

**CITY OF LE CENTER
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024 – 7:00 PM
10 W. TYRONE ST. LE CENTER, MN 56057**

*** MINUTES ***

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Mayor Christian Harmeyer, Council Members Antonio Ruiz-Mendez, Dan Steffen, Nathan Hintz, Collin Scott

Absent: None

Staff Present: Deputy Clerk Deb Kopet, Public Works Superintendent Dan Steinborn, Police Chief Mitch Overn, Liquor Store Manager Becky Vikla

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

4. PUBLIC HEARING

A) None

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Scott, seconded by Ruiz-Mendez 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 12, 2024

B) Approval of Claims to be Paid

C) Approve 2024 Liquor & Beer License Renewals

D) Approval of Special Event Permit – Vigilant Guardians VMC Grand Opening April 27, 2024

E) Approval of Special Event Permit – Vigilant Guardians VMC to Host Motorcycle Run on June 29, 2024

F) Approval of Special Event Permit – Farmers Market April 18, 19 and 20, 2024

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

A) None

7. PRESENTATIONS

A) Darian Hunt with House of Insurance presented the annual League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust program. Hunt indicated that the Package Policy which includes property, liability, and auto saw an overall decrease of \$661.00 compared to the prior year. Hunt stated that the Worker's Compensation policy had an increase of \$7,837 compared to the

previous year. A total of 1.5 million in property valuations has been added to the policy this cycle. Motion by Scott, seconded by Ruiz-Mendez to waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability. All in favor, motion carried.

8. OLD BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Steffen, seconded by Hintz to approve Resolution No. 2024H a resolution to approve the relocation of the police department to a city owned building at 200 East Bowler Street. All in favor, motion carried.
- B) Motion by Scott, seconded by Ruiz-Mendez to approve Resolution No. 2024I a Resolution to adopt a new city logo and approval of two logo designs for different applications. All in favor, motion carried.
- C) Motion by Hintz. seconded by Scott to approve Resolution No. 2024J a Resolution to approve the purchase of network services, surveillance system and phone system. All in favor, motion carried.
- D) Harmeyer read the new refuse and recycling procedures. New signage and a surveillance system is set to be installed at the refuse and recycling center in the coming weeks. Motion by Scott, seconded by Hintz to approve the refuse and recycling center procedures. All in favor, motion carried.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Motion by Hintz, seconded by Scott to approve Resolution No. 2024K a Resolution to approve the chip sealing quote by Pearson Bros. All in favor, motion carried.
- B) Motion by Steffen, seconded by Scott to approve Resolution No. 2024L a Resolution supporting retention of city zoning authority. All in favor, motion carried.
- C) Motion by Hintz, seconded by Scott to approve an agreement between the City and Sand Creek EAP to implement an employee assistance program (EAP). All in favor, motion carried.
- D) Motion by Scott, seconded by Steffen to approve the engineer's preliminary cost estimate for Washington St. and Mill Ave. pavement improvements. All in favor, motion carried.

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

- A) P & Z Report – Block indicted no report.
- B) Liquor Store Report - Vikla stated March 2024 sales were \$101,535. March 2023 sales were \$99,071 an increase of \$2,464. February gambling rent was \$6,613. Harmeyer commended Vikla for her involvement with the Fools in the Alley event that took place April 1st. BNG installed a new server so the POS system at the bar should be more reliable.

- C) Police Report – Overn provided the report on the police activities for the month of March. Calls / incidents handled 155, miles patrolled 2018, 9 arrests, call / incidents are down 32% from 2023. With the approval of the police department relocation and networking needs, Overn anticipates that the police station will be ready by June 1st.
- D) Public Works Report - Steinborn reported the following:
- Opening park bathrooms
 - Employee Tony Kortuem received his Class D wastewater operator license.
 - City wide clean up June 15th 8am to Noon
- E) Le Sueur Co. Commissioner Updates – Dave Preisler presented the following:
- White road lines are not going to be repainted this year because of the lack of plowing the roads this winter, estimated savings are between \$200,000 and \$225,000.
 - County made a request for Congressionally Directed Spending for a records management system and broadband. The House just passed 1 million in broadband and \$500,000 in records management. House Rep. Angie Graig has been carrying this bill for the County. Senator Amy Klobuchar recently visited the justice center and talked with staff on the importance of a reliable records management system.
 - The shorter block wall on the east and southeast side of the courthouse grounds will be removed and the dirt graded back and reseeded.
- F) Le Sueur Co. Fair Board – Nancy Stauff presented the following attractions at the County Fair this year:
- Carnival
 - Petting zoo
 - Corn Feed
 - Draft horse show
 - Talent show
 - Rad Zoo
 - Big ideas trailer
 - Rib cook-off
 - Demo derby
 - Tractor truck pull
 - Car show
 - Rodeo
 - Various bands
 - Classic car show

11. OTHER BUSINESS

- A) Council Reports –
- Hintz indicated that Shane Bender the Co. Assessor gave a presentation to the Le Sueur County Officials Association and it was very informative.
 - Scott will be attending the LMC annual conference in Rochester this year.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business; Motion by Hintz, seconded by Scott, for Mayor Harmeyer to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Dan Evans, Administrator