

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2023 – 7:00 PM
10 W. TYRONE ST. LE CENTER, MN 56057**

*** MINUTES ***

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Mayor Christian Harmeyer, Council Members Jennifer Weiers, Dan Steffen, Collin Scott

Absent: None

Staff Present: City Administrator Dan Evans, Public Works Superintendent Dan Steinborn, Police Chief Derek Carlsrud, Liquor Manager Becky Vikla

Others Present: City Attorney Jason Moran

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Weiers, seconded by Steffen to add County Fair Board update to Section 7 (G). All in favor, motion carried.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Steffen, seconded by Scott to approve the consent agenda items list below. All in favor, motion carried.

- A) Approval of Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on March 14, 2023
- B) Approval of Bills to be Paid
- C) Approval of a State of MN Joint Powers Agreement & Court Amendment Agreement Resolution No. 2023E
- D) Approval of 2023 Liquor & Beer License Renewals
- E) Approval of Special Event Permit from Le Center Chamber / Kick Off to Summer Event

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

6. PRESENTATIONS

- A) Darian Hunt with House of Insurance presented the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust 2023 Review. There was a premium increase in property and casualty insurance of \$12,197 from the prior period. The League recently re-valued city owned buildings and properties, and that drove much of the increase. The city increased the building values by just over 3 million or 12%. Part of the increase is due to inflation and what it would cost to construct a new building. Worker's Comp had an increase of \$3,929 from the prior period because the League is seeing an increased number of claims for certain city-related jobs like police and public works. Payroll increase is also a driver of larger premiums. Hunt

indicated the city did receive a dividend check in 2022 for \$12,174. Motion by Scott, seconded by Weiers to wave the statutory limit of \$500,000 and purchase a limit of \$2 million. All in favor, motioned carried.

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

- A) E.D.A. Report – Evans showcased a City Profile that was put together by Leah Petricka with Region 9.
- B) P & Z Report - Director Block said a public hearing was held by the Planning and Zoning Commission on April 4, 2023 to hear testimony in regards to WINCO Inc. applying for a conditional use permit for an exterior liquid nitrogen tank. Block will request the council take action on this item in New Business Section 9 (C).
- C) Liquor Store Report - Manager Becky Vikla stated that March 2023 sales were \$99,071. March sales in 2022 were \$82,758. Sales were up \$16,312 from 2022. February gambling proceeds were \$10,993. March recap: St. Patrick's Day celebration, Pfeiffer tournament and a meat raffle. April events: 13 games were played for the free pool event. April 8th customer appreciation event took place with live music from Just Crista and Gary West.
- D) Police Report - Chief Derek Carlsrud reported on the police activities for the month of March: 238 calls / incidents @ 4679 miles patrolled. Three (3) arrests: (2) DWI (1) Warrant. Speed limit change on South Cordova Ave from Hwy 99 to East Woodridge Drive. MnDOT did a speed study and dropped that section from 55 mph to 45 mph. Chief Carlsrud also wanted to remind folks to renew their dog license for the year, tags can be picked up at city hall free of charge.
- E) Public Works Report - Public Works Superintendent Steinborn reported the following:
- Continuing to sweep streets and patch roadways with cold mix.
 - Preparing the ball fields and getting them ready for spring sports.
 - Bathrooms will be open in the coming weeks.
 - Working on getting signage at the yard waste drop site.
- F) Le Sueur Co. Commissioner update – Dave Preisler District 4 Commissioner stated that the CSAH 11 (Cordova Ave) mill and overlay project bids will be ready in three weeks. Environmental services dept. moved into the 3rd floor at the government center. The highway dept. will be moving into the old environmental services building. In 2010 the county applied for Small Cities Grant Program Funds, to be loaned out to individuals throughout the county. As part of that program the homeowner would need to stay in their home for a period of 10 years or they would have to essentially pay back the loan. \$21,000 was paid back to the county program and the county will be returning the funds back to the originating city where the initial loan was taken out. The city will have to use the funds in accordance with the initial guidelines of the program.

- G) County Fair Board update – Nancy Stauff said the same carnival will be back again this year. Other events: sweet corn feed, zoo, ranch rodeo, demo derby, tractor pull. Various musicians will be performing during the fair.

8. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Steffen, seconded by Scott to approve Resolution No. 2023F A Resolution authorizing grant acceptance to seal an abandon city well. All in favor, motion carried.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Police Officer Mitchel Toltzman to take Official Oath of Office administered by Chief Carlsrud.
- B) Motion by Scott, seconded by Weiers to approve Resolution No. 2023G A Resolution approving a mutual aid agreement with MnWarn. All in favor, motion carried.
- C) Motion by Scott, seconded by Steffen to approve Resolution No. 2023H a Resolution approving a conditional use permit for WINCO Inc. for the purposes of installing a 9000-gallon liquid nitrogen tank. All in favor, motion carried.
- D) 1st reading of Ordinance No. 2023-1, Evans explained this ordinance would establish a fee schedule for the various governmental actions, permits, licenses, zoning matters, utility rates, and other governmental functions.
- E) Motion by Weiers, seconded by Scott to set a public hearing for Ordinance No. 2023-1 on May 9, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

10. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) A general discussion on technology in the council chambers was had. Evans indicated that a large television and or projector could be used to display the agenda packet and presentation materials. This would enhance the experience of individuals at the meeting and of those folks watching online or through the public access channel. The council generally agreed with this idea and Evans will work with staff at TCU schools as well as other tech companies to get more technology in the council chambers.
- B) Mayor Harmeyer reminded the council of the upcoming Le Sueur Co. Officials Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on April 26, 2023, location TBD.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Scott, Seconded by Steffen, for Mayor Harmeyer to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.