

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2013 - 7:00 PM**

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Mayor Fredrickson, B. Emmers, C. Harmeyer, G. Meidlinger Jr., D. Woelfel
Absent: None

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A) Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Woelfel, Minutes from February 12, 2013 Regular Council Meeting be approved . Approved unanimously.
- B) Council changes to Agenda: ADD: Consider Guardian Inn public hearing request for Conditional Use Permit after Item III.

III. APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

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

**** GUARDIAN INN REQUEST FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT ****

There was no further discussion. Based on testimony heard earlier at the 6:00 PM public hearing; Motion by Harmeyer to deny the C.U.P., Seconded by Emmers. Motion to deny was approved by 4-1 vote, Woelfel voting no.

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

A) E.D.A. Report

- 1) Director Collins gave Dollar General Store update: city must remove the billboard on the property before The Overland Group will sign the purchase agreement for Lot 4. Checking on possibly moving the billboard to different lot; but getting paid.

B) P & Z Report

Building Official Block reported: no meetings/ no report.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Mike Nelson gave the February report: Sales were \$62,709: up \$150 from January, and down \$325 from Feb. '12. Nelson also reported: customer appreciation day was successful/ ready for St. Pats Day/ TRS System will be up & running by May.

D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of February: 107 calls/ 2,305 miles patrolled. Pfarr reported: new squad totaled \$37,385 with new equipment- of which approx. \$8,000 was paid by DWI forfeiture money.

- 1) Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Meidlinger, to set Public Hearing to consider ordinance relating to “criminal background checks” for Tuesday, April 9 @ 6:30 PM. Approved unanimously.

E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt gave the monthly reports:

- ❖ Streets- snow hauling budget= \$7500/ used so far =\$4836. One main plow fixed.
- ❖ Water- Well #1 televised: many rough edges & cliffs/ part of the casing had fallen down into the well and prevents us from increasing our GPM pumped/ Council should start planning an additional well in the future. Staff meeting with Bolton & Menk concerning MPCA directive “salt in the effluent discharge and soon must start removing it.” City just suffered fourth water main break of the winter season.
- ❖ Parks- ice skating rink went very well/ vandals have forced us to lock the warming shack. Cushman 3-wheeler was completely re-furbished at a cost of \$1,771.03.
- ❖ Wastewater- need to add window at plant to do some bar-screen repair work.

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

- 1) 2010 Minnesota Street & Waterville Ave. Project- Hawbaker reported on sewer issues: two temporary services were fixed/ backwards wye seems to be working correctly/ helped resident Gene Lewis with some sewer problems in his basement.

G) Pool

Administrator Collins presented the proposed 2013 Pool fees sheet. After some questions: Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Emmers, to table decision until the April council meeting. Approved unanimously.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no comments, questions, or statements from the general public.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Jose Munguia explained his summer amateur football team could only make use of the city football field if he was allowed to put white lines on the field; per his league officials. Council generally agreed: yes to allow the white lines using chalk, not paint.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Agent Darian Hunt (House of Insurance) was present to review the city insurance thru League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust concerning buildings, contents, vehicles, liability, worker's compensation, etc. See handout. Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Woelfel, to YES waive the state statutory limits on municipal liability on any one claim. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Harmeyer, to set a Public Hearing to consider a new city "Data Practices Policy" for Tuesday, April 9 @ 6:45 PM. Approved unanimously.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Administrator Collins reported that the city credit rating had been lowered by Moody's Inc. from Ba2 to B1 related to \$7.3M of GO debt. Collins stated the main reason was the short term borrowing using warrants to fund the General Fund until tax receipts come in/ and not having a plan in place to reduce the warrants and build up some city reserves. Collins stated the time had come to deal with this now.
- B) Collins explained the written proposal from Ehlers Inc. to provide a Financial Management Plan and Utility & Debt Analysis was the same material included in the February council packet. Ehlers would study the city numbers and provide a plan for the city to follow to help get back on track financially.
- C) Council agreed a workshop meeting with our financial advisor (Ehlers) and our auditor (EideBailly) was necessary to come up with such a plan. Council agreed upon Monday, March 25 @ 6:00 PM for a workshop meeting with Ehlers and EideBailly. Collins advised both firms were available to attend that night.
- D) Mayor Fredrickson noted: Le Sueur County Officials Meeting for Thursday, April 4 at Le Center American Legion beginning at 6:30 PM.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Meidlinger, for Mayor Fredrickson to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 8:20 pm.