

City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., Monday April 3rd, 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 April 3rd, 2023, Mayor Dixon called the meeting to order with the following present by phone or at City Hall: Council members, Lilah Gripne, David Wright, Clint Krueger, and City Administrator Ted Gray. Council member Jim Kreemer was absent. Others present Fire Chief Dan Laumeyer, Police Chief Ryan Hanson, Officer Rodger Lowe, Luan Brunkhorst, Kent Louwagie, Mark Bless, and Bob Klick.

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

- (a) Approve Agenda for April 3rd, 2023. With the approval to postpone to April 17th new business item 4: Review Planning & Zoning's Recommendations for Conditional Use Permit and Variance Request for the Hart Mall**
- (b) Approve Council Meeting Minutes from March 20th, 2023.**
- (c) Approve Special Council Meeting Minutes from March 29th, 2023.**

Motion carried unanimously.

(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 have been busy with patching holes, sweeping streets, and plowing snow. In the next few weeks, we will continue to plow/remove snow as needed, we will also be patching holes and sweeping streets. The chlorine contact chamber at the wastewater treatment plant has been cleaned. They are starting to chlorinate and take fecal samples on the effluent.

Public Safety: Council member Wright reported on the Police and Fire Departments. Another group of Firefighters Department be attending Fire Apparatus Drivers Training in St. Cloud. On April 15th at the American Legion the Fire Department will be holding a Firemen's Dance. The 2023 Police Squad is at City Hall and is waiting to be retrofitted with the equipment from the 2016 Police Squad. The final DARE graduation of 33 students took place at St. Mary's on March 29th.

Liquor Store: Liquor Store Manager Pam Koska will be attending the MMBA Annual Conference at Arrowwood on April 29th through May 2nd.

Library & Health/Wellness: Council member Gripne reported on the upcoming Library & Health/Wellness activities. The library will be hosing Lyndon Johnson, Agate Man on April 29th from 10:00 am to 12:00 p.m.

Administrator Gary reported on the ongoing audit document collection and gave a brief overview of the grant that was applied for at Riverside Park.

(New Business)

Luan Brunkhorst and Mark Bless presented to the council a request to host Prairie Days starting on June 9th through the June 11th. Downtown would be closed on Saturday June 10th from 9:00 am to midnight. There will be various activities and music similar to previous years, with the music ending at 11:00 pm. Mr. Bless discussed a new parade route which start near the Nursing Home on 1st Ave and then access Central Ave on 6th ST NE and continue West on Central Ave. This will provide a safer route for the parade as it will not need to cross a State Highway.

Mayor Dixon motioned Wright seconded to approve the closing of Central Ave on Saturday June 10th from 9:00 am to Midnight for Prairie Days. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Dixon motioned Gripne seconded to approve the new Parade Route for Prairie Days. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Gripne motioned Dixon seconded to approve the hiring of Katie Wild at \$27.67, Step 2 in the City's Wage Scale with a 6-month probationary period, pending the approval of a physical and psychological evaluation. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Gripne motioned Dixon seconded to approve the hiring of Justin Gothier at \$26.46, Step 1 in the City's Wage Scale with a 6-month probationary period, pending the approval of a physical and psychological evaluation. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Gripne motioned Wright seconded to approve the hiring of Nicholas Miller to the Long Prairie Volunteer Fire Department, pending the approval of a physical. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Gripne motioned Dixon seconded to approve Jane Olson's Oath to the office of Commissioner of the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of the Long Prairie. Motion carried unanimously.

Kent Louwagie presented Change Order #4 for the CSAH 38 and CSAH 56 road projects. The change order is to add work to the areas of CSAH 38 and Commerce Road. In the area of CSAH 38, an extension of the storm sewer outlet North of County 38 at the edge of town is needed and the addition of two storm sewer inlets at the intersection of 3rd Ave SW and 6th ST SW. On Commerce Road, there are additional culverts needed and the addition of a reclaiming and overlay of Commerce Road from 8th Ave SW to the entrance of MN National and Dairy Queen, which is a part of Commerce Road. These additions will be in the amount of \$150,017.75. At this time the current project is running under budget, of an estimated \$250,000.

Council member Gripne motioned Dixon seconded to approve change order #4 in the amount of \$150,017.75. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, motioned by Gripne seconded by Wright to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Ted Gray, City Administrator

Jodi Dixon, Mayor