

City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., Monday October 2nd, 2023
City Council Meeting Held in Person & Via-Teleconference

The Long Prairie City Council met in person and by phone at City Hall, 7:00 pm, on Monday October 2nd, 2023. Mayor Jodi Dixon called the meeting to order with the following present by phone or at City Hall: Council members, Lilah Gripne, Clint Krueger, David Wright, and City Administrator Ted Gray. Council member Kreemer was absent. Others present Police Chief Ryan Hanson, Kent Louwagie, Fire Chief Dan Laumeyer, Amanda Hinson, Officer Trevor Larson, Officer Melissa Morazan, Jennifer Stemintz, Marie Baron, Darla John, John Chase, Crystal Fritzler, Kevin Klimek, Tad Erickson, Candice Zimmerman, Joseph and Linda Bless.

Council member Wright motioned Kreemer seconded to approve the consent agenda:

- (a) Approve Agenda for October 2nd, 2023, with the addition of new business item number 6: Resolution approving sale of land.**
- (b) Approve Council Meeting Minutes from September 18th, 2023.**
- (c) Approve Donation Resolution 23-10-02-21.**

Motion carried unanimously.

(Public Comment)

Amanda Hinson addressed the City Council regarding the agenda not being posted on the City's website for tonight's meeting.

Tanja Levin addressed the City Council with questions regarding the proposed apartment building for the industrial park and the process for consideration of this building. Administrator Gray explained the process in reviewing the conditional use permit request process. Tanja also expressed concerns about the effect this apartment could have on the community.

Kevin Klimek addressed the City Council regarding the proposed apartment building. Kevin cited claims related to the Viking hotel and other issues, along with strong opposition against the development.

Bob Kunz addressed the City Council regarding the proposed apartments and what can be built in the industrial park. Administrator Gray explained the reasoning for consideration of this development. Bob commented on why his proposal to build a house / carwash in the industrial park was not considered.

(Council Reports)

Public Works: Clint Krueger presented the council with the Public Works report. The daily water/wastewater rounds and samples are going fine. Public works have been flushing and repairing hydrants, winterizing sprinklers and ball field bathrooms, and continue sweeping streets. In the next few weeks, we will finish the hydrants, winterize the lake bathrooms, and continue picking leaves, and sweeping.

Clint also reported on the upcoming brush, leaves, and grass clean up day.

Public Safety: Council member Wright reported on the Police and Fire Departments. The Police Department has had 117 calls over the last 2 weeks. The department participated in the homecoming parade. Officer Morazan and Officer Harden have started their training. Officer Gothier is attending DARE training the week of October 2nd through October 6th.

The department is selling Pink Patches for breast cancer awareness month. They are available at City Hall for purchase.

Council member Wright motioned Dixon seconded to approve the sale of the Pink Patches. Motion carried unanimously.

For the Fire Department October 8th through the 14th is Fire Protection week. The department will be working on replacing/rebuilding pumps for unit 140 and 148. Wednesday October 4th will be chain saw training with trainer from the Stihl Corporation. The department participated in the homecoming parades. There will be an upcoming practice house fire. The house has been prepared and the department is currently waiting for DNR approval.

EDA: Council member Wright reported on the EDA meeting. There was an update provided for Rick Utech regarding Childcare. A group toured the newly built pod system in Stevens County (Morris Minnesota). They also discussed a date and time for a Todd County Day Care providers appreciation dinner. Council member Wright provided an update on the disbursement of the downtown revitalization funds. The manufacturers breakfast will be held on Tuesday October 17th.

Liquor Store: Administrator Gray reported that the liquor store is gathering quotes to update the cooling system at the liquor store.

Library: Council member Gripne reported on Library activities. The library had good results from the library card sign up campaign in the month of September.

Community: Mayor Dixon gave another reminder of the city wide clean up day. The senior center had a good day selling brats and hot dogs at Coborn's earlier on October 2nd.

Kent Louwagie from Bolton and Menk provided the council with a road project update. The city is continuing to work through the pavement issues from last year. The contractor is continuing to prepare 1st Ave SW and 1st Ave S and the alley way for tarring. Riverside is complete with all infrastructure and pavement, except for a few driveways and aprons. Commerce Road is awaiting a final layer of tar. Kent fielding a question from Darla John regarding grass seeding.

(New Business)

Council member Wright motioned Gripne seconded to approve Pay Application #14 for CSAH 56 & CSAH 38 Road Project in the amount of \$362,094.15 payable to C&L Excavating Inc. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Dixon motioned Krueger seconded to approve the Bruan Intertec Invoice in the amount of \$9,891.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Gray presented a memo to the City Council regarding a proposed increase of payment to the Chamber of Commerce for conducting tourist activities. The increase would total \$5,500 to assist with advertising, marketing, and other general expenses for activities such as Concerts in the Park, Prairie Days, and the Arts and Craft Show.

Mayor Dixon motioned Krueger seconded to approve the increase from the tourism fund to the Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$5,500. Motion carried unanimously.

Tad Erickson and Candace Zimmerman presented to the City Council the proposal to update the City's Comprehensive Plan. The council had reviewed request at a prior work session held on September 25th. Tad and Candace reviewed the proposal and provided a brief overview of what Comprehensive Plan is and how the process/timeline would work to complete this update. Candace also presented additional items within the Comprehensive Plan related energy and environmental updates.

Council member Wright motioned Dixon seconded to approve the Comprehensive Plan Update Proposal in the amount of \$14,085. Motion carried unanimously.

The council reviewed a cigarette license requested by the Red Lounge LLC. The council expressed concerns related to business's handling of other licenses.

Mayor Dixon motioned Gripne seconded to deny the cigarette license requested by the Red Lounge LLC. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Gray presented a resolution regarding the sale of property to Central Bi Products. The City Council approved this sale earlier that year, but a formal resolution was needed to move forward with the sale of this property.

Council member Gripne motioned Dixon seconded to approve resolution 23-10-02-22 authoring the sale of real property to Central Bi Products as described as Lot 1, Block 1, Central Bi-Products Ponds. Motion carried unanimously.

**CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE RESOLUTION NO. 23-10-02-22
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, The City of Long Prairie (hereinafter "City") desires to sell certain real property located within its wastewater ponds property to Farmers Union Industries, LLC, said property being described as:

Lot 1, Block 1, Central Bi-Products Ponds

WHEREAS, the City is authorized by Minn. Stat. Section 412.211 to sell the real property; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has authorized a Purchase Agreement for the sale of said real property.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City:

- 1. The sale price for the property is approved at \$30,000.00. Buyer shall pay for all closing costs pursuant to the purchase agreement.**
- 2. The Mayor and City Administrator are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to complete the closing for the sale of said real property in accordance with the Purchase Agreement executed by the City and for the amount set forth herein.**
- 3. That such property is no longer usable or needed to carry out the governmental purpose for which it was originally acquired, constructed, or bettered.**

ADOPTED by the City on this _____ day of _____, 2023.

CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE

Jodi Dixon, Mayor

Ted Gray, City Administrator

There being no further business, motioned by Wright seconded by Gripne to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Ted Gray, City Administrator

Jodi Dixon, Mayor