

**CITY OF LE CENTER  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2014 - 7:00 PM**

**\*\* MINUTES \*\***

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A) Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Harmeyer, Minutes from February 11, 2014 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.

B) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Emmers, Notes from March 5, 2014 Workshop Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.

C) Council changes to Agenda: Move up: OLD BUSINESS A) House of Insurance

**III. APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID**

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

**OLD BUSSINESS A) House of Insurance – Darian Hunt insurance review**

See Hand Out. Mr. Hunt reviewed the 2014 city insurance thru League of Minnesota Cities. Our liability insurance went up by \$1200 and our worker's comp went down by \$900. Some discussion on the current values of city buildings; and are we carrying enough coverage on them? Hunt reported the League sends appraisers' to member cities to review the insured buildings. He would check on how long since they've last been reviewed. Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Woelfel, to WAIVE the statutory limits on liability coverage. Approved unanimously. 2013 dividend paid to city was \$9,962.00.

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

A) E.D.A. Report

Director Collins reported: Quarterly meeting is set for March 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm.

B) P & Z Report

Administrator Block absent: No report.

## C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Mike Nelson gave the February report: Sales were \$59,747: up \$573 from January, and down \$2,900 from Feb.'13. Nelson also reported: Inventory is approx. \$135,000/ Customer Appreciation Day went very well; nice local crowd, gave TV away to lucky winner/ early 2013 audit report indicates an increase of approx.. \$20,000 in net profit. Nelson feels if Sunday liquor sales pass, it could be a good thing for muni.

## D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of February: 145 calls @ 1,947 miles patrolled/ Total calls up 35%, miles down 6%. Pfarr reported: winter parking complaints and tickets are the main reason for the increased calls.

## E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported:

Streets- Lots of snow plowing, biggest snowfall in 20 years. Getting streets ready for St. Pat's Day parade and celebration.

Water- two more water main breaks (4 total). On February 14, city staff and volunteers passed out letters asking residents to leave their water running. If it freezes up now; people were not letting their water run. Council agrees: City will not be responsible for service lines freezing up at this point due to resident not running their water as asked to do.

Parks- boot-hockey tournament at skating rink went well. Skating rink is closed.

Wastewater: staff applied for and received grant to purchase grates to cover a dangerous area at plant. Recent Minn. OSHA inspector gave rave reviews for having the grates installed.

Refuse- solid waste disposal cost going up from \$80.56 to \$84.04 per ton/ our solid waste is incinerated into fuel energy at the Mankato drop-off plant.

Mayor read report from State of Minnesota MPCA on the great job our staff was doing at the wastewater treatment plant.

## F) Bolton &amp; Menk Engineering (Joel Hawbaker, Engineer)

Engineer Hawbaker reported the 2010 Minnesota Street project has been finalized and he will have final \$ numbers at the next council meeting.

## G) Fair Assoc.- Nancy Stauff gave a 2014 Fair preview: Friday Demo Derby with a monster truck demonstration/ Saturday all day horse show and local truck pull show/ Sunday ranch rodeo at the arena. No Trapper's Assoc. State Conference for 2014; will re-apply for 2015 conference. New Officers: Chad Washa, Pres. &amp; Marty Baker, Vice Pres.

## V. PUBLIC FORUM

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

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Insurance review – see above.
- B) Council discussed the possible sale of the 80 acres farm land the city owns. At the March 5 workshop meeting the general consensus was to not sell the property. Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Meidlinger, to not sell the property at this time. Motion failed by 3-2 vote; Fredrickson, Woelfel, Harmeyer voting No. Some councilmembers felt the city should at least find out what Unimin Corp. is willing to pay for the land, before saying no. Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Woelfel, city staff send letter to Unimin to see what they are willing to pay for the 80 acres. Approved by 4-1 vote; Emmers voting No.
- C) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Emmers, to approve the 2014 City & School Field Lease Agreement (same as 2013). Approved unanimously.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Meidlinger, to approve the 2014 Le Center Ambulance Service Agreement contract (same as 2013). Approved unanimously.
- B) Midcontinent Cable Franchise Agreement: After some discussion about raising the city fee charged on cable subscriptions; and how much of that goes to the school, for the services we were getting, Council decided a meeting with the school may be in order. Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Harmeyer, to table the cable franchise renewal discussion until the next council meeting. Approved unanimously.
- C) Request by Mayor Fredrickson to move April 8 regular city council meeting to April 15 due to his being out of state: Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Meidlinger, to move the April 8 regular city council meeting to April 15 so that all members may be present. Approved unanimously. Meeting is April 15 @ 7:00 pm.
- D) Sign Reflectability Policy: Attorney Moran will draft a city policy to present at the next city council meeting.

## VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Mayor Fredrickson announced the city “Board of Appeal and Equalization Open Book” forum would be held on April 15, 2014 from 10 am - 6 pm at County Assessor’s office. Any resident wishing to dispute their property assessment should be present.
- B) Council discussed the two options to bill out the excess water & sewer bills for February and March now that residents were letting their water run. Option #1 = same usage from last period (January) or Option #2 = same usage from same period last year. Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Meidlinger, to use Billing Option #1 same usage from last period (January). Approved unanimously.

## IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Harmeyer, for Mayor Fredrickson to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 8:28 pm.