

**City of Long Prairie
Council Meeting
7:00 P.M., Monday, July 1, 2013**

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, July 1, 2013. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Art Rowan, Tony Towle, Lilah Gripne, Bob Klick, and City Administrator/Clerk David Venekamp.

Council member Klick motioned Gripne seconded to approve the council minutes of June 17, 2013. Motion unanimously carried.

The council discussed the response from the city attorney concerning the modification of the city's cigarette ordinance. The attorney, Tim Churchwell, had reviewed the city ordinance and the proposed League of MN Cities ordinance on cigarettes. It was noted that there are a couple of differences between the ordinances; however, there are also state and federal questions as to the definitions and what type of tobacco uses will be considered legal and/or illegal. Tim had recommended that the council wait with changing the ordinance until the state or federal government have come to a consensus on the various types of tobacco related products and their uses.

The city council reviewed a change in the city's personnel policy concerning the definition of city equipment. The definition is to help clarify what is considered city equipment and, therefore, the employee's use of the equipment.

Council member Gripne motioned Klick seconded to approve the addition of the definition of city equipment in the city's personnel policy. Motion unanimously carried.

The council reviewed the wellhead protection newsletter. This is the second newsletter put out by the city under the MN Department of Health Grant. The newsletter informs individuals of possible funding for sealing unused wells. To date, there are several parties who have contacted the Todd County Soil and Water Department concerning the sealing of the wells.

The council discussed wellhead monitoring through the Department of Health. The city will be taking samples of their municipal wells, Lake Charlotte, and a few private wells on a quarterly basis to determine the movement of the water in the groundwater table. The information will be used in the update of the city's Wellhead Protection Plan. It is estimated that the wellhead protection area may shrink in size due to the fact Long Prairie Packing is no longer using city water therefore the city does not have to pump the quantity of water it used to.

City Administrator Venekamp stated the sale of the wastewater treatment ponds to Long Prairie Packing, hopefully, will be completed in July. The disconnection of the outfall line is also anticipated to be done within the month. Since the completion of the wastewater treatment plant, the city has been approached by a couple of the industries for additional capacity within the system. At this time, the city is still trying to bring up the amount of wastewater coming from Long Prairie Packing to the plant design standards.

Police Chief Kevin Langer stated the council had discussed at a previous meeting the possibility of a drug drop-off box in the lobby of city hall. Kevin stated they have a grant which would pay for the box and informational brochures. The Todd County Coalition would pay for disposal of the drugs.

Council member Klick motioned Gripne seconded to allow the placement of the drug drop-off box, which would be purchased under the grant, in the city hall lobby. Motion unanimously carried.

Fire Chief Jim Kreemer stated the department is looking at a new rescue pumper in 2016. The rescue pumper would be a combination of rescue truck and pumper which would eliminate both the city's pumper and rescue truck. Many cities are going to the combination truck in order to eliminate the need for two vehicles.

Police Chief Kevin Langer stated the police department handled 323 incidents in June. One of the things brought up by Kevin and Jim was the need for a standby generator at city hall. In the recent storm, the power was out in the community for approximately 1½ hours. During that time, the city fire department and police department were also without power. The council suggested the city contact the city engineer to look into the possibility of a standby generator system for the city offices.

Council member Klick motioned Gripne seconded to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

David Venekamp
City Administrator/Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor