

**CITY OF LE CENTER  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015 - 7:00 PM**

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Present: Mayor Fredrickson, D. Woelfel, C. Harmeyer, G. Meidlinger Jr., J. Weiers

Absent: None

**\*\* Public hearing on Final 2016 Net Tax Levy and Total Budget \*\***

*City Administrator Collins explained the entire budget and levy and the several line-item changes he made within the budget; while keeping the final budget & levy numbers the same as the approved September max allowed. There were no questions, comments, or discussion from the general public when asked by Mayor Fredrickson.*

1) *Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Woelfel, to approve Final 2016 Net Tax Levy of \$1,071,632.00. (0.0% increase) Approved unanimously.*

2) *Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Meidlinger, to approve Final 2016 Total Budget of \$3,385,413.00. Approved unanimously.*

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A) Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Harmeyer, Minutes from November 10, 2015 Lexington Ave. Hearing on Improvement be approved. Approved unanimously.

B) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Meidlinger, Minutes from November 10, 2015 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.

C) Council changes to Agenda: Note: change date of county official's meeting.

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

Council reviewed the bills to be paid. Motion by Woelfel, 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 explained the status of the loans listed on the EDA Disaster Loan Fund sheet he handed out prior to the meeting; discussed the several past due loans listed.

## B) P &amp; Z Report

Director Block reported: Maud Borup wind generator footings will go in this week; then the project will move fast.

## C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Brad Collins gave the November report: Sales were \$70,327: down \$5,000 from October, but up \$3,600 from Nov.'14. Collins reported: YTD revenues are up \$28,000, expenses are down \$19,000, with 2015 total sales still est. to be \$860,000. Good steady month/ Thanksgiving Holly Daze Parade brought good crowd in/ food-oven is up & running/ Sundays doing well/ closing at 5:00 pm on Christmas Eve, closed on Christmas Day, open on New Year's Day. Council would like separate sales and expense line items for oven food sales starting in 2016.

## D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of November: 141 calls @ 2,868 miles patrolled/ total calls up 5%, total miles up 19% for 2015. Pfarr reported: DARE Graduation Dec. 21 at 2 pm/ new squad car is ordered at Factor Motors/ reported he got the grant he applied for last month (approx. \$2,000).

- 1) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Woelfel, to approve the purchase of a 2016 Ford Explorer police squad unit from Factor Motors for \$25,936. Approved unanimously.
- 2) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Meidlinger, to adopt **Resolution No. 2015L** – thereby approving the eCourtMN authorization for city attorney. Approved unan.
- 3) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Meidlinger, to adopt **Resolution No. 2015M** – thereby approving the grant agreement with Minnesota DPS. Approved unanimous.

## E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported:

- Refuse- (distributed pictures) lots of garbage being dumped at city shop not in blue bags on Saturdays & Sundays after hours; some have been caught and dealt with. Council instructed staff to purchase a camera to start filming after hours. Hauled 430 yds of leaves to dump site; compared to 420 yds last year.
- Water- approx. 50 water meters left to change over to radio-read in the city.
- Parks- staff trying to ready the skating rink for winter; just too warm yet.
- Streets- several new street signs are being replaced; hope to have all major STOP and YIELD signs replaced by spring. Snow removal reminder: residents move their vehicles off city streets after 1" snowfall; until street is plowed curb to curb.

F) Bolton & Menk Engineering

- 1) Lexington Avenue Project: Engineer Hawbaker update: survey gathering starts this week/ hope to have design work done by early January/ const. project utilities meeting in late January/ bid advertising in early March. Mayor Fredrickson wondered whether we wouldn't get more/ better bids advertising earlier?

**V. PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no petitions, requests, comments, or communications from the general public.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

- A) Guardian Inn letter request for 2<sup>nd</sup> half tax abatement: After much discussion about who was the current owners (G.I. or FNB), and were they current on their water bill and land loan; Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Weiers, to pay the approx. \$4,532.07 difference in tax abatement back to Guardian Inn. Approved by 4-1 vote, Meidlinger voting No.
- B) Mayor Fredrickson explained: Ms. Julie Weiers will be paid directly by the city for her taping the city council meetings; as an independent contractor. She had gone four months not being paid by the school. School will be paid separately. City staff had been holding checks to the school since meetings were not being shown on local access channel. Whose fault is it city meetings are not being shown? Unknown- but get it fixed. Council generally agreed to "back-pay" the school for the previous months.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A) Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Harmeyer, to approve the 2016 L.C. Ambulance Service Agreement for same cost as 2015 (\$33,985). Approved unanimously.
- B) Administrator Collins explained the damage to the Library building. League of Minn. Cities Insurance Trust required city to get two bids to fix the damage. Woelfel Bldg. Const. was the low bidder at \$9,973.00. Window is ordered, but waiting on delivery.

**VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.**

- A) As noted above: the next Le Sueur County Official's Meeting was changed to Wed., January 27 at 6:30 PM @ New Prague. Important meeting on county tourism- all council try to make it to this meeting.
- \*\* Collins reported the clean-up at 305 West Minnesota St. has been fully reimbursed.  
 \*\* Collins inquired what to do about the street-light hit and damaged on Horizon Drive? Council said- get it done; either paid by the driver or paid thru our city insurance and let them go after the insurance of the driver, but get it done.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business; Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Harmeyer, for Mayor Fredrickson to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 8:05 PM.