

**CITY OF LE CENTER  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2019 - 7:00 PM**

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A) Motion by Weiers, Seconded by Scott, Minutes from April 9, 2019 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.

B) Council changes to Agenda: Move up Public Forum: Darian Hunt insurance review

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

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

Darian Hunt/ House of Insurance provided insurance review for city insurance thru the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust: including 2019 premiums/ property coverage/ auto coverage/ equipment coverage/ worker's comp. coverage. Dividends are down for all cities/ we have a very good "experience modification." Motion by Scott, Seconded by Harmeyer, **Yes** waive the statutory limit on tort coverage. Approved unan.

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

A) E.D.A. Report

Director Collins reported he handed out several loan applications to businesses; nothing returned yet. Nothing else to report on.

B) P & Z Report

Director Corey Block reported: construction has been very slow due to the bad weather. Council asked a few questions about the assisted living facility. Block stated during his recent ISO review, they did ask some questions about our city "floodplain ordinance."

C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Brad Collins gave the April report: Sales were \$72,596: down \$7,100 from March, and down \$980 from April 2018. YTD Rev. up by \$3,700 & YTD Exp. up by \$17,000 due to large purchase. April GP margin = 38.96%. Food GP = 32.39%. Events include Trivia contest/ Pfeiffer tourney/ Craft night/ Graduations/ Memorial Day Weekend/ and Friday June 7 Winsor Tasting Night.

- 1) Administrator Collins read a hiring committee recommendation to hire Melissa Kerbel of Faribault as the new F/T Head Bartender position. After some council discussion: Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Harmeyer, to hire Melissa Kerbel as the new F/T Head Bartender starting at \$12.00/hr. @ Le Center Muni. Approved unanimously.

#### D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of April: 168 calls @ 2,445 miles patrolled/ total calls up 21%, total miles up 11% for the year. Pfarr reported: with Kind Vet office in Le Center closing soon; he spoke to them about possibly boarding our animals at their St. Peter facility; and they were very interested. Having many problems with the squad computer again/ is starting to enforce the new ordinance on # of vehicles and equipment allowed parked out in open storage. Council questioned why/ what calls are up? Child protection issues/ parking & traffic issues.

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

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported:

- Parks- all fields are very busy already/ have 8 lights out at baseball field: will check fuses, check ballast, then replace the light-bulbs. Price to replace all bulbs at once with new LED = \$8,200. After some discussion, and based on fact that all bulbs are 20 years old and at their useful life-end: Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Harmeyer, to replace all 66 field bulbs with new LED. Approved unanimously.
- Pool- piping in the pump room is failing/ no major painting required/ minimal collar replacement needed.
- Water- still looking for the 100,000 gal. per month leak; will start digging for it this week. Water meter radio-read technology is being upgraded/ replaced next month. Several 2" and 3" meters have been replaced or added to the system. Water treatment plant: sand filters may need to be replaced in near future.
- Storm sewer catch-basin is failing at Rolling Hills Drive; will need to be repaired.
- Wastewater- I & I is bringing in too much water to be treated. Jetter truck: need to replace the pump valve.
- Refuse- 21+ tons in April recycling. Refuse truck: body falling apart; needs some serious welding repairs. Flowers will be coming and put up next week!

#### F) Bolton & Menk Engineering

- 1) Engineer Joel Hawbaker reported: the 2020 street project committee is recommending we progress to the next step in the 429 process. Motion by Hintz, Seconded by Harmeyer, to adopt **Resolution No. 2019F**, thereby ordering the preparation of report on improvement by Bolton & Menk. Approved unanimously.

2019 sealcoating project will be the 2004 street project east of Cordova Avenue. South Sunrise Ave. will be getting 2" of blacktop overlay repair due to the storm sewer repairs last fall. Should/ can we put up "No trucks" sign on Sunrise Ave.? Council recommends we discuss with the farmer first. Yes- get bids for the sealcoating to approve at the June council meeting.

G) County Fair- Nancy Stauff

Ms. Stauff reported: old schoolhouse ownership has finally been established; the city owns it?? Bathrooms near the fair office really need some repair work: men's yes/ women's not much. Restaurant storage building is in tough shape after camper hit the building corner; talk to Home Plate Restaurant to get repairs done. No ATV's or golf carts will be allowed on the fairgrounds without a Fair-issued permit. Camping at the fairgrounds will limited to (7) consecutive days after last fall's issues. Thurs. - Fair is requesting permission to land helicopter on ballfield: council tentatively gave permission, depending upon where they want to land it and how many times.

## V. PUBLIC FORUM

Engineer Hawbaker spoke for a resident on North Cordova Ave. who is having much water in their basement/ water is coming up their floor drains/ they feel it is a city sewer caused problem/ they do have a foundation drain/ they want the city to remedy the problem. Bolton & Menk had done a complete engineering study of their property and pointed out a number of issues that could be causing this problem and what needed to be done by the homeowner; and the city had sent an accompanying letter stating our position on this problem. The homeowner was present, but left without speaking to the council.

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

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Mayor Fredrickson noted the Floodplain Ordinance that had been considered at a public hearing earlier that evening. Motion by Scott, Seconded by Weiers, to adopt **Ordinance No. 2019-1**, thereby approving the ordinance as written, pending publication. Approved unanimously. Preliminary approval has been given by State DNR.
- B) Mayor Fredrickson explained the Streetlight Policy written by city staff; and some of the highlights in the policy. Council generally thought it was a good policy; it puts the onus on the neighborhood to prove that a streetlight is wanted and needed in that area. Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, to approve the streetlight policy. Approved unanimous.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Peter Thelemann (80 ac. farmland renter) was present to make proposal to council: he is looking to install 10,000 ft. of tile in the wet SE corner of the field this fall, in exchange for the city extending his current lease an additional 10 years for the same \$200 per acre. 10,000 ft. X \$1.25 = \$12,500 he would pay for and install himself in exchange for the lease extension. Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Hintz, to accept this proposal; Atty Moran write the new lease with yearly opt-outs included. Approved unanimously.

- B) Motion by Scott, Seconded by Weiers, to adopt the 2019 liquor licenses for On-Sale 3.2% beer, strong beer, and Club licenses. Approved unanimously.
- C) Motion by Weiers, Seconded by Hintz, to approve the special event permit for LC Chamber Kick-Off to Summer event on May 16. Approved unanimously.
- D) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, to approve special event permit for LC Legion SAL Backyard BBQ event on June 1. Approved unanimously.

**VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.**

- A) Mayor Fredrickson noted the sanitary sewer by-pass notification placed in the official newspaper for the April 17 incident.
- B) Mayor Fredrickson announced the (possible) next Le Sueur County Officials Meeting for late June at new Le Sueur County Justice Center in Le Center at 6:30 pm. ??

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

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

Chris L. Collins, Administrator