

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2021 - 7:00 PM**

**** MINUTES ****

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Absent: None

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

**** Public Hearing & Comments on Final 2022 Net Tax Levy & 2022 Total Budget ****

Administrator Collins explained the 2022 Final Tax Levy and Total Budget: stating that these were the exact same figures as the approved September max allowed. There were no questions, comments, or discussion from the council or general public- as allowed.

1) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, to adopt **Resolution No. 2021J**, thereby approving 2022 Final Net Tax Levy of \$1,157,255 (+ 1.982%) Approved unanimously.

2) Motion by Scott, Seconded by Harmeyer, to adopt **Resolution No. 2021J**, thereby approving 2022 Final Total Budget of \$3,611,689 (+ 3.992%) Approved unanimously.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

B) Motion by Weiers, Seconded by Harmeyer, Minutes from November 22, 2021 Special (virtual) Meeting (assessments) be approved. Approved unanimously.

C) Council changes to Agenda: ADD: ADMIN B) Consider Ambulance Agreement

III. APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

Council reviewed the bills to be paid. Motion by Hintz, Seconded by Scott, 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 EDA business to report.

B) P & Z Report
Director Block reported: No P & Z business to report.

C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Becky Vikla gave the November report: Sales were \$94,514: down \$1,900 from Oct.- but up \$4,500 from Nov. 2020. YTD Rev. up by \$74,605 & YTD Exp. down by \$20,631. Nov. GP margin = 40.03%. Food GP = 35.17%. Dec.- ham bingo, Pfeiffer, football specials, Bargo. Inventory being worked on for auditors.

D) Police Department

Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of November: 140 calls @ 3,284 miles patrolled/ total calls down 5%, total miles down 1% for the year. Pfarr reminded: 1" of snow in Le Center activates LC Snow Emergency= keep vehicles off streets until they are plowed from curb to curb. Sidewalks= must be cleared within 12 hrs. of snow.

- 1) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, to adopt **Resolution No. 2021K**, thereby approving State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreement. Approved unanimously.

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

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported:

- Water- showed off our water treatment plant to City of Elysian officials.
- Refuse- still up – 32 tons over last year.
- Recycling- will be open Wed. 4:30 – 7:30 pm and Fri. 7:00 am – 12 noon during Christmas & New Year's weeks.
- Streets- two recent snowstorms; one light, one heavy took 13 hrs. to clear snow from streets.
- Skating Rink- having trouble getting it started vs. the weather- we're trying.

F) Bolton & Menk Engineering

- 1) Engineer Adam Jacobs reported on 2020 St. Project: some small talk on final blacktop lift to be done next spring/ assessment hearing with residents went well.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

Carey Roemhildt @ 180 E. Spors St. complained the city hall front garbage can was removed; where are dog walkers supposed to throw their dog poop bags?? And- what is being done about the junk house on W. Minn. St. next to the Lutheran Church parking lot? There were no other petitions, requests, or communications from the general public.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Police Officer hiring update: Administrator Collins gave a brief update on the new officer hire: Interviews were set for December 15 to interview 3 candidates.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Hintz, Seconded by Harmeyer, to adopt **Resolution No. 2021 I**, thereby designating City Hall council chambers as the polling place for the 2022 elections. Approved unanimously.
- B) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, to approve the delinquent assessment certification list to certify to county to collect with property taxes. Approved unan.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Administrator Collins gave an update from the hiring committee to hire a replacement city administrator. Committee had met Dec. 1 and came up with some qualifications and was starting the advertising process for the position.
- B) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, to approve the 2022 LC Ambulance Agreement for the same \$35,927.00 cost. Approved unanimously.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Weiers, Seconded by Scott, for Mayor Fredrickson to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 7:27 pm.

Chris L. Collins, Administrator