

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021 - 7:00 PM**

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Absent: N. Hintz

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, Minutes from April 13, 2021 Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.

B) Council changes to Agenda: Move Up: NEW BUS. A) Audit Report

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.

AUDIT REPORT: Erin Enstad of Abdo, Eick, & Meyers CPA's presented the 2020 audit report to the council. She reported on: the Auditor's Responsibility and Minnesota Legal Compliance regarding the city limited segregation of duties and the preparation of the financial statements. She referenced TIF 9, TIF 7, and the \$350,000 interfund loan. She noted the General Fund Balance of \$1,427,208 (68.4% of expenses). General Fund revenues had \$100,000 transferred to debt service. Debt Service fund balance has \$1,152,713 total cash. Water Fund revenues were down; lost money/ need to look at raising rates/ get a rate study done. Sewer Fund expenses way up; lost money/ need to look at raising rates/ get a rate study done. Refuse lost money due to the new garbage truck purchase. Liquor Fund made less money; mostly due to On-Sale being closed for Covid. City tax rate is up; but taxes per capita is good compared to cities in county. Council generally accepted and approved the audit report by Abdo, Eick, & Meyers.

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

A) E.D.A. Report

Director Collins reported: the sale of the 10 acres to Maud and Selly was nearly complete. Atty Moran presented two resolutions to approve the sales: Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, to adopt **Resolution No. 2021C**, thereby approving the sale of 3.43 ac. to Selly Excavating, Inc. for \$28,297.50. Approved unanimously. Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, to adopt **Resolution No. 2021D**, thereby approving the sale of 6.57 ac. to Maud Borup, Inc. for \$54,202.50. Approved unan.

B) P & Z Report

Director Block absent: Administrator Collins gave a brief report.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Brad Collins gave the April report: Sales were \$98,449: up \$3,000 from March; and up \$16,000 from April 2020. YTD Rev. up by \$40,477 & YTD Exp. up by \$26,192. April GP margin = 38.78%. Food GP = 34.67%. April = successful Pfeiffer tourney. May= band with full house/ 2 weddings/ graduations.

1) Store Manager Brad Collins had submitted his resignation as of May 15.

Council discussed the committee to hire a replacement. Council thanked Collins for his 9+ years of service to the Municipal Liquor Store.

D) Police Department

Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of April: 111 calls @ 3,260 miles patrolled/ total calls down 16%, total miles up 6% for the year. Pfarr reported: more blight letters and stops have gone out; taking care of the issues. Le Center PD is exiting the LETG system; Le Sueur County Sheriff Dept. is taking over that responsibility for all the cities in the county. Advised: 5 new radios need budgeting.

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

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported:

- Streets- mill & overlay of No. Waterville and No. Montgomery will be done this summer. \$75,000 is in the budget for this.
- Parks- Dwyer P & H is nearly done with the bathroom upgrades in the parks.
- Sewer- very busy televising sold houses for foundation drains and I & I.
- Wastewater- plant blacktop road is shot, needs to be redone soon.
- Refuse- solid waste garbage still increasing; +17 tons over 2020 this time.

F) Pool – Dorothy D.

Mgr. Dorothy Dinwiddie updated council on the upcoming pool season: Family Pass fee raised from \$150 up to \$195.00. WSI Certification for lifeguards: they pay up front/ have them sign an agreement/ we pay them back over time. Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Weiers, to approve the 2021 pool fees as listed in the packet. Approved unanimously.

G) Bolton & Menk Engineering

Engineer Adam Jacobs reported on 2020 Street Project: underground utilities done on Spors, Waterville, Bowler/ gravel this week on Spors and Montgomery/ trees in park along Spors will have to be removed due to the high pressure gas line = sidewalk can't be placed over the top of the gas line; must be moved to the rear of the R.O.W.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

Bill Collins @ 520 Cedar Ridge Ave. (water spot in back yard/ possibly caused by run-off from city pool parking lot) and Ken Smisek @ 620 Cedar Ridge Ave. (water comes down into their back yard from the city grassy area above near water tower) spoke to the council about water issues they were having in their yards; possibly caused by run-off from city property. Bolton & Menk Engineer Adam Jacobs had looked at the problem. He suggested a berm along the top edge would divert the water away from the Smisek property and towards the city storm sewer inlet, to take care of the problem. For Collins property, he suggested to fill in the low spot to spread out the water/ maybe a berm at the top edge/ talk to Carriage House Assisted Living about their down spouts running his way.

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

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) MetroNet Right of Way Agreement: Atty Moran has discussed this with MetroNet for some changes; recommends council "table it" until a future meeting. Done.
- B) Mayor Fredrickson strongly reminded the dept. heads of our plan for them to write their department articles and submit them to the newspaper. This had been lacking lately.
- C) Mayor Fredrickson noted the citywide junk throw-away to be held on June 19 with the same parameters as last year. \$25.00 fee. Sign up at city hall beforehand.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) 2020 Final Audit Report: SEE ABOVE DISCUSSION.
- B) Motion by Weiers, Seconded by Scott, to approve Jenny Friederich yoga classes permit for city parks/ she plans to charge a fee. Approved unanimously.
- C) City newsletter discussion: council send any ideas to city hall by week's end to get it published in the city newsletter.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Mayor Fredrickson announced next County Officials meeting: Wednesday, May 26 at 7:00 pm at Montgomery Legion Club.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Scott, Seconded by Harmeyer, for Mayor Fredrickson to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 8:31 PM.