

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021 - 7:00 PM**

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Mayor Fredrickson, C. Harmeyer, N. Hintz, J. Weiers, C. Scott

Absent: None

Staff: C. Collins, C. Roemhildt, B. Pfarr, B. Collins, C. Block, Atty Moran

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) Motion by Weiers, Seconded by Harmeyer, Minutes from December 8, 2020 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 Hintz, 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/ no report. Covid loans vs. grant status will be discussed at the first EDA meeting of the year when held.

B) P & Z Report

Director Block reported: no meetings; not much going on right now.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Brad Collins gave the December report: Sales were \$98,340: up \$8,300 from November, and up \$5,400 from Dec. 2019. YTD Rev. up by \$124,793 & YTD Exp. up by \$158,398. December GP margin = 27.78%. Food GP = 11.37%. Bar is still closed all of December under the governor's order; missed out on many events in the store. Note: bars allowed to re-open on January 11 at 50% capacity. Year End: official sales for the liquor store were \$1,045,000. On-sales down \$80,000 (17%) and Off-sales up by \$201,000 (83% of all sales). Operating bar at 16% of gross sales/ industry is 20-23%. Some discussion on the three local bars better coordinating their events so not to have any events on the same night or weekend. This is somewhat done already.

D) Police Department

Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of December: 125 calls @ 3,584 miles patrolled/ total calls down 32%, total miles up 25% for the year. Pfarr reported: Year-end report, see numbers, etc. P.T. officer use = 1,672 hours during year.

E) Public Works: Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks Departments

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported:

- Streets- 13 snow-plowing events in 2020 year.
- Refuse- Year end: garbage = 405 tons (+ 32 tons) recycling = 202 tons (- 54 tons)
leaves/compost = 473 yards (- 4 yards)

Do we want to hold another city-wide junk pick-up again in 2021? Council generally felt favorable towards this; do it the same way we did in 2020.

- Parks- skating rink open and being used.

F) Bolton & Menk Engineering

- 1) Engineer Adam Jacobs reported on 2020 Street Project: project on hold until March or April. Assessment hearing is tentatively going to be held Nov./ Dec.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

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

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Consideration of amending ordinance concerning Snowmobiles and ATV's; 2nd reading and public hearing held earlier that evening. After discussion: Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, to adopt Amending Ordinance No. 2021-1, thereby approving the amendments to Chapter 40: Article IV: Snowmobiles, ATV's to the Le Center Code of Ordinances. Approved unanimously. Effective upon publication in official newspaper.
- B) Attorney Moran reported & explained the reasons/ need to renew the city emergency disaster declaration until June 1. Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Hintz, to adopt Resolution No. 2021A, thereby extending city disaster declaration until June 1, 2021. Approved unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Ben McGrath @ 155 North Lexington Ave. presented a petition signed by his neighbors for the alley running thru their block between Park & Lexington to be blacktop paved. Petition states all houses on the block along the alley currently use it. With no cost estimate provided by staff; council placed item on hold and requested cost estimate for next council meeting.

- B) Mayoral Appointment List: Motion by Hintz, Seconded by Harmeyer, to approve the list of appointments as written. Approved unanimously.

- C) Consider renewing WAC & SAC fee waivers for 2021 new residential & commercial construction (\$2,500). Mayor Fredrickson stated this is not a make-or-break amount; the bigger issue is the lack of lot availability for new residential building. After some discussion: Motion by Fredrickson, Seconded by Scott, to renew the waiver for 2021 new residential and commercial construction. Approved unanimously.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Administrator Collins explained the pool floor damage situation, and where it's at. He advised the city insurance agent to submit a claim and photos to the League of Minnesota Insurance Trust for consideration. Wait until we hear back from insurance, then pool committee decide what to do with the entire floor. (\$1,000 deductible)

IX. ADJOURNMENT

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

Chris L. Collins, Administrator