

City of Long Prairie
7:00 P.M., Tuesday June 20th, 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 Tuesday June 20th, 2023. Mayor Dixon called the meeting to order with the following present by phone or at City Hall: Council members, David Wright, Jim Kreemer, Lilah Gripne and City Administrator Ted Gray. Council member Clint Kreuger was absent. Others present Police Chief Ryan Hanson, Kent Louwagie, Officer Trevor Larson, Officer Kellen Pulliam, Officer Joseph Rivera, Daiv Freeman, Amanda Hinson, Steve Hinson, Dale Bednarek, Tom Beseman, Jodi Bebault, Dan Bebault, Rick Hogrefe, Kirk Olson, Jeremy Weber, and Jeff Lucas.

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

- (a) Approve Agenda for June 20th, 2023 with the addition of New Business Item number 6: Mobile Food Unit Permit for Taqueria Bravo**
- (b) Approve Council Meeting Minutes from June 5th, 2023 with the correction to the dates on the Todd Co. Ag Society Liquor Permit.**
- (c) Approved Bills from May to June 16th, 2023**

Motion carried unanimously.

(Old Business)

The council reviewed the conditional use permit request for 221 Central Ave (Hart Mall). Discussion was had regarding the concerns of the structure of the building and a structural engineers report. After discussion:

Council member Wright motioned Dixon seconded to approve the Conditional Use Permit for 221 Central Ave (Hart Mall) with the following conditions: All required permits are applied for and approved. Electrical inspection be completed within 30 days. All other inspections are completed, including the water heater and furnace, within 30 days. The back staircase/fire escape is replaced within 6 months. A structural engineers report be reviewed by the City of Long Prairie's Building Inspector within 30-Days. Motion carried unanimously.

The council reviewed a request from Farmers Union (Central Bi Products) to rezone land from A-O Agricultural to I-3 Heavy Industrial. Due to concerns raised during the public hearing regarding the re-zoning of this property, a Memorandum of Understanding was presented to the council for approval of the re-zoning. The MOU would require that a public hearing be held to review any new construction on the property that is re-zoned.

Council member Kreemer motioned Wright seconded to approve the rezoning request with the Memorandum of Understanding. Motion carried unanimously.

(Public Comment)

Jodi Bebault addressed the council regarding ordinance violations for garbage, not mowing, vehicles parked in yards and lawns.

Steven Hinson addressed the council regarding noise and music coming from R-Way Trailers.

(Council Reports)

Public Works: Administrator Gray presented the council the Public Works report. Public works has been busy removing playground equipment, mowing, painting, and flushing hydrants. This week we will continue flushing hydrants, painting, patching holes, and sweeping.

Public Safety: Council member Wright reported on the Police and Fire Departments. The Fire Department participated in the Browerville Days Parade and will be participating in the Osakis Parade. The Fire Department is looking through specifications for the construction of the new Rescue Truck. The Police Department responded to 166 calls over the last two weeks. Prairie Days went well without any issues. Officer Justin Gothier has completed his FTO training. Officer Kellen Pulliam will be leaving the department to work for Todd County. The new 2023 Police Squad is not in operation.

EDA: Council member Wright reported on EDA activities. The EDA will be meeting on Thursday to review 19 applications for the Downtown Revitalization Grant Funds.

Planning and Zoning: Council member Kreemer reported on the Planning and Zoning meeting that occurred earlier today on June 5th.

Library: Council member Gripne reported on the upcoming library events. The library will be hosting a Dementia support group on the fourth Tuesday of the month starting on June 27th at 2:00 pm.

Community: Mayor Dixon reported the Aging Expo that was attended by members of the TCCA. Mayor Dixon presented to the council an update on the TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release) program.

Administration: Administrator Gray reported on the upcoming presentation to the commission for further consideration of funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) for Riverside Park. Gray reviewed the upcoming playground installation. Gray discussed the calling of a work session for next Thursday June 29th at 5:30 pm to discuss road project updates and potential of reopening Union Negotiations with the police department.

Kent Louwagie from Bolton and Menk provided the council with a road project update. The trees were being planted this week on the 2nd and 3rd Ave portions of the road project. They have completed the underground utilities along the North Half Riverside Drive. They will be milling off the rest of Riverside Drive to prepare the South Half for utilities.

(New Business)

Council member Wright motioned Gripne seconded to approve quote from GameTime of \$52,793.89 to install ADA complaint materials and boarders for the new playgrounds. Motion carried unanimously.

The City Council tabled the temporary liquor license presented by the Long Prairie Lions to confirm what event it was for.

The council discussed the creation of a full-time administrative assistant for the Long Prairie Police Department.

Mayor Dixon motioned Wright seconded to approve the creation of this position. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Gray presented to the council updated ordinance language regarding the mowing and maintaining of yards. The council requested additional information regarding “no mow May” and other pollinator related questions.

Administrartor Gray presented to the council ordinance findings for R-Way Manufacturing. Administrartor Gray explained the ordinance violations for parking, noise, and smell. Gray also presented to the council, that based on the research completed, R-Way would need to apply for a conditional use permit to follow city ordinances. The council had a discussion regarding these violations, not additional action was taken.

Council member Gripne motioned Kreemer seconded to approve the Mobile Food Unit license for Taqueria Bravo. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, motioned by Gripne seconded by Kreemer to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Ted Gray, City Administrator

Jodi Dixon, Mayor