

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 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, Liquor Manager Becky Vikla
Others Present: Attorney Jason Moran, Building Official Corey Block

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Hintz, seconded by Scott to approve the agenda as distributed. All in favor, motion carried.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Weiers, 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 July 11, 2023
- B) Approval of Bills to be Paid
- C) Approval of Resolution No. 2023U A Resolution Accepting a \$1500.00 Donation to the Ron Germscheid Memorial Park from the Le Center Lions Club

5. PUBLIC HEARING

A) Mayor Harmeyer called the public hearing to order at 7:01 p.m. Attorney Moran introduced Interim Ordinance 2023-3 An Ordinance Prohibiting The Sale, Testing, Manufacturing, Cultivating, Growing, Transporting, Delivery, And Distribution Of Cannabis Products In The City Of Le Center until January 1, 2025. This will give the City time to go over any necessary zoning regulations in the future as it pertains to cannabis becoming legal. There were no comments from the public, nor did the City receive any written comments on the matter. Motion by Scott, seconded by Weiers to adjourn the public hearing at 7:09 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

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

- A) E.D.A. Report – Evans indicated there was a roundtable invite from Le Sueur County to discuss economic development with other EDA’s in the county. This event will take place tomorrow August 9th at 3 p.m. at the Justice Center.
- B) P & Z Report - Director Block stated that VSI applied for a Conditional Use Permit for outside storage for their West Sharon property.
- C) Liquor Store Report - Manager Becky Vikla stated that July 2023 sales were \$104,489. July sales in 2022 were \$104,875. Sales were down \$386 from 2022. June gambling proceeds were \$7,072. July recap: 4th of July, Live music by Todd Jindra, new quarter game “Bonus Hole.” August Events: Music by Christian Sohmer, Mike David and the Angels, 75th anniversary party, Le Sueur County Fair.
- D) Police Report – Evans provided the report on the police activities for the month of July.
- E) Public Works Report - Public Works Superintendent Steinborn reported the following:
- Chip seal rocks will be picked up the week of August 13th.
 - The MN Dept. of Health passed our Lead/Copper tap water monitoring tests.
 - Ti-Zack Concrete will begin road and sidewalk repairs at Minnesota St. and Lexington Ave. the week of August 28th for the estimated cost of \$14,890.
 - A level monitor was purchased for \$7,000 to go inside the manhole at the corner of Cordova Ave. and Washington St. This will help public works respond in a timely manner if another large rain event were to occur.
 - A League of Minnesota Cities representative completed their investigation and determined that the City of Le Center is not legally responsible for damages caused by the rain event that happened on May 13, 2023.
- F) Pool Report – Pool Manager Dorothy Dinwiddie reported on the pool activities for the month of July: Lessons/passes \$3,625. Daily \$3,144. Concessions \$1,588. Monthly deposits \$11,057. The Le Center Fire Dept. donated daily admission passes to use the pool over a weekend, and the event was well attended. There is still a shortage of lifeguards and scheduling on the weekends can be difficult. Dinwiddie stated that she worked quite a few weekend shifts to cover for lifeguards not able to work.
- G) Le Sueur Co. Commissioner Updates – Dave Preisler indicated that the mill and overlay project has started on Cordova Ave and is expected to be completed by the first part of September. Preisler said the County Board met with MnDOT representatives on their various upcoming road projects. Preisler said Hwy 99 through Le Center is not scheduled for improvements until 2029.
- H) County Fair Board update – Nancy Stauff indicated that a major water line was fixed on the grounds. Cement work was done in the old sheep barn, this will help with cleanup after the fair. The following attractions will be at the County Fair this year: Axe throwing in a portable trailer and can have two people throwing at time. BBQ contest is scheduled for Saturday.

8. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Steffen, seconded by Hintz to approve the Chief of Police Employee Agreement for Mitch Overn. All in favor, motion carried.
- B) 2nd Reading & Approval of Ordinance No. 2023-3 An Interim Ordinance Prohibiting The Sale, Testing, Manufacturing, Cultivating, Growing, Transporting, Delivery, And Distribution Of Cannabis Products In The City Of Le Center until January 1, 2025. Motion by Scott, seconded by Weiers to approve. All in favor, motion carried.
- C) Motion my Scott, seconded by Weiers to approve the summary publication of Interim Ordinance 2023-3. All in favor, motioned carried.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Hintz, seconded by Scott to approve the sale of the 2006 Ford Crown Victoria for \$500 to Kevin Huber. All in favor, motioned carried.
- B) The lease is ending at City owned commercial building located at 200 East Bowler St. The council discussed options for leasing and or selling the property. This topic will be tabled until the budget workshop to discuss all cost associated with the property.
- C) 1st Reading of Ordinance 2023-4 An Ordinance Prohibiting The Use of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) Products in Public Places. Attorney Moran explained to the council that cannabis became legal on August 1, 2023. Moran explained that there was a lot of ambiguity to the bill that legalized cannabis, but the statute allows city to put in local regulations on the use of it in public. This Ordinance would include all THC products including low-potency THC edibles and drinks. It was discussed to strike section “O” from the ordinance as it was a repeat and replace the word “Beach” for the “Pool” in section “H.”
- D) Motion by Scott, seconded by Weiers to Set a Public Hearing for Ordinance 2023-4 for September 12, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. All in favor, motioned carried.

10. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.

- A) Reminder of the Budget Workshop Meeting on August 22, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Hintz, Seconded by Scott, for Mayor Harmeyer to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.