

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

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Meidlinger, Minutes from July 8, 2014 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 Harmeyer, Seconded by Emmers, to pay the bills listed and due. Approved unanimously.

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

A) E.D.A. Report

1) Director Collins reported: No meetings/ No report.

B) P & Z Report

1) Administrator Block updated the council: the property owners of the two hazardous properties are charged in criminal court- hoping judge will allow the houses to be demolished or force the owners to clean them up at their cost. City Attorney Moran (absent from meeting) had recommended the council table this until Sept. meeting.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Brad Collins gave the July report: Sales were \$68,640: down \$2,100 from June, and down \$5,900 from July '13. Collins also reported: YTD Sales down approximately \$11,600 due mostly to less weddings/ Inventory is still approx. \$164,000/ football: will start being open on Sundays Sept. 7th/ Elmer's Bldg. renters all caught up on rent/ brought up outside condition of building- what can be done? Get prices? Make Changes? Council advised: start with liquor committee, get a plan, get prices, present it to council, get it into the 2015 budget. Liquor Committee will meet to start planning to fix outside.

D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of July: 107 calls @ 2,481 miles patrolled/ total calls up 7%, total miles down 5%. Pfarr also reported: he did sign the criminal complaints on the two hazardous property owners. Council asked police to start enforcing the yellow curb “No Parking” down West Washington St.

- 1) Pfarr explained the new LEGT field reporting system the county is considering. County would offer it to cities for a reduced rate and would only require a small budget increase each year. Next meeting for more info is set for Aug. 26 @ 10:00A.
- 2) Pfarr explained a possible change to the dog & cat boarding used by the city and county. County is considering changing to Critter Gitters of Jordan; and there may be a change in price coming by Kind Vet if the county leaves there. Council was concerned about the city taking business away from a local business.

E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported:

- Streets- blacktop repairs will start the next week around town
 - Wastewater- handed out working draft and explanation for new treatment plant permit renewal that staff is currently working on.
- 1) Downtown dangerous sidewalk (from streetlights) repair is taken care of already.

F) Bolton & Menk Engineering

Engineer Joel Hawbaker reported: Sealcoating of 2006 Street Project streets scheduled to be done in August yet/ BCM Const. came in with no notice and did warranty work from that project. (3 curbs and 1 driveway)

G) Fair Association- Fair rep Nancy Stauff gave a brief day-by-day explanation of events at the upcoming County Fair that week.

H) Pool- Manager Dorothy Dinwiddie gave the July report: Income to date was \$31,508, down slightly from past years due to the cool, wet weather this summer/ held one teen night which was successful/ city maintenance crew fixed the plugged drains using the jetter-truck/ looking into changing the “family season pass” system being abused/ looking at gazebo style shade vs. umbrellas: cost \$999 each @ 2/ eight drowning rescues by staff this year/ closing pool on Wednesday of Fair week– no staff to work after that.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

Resident Dave Harmeyer wished to compliment the LC Police Dept. for their handling of a call to a person on the street with possible mental health problems; and the fine care they provided. There were no other comments, questions, or statements from the general public.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) TCU Principal Brian Grensteiner spoke on the partnership between school and city on the S.R.T.S. program and the SHIP program. Mr. Grensteiner presented a list of smaller items the school is requesting be done before school starts; a partnership between school and city for costs (see list) totaling approx. \$600.00. Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Woelfel, to purchase the signs and paint needed to finish off these little items by city staff before school starts. Approved unanimously.
- B) Councilman Woelfel stated he had been contacted by members of Le Center Sportsman's Club inquiring if they could use funds from the Bowler Trust Fund to cover the costs of cleaning their community building after the public has used it for a "community center" and played cards there each week for free. After some discussion: Council generally felt that was not the intent of the trust money. Staff informed council that the city hall council chambers was available to the public to be used for a community center to play cards or other activities for no charge. That information would be passed on to those involved.
- C) Administrator Collins gave a brief update on the FEMA program being offered for public damages from the June rains and that he would be attending the Aug. 14 meeting to fill out the official city application seeking relief for approx. \$9,922.09 of city damages.
- D) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Emmers, to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-5, thereby approving the "Food/ Beverage Stands" ordinance as amended at the earlier public hearing that evening. Approved unanimously. Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Meidlinger, to set the fee for permit @ \$250 annually, non-prorated & non-refundable. Approved unan.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) MVEC representatives Marvin Denzer & Rod Nikula gave a presentation explaining how they and 11 other electric cooperatives (SMEC) are purchasing the Alliant Energy customers and service lines in Southern Minnesota. MVEC would be acquiring the service lines in Le Center City, Montgomery City, and surrounding areas to provide electric services. The proposal is before the M.P.U.C. at this time. They were requesting the City's support of this transaction. Motion by Woelfel, Seconded by Harmeyer, to adopt Resolution No. 2014D, thereby approving a "resolution of support" for MVEC and SMEC in their efforts. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Harmeyer, to approve the use of Ray Plut Field by Cleveland High School for any football games needed to be played until their newly renovated field is ready; @ \$125.00 per game day. Approved unanimously.
- C) Possible bond refunding: Yes- council is very interested in refunding the 2006 Street Project bonds thru Ehlers for savings up to approx. \$270,000.00+. Staff invite Todd Hagen from Ehlers to Sept. council meeting.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Mayor Fredrickson announced all the 2015 Budget Discussion Dates to the public: (Preliminary) September 9, October 14, November 10, and (Final) December 9, 2014.

- B) Council agreed to set a Budget Workshop Meeting for Tuesday, August 26 @ 6:00 pm.
- C) “Deferred Comp.” discussion: Administrator Collins get more information on any possible costs to the city/ invite financial advisor Pete Plut to Sept. council meeting.
- D) Mayor Fredrickson read a Thank You from Le Center Fire Dept. - % Pork Chop Ride.
- E) Mayor Fredrickson read a Thank You from Red Ribbon Volunteers- % Red Ribbon Ride.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Emmers, Seconded by Harmeyer, for Mayor Fredrickson to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 9:40 pm.

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