

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019 - 7:00 PM**

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Mayor Fredrickson, J. Weiers, C. Harmeyer, N. Hintz, C. Scott
Absent: None

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Weiers, Minutes from March 12, 2019 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 Scott, to pay the bills listed and due. Approved unanimously.

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

A) E.D.A. Report

Director Collins reported on the EDA Board meeting held April 2: Board discussed new berm being constructed on the four lots along Commerce Drive= berm will be getting some dirt from the pond dig-out across the street this spring/ trees: probably not poplars or evergreens, maybe white or red pines. Those lots were discussed: possibly a senior housing complex; would need to offer TIF to the developer, start small with 6-8-10 units. How to find an interested developer? DEED, R-9, realtors. County would still like us to hold onto one or two lots in case they need for parking.

Mayor explained the making of the Le Center city video to the board; and how this could be a great marketing tool for the city to help get families and businesses to settle in Le Center. EDA Board voted to pay the city portion of the bill \$1,335.25.

B) P & Z Report

Director Corey Block was absent: No report.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Brad Collins gave the March report: Sales were \$79,701: up \$13,900 from February, but down \$2,300 from March 2018. YTD Rev. up by \$4,363 & YTD Exp. down by \$10,358. March GP margin = 42.35%. Food GP = 24.35%.

Mgr. Collins reported: Customer Appreciation Day had great turnout, possibly best ever. Dishwasher is installed; but not yet wired, should be soon. Collins asked the council to consider hiring a 3rd fulltime employee bartender. He explained his reasoning and several points of emphasis. The city previously had three F/T liquor employees, and the store is busier now than it has ever been. After some discussion: Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, staff start advertising for a new F/T position at Municipal Liquor Store. Approved unanimously. Liquor committee will determine wages, etc.

D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of March: 216 calls @ 2,442 miles patrolled/ total calls up 20%, total miles up 5% for the year. Pfarr reported: many complaints on North Cordova Ave. for speeding; county put up their MPH sign marker to post speeds/ Severe Weather Week: warning sirens are cancelled due to the bad weather coming/ Kind Vet office in Le Center will be closing soon; we'll have to find a different way to board animals.

E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks Departments

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported:

- Parks- all parks being used by TCU School for games already.
 - Streets- new sweeper is here; went thru a good demo try-out.
 - Water- trying to pinpoint a 100,000 gal. per month leak; maybe at Solberg & Park.
- 1) Water Treatment Plant membranes: staff recommends T.F.S. Company low quote for \$61,438.96. Motion by Weiers, Seconded by Scott, to purchase the new R.O. membranes from T.F.S. for the \$61,438.96. Approved unanimously.
 - 2) Re-roof the swimming pool? Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Hintz, Yes get bids to re-do pool roof using steel and do the project. Approved unanimously.
 - 3) North Park/ LC Lions pavilion: Yes - allow Lions to re-roof pavilion using steel.

F) Bolton & Menk Engineering

- 1) Engineer Joel Hawbaker reported: the County Justice Center storm water pond is starting next week/ start at the pond and work back/ Bolton & Menk will stake the project and provide inspection. Discussion on future Hwy 99 reconstruction plans.

G) County Fair- Nancy Stauff

Ms. Stauff reported: 127 days until the Fair/ robotics show/ pallet painting/ Sunday car show/ Thursday sweet corn feed/ archery education & shooting clinics on the baseball field with trained instructors. Trying to clarify who can ride golf carts.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

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

2018 Audit Report

Erin Enstad of Abdo, Eick, & Meyers presented the 2018 audit report to the council. Ms. Enstad reported on the Audit Opinion & Responsibility, General Fund Results, Enterprise Funds, Other Gov't Funds, and Ratios. She discussed the Internal Control Findings: limited segregation of duties and preparation of financial statements. City should diversify their investments/ City should decide to either pay back the \$350,000 inter-fund loan to EDA or rescind it. There are no bonds dropping off in the near future. The debt per capita is high for the city residents. The general fund balance is a very healthy \$1,383,056. Council accepted the audit report as presented.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, to adopt **Resolution No. 2019C**, thereby approving the lease agreement for the new Global street sweeper. Approved unanimously.
- B) Mayor Fredrickson noted: 2019 Board of Appeal & Equalization open book hearing for Le Center residents is Tuesday, April 16 @ 10:00 am – 6:00 pm at county courthouse.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) After some discussion; Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Harmeyer, Yes – allow the Le Sueur County Soil & Water District to move their driveway on Lexington Ave. side further north to better line up with their overhead door. Approved unanimously. City staff will move the new tree/ try to get them to curb up the driveway on the south end.

After more discussion; Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Hintz, to deny Soil & Water request to move the city street light, guy wire, & storm sewer on Minnesota Street side of their building to better line up with that overhead door. Approved unanimously.

- B) Administrator Collins explained that with all the new financial disclosure laws coming into effect, Ehlers Financial was recommending the city adopt a Post-Issuance Debt Compliance Policy. (see attached) Motion by Scott, Seconded by Harmeyer, to adopt **Resolution No. 2019D**, thereby approving this new policy. Approved unanimously.
- C) Administrator Collins reported that county emergency management and both local banks have suggested the city apply to join the National Flood Insurance Program. This program just recently became available to areas not currently in a flood plain. After some discussion; Motion Scott, Seconded by Hintz, to adopt **Resolution No. 2019E**, thereby Applying to Participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. Approved unanimously. For this, the city must adopt a new Floodplain Ordinance. Council set the public hearing to consider a new floodplain ordinance for Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 6:30 pm. City Attorney Moran will write the new ordinance.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Administrator Collins explained the request by We Count Minnesota organization to enlist all cities to participate in the Complete Count Committee Formation Program for the 2020 Census. Collins had already met with the state regional director for the census; and had received all the information to participate. The city would form a complete census committee of residents and local organization groups to help organize an effort to get everyone in the city to return their completed census form. This would not be run by city staff; only as a partner. Council generally agreed this was a very worthwhile project. They asked Collins to return the participation letter/ put it in the council packet/ and send out to all local organizations and current election judges.
- B) Mayor Fredrickson announced the next Le Sueur County Officials Meeting for Wednesday, April 24 at Montgomery (Not Le Center) at 6:30 pm.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Scott, Seconded by Harmeyer, for Mayor Fredrickson to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 8:30 PM.

Chris L. Collins, Administrator