

City of Long Prairie  
Council meeting  
7:00 P.M., Monday, March 2, 2015

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 2, 2015. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Tony Towle, Art Rowan, Devin Hines, Lilah Gripne, and City Administrator/Clerk Brenda Thomes.

**Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to approve the council minutes of February 17, 2015. Motion unanimously carried.**

Unfortunately, Centra Care Health was unable to attend the meeting. Council briefly discussed the Centra Care project and TIF. There will be more discussion at the next council meeting.

Council discussed the filter rehabilitation to the water treatment facility. Bolton & Menk has proposed the removal and replacement of the underdrain, nozzles, and media. The media replacement will include a layer of torpedo sand which does not move during backwash, is significantly larger than the nozzle openings and prevents plugging when the media is reinstalled. This layer is approximately 3 inches thick and completely covers the nozzles.

The cost of the project will be between \$375,000 and \$400,000.

Council discussed a bond improvement with Todd Hagen for this portion of the project and also to look at getting radio reads for our water meters. Todd Hagen will attend an upcoming council meeting with a proposal for the bond project.

**Councilor Rowan motioned Rasmussen seconded to continue with the bonding for the project. Motion unanimously carried.**

**Councilor Towle motioned Rowan seconded to approve an on sale liquor license to Taqueria Chavez. Motion unanimously carried.**

Council discussed a proposal by Sandi Bell on Geocaching. Council agreed to let Sandi proceed with the placement of the Geocaching boxes. Sandi will continue to work with the city and tourism to get this up and running.

**Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by the Minnesota Statutes, Section 466.04 to the extent of the limits of the liability coverage obtained from League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust. Motion unanimously carried.**

The city received a letter from Superintendent Jon Kringen regarding Soldiers Field. Kringen is asking for a follow up on the 99 year lease that the city has with Soldiers Field. The school district received an informal inquiring about selling the property and the district has an interest in investing itself in the asset. The city has the lease for 99 years on the property and the school is asking if the city wanted to terminate the lease and return the control of the property back to the school district. At this time, council felt that it is in the city's best interest to continue carrying the lease on this property until the term of the property's lease of the 99 years. There were several residents in attendance that made

comments that they would enjoy seeing the property stay as a park. They would oppose the city giving up the lease. City Administrator/Clerk Thomes will send a letter to Jon Kringen stating that.

Jim Kreemer said their next fire department meeting will be Wednesday and they will be training. Next Wednesday there will be additional training on pipeline safety at the American Legion.

Police Chief Kevin Langer and City Administrator/Clerk Thomes are working with the Food Shelf to have any parking tickets for the months of April and May be paid with 10 items donated to the Food Shelf in lieu of a monetary fine. More information on this will be presented at the next council meeting.

Councilor Towle stated the liquor store is looking at purchasing shelving for their new displays of liquor that they will be receiving. There is a resident clearing trees at Mosquito Park and the sentence to serve will be getting in next week at the Frisbee Park. Some of the brush will be burned and trees will be cleared and cleaned up on the trails for the Frisbee golf.

Councilor Gripne stated the EDA meeting is this Thursday and Planning and Zoning has rescheduled a meeting for Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> to review Centra Care's TIFF project.

Mayor Rasmussen stated there will be 9 concerts in 2015 for music in the park. Contracts have been sent out this last week. They have received a new brochure for Tourism for the City of Long Prairie. Mayor Rasmussen will be going to a Region 3 meeting for the trails next Friday in Fergus Falls.

City Administrator/Clerk Thomes stated we have received a check of \$15,000 from the Blandin Foundation for the broadband communications engineer proposal.

**Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.**

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Brenda Thomes  
City Administrator/Clerk

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Don Rasmussen  
Mayor