

**CITY OF LE CENTER  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016 - 7:00 PM**

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Present: Mayor Fredrickson, C. Harmeyer, D. Woelfel, G. Meidlinger Jr., J. Weiers  
Absent: None

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A) Motion by Woelfel, Seconded by Meidlinger, Minutes from May 10, 2016 Regular Council Meeting be approved as amended. Approved unanimously.
- B) Council changes to Agenda: Move up: NEW BUSINESS A) 2015 Audit Report

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

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

**\*\* NEW BUSINESS A)** Joel Stencil/ EideBailly presented the 2015 Audit Report:

- \* General Fund Balance increased by \$193,000 (over 2014) to \$667,031/ Revenues were up \$41,786/ Expenses were up \$67,767/ City cash flow is good.
- \* Water Fund Balance increased by \$17,000 (over 2014). Waster sales were down \$10,500/ Water expenses were down by \$72,000.
- \* Sewer Fund Balance increased by \$31,000 (over 2014). Sewer sales were down \$48,000/ Sewer expenses were down by \$38,000.
- \* Refuse Fund Balance increased by \$25,000 (over 2014). Refuse sales were up \$4,400/ Refuse expenses were down by \$2,500.
- \* Liquor Fund Balance increased by \$53,000 (over 2014). Liquor sales were up \$44,000/ Liquor expenses were up \$32,000.
- \* Internal Control Weakness= “segregation of duties” same as every year due to our small size of staff in the office. Council was reminded we are levying for an extra \$140,000 to help pay down the negative balances in the 2004 & 2006 Street Project accounts (as per the Financial Mgmt. Plan) for an additional 3-4 years to -0- balance. Stencil stated the 2016 General Fund Balance should easily reach the state threshold of 40% of expenses being held in the General Fund Balance (now \$667,031).

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

##### A) E.D.A. Report

Director Collins reported: met with the new area Telepharmacy representative in Minnesota; passed all information over to him to help us find an established willing pharmacist/ had a request for EDA loan packet information send out.

##### B) P & Z Report

Director Block explained the new “temporary health dwelling law” approved by the State legislature; and the opt-out option available. Attorney Moran recommended the council opt-out of the new law; thus requiring a public hearing and new ordinance. Council was generally opposed to the new law, directed P & Z to hold the public hearing.

##### C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Brad Collins gave the May report: Sales were \$71,241: down \$600 from April, and down \$2,500 from May 2015. May GP margin = 37.8%. YTD Sales up \$6,100. Council requested that new food revenues & expenses be separated out on the report.

##### D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of May: 157 calls @ 2,571 miles patrolled/ total calls up 18%, total miles down 4% for 2016. Pfarr also reported: an increase in thefts and burglaries this summer.

- 1) Chief Deputy Brett Mason of Le Sueur County Sheriff’s Office addressed the council requesting the city join the new County Drug Task Force: 90% of arrests are drug related/ one of only 17 counties without a drug task force/ county doesn’t have the staff or money to do it alone/ asking every city in the county to contribute/ Le Center cost would be \$7,000 per year; starting with the 2017 budget/ hope to get grant application in for \$100,000 to help start-up. Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Woelfel, to add \$7,000 to the 2017 budget for Drug Task Force. Approved unan.
- 2) Chief Pfarr noted the POST Board approval letter stating our police dept. had passed the recent review of records done by the Board Coordinator. Mayor Fredrickson commended Chief Pfarr on a “job well done” as this was no easy task.

##### E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks Departments

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported: wind storm damage; residents place their downed braches and limbs to the front curb for pick up if possible.

- Sewer- MPCA was conducting an in-depth audit of the city wastewater records.
- Refuse- Junk throw-away went ok; “thank you” to council who volunteered to help.
- Parks- pool opening went well.

