

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2013 - 7:00 PM**

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Mayor Fredrickson, B. Emmers, C. Harmeyer, G. Meidlinger Jr., D. Woelfel

Absent: None

**** Public Hearing on Final 2014 Net Tax Levy & Total Budget ****

Council discussed the proposed Final Net Tax Levy of 8.63% and the Total Budget of \$3,343,101.00; and whether it could be reduced further. General public was allowed to speak: Dan Call of Winco Generators spoke on the past increases of the city and how much that has impacted their business. He asked the council to consider lowering the proposed levy for 2014. After more discussion by council; Motion by Meidlinger Jr., Seconded by Woelfel, to table approval of the levy & budget, and to hold a Special Meeting to attempt to lower the levy further. Motion approved by 3-2 vote, Harmeyer & Emmers voting No. Council set Wednesday, Dec. 18 @ 6:00 pm for Special Meeting. Insurance Agent Darian Hunt spoke on the procedure used to reduce the employee health insurance costs approx. \$39,000 by switching from Medica to Blue Cross/ Blue Shield.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Emmers, Minutes from November 12, 2013 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.

B) Council changes to Agenda: None

III. APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

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

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

A) E.D.A. Report

Director Collins reported: No meetings/ No report.

B) P & Z Report

Administrator Collins reported: No meetings/ No report.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Mike Nelson gave the November report: Sales were \$67,680: up \$4,200 from October, and down \$7,500 from Nov.'12. Nelson also reported: net profit is up approx. \$18,000 over 2012/ inventory will be started Dec. 31 @ 10 pm closing time and New Year's Day; hope this may be the last time doing an actual hand count and will enter all inventory counts into the new register system.

D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of November: 79 calls/ 2,510 miles patrolled/ calls up 11%, miles down 5%. Pfarr also reported: he will be in need of a new laptop computer & stand for the squadcar at a cost of approx. \$5500.00. The old computer has the software that will no longer be covered by any anti-virus protection and the Minnesota State BCA will no longer allow the city police access to state records with that computer. Pfarr is also in need of a new desktop computer.

E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported:

- Streets- busy plowing streets; 1" of snow means cars need to be off the streets.
- Water- received a "good report" from the Minnesota Dept. of Health inspection.
- Sewer Plant- concrete work finished for the de-chlorination building/ main, big lift station went out and repair will be costly.
- Parks- pool collar is being sandblasted now to split cost in 2013 & 2014/ skating rink is flooded; one more flooding and ready to open- police lock door at night.

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

Engineer Hawbaker reported: Still working with county to finalize the 2010 Street Project. Hawbaker, Roemhildt, & Collins met to finalize some numbers being questioned by the general contractor. These numbers will be forwarded to county.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

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

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Harmeyer, to adopt Resolution No. 2013Q, thereby approving Ehlers' sale of the "Tax Anticipation Certificates" totaling \$685,000 to the First State Bank of Le Center. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Woelfel, to adopt the "Post-Issuance Debt Compliance Policy" written by Ehlers to cover this and future debt issuance. Approved unanimously.
- C) Consider raising several city properties mill rate to equal rest of city: after much discussion by the council and residents Steve & Kim Brockway; without any written agreement found to the contrary; upon the recommendation of Attorney Moran: Motion by Harmeyer,

Seconded by Woelfel, to raise the tax mill rate of the four residential/business properties to the same rate as the rest of the city. Approved unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Harmeyer, to certify the delinquent water, sewer, and weed abatement assessments to the Le Sueur County auditor/treasurer for collection with 2014 property taxes. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Emmers, to adopt Resolution No. 2013M, thereby de-certifying TIF District #9 (Country Neighbors) on Dec. 31, 2013. Approved unan.
- C) Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Harmeyer, to adopt Resolution No. 2013N, thereby de-certifying TIF District #10 (ACW Apartments) on Dec. 31, 2013. Approved unan.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Mayor Fredrickson noted: City & School officials meet the area legislators Thursday, January 2nd @ 7:00 PM at TCU School.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Meidlinger, for Mayor Fredrickson to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 8:39 pm.

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