

City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., Monday March 6th, 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 March 6th, 2023, Mayor Dixon called the meeting to order with the following present by phone or at City Hall: Council members, Jim Kreemer, Lilah Gripne, David Wright, Clint Krueger, and City Administrator Ted Gray. Others present Fire Chief Dan Laumeier, Police Chief Ryan Hanson, Kent Louwagie, Pete Nelson, Otis Ostendorf, and Officer Trevor Larson.

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

- (a) Approve Agenda for March 6th, 2023.**
- (b) Approve Council Meeting Minutes from February 21st, 2023.**
- (c) Approve Donation Resolution 23-03-06-07.**

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution #23-03-06-05
RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING DONATIONS

WHEREAS, the City of Long Prairie has received the following donations during the month(s) of February for the following purposes:

Anonymous Donor	\$30.00	Outdoor Skating Rink
Anonymous Donor	\$42.00	Outdoor Skating Rink

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF LONG PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA THAT: The City Council of the City of Long Prairie acknowledges and accepts the donations received the month of February.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The City Council of the City of Long Prairie expresses its thanks and appreciation for the donations to all Donor(s) listed.

Adopted this 6th day of March 2023 by the City Council of the City of Long Prairie.

ATTEST:

Theodore Gray
City Administrator/Clerk

Jodi Dixon
Mayor

(Administrative Hearing)

City Administrator Gray presented a request for a postponement of the hearing for consideration of administrative penalty for liquor license violation. Administrator Gray spoke to the representative for the Red Lounge who had requested a postponement to review the incident reports. From discussion with the representative, they had only been informed of the notice a day prior and had not had a chance to review the violation.

Mayor Dixon motioned Kreemer seconded to approve the postponement of hearing until the March 20th council meeting. Yes Votes: Kreemer, Gripne, Krueger, Dixon, No Votes: Wright.

(Public Comments)

Council member Kreemer expressed concerns regarding a vehicle that had been located on 1st Ave SE near Prairie View Manor. The vehicle posed a hazard to traffic during the most recent snow events due to way it was parked in the street. The question was raised on why the vehicle had not been towed or reported by either Police or Public Works during that time.

(Council Reports)

Public Works: Council member Krueger reported on the Public Works and Parks. The daily water, wastewater rounds and samples are going fine. Public works has been busy with snow removal and equipment maintenance. The playground equipment has been delivered and is in storage. In the next few weeks, they will continue to plow and remove snow as needed. They will also be patching holes as soon as weather permits.

Public Safety: Council member Wright reported on the Police and Fire Departments. Officer Rakow's last day would be March 12th. The ads for the new officer position have been posted. The transition to the new Pro Suite Software is continuing and will be going live near the end of March. The Fire Department would like to thank everyone who participated and sponsored the Prairie Plunge. It was a huge success and will hopefully be continued next year! On March 25th and April 4th, the department will be participating in Fire Truck Drivers Training.

EDA: Council member Wright reported on the EDA, the 2nd round of awards recipients for the Downtown Revitalization Project will be released. There might be additional dollars available due to some of the projects not being able to receive funding. If so, applications will be reopened at a later date.

Liquor Store: Council member Kreemer reported on Liquor Store, the council will be reviewing quotes for the flooring update.

Planning & Zoning: Council member Kreemer reported on the Planning and Zoning meeting held on February 13th.

Library & Health/Wellness: Council member Gripne reported on the upcoming Library & Health/Wellness activities. There will be a wellness meeting this Friday, March 10th. The library will be hosting an event on Bird Migration by Stan Tekiela on March 17th at 1:00 pm. For the month of March, the library will be receiving donations for Locally Grown Month in which all proceeds will be donated to purchasing educational materials for children's activities and books. The library received new chairs and table for a meeting room.

Community Concern for Youth and Elders: Mayor Dixon reported on the Senior Center's pie social which will be held on Thursday March 9th, at 1:00 pm. On Thursday March 16th the Senior Center will be hosting an Irish themed lunch at noon. Mayor Dixon would like to thank MN Fresh for donating the vegetables for this lunch. Mayor Dixon reported on the League of

Minnesota Cities Elected Officials training that was held in Alexandria and reported on her discussions with MN Fresh on compost sites for the City of Long Prairie.

(New Business)

The City Council discussed a request to increase the maximum response time of five-minutes to ten-minutes for volunteer fire fighters with Fire Department members Otis Ostendorf, Pete Nelson, and Fire Chief Dan Laumeyer. The overall goal would be for the Fire Department to have 24 total volunteers, the department is currently at 20. The request could lead to growth in membership for the Fire Department for residents who reside outside of the five-minute response time. Through the discussion the council expressed concerns with the possibility of a majority of Fire Departments members being outside of a five-minute response time, as well as the hiring and selection process of members who are outside of the five-minute response time. It was requested that Administrator Gray work with Fire Chief Laumeyer on additional language regarding the response time, which would be brought back to the City Council for review at the March 20th meeting.

Council member Gripne motioned Dixon seconded to approve Pay Request #9 for in the amount of \$73,599.82 to C&L Excavating. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Dixon motioned Gripne seconded to approve the Braun Intertec Invoice in the amount of \$1,065.00 for material testing related to the City Main Lift Station project. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Dixon motioned Kreemer seconded to approve the quote from Arnquist Carpets Plus Color Tile in the amount of \$18,761.70 for the floor replacement at the Riverside Liquor Store. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Dixon motioned Wright seconded to approve the 3.2% Liquor License Sales for Family Dollar INC located at 800 Commerce Road. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, motion by Dixon seconded by Kreemer to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Ted Gray, City Administrator

Jodi Dixon, Mayor