## F) Bolton &amp; Menk Engineering

- 1) Lexington Avenue Project: Engineer Hawbaker was absent. Supt. Roemhildt reported: road is ready to subgrade it/ a couple services to finish and then install curb & gutter on the first two blocks done.
- 2) Todd Hagen from Ehlers presented the Pre-Sale Report for the \$2,710,000 G.O. Improvement Bonds (2016A) for Lexington Avenue Project. The bond sale will be approved at the July 12 council meeting; cost is \$6500 for state rating and/or \$4000 for S & P review & rating. Mr. Hagen recommends city do both ratings to get a better/ lower interest rate on the bonding bids.
  - a) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Meidlinger, to adopt **Resolution #2016C**, thereby Providing for the Sale of \$2,710,000 G.O. Improvement Bonds, Series 2016A. Approved unanimously.
  - b) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Meidlinger, to adopt **Resolution #2016D**, thereby Authorizing the City to Enter into a Credit Enhancement Program Agreement with the Minnesota P.F.A. Approved unanimously.
- 3) Le Sueur County Administrator Darrell Pettis presented an alternate parking request from the county for their employee parking vehicles during the project. His request was for south side of Minnesota Street along the courthouse/ west side of Park Avenue along the courthouse and jail blocks/ & parallel parking on both sides of Sharon Street. They would also like to utilize the city municipal parking lot located downtown. They have 131 employees that will need parking in the vicinity of the courthouse. Mayor Fredrickson advised that this was the third time the council has had to discuss this; and the county should have appeared before the council the first time, instead of going thru city staff to make this request. Mayor Fredrickson & Mr. Pettis both addressed the letter sent to County Commissioner Wetzel after their second request. Several councilmembers stated that their first priority was to the city businesses in this area; they need room for their customers to park, and county employees would have to find their own parking not in the 2 Hr. Parking Zone. Mr. Pettis stated he felt the city had to offer something of a plan for all their employees parking. After some arguing and further discussion; Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Harmeyer, to allow county employee parking on the south side of Minnesota Street, west side of Park Avenue along courthouse & jail blocks, parallel parking on Sharon Street, and use of the downtown municipal parking lot. Motion fails by 2-3 vote: Fredrickson, Woelfel, & Weiers voting No. Motion is denied. After more discussion by council; Motion by Woelfel, Seconded by Harmeyer, allow parking on south side of Minnesota Street, west side of Park Avenue along the courthouse block (only), parallel parking on both sides of Sharon Street, and use of the downtown municipal parking lot. Approved unanimously.

## G) County Fair/ Nancy Stauff

Ms. Stauff reported: suffered some roof damage from the wind storm/ purchased & assembled two new large bleachers/ fate of the old horse barn being discussed/ old schoolhouse is “bowed” at the sides; fair board discussing what to do with it.

Mayor Fredrickson reported that Men's Over 35 Baseball State tournament games may be played at Ray Plut Field the weekend after the county fair Aug. 27 & 28. Mayor stated he had been in discussions with the county fair board on this possibility and whether it would be possible from their side; with the short turn-around time. Ms. Stauff reported: carnival rides will be moved to St. Peter, campers will be moved out by then, and fair board was in favor of the games being played there.

H) Pool/ Mgr. Dorothy Dinwiddie

Administrator Collins read the pool update memo from Ms. Dinwiddie for the first week of the pool being open. Council instructed staff to update the pool fee schedule appearing on the city website NOW.

**V. PUBLIC FORUM**

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

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

- A) Alano Club property: Engineer Hawbaker, Attorney Moran, Collins, & Roemhildt met and came up with a plan to get this settled at little cost to the city and convey the strip of property over to the Alano Club as they desired. Bolton & Menk survey will be securing the legal description of the strip of land in question.
- B) Motion by Woelfel, Seconded by Harmeyer, to approve the 4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor licenses (strong beer only) for Community Club & Sportsmen's Club for the county fair dates. Approved unanimously. Licenses must also be approved by State.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A) See Above presentation.
- B) Council generally approved the mill & overlay work for North Waterville Avenue and Tyrone Street with \$65,000 budgeted for it. No sealcoating being done in 2016.

**VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.**

- A) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Woelfel, to approve the special event permit request for American Legion to close down Park Avenue on July 30 for their rib cook-off. Approved unanimously.
- B) Administrator Collins reported he had a request to reimburse a woman for damage whose car had taken a ball/ dent when parked near Ray Plut Field during a baseball game. Council & Atty Moran generally felt the city was not responsible: No.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business; Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Meidlinger, for Mayor Fredrickson to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 9:27 PM.