

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2016 - 7:00 PM**

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Absent: C. Harmeyer

**** Public Hearing on Final 2017 Net Tax Levy and Total Budget ****

City Administrator Collins explained the budget and levy bottom lines; stating that they were exactly the same as the approved September preliminary max allowed. There were no questions, comments, or discussion from the council or general public as allowed.

- 1) *Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Weiers, to approve Final 2017 Net Tax Levy of \$1,085,050.00. (+ 1.252%) Approved unanimously.*
- 2) *Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Weiers, to approve Final 2017 Total Budget of \$3,390,050.00. (+ 0.137%) Approved unanimously.*

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A) Motion by Weiers, Seconded by Meidlinger, Minutes from November 16, 2016 Public Hearing (moratorium) be approved. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Weiers, Seconded by Meidlinger, Minutes from November 16, 2016 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.
- C) Council changes to Agenda: None

III. APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

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

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

- A) E.D.A. Report

Director Collins reported: No meetings- nothing to report.

- B) P & Z Report

Director Block reported: No meetings- nothing to report. Block stated he had a few calls on the moratorium. Collins reported the resolution had been printed in the paper.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Brad Collins gave the November report: Sales were \$71,223: up \$200 from October, and up \$900 from Nov. 2015. November GP margin = 37.04%. YTD Revenues up by \$1,500 and YTD Expenses up by \$4,900. Food profit = 36.63%. Collins also reported: Pfeiffer tourney, Cribbage tourney, & meat raffle went really well/ Holly Daze parade day was busy/ 2nd pull-tab machine added by firemen/ Council directed staff to pay over the \$25,000 transfer to general fund now.

D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of November: 223 calls @ 2,429 miles patrolled/ total calls up 12%, total miles down 12% for 2016. Pfarr also reported: call increase was mostly traffic stops/ recently hired P/T officer (Tony Larson) was already hired away for F/T position at Faribault.

E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks Departments

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported:

- Parks- wrapped up all fall activities. Skating rink is flooded two layers already.
- Streets- 10" snowfall- plowed and it went very well.

F) Bolton & Menk Engineering

- 1) Lexington Avenue Project/ Engineer Hawbaker reported: testing of sanitary sewer mains is being performed with a mandrel.
- 2) Unfinished carriage walks and private sidewalks: non-issue now with the cold weather set in/ will be addressed next spring.
- 3) Chard request to reduce project retainage from 5% held down to 2% held: Hawbaker stated the project was 80% - 90% completed so this could be done; it was fairly common in the industry. Attorney Moran suggested leaving it at 5% just in case there were problems in the spring. After some discussion: Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Woelfel, to reduce the Chard retainage down to 2%. Motion approved by 3-1 vote; Meidlinger voting No.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

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

Mayor Fredrickson referenced a written petition letter received from residents on West Sharon Street, concerning the traveled speeds occurring on their street. With icy winter streets now here; this will be addressed in the spring.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Methodist Church request for streetlight on corner of Cordova & Tyrone streets: after some discussion, tabled until January meeting for lack of information. Staff find out if city can request an LED or most high efficient light since taxpayers would be paying the monthly cost of usage. Send letters to neighbors in area to inform them to come to the January meeting where this will be decided.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Mayor Fredrickson read letter from Region Nine Development Commission seeking city nominees to their board for “Cities under 10,000 in Le Sueur County.” Any interested council members contact Administrator Collins by Jan. 1st to apply.
- B) Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Weiers, to approve the assessment certification list of delinquent city utilities for 2016; to the Le Sueur County Auditor for collection with real estate taxes collected in 2017. Approved unanimously.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Administrator Collins inquired whether council would be interested in the city starting up a City Facebook Page? Many cities have done this with mostly success. Council generally agreed: Formulate a policies and procedures policy first; then possibly move forward with this/ would be for city announcements only/ staff research some of the pros and cons of possibly doing this.
- B) Mayor Fredrickson noted the next Le Sueur County Official’s Meeting for Wednesday, January 25 at 6:30 pm @ Waterville.

Thank you & round of applause for retiring council-member Gary Meidlinger Jr. for his 4 yr. term of service to the city.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Meidlinger, Seconded by Weiers, for Mayor Fredrickson to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 7:50 PM.