

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2016 - 7:00 PM**

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) Motion by Woelfel, Seconded by Harmeyer, Minutes from June 14, 2016 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 Woelfel, Seconded by Meidlinger, to pay the bills listed and due. Approved unanimously.

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

A) E.D.A. Report

- 1) Director Collins explained the "Right of First Refusal" requested by Le Sueur Co. for the two city-owned Hwy 99 lots. County was looking for a 2nd option for their new law enforcement & courts building. Council discussed the request; and passed it down to the EDA Board for their consideration. No other business.

B) P & Z Report

Councilman Harmeyer presented the following:

- 1) Variance request by Linda Holicky @ 205 South Montgomery Avenue; to construct an addition onto her house. P & Z had held a public hearing on the matter July 6; and unanimously recommended approval of the variance based on these Findings of Fact: Small lot (smaller than now allowed as a buildable lot)/ limited area on lot/ front yard set-back on side yard was currently at 12'-8"/ 5 ft. of separation is not a fire or building code hazard or restriction/ no public neighborhood objections/ lined up with their existing house & the townhouses on the same block of Ottawa Street. Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Woelfel, to approve the variance request based on the P & Z Board "Findings of Fact." Approved unanimously.
- 2) Harmeyer explained the possible Opt-Out of the new Health Care Dwelling Law that P & Z held a public hearing for on July 6. P & Z recommended council consider an amendment to the zoning ordinance opting-out of the new law.

Attorney Moran suggested the council hold a public hearing, also, to consider the Opt-out of this new law. Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Harmeyer, to set the public hearing for Wednesday, August 10 @ 6:30 pm. Approved unanimously.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Brad Collins gave the June report: Sales were \$73,164: up \$1,900 from May, and up \$2,800 from June 2015. June GP margin = 35.5%. YTD Sales up \$9,200 and YTD Expenses up by \$15,000. Collins reported: graduations were finished/ many birthdays held at the store/ St. Mary's festival was good. Coming: Christmas in July & July 30 bus trip to Canterbury Park race track.

D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of June: 143 calls @ 2,535 miles patrolled/ total calls up 14%, total miles down 4% for 2016. Pfarr also reported: one new squad car vehicle problem/ referenced the ½ year police call totals/ applied for POST Board training reimbursement of \$6,773/ some discussion on the rules of POST Board training and reimbursement.

E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks Departments

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported: still cutting some limbs and picking up from the storm last month: 200+ piles picked up.

- Water- water tower is washed and cleaned/ paint looks good/ cost was only \$3,800.
- Streets- plan to mill & overlay on No. Waterville Ave. (1 block) and Tyrone St. over to Lexington Ave. (4 blocks) when the street project black-toppers come to town.
- Refuse- handed out junk throw-away report: 6 tons more/ \$700 more cost than 2014

F) Bolton & Menk Engineering

1) Lexington Avenue Project: Engineer Hawbaker reported: project is proceeding nicely/ residents seem happy with the work/ we've been working well with the crew/ first pay request is coming/ updated on other items.

2) Todd Hagen from Ehlers presented the Sale Day Report for the \$2,655,000 G.O. Improvement Bonds (2016A) for Lexington Avenue Project. The bond amount was reduced by \$55,000 of rounding money/ 2.4375% was the winning interest rate bid by Stifel & Nicolaus of Birmingham, AL/ three total bidders/ nice rate.

a) Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Harmeyer, to adopt **Resolution #2016E**, thereby Approving the Issuance & the Sale of \$2,655,000 G.O. Improvement Bonds, Series 2016A. Approved unanimously.

b) Mr. Hagen and Administrator Collins reported that Standard & Poor had raised the city credit rating to: A outlook Positive; as part of this bonding issue.

G) County Fair/ Nancy Stauff

Chad Washa, Fair Board President inquired: what can we do about the problems with the semi parking lot area? Most of the vehicles are left there long-term, are construction trailers, campers, are not licensed, etc. The original agreement between the city and the fair association (July 23, 1991) was mostly for short-term overnight parking of semi's and trailers. After some discussion; council decided the city has no authority over the private property to give tickets/ gave blessing to fair association to put up some signage limiting what may be parked there, for how long parked, etc.

H) Pool/ Mgr. Dorothy Dinwiddie

Ms. Dinwiddie reported: June receipts were 26,673.50; up \$500+ from 2015. Sportsmen's Club donated \$500 to the pool/ Cleveland lessons were billed out, but not yet paid. Session #1 lessons were down by 50 kids/ Montgomery & Cleveland bussed over Community Ed groups/ two accidents so far, slip off the low board and slip off the high board steps/ was no Relay For Life swim this year/ Passed the county inspection for facility and water quality with great comments by the inspector/ some paint is starting to peel off/ No cut feet so far/ stereo problems/ need some sort of incentive to get the kids to commit to showing up all season long/ teen nights starting.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

Jim Connolly, candidate for District 20A State Representative; spoke to council & crowd.

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

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Alano Club property: Engineer Hawbaker reported: using maps & legal descriptions & finding property corner stakes; it looks like the city would be deeding over approx. six feet of property to Alano. Council instructed staff to offer it to Alano to see if they want it.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Meidlinger, to approve by Resolution the list of election judges for the 2016 Primary Election on August 9. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Harmeyer, to approve the 2016 County Highway Agreement for \$14,863.44 (\$1,636.41 less than 2015). Approved unanimously.
- C) Council discussed the tax-forfeited property located at 42 North Waterville Avenue for either public auction, purchase by the city for back-taxes cost of \$24,000; or conveyance to the city for public use. Council generally agreed: table the issue for more information.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Administrator Collins reported the skating rink warming house was in need of some major repairs; possibly up to \$10,000. The roof is bad, and the eaves are rotting underneath. Councilman Woelfel volunteered to inspect the house and advise the council.

B) Collins asked if the council had any interest in hearing an offer to sell off one or both of our cell- antenna leases for a lump sum. Council was not interested.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Meidlinger, for Mayor Fredrickson to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 8:35 PM.

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