

City of Long Prairie
Council meeting
7:00 P.M., Monday May 4, 2015

The Long Prairie City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 7:00 p.m., Monday, April 20, 2015. Mayor Don Rasmussen called the meeting to order with the following present: Council members Art Rowan, Lilah Gripne, Tony Towle, and City Administrator/Clerk Brenda Thomes. Councilor Devin Hines was absent from the meeting.

Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to approve the council minutes of April 20, 2015. Motion unanimously carried.

Council reviewed the financial statement for the Christie Home. Everything was in very good order.

Councilor Rowan motioned Gripne seconded to accept the financial statement for the Christie Home and to go forward with the \$4,000 donation to the Christie Home. Motion unanimously carried.

Bids for reroofing the Riverside Liquor store will be tabled until the next council meeting. The 2nd bid has not come in yet.

Administrator Thomes requested to attend the 2015 TIF training for development authority. The training will be held in Waite Park on July 8th from 1 pm to 4:30 pm.

Councilor Towle motioned Rowan seconded to approve the 2015 TIF training for development authority for Administrator Thomes to attend. Motion unanimously carried.

Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to approve the appointment by Mayor Rasmussen of Dawn Espe to the Tourism Committee. Motion unanimously carried.

Councilor Gripne motioned Towle seconded to approve an application for a raffle at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel Church on Sunday, September 13, 2015. Motion unanimously carried.

Mayor Rasmussen made note of the great job that public works is doing out at the Frisbee Park; especially new employee, Ryan Twardowski, with the use of the cat out at the Frisbee Park. The Frisbee Park is looking very nice.

Councilor Rowan asked Fire Chief Jim Kreemer for an update from the Fire Department.

Fire Chief Kreemer stated there was a training exercise last Saturday for the fire department, police department, and the ambulance crew. The training went very well. In the last week, while attending to a grass fire, the Kubota had a gasket problems. It was brought in for servicing and will be temporarily out of order. Their next monthly meeting will be this Wednesday. They have three applications for fire fighters to review.

Police Chief Kevin Langer stated they had 331 incidents for the month of April. There were

about 500 people that attended the Cinco de Mayo. It was a very good turnout and Safety Pup was also in attendance. The city had a pumper truck, the squad car, and a couple other fire trucks at Cinco de Mayo for people to tour. The drug take back collected 13.6 pounds of drugs. Sixteen people dropped off items for a total of 246.8 pounds of drugs that were sent back which is fantastic. Chief Langer is working on getting specs to fix the issue with our batteries on the tornado sirens. May 10th – 16th is police week. The Long Prairie Police Department is working with the Pierz Police Department on securing a grant from the National Joint Powers Association. The grant is in the amount of \$76,270.25 for portable signs. Long Prairie will be responsible for 6 signs for Todd County; Chief Eric Klang will be issued 6 signs for Crow Wing County; Chief Naomi Beltz will be issued 6 signs for Wadena County; Chief Wayne Tennis will be issued 6 signs for Cass County; and Chief Eric Hanican will be issued 6 signs for Morrison County. There are also some new grants out for the cops grant. Police Chief Langer will be looking into this.

Councilor Towle stated that there is a lighting concern over at the liquor store. We will be needing to look at upgrading to LED lights and look at the placement of the lights. The city currently rents 3 to 4 lights from MN Power. The city will also need to replace any bulbs if they are out.

Pat Schultz addressed the council on the work he has been doing the last couple of months in Mosquito Park. He has been removing fallen and dead trees in the park and is doing a very nice job. Pat will be working with Dan Spieker putting ribbons around the trees that should be saved in the park.

Councilor Gripne stated they have not had a Planning and Zoning meeting. They are still working on updating the Comp Plan. Lyle Danielson and Lilah Gripne reviewed the 4 maps for the Comp Plan and they thought they looked very well. No changes need to be made to the maps.

Mayor Rasmussen stated that the airport is still moving forward with work on the 500 ft. extension. All acts are booked for the Thursday night concert series. Donations are down from last year. Tourism is excited to be working with the Lake Osakis Resort Association on their tourism book. This is a 50/50 split. Mayor Rasmussen stated that he is working on the section of transportation for the Comp Plan and there is about 97,510 trucks that have a destination of Long Prairie that travel through the city yearly. Specifically, 130 trucks travel to Long Prairie Packing Plant a day and 110 to Central Bi Products.

Administrator Thomes wanted to know how long the council will need to decide if they want to purchase the armory building after they receive their appraisal from the Army Corp of Engineers. Council stated they would only need about 30 days.

The trail meeting will be this Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. to discuss the Jacob Brower Trail.

Councilor Towle motioned Gripne seconded to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Brenda Thomes
City Administrator/Clerk

Don Rasmussen
Mayor