

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021 - 7:00 PM**

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Absent: Mayor Fredrickson

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) Motion by Weiers, Seconded by Scott, Minutes from March 9, 2021 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.

B) Council changes to Agenda: Move Up: Darian Hunt/ House of Insurance Agency

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.

Darian Hunt/ House of Ins.= League of Minnesota Cities Ins. Trust report: See Handout
1) Package Policy increased by \$1,616. 2) Due mostly to property values. 3) Worker's Comp. increased by \$3,274 due to "the industry." 4) Property/ pool building is covered, but not the pool structure itself. 5) Auto coverage up due to 3 new vehicles added.
6) Municipal Liability \$2M coverage. Motion by Scott, Seconded by Hintz, to waive the municipal tort liability minimum. Approved unanimously. Discussed the pool floor in full: League will only pay for the damaged area; not the entire building floor. Cost is approx. \$1,100 for damaged area; and our deductible is \$1,000 anyway.

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

A) E.D.A. Report

Director Collins reported: EDA meeting held April 6; consider \$5,000 Micro-loan for Roadrunner Sales & Service, LLC for new start-up business located at Roadrunner Repair building: interior & exterior renovations to house & sell an Ice House/ R.V. dealership. After discussion, Motion by Hintz, Seconded by Scott, to approve the \$5,000 Micro-loan to Roadrunner Sales & Service, LLC. Approved unanimously. Councilman Scott asked if the EDA Board had considered the Covid-19 Business Loans as grants to the borrowers. EDA: "yes, recipients must pay back these loans exactly as EDA set this up and advertised it. This is a loan, not a grant."

B) P & Z Report

Director Block reported: very slow yet, nothing to report.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Brad Collins gave the March report: Sales were \$95,364: up \$15,000 from February; and up \$4,500 from March 2020. YTD Rev. up by \$26,200 & YTD Exp. up by \$16,900. March GP margin = 40.08%. Food GP = 37.54%.
March = St. Pat's Day, card and dart tourneys, all went very well.

D) Police Department

Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of March: 116 calls @ 3,231 miles patrolled/ total calls down 26%, total miles up 10% for the year. Pfarr reported: received noise complaints at new church at 80 North Cordova Avenue; dealt with via letter to the church. Severe weather week; sirens go off on Thursday. New squad got "hit & run" in front grill, \$2,200 damage.

- 1) Motion by Hintz, Seconded by Scott, to adopt Resolution No. 2021B, thereby adding Jason L. Squires to the state Police and Fire Plan. Approved unanimously.

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

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported:

- Streets- spring sweeping of streets is done.
- Parks- trying to get them open for ballgames; especially the bathrooms.
- Sewer- lift station alarms & floats are completed and have been tested.
- Refuse: garbage keeps increasing; +17 tons already over 2020. New truck is working great/ looks great.

F) Bolton & Menk Engineering

- 1) Engineer Adam Jacobs reported on 2020 Street Project: Construction has started: two crews are working here/ Spors Street sewer & water almost done/ in two weeks will be cutting in for the gravel street. See #1 project newsletter.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

Duane Swensen @ 365 E. Woodlawn Street asked permission to cut out some dogwood from the city R.O.W. along his east side house and return it to grass. Motion by Scott, Seconded by Weiers, to allow Mr. Swensen to remove it. Approved unanimously. There were no other petitions, requests, or communications from the general public.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Administrator Collins explained what he had done with the low bid estimate; spreading it over the seven properties/ no response from the petitioners- take no action at this time.

- B) Councilman Harmeyer and Administrator Collins reminded the dept. heads of our plan for them to write their articles and submit them to the newspaper. Included in mtg. packet was a list of the months each department was expected to write an article.
- C) Motion by Scott, Seconded by Hintz, to approve the 2021 City/ TCU School Field Lease Agreement for \$ -0-. Approved unanimously.
- D) After some discussion on maybe holding off until the fall again; Motion by Hintz, Seconded by Scott, to hold the citywide junk throw-away on June 19 with the same parameters as last year. \$25.00 fee. Approved unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Scott, Seconded by Hintz, to approve Le Center Chamber special event permit for Kick Off to Summer on May 20 in courthouse park. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Hintz, Seconded by Weiers, to approve 2021 liquor licenses:
On Sale Club licenses = VFW and Legion. 3.2% or Strong Beer licenses = Home Plate Restaurant, Le Center PTO, Men's Softball League, Braves Over 35 Baseball, St. Mary's Church Festival, Community Club, Le Sueur County Sheriff's Posse, Sportsmen's Club, For The Love of Joshua, DRW Women's Softball. Approved unanimously.
- C) Le Center Friends of Library request to purchase bench and place outside of Library front door on sidewalk space: Motion by Scott, Seconded by Hintz, to yes, allow new bench on sidewalk front. Approved unanimously.
- D) MetroNet contract: Attorney Moran explained: No to this memorandum of understanding with MetroNet/ they have now agreed to a franchise agreement with the city. Take no action at this time per Attorney Moran.
- E) Administrator Collins asked for a committee to look at sewer & water rates. They have not been looked at since 2010. Collins recommended a committee of sewer & water mayoral appointees Harmeyer and Weiers plus Supt. Roemhildt and himself. Granted.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Councilman Harmeyer announced next County Officials meeting: Live in person Wednesday, April 28 at 7:00 pm at County Justice Center with Sheriff Mason hosting.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Hintz, Seconded by Scott, for Acting Mayor Harmeyer to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 7:56 PM.