

**City of Long Prairie
Council Meeting
7:00 P.M., Monday, September 15, 2014**

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, September 15, 2014. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members, Lilah Gripne, Tony Towle, Art Rowan, Bob Klick, and City Administrator/Clerk Brenda Thomes.

Councilor Klick motioned Towle seconded to approve the council minutes of September 2, 2014, and the September bills. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed the financial statements for the Christie House. Council would like to see a financial statement presented from the Christie House for the past year. Administrator Thomes will work with Pat Gray on getting that information to the council for next month.

Council discussed Patrick Buen and his request to allow him to keep three dogs at his residence. Mr. Buen has one medical dog and two trained service dogs. At this time, the city ordinance currently states under city ordinance 12.106 Kennel:

- (1) Definition of a kennel. The keeping of three or more dogs on the same premises, whether owned by the same person or not and for whatever purpose kept, shall constitute a “kennel;” except that a fresh litter of pups may be kept for a period of three months before such keeping shall be deemed to be a “kennel.”
- (2) Kennel as a Nuisance. Because the keeping of three or more dogs on the same premises is subject to great abuse, causing discomfort to person in the area by way of smell, noise, hazard, and general aesthetic depreciation, the keep of three or more dogs on the premises is hereby declared to be a nuisance and no person shall keep or maintain a kennel within the City. Provided, however, that the keeping of three or more dogs on the same premises shall be allowed and grandfathered in under this ordinance for any premises which has three or more dogs as of the effective date of this ordinance. To qualify for this exemption, all dogs on the premises must be licensed within 30 days from the effective date of this ordinance and registered with the City of Long Prairie. If a dog dies, or is moved from the premises, it may not be replaced by another dog unless such replacement would not result in more than two dogs being kept on the premises. This section does not apply to licensed veterinary clinics.

Patrick Buen stated that he just doesn't have any three dogs; he has a medical dog or companion dog for Leah Lambert. They also submitted a letter from Dr. Paul Remark from Essential Behavioral Health in Duluth and as part of her ongoing treatment for mental health concerns; it is recommended that she be allowed to have a companion support animal living with her in her

apartment. Patrick was also looking at another portion of the ordinance under licensing requirements 12.102 (2)

- (d) The licensing provisions of this Subdivision shall not apply to dogs whose owners are non-residents temporarily within the City, nor to dogs brought into the City for the purpose of participating in any dog show, nor shall this provision apply to animals specifically trained for and actually providing assistance to the handicapped or disabled.

That is where Patrick is coming from. He was assuming that he didn't have to have a license for the medical dog and he was going to license his two service dogs. At this point, council tabled this again and sent it to the city attorney for a final opinion. City Administrator/Clerk Thomes will get back to Patrick Buen after the results from our attorney's opinion.

Council discussed the homecoming parade set for October 10, 2014. Kendra Delage presented a map of the parade route and is requesting that the city close 3 blocks of Central Avenue during the homecoming parade from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This is the 100, 200, and 300 blocks of the Avenue. This will be from the War Memorial corner to the east end of the Todd County Museum. The purpose is to clear the streets of vehicles and create a safe environment for the elementary, middle school, high school, and St. Mary's students who will watch the parade along with the general public. The parade will leave Long Prairie/Grey Eagle high school at 2:00 p.m. and is expected to end with children returning to class about 2:45 p.m.

Councilor Rowan motioned Gripne seconded to close Central Avenue for the homecoming parade on October 10, 2014, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. from 4th Street to 1st Street. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed a recommendation from planning and zoning to have McDonalds put up a fence along the property line between them and the property directly to the East.

Councilor Gripne motioned Klick seconded to send a letter to McDonalds recommending that they put up a privacy fence between McDonalds and the property directly to the east. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed a letter received from Attorney Tom Sellnow asking the city to reimburse a property owner for services incurred when a tree fell and broke the power line providing electrical service to their home on August 9, 2014. The service call was a necessity as the property owner was unable to start their internet service due to the power outage. The council requested that we send a letter to attorney Sellnow requesting a copy of the invoice for the services incurred; council will make a decision at that time.

Council discussed a subordination agreement that was submitted by Quicken Loans for property owners Cori Rist. They are looking to refinance their property.

Mayor Rasmussen motioned Towle seconded to approve the subordination agreement submitted by Quicken Loans for property owner Cori Rist. Roll call: Yes; Rasmussen, Towle, Klick. No; Gripne, Rowan. Motion carried.

Council discussed a billing request by Tim Mackey for work on the Frisbee Park by Lake Charlotte. Mr. Mackey requested that the 1st half of his final payment of \$300.00 be paid to him and the remaining \$300.00 be paid next Spring. Mr. Mackey is also asking for additional funds for work that will be done at the Frisbee Park next Spring. Council directed that be sent back to the park board for approval before the council will look at that.

Councilor Gripne motioned seconded by Klick to approve a temporary on-sale liquor license for the American Legion Post 12 for October 19, 2014. Motion unanimously carried.

Councilor Rowan noted Public Works still has an issue at the water treatment plant. Public works has been working with a problem with the backwashing at the plant.

Jim Kramer noted that the ladder truck went to Staples for a funeral. The Long Prairie Fire Department participated in the firefighter funeral up in Staples. The department has four new firefighters that will be going through schooling.

Kevin Langer noted that everything went fine for the Hillig Auction. There were no street issues. Park board met and discussed picnic tables being painted. Lake Charlotte had a good year at the beach and the bike trail has been completed. Stakes have been placed at the Frisbee Park for the lanes.

Councilor Klick noted the financial report for the liquor store has been added to the council packets. The library is still looking for more members. Councilor Klick has been doing some general maintenance at the library.

Councilor Gripne noted the next Planning and Zoning meeting will be on October 14, 2014, at 4:30p.m. The EDA meeting will be meeting on Thursday.

Mayor Rasmussen noted the airport's 5010 inspection went well. We are still allowing people to in to goose hunt to thin out the population at the airport.

Council member Klick motioned Gripne seconded to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Brenda Thomes
City Administrator/Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor