z restrictions set under the C.U.P.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

Administrator Chris Collins gave the March report: Sales were \$72,346.00: up \$9300 from Feb. and up \$7400 from Mar.'11. Collins also reported: Jan N. is out of work on medical; she is eligible for 16 weeks of FMLA leave/ price two different type fences for the outdoor patio & roof/ outdoor band will be Sat. July 21st/ meeting with Total Register machine salesman to get cost & budget into 2013.

1) Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Emmers, to affirm liquor committee recommendation for raise and approval of continued employment for Brad Collins as he met the performance standards set by council. Approved unanimously.

D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of March: 104 calls/ 2,839 miles patrolled. Pfarr also reported: down considerably in calls- down slightly for miles patrolled/ April 16-20 is Severe Weather Week/ gave siren procedures.

E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt gave the monthly reports:

- ❖ Streets- street sweeping done/ cold-mix done/ loader repaired; but broke down again.
- ❖ Water- fire hydrants are all flushed.
- ❖ Parks- all fields thatched/ North Park will now be used for 7th grade baseball.
- ❖ Pool- much concrete collar repair work to be done yet.
- ❖ Refuse- chipper is open two weeks early/ we'll pick up leaf calls as they come in.

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

2010 Minnesota Street & Waterville Ave. Project- Engineer Hawbaker reported they were currently televising the sewer mains on the project. Tapes of individual sewers done by the contractor were handed over to the city attorney for the assessment case.

- G) Fair Assn.- Nancy Stauff no show/ no report. Mayor Wetzel noted that a resident had approached the fair board to request a "dog park" be installed at the south end of the fairgrounds. They turned her down and suggested she contact the county or city for it. Administrator Collins will contact the county to please defer that issue over to the city.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

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

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Review of the new "Point of Sale" sewer ordinance written by City Attorney Moran. Motion by Wetzel, Seconded by Emmers, to set the public hearing for proposed new sewer ordinance for Tuesday, May 8 at 6:30 pm at city hall. Approved unanimously.
- B) Review recommendations by Bolton & Menk regarding the water tower repairs needed to be done by AT&T after removing an antenna. Administrator Collins will contact AT&T to schedule the repairs needed.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Insurance review by Darian Hunt/ House of Insurance: see hand-out. Package Policy cost increased by \$1875.00 for 2012 while W.C. stayed the same. City will be receiving a \$6774.00 W.C. dividend from LMC soon for 2011. Both property and auto coverage deductibles are now \$1000.00 each. Council ok'd raising the employee blanket bond to \$100,000 from \$25,000. Motion by Wetzel, Seconded by Fredrickson, to waive the statutory tort limitation of \$1.5M on claims against the city. Approved unanimously.
- B) Administrator Collins informed the Council that Le Sueur County would be doing a full mill & overlay on Park Avenue from Hwy 99 to Minnesota Street in 2013. That stretch of Park Avenue is a county/state aid road. There were no objections.
- C) Collins read a prepared written statement from the city auditor Eidebailly concerning the 2011 audit. Highlights included: the general fund balance decreased by \$40,581 compared to \$150,964 decrease from 2010/ general fund revenues increased by approx. \$43,408 over 2010/ general fund expenses were reduced by \$81,225 from 2010.

Collins then read a prepared statement of his own: we were \$110,000 better on the books in 2011 compared to 2010/ we expect to be the same in 2012/ we expect the fund balance to go into the positive for 2012/ we expect to have an additional \$200,000 to help cover the debt service payments in 2012/ after 2012; some \$103,000 will come off the books and after 2015; some \$350,000 will come off the books with older debt service projects paid off. This will be important as we have chosen to fund new street projects in our small city mostly by raising the levy and doing small assessments.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Mayor Wetzel noted the next Le Sueur County Officials Assn. group meeting: Thursday, April 26 at 6:30 pm at New Prague Country Club.
- B) Collins noted the "Open Book Board of Appeal & Equalization" hearing to be held on Monday, April 16 at Le Sueur County Assessor's Office from 10 AM to 6 PM.
- C) Attorney Moran noted the amended Notice of Court hearing date: Thursday, April 12 at 1:00 pm. Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Wetzel, set April 24 at 4:30 pm for any of the remaining plaintiffs to be removed from the lawsuit and will not be charged for city incurred court costs related to the lawsuit should the city win. Plaintiffs should contact City Attorney Moran if they wish to be removed. Three have done so far. Approved by 3-0 vote; Councilman Emmers abstaining from all discussion and vote.
- D) Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Krenik, to adopt the 2012 Pool Fee Schedule as presented by Collins; same fees as 2011. Approved unanimously.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Emmers, for Mayor Wetzel to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 7:55 pm.