

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2012 - 7:00 PM**

**** AMENDED MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

**** Public Hearing on Final 2013 Net Tax Levy & Total Budget ****

*There were no questions, comments, or discussion from the general public.
Councilman Krenik stated he felt the levy could be reduced even further.*

1) Motion by Krenik, Seconded by Fredrickson, to approve Final 2013 Net Tax Levy of 5.25% increase. Approved unanimously.

2) Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Emmers, to approve Final 2013 Total Budget of \$3,196,874.00. Approved unanimously.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

B) Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Krenik, Notes from November 26, 2012 Budget Workshop Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.

C) Motion by Krenik, Seconded by Wetzel, Minutes from December 4, 2012 Special Closed Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.

D) Council changes to Agenda: ADD: REPORTS- EDA (1) EDA Job Position

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 reported: City received \$1,000 check from Fiberglass Fabricators on their loan/ Fiberglass attempting to lease the LJP bldg. to store their outside molds/ and European Roasteries is very busy due to the storm in New Jersey.

- 1) Consider eliminating the EDA job position. After some discussion: Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Wetzel, to eliminate the EDA job position based strictly on budget/ money reasons as of Dec. 31, 2012. Approved unan. 4-0 roll call vote.

B) P & Z Report

Building Official Block reported:

- 1) Consider a Conditional Use Permit for Guardian Inn Motel @ 550 Commerce Drive. They hoped to place non-transient, extended-stay clients at the motel for longer than 30 day stays; as a temporary permanent residence for the clients until they were well enough to live on their own. The County would place the clients there. The motel was asking to house up to nine clients. The current motel license only allowed for transient customer stays of up to 30 days. The C.U.P. request was for allowing up to nine non-transient, extended-stay clients to stay at the motel for longer than 30 days. The P & Z Commission had recommended approval of the C.U.P. by a unanimous vote at a November 27 public hearing attended by many neighbors who were opposed to the C.U.P. request. Jean Fast was present to represent the motel.

After some discussion, Councilman Krenik stated that he felt the people of this city wanted a motel; and that's not what this would be. Therefore: Motion by Krenik, Seconded by Mayor Wetzel, to NOT approve the C.U.P. request. Roll call vote: Krenik= yes Fredrickson= no Emmers= no Wetzel= yes. 2-2 tie vote therefore motion to not approve fails. City Attorney Moran asked for a motion from the council to approve the C.U.P. Attorney Moran asked a second time for a motion to approve the C.U.P. There being none; Attorney Moran announced the C.U.P. **fails** on lack of a motion by the city council.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Mike Nelson gave the November report: Sales were \$75,230: up \$5,700 from October, and up \$11,700 from Nov. '11. Nelson also reported: YTD sales were up by \$25,000 and expenses were up by \$20,000 (labor by \$29,000 due to an extra employee) Darts doing well; four teams sponsored/ poker numbers are up/ Sunday football busy. Point-of-Sale system moving slowly; more like end of Feb. before initiating/ both managers & one P/T employee will learn the system/ Asst. Mgr. Collins gave review of 2012 and look forward to some 2013 promotions.

D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of November: 103 calls/ 2,024 miles patrolled. Pfarr also reported: calls were down 19%, miles were down 10%. 8-10 weeks on the new police car/ got the police SUV back but still some problems/ need new computer in police office/ 800 ARMER radio system to start up Dec. 18 per county.

- 1) Police union contract. Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Krenik, to approve the 2013 police union contract; strike out the "me too" clause. Approved unanimously.

E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt gave the monthly reports:

- ❖ Streets- city staff completed much of the tree trimming & stump removal this fall.
- ❖ Snow plowing- all ready for the first snowstorm; and then several problems occurred.

- 1) Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Krenik, to approve the price quote from Their Well to improve Well #1 & pay majority from 2012 budget funds. Approved unanimously.

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

- 1) 2010 Minnesota Street & Waterville Ave. Project- Hawbaker reported the sanitary sewer work has not been completed/ can't get the specialty contractor here.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

Resident Julie Factor spoke on the benefits of community pride and supporting the local Municipal Liquor Store to maintain a profitable and welcoming community.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Emmers, to approve the cost of narrow banding the tornado warning sirens & purchase city hall antenna from Whitewater Wireless as quoted. Approved unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Krenik, Seconded by Emmers, to approve the 2012 delinquent S&W utility list for certification to the county auditor and collected with property taxes in 2013. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Krenik, to approve the 2012 weed abatement list for certification to the county auditor and collected with property taxes in 2013. Approved unanimously.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) 2013 Ambulance Agreement. Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Emmers, to table approval of the agreement until find out why cost went up. Approved unanimously.
- B) Mayor Wetzel took this time to say thank you to the citizens for his three elected terms to the Office of Mayor.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Motion by Krenik, Seconded by Emmers, for Mayor Wetzel to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 8:00 pm.