

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 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, Nathan Hintz, 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 (remotely)

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. OATH OF OFFICE

A) Mayor Harmeyer read the Oath of Office to Council Member Nathan Hintz; Hintz term will run until December 31, 2024.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Scott, seconded by Weiers to add to agenda Resolution No. 2023M A Resolution appointing Samuel Ranta as Interim Police Chief for the Le Center Police Department to Section 10, New Business (H). All in favor, motion carried.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

A) Approval of Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on April 11, 2023

B) Approval of Bills to be Paid

C) Approval of Resolution No. 2023I Appointing Nathan Hintz To The Le Center City Council

D) Approval of Resolution No. 2023J Accepting a Donation to the City from the Waseca-Le Sueur Regional Library

6. PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Harmeyer called the public hearing to order to hear testimony regarding Ordinance 2023-1 the establishment of a Fee Schedule. There was no one in the audience to speak on the matter and Evans indicated that there was no written testimony submitted to city hall beforehand. The public hearing was then closed.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

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

- A) E.D.A. Report – Evans no report.
- B) P & Z Report - Director Block indicated that a Conditional Use Permit was submitted, however it was incomplete and sent back.
- C) Liquor Store Report - Manager Becky Vikla stated that April 2023 sales were \$94,608. April sales in 2022 were \$86,528. Sales were up \$8,080 from 2022. March gambling proceeds were \$5,366. April recap: April 8th customer appreciation event took place with live music from Just Crista and Gary West. May events: Cinco De Mayo, thrift store prom night, music by DJ Rich Kern.
- D) Police Report - Chief Derek Carlsrud reported on the police activities for the month of April: 222 calls / incidents @ 4216 miles patrolled. Six (6) arrests: (4) DWI (1) Warrant (1) Traffic. Carlsrud read his resignation letter to the Mayor and Council. His last official day will be June 4, 2023. Motion by Steffen, seconded by Hintz to accept the letter of resignation. All in favor, motion carried.
- E) Public Works Report - Public Works Superintendent Steinborn reported the following:
- Soccer goals were installed at West Park.
 - Staff will start the pool opening operations next week.
 - Three trees were fell, arborvitaes bushes were trimmed along Hwy 99.
 - Walk-thru was completed for the 2020 Street Project and warranty worked was flagged for replacement. Bolton and Menk will also submit notice to the contractor on several areas of “pitting” in the surface of the concrete to see how they want to handle the issue.
 - Signage will be installed at the yard waste drop sites in the coming days.
- F) Le Sueur Co. Commissioner update – Dave Preisler District 4 Commissioner was not present, no report.
- G) County Fair Board update – Nancy Stauff was not present, no report.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Scott, seconded by Hintz to approve Ordinance No. 2023-1 An Ordinance establishing a Few Schedule. All in favor, motion carried.
- B) Motion by Steffen, seconded by Weiers to approve the summary publication for Ordinance No. 2023-1 as written. All in favor, motion carried.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Weiers, seconded by Scott to approve Resolution No. 2023K A Resolution to approve the seal coating quote by means of direct negotiations. Two quotes were submitted: WW Blacktopping, INC. for \$82,267.60 & Pearson Bros., INC. for \$89,442.10. Work was

awarded to WW Blacktopping. All in favor, motion carried.

- B) Motion by Scott, seconded by Hintz to approve Resolution No. 2023L A Resolution accepting the return of the Small Cities Grant Funds. All in favor, motion carried. Evans indicated that there are restrictions on the monies and that they must be used towards the initial guidelines for the grant program.
- C) The city discussed the commercial building lease at 200 E. Bowler. The current tenant Tri-Valley has notified the city administrator with their intent to leave by August 1st, 2023. Tri-Valley per the lease agreement is requesting to lease on a month-to-month basis until August 1st, 2023. Motion by Steffen, seconded by Scott for same. All in favor, motion carried. It was discussed that city staff should list the property as available space to lease soon.
- D) Evans indicated that staff has reached out to a small company to rework the city logo. Scott expressed interest in having TCU school kids compete in a contest for the best city logo design. Evans and Scott will work with the school to see if they are interested in this idea and implement a contest before school is out for summer break.
- E) Motion by Hintz, seconded by Scott to approve the Police Chief job description as written. All in favor, motion carried.
- F) Motion by Steffen, seconded by Scott to approve the Police Chief salary range of \$85,000 to \$105,000 and approval of the job posting as written. All in favor, motion carried.
- G) The council discussed the need for an interim Police Chief as Carlsrud will be leaving on June 4th, 2023. The police committee will vet all applications submitted and recommend to the council the best candidates to interview at a future special meeting.
- H) Motion by Scott, seconded by Weiers to approve Resolution No. 2023M A Resolution appointing Samuel Ranta as interim Police Chief. Ranta will begin his appointment on June 5th, 2023, not to exceed 30 hours per week unless approved by the city administrator. The rate of pay will be \$35.00 an hour and there are no health-related benefits added to the interim role. All in favor, motion carried.

11. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Reminder of the city-wide clean-up day on June 17th from 8am to noon.
- B) Mayor Harmeyer reminded the council of the upcoming Le Sueur Co. Officials Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on May 24, 2023, location TBD.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Hintz, Seconded by Scott, for Mayor Harmeyer to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.