

**City of Long Prairie
Council Meeting
7:00 P.M., Monday, March 4, 2013**

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 4, 2013. Acting Mayor Bob Klick called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Tony Towle, Lilah Gripne, Art Rowan, and Deputy Clerk Deb Blake. Mayor Don Rasmussen was absent.

Council member Gripne motioned Rowan seconded to approve the council minutes of February 19th and the February bills. Motion unanimously carried.

Great River Regional Librarian Nancy Potter reviewed with the council the usage of the library for the year 2012 and shared concerns over the availability of a public bathroom at the library. The council will take a look at the feasibility of having one bathroom designated to library use and one for the business that occupies the other part of the building.

Police Chief Kevin Langer proposed an increase to the current parking ticket fines. The current fines were set more than ten years ago. Kevin is asking to increase the current parking fine from \$10 to \$25 with an additional \$25 penalty if not paid on time. Handicapped parking fines would increase from \$100 to \$200.

Council member Towle motioned Gripne seconded to increase the parking fine from \$10 to \$25 with an additional \$25 penalty for late payments and increase the handicapped parking fine from \$100 to \$200. A public notification will be made when the new parking tickets go into effect. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Rowan motioned Towle seconded to proceed with seal coating areas for 2013 which includes the city streets south of TH 287 and 4th Ave SW. Motion unanimously carried

The council discussed 2 price quotes on a commercial area wide mower with 2 folding side mower attachments:

- Midwest Machinery Company \$38,154.38
- Evergreen Equipment \$38,448.35

The quotes on the mower include the trade in of the city's mower. The city had budgeted \$40,000 for the mower purchase in the 2013 budget.

Council member Rowan motioned Gripne seconded to accept the quote for a new commercial area wide mower and attachments from Midwest Machinery Company at a price of \$38,154.38. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Gripne motioned Rowan seconded to approve change order #2 in the amount of \$9,270.40 for work on the 2010 public improvement project. Roll call: Yes; Towle, Gripne, Rowan, Klick. Motion unanimously carried.

Council member Gripne motioned Rowan seconded to approve final payment to Larson Excavating Contractors in the amount of \$55,315.87 for work on the 2010 public improvement project. Roll call: Yes; Towle, Gripne, Rowan, Klick. Motion unanimously carried.

The council discussed the repairs that are needed for the street sweeper. Council member Rowan stated it would be best to send it in for needed repairs. The estimated cost of the repairs is \$20,000 which is considerably less than the cost of replacing the street sweeper.

Council member Rowan motioned Gripne seconded to send the street sweeper in for repairs. Motion unanimously carried.

Kevin Langer stated the police department had 231 incidents in February. Officers Rodger Lowe and Ryan Hanson have completed a child abuse interview training in Minneapolis.

Jim Kreemer stated Prairie Lakes Coop will pay for propane burn training for the Long Prairie and Browerville fire departments. The training will be conducted by the Alexandria Technical College.

The council discussed the donation of Riverside Park to the city and the possibility of local organizations helping with the project. The DNR will be contacted as to what and how things can be done in the park.

Council member Bob Klick attended an EDA meeting in Browerville. There were approximately 47 people from all over the county including the Initiative Foundation and Region 5.

Lyle Danielson stated the EDA has extended an invitation to the council to attend a meeting and give their input to the EDA.

Council member Rowan stated the city has closed on the property with Ken Thull. The public works department has purchased a snow walker to be used on the bobcat.

Council member Towle motioned Gripne seconded to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Debra Blake
Deputy Clerk

Bob Klick
Acting Mayor