

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020 - 7:00 PM**

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A) Motion by Weiers, Seconded by Scott, Minutes from January 14, 2020 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, Minutes from January 15, 2020 Workshop Meeting (Refuse & Recycling) be approved. Approved unanimously.
- C) Council changes to Agenda: Add: Admin. B) Special Event Permit for Am.Legion

III. APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

Council reviewed the bills to be paid. Motion by Harmeyer 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 Corey Block reported: brief Maud Borup façade update.

- 1) Atty Moran explained some problems with the Mark Miller rental property license located at 298 North Waterville Ave. Moran explained the three options available to the council. Council reviewed the three options. Motion by Hintz, Seconded by Harmeyer, to suspend rental license April 1 if deck is not finished to code. Approved unanimously. Atty Moran will send letter informing Mr. Miller.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Brad Collins gave the January report: Sales were \$73,483: down \$19,000 from December, but up \$2,200 from Jan. 2019. YTD Rev. up by \$2,200 & YTD Exp. even. January GP margin = 39.37%. Food GP = 27.79%. January = live band, Pfeiffer tourney, final football party. Feb. = dart tourney, meat raffle, pizza party, craft night, chili feed.

D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of January: 215 calls @ 2,974 miles patrolled/ total calls down 19%, total miles up 11% for the year. Pfarr also reported: new squad car delivered end of March/ several thefts out of vehicles; have a tape of not good quality/ lock your vehicles; leave nothing of value in them. Winter parking ordinance reminder: 1" of snow, stay off the streets!

E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks Departments

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported on Year End: less oil recycled, leaves, cardboard, & co-mingle. Refuse up by 13 tons.

- Streets- two big snow events; keep vehicles off streets @ 1" snow for plowing.
- Parks- guys doing great job cleaning snow off & flooding the skating rink.
- Water- still looking for 100,000 gal. water leak in the system; may have found it at a recent water leak @ 344 West Minnesota St.
- Refuse- is going well; not too many out of city customers/ training residents to flatten their cardboard for the new system.

F) Bolton & Menk Engineering

Engineer Hawbaker reported on 2020 Street Project: design is 65% - 70% completed/ March council meeting will be approval of plans & specs and advertise for bids; then approve a winning bid at April 14 council meeting.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

Gary Negrón @ 480 North Waterville Ave. was present to request information on the 2020 Street Project. He was out of town for the meeting. (Staff will get it to him)

Tim Zahratka @ 321 South Park Ave. was present to express his concern about the possible big commercial garbage trucks going thru his back alley (overweight) and breaking up the blacktop, should the city go to commercial haulers. Council will take under advisement.

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

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Administrator Collins explained the letter from FEMA approving Le Center for National Flood Insurance Program; and the accompanying press release. Council asked newspaper reporter to have it published in the official newspaper. This completes that process.
- B) Mayor Fredrickson started the discussion regarding the final decision on the city garbage & recycling collection programs. Mayor explained the current system vs. the commercial pick-up of the garbage & recycling; and his opinion the current city system was cheaper.

Councilman Scott: read a prepared letter explaining his thoughts on this issue; and how this was thrown upon us, council did not plan on this, just trying to do what's right.

Councilman Harmeyer: explained his thoughts; and how this will affect the residents.

Councilman Hintz: stated he had many residents contact him about this; for both ways.

Councilwoman Weiers: appreciated that lots of research had been done on this; council just trying to do what's best for the residents.

After all discussion: Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Harmeyer, to keep the same, current blue bag garbage & recycling system for Le Center city residents only; collected and disposed of by city staff. Approved by 4-1 vote, Councilman Hintz voting No. Council set a committee of C. Scott/ C. Harmeyer/ C. Collins/ C. Roemhildt to study the parameters and make the \$ money recommendations to the council.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Hintz, to approve the 2020 City/ School Field Lease Agreement for \$.00. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Weiers, Seconded by Scott, to approve the resolution thereby approving the election judge list for March 3 Presidential Primary Election. Approved unanimously.
- C) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, to move the regular March council meeting from March 10 to March 18 at 7:00; due to No Quorum present March 10. Approved unan.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Mayor Fredrickson announced the next County Officials Meeting for Thursday, February 27 @ 6:30 pm at Le Center VFW basement.
- B) Motion by Scott, Seconded by Weiers, to approve the Special Event Permit for LC Legion on March 14 for St. Pat's Celebration. Approved unanimously.
- C) Councilman Scott inquired about the old schoolhouse at the county fairgrounds; it's in very bad shape. He would like to know who owns it/ can it be fixed up? Mayor Fredrickson suggested working with Councilman Hintz (Fair appointee) to find this out.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Scott, Seconded by Hintz, for Mayor Fredrickson to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 7:48 PM.