

**CITY OF LE CENTER  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2019 - 7:00 PM**

**\*\* MINUTES \*\***

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Present: Mayor Fredrickson, C. Harmeyer, C. Scott, J. Weiers, N. Hintz  
Absent: None

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A) Motion by Weiers, Seconded by Hintz, Minutes from July 9, 2019  
Regular Council Meeting be approved. Approved unanimously.

B) Council changes to Agenda: None

**III. APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID**

Council reviewed the bills to be paid. Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Weiers,  
to pay the bills listed and due. Approved unanimously.

**IV. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, COMMITTEES, & DEPARTMENTS**

A) E.D.A. Report

Director Collins reported: EDA Board met on August 6 and discussed a request from Maud Borup to possibly purchase 2-3 acres of the city-owned farmland abutting their current business property. Without a formal written request from Maud, the EDA Board simply came up with some pricing for that acreage to give Maud. Board also discussed possibly having that 10 acres soil bore tested for future sales. EDA Board also discussed possible request from County to purchase 1-2 of the Kubes tax forfeited lots across from the new Justice Center. Without a formal written request from the County; the Board simply came up with some prices for when that discussion comes up. Collins reported that the berm on these Kubes lots would be getting some much needed fill and black dirt put towards it soon as the contractor replaces our missing pond diggings which were supposed to be placed there.

B) P & Z Report

Director Corey Block reported: there will be a Sept. meeting to discuss the proposed new building being considered by Maud Borup Company. P & Z will have to approve the building materials Maud may be requesting to use.

## C) Municipal Liquor Store

Manager Brad Collins gave the July report: Sales were \$81,665: down \$900 from June, but up \$680 from July 2018. YTD Rev. up by \$4,260 & YTD Exp. up by \$19,300. July GP margin = 36.06%. Food GP = 30.93%. August events = Fair and Sept. 6, 7, 8 = fire dept. fund raiser with bean bag tourney and Sat. live band. Motion by Scott, Seconded by Harmeyer, to approve the Special Event Permit for the Sept. 6, 7, 8 fire events at the Muni. Approved unanimously.

- 1) Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Scott, to approve the recommendation of the hiring committee to hire Tiffany A. Thompson as the new F/T Head Bartender to fill that recent vacancy. Ms. Thompson has been a P.T. bartender at the Muni for the past year and will be hired at \$12.50 starting wage. Approved unanimously.

## D) Police Department

Police Chief Pfarr reported on the police activities for month of July: 212 calls @ 2,666 miles patrolled/ total calls up 9%, total miles up 8% for the year. Pfarr also reported ready for the Fair: parking signs out/ newly painted yellow curbs/ staff is ready for the weekend. Car computer is limping to the new car arrival.

## E) Water, Sewer, Streets, Parks Departments

Public Works Supt. Curt Roemhildt reported:

- Parks- painted old bathroom at South Park for Fair/ painted North Park pavilion. Only games left at ballfields are the Sr. Men's Baseball and co-ed softball tourney.
- Water- Bolton & Menk will do an inspection of our water tower/ See water leak page explanation by project/ water leak into the building at VSI Company: dug & found that CenterPoint Energy had drilled a gas line right thru their sewer; we sent CenterPoint a bill for our repair costs. (not paid yet) The big water leak was traced back to the meters in the WTP not reading correctly; replacing the meters.
- Street- sealcoating will start next week on east side of town. (2004 St. Project)
- Refuse- tons hauled for garbage and recycling materials are both way up.
- Sewer- jetting sewers @ ¼ of the town per year on a schedule/ WWTP inspected by the MPCA = only "documentation" of our testing records needs correcting.
- Lots of tree trimming to do yet; never ending.

## F) Bolton &amp; Menk Engineering

- 1) Engineer Joel Hawbaker reported on the 2020 street project: field survey work will be done in the next week or two.
- 2) 2019 sealcoating: stockpiling rock behind fire hall/ start sealcoating next week.

- 3) County Justice Center storm water pond project: explanation of punchlist letter. Berm materials will be brought in by the project contractor and placed on berm.
- 4) Lexington Avenue: final warranty work walk-thru has been completed and list sent off to the contractor for final warranty work to be done.

G) Pool – Dorothy D.

Ms. Dinwiddie gave the July report & explanation: \$37,209 taken in so far for lessons & swimming passes/ haven't billed New Prague yet for their days spent at our pool/ last two days of the pool being open/ more private parties this year; and even more for next year/ baby pool paint peeled badly; should be sandblasted and repainted; a total sandblast & repaint of entire pool is preferred/ back doors really need some type of replacement; possibly roll-ups? Would like to keep the double-door effect. Try a new roll-up door replacement on the chemical room door and see how that works. DD= can we try to set aside some money every year in the budget to try to keep ahead of the problems? PTA pool event went very well.

H) County Fair- Nancy Stauff

Two days until the Fair! It's starting to look like a Fair up there: vendors and animals are showing up/ 4H Agent Cassi Story is leaving her post after the Fair/ WWI memorabilia booth is coming together/ local newspaper printed all last year's info in the paper incorrectly, causing some problems. Thank You to city staff for painting the old bathrooms at the fairgrounds; they are heavily used during the Fair.

## V. PUBLIC FORUM

There were several comments from the general public residents regarding mosquito spraying:

Laura LaVelle: there is a mosquito problem in town/ the whole summer is lost because no one can go outside/ many people around town would gladly pay \$15 per household X 1000 households to help pay for the spraying. Note: she had provided an estimate to city office staff that showed a spraying program would cost approx. \$15,000.00.

Ann Sunderman: every town around here sprays for mosquitos/ you can't go outside, you can't mow the lawn/ mosquitoes spread many diseases such as West Nile disease.

? unknown: daycare providers can't take their kids outside to play/ don't just spray the parks, spray the entire town; don't count on people to spray their own yards because all people won't do it.

Mayor: there are special things we have to do to make this happen; we can't just add this onto the water bill. We must do some research to find the best, legal way to accomplish this safely for pets and kids too.

The council discussed the issue pro's and con's with each other and the residents. Atty Moran weighed in on some of the possible legalities.

Mayor: the council will look into this in conjunction with the budgeting process; along with the legal and health issues. He thanked the residents for attending the city council meeting to share their concerns; instead of just going onto social media and complaining about the city.

Councilman Scott: thank you to the residents who came to the meeting to cordially discuss this with the city council.

There were no other petitions, requests, or communications from the general public.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

- A) Administrator Collins explained the requirement for a Complete Count Committee list to be approved for the 2020 Census. Motion by Harmeyer, Seconded by Weiers, to approve the committee roster. Approved unanimously.
- B) Mayor Fredrickson reminded the council of the August 21 @ 6:00 pm budget workshop meeting for the council and dept. heads.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A) Motion by Hintz, Seconded by Weiers, to approve the 2019 City/ County Municipal Maintenance Agreement for \$14,193.98. Approved unanimously.
- B) Mayor Fredrickson noted the TCU School 4 healthy Youth & Families event to be held August 22 in Montgomery. Council not interested in hosting a booth at this event.

## **VIII. ADMINISTRATION & MISC.**

- A) Mayor Fredrickson announced the next Le Sueur County Officials Meeting for August 28 in New Prague; but suggested the next meeting is not until Sept. (correct)

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business; Motion by Scott, Seconded by Harmeyer, for Mayor Fredrickson to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously. 8:10 PM.