

MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA
FEBRUARY 26, 2024

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the second meeting of the City Council of the City of La Crescent for the month of February was called to order by Mayor Mike Poellinger at 5:00 PM in the La Crescent Community Building, La Crescent, Minnesota, on Monday, February 26, 2024.

Upon a roll call taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following members were present: Members Ryan Hutchinson, Cherryl Jostad, Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner, Dale Williams, and Mayor Mike Poellinger. Members absent: None. Also present were, City Attorney Skip Wieser, City Administrator Bill Waller, and City Clerk Angie Boettcher.

ITEM 1 – CONSENT AGENDA

At this time, the Mayor read the following items to be considered as part of the Consent Agenda for this regular meeting:

- 1.1 MINUTES – FEBRUARY 12, 2024
- 1.2 BILLS PAYABLE THROUGH – FEBRUARY 23, 2024
- 1.3

At the conclusion of the reading of the Consent Agenda, Mayor Poellinger asked if the Council wished to have any of the items removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Member Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Member O'Donnell-Ebner, as follows:

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Ryan Hutchinson	Yes
Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.1 – NO WAKE ZONE REVIEW

Mayor Poellinger gave City Council an update that he will be attending the County Board Meeting on February 27, 2024 regarding the No-Wake Zone.

ITEM 3.2 – PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES – 2/5/2024 RECOMMENDATION FOR LOCATION OF DOG PARK

City residents Sarah DeLacy and Gary Beardmore were in attendance. Ms. DeLacy addressed City Council regarding the location of the dog park.

City Administrator Bill Waller reviewed with City Council the Park and Recreation Commission's February 5, 2024 minutes. The Commission discussed the proposed dog park project and reviewed the draft of a site plan for a dog park located adjacent to Chestnut Street. The Park and Recreation Commission is recommending that City Council approve the dog park be located at the Chestnut Street Site. Following discussion, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member O’Donnell-Ebner as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE LOCATION OF THE CITY DOG PARK AT THE CHESTNUT STREET LOCATION WITH A FINAL PLAN BEING BROUGHT BACK TO THE MARCH 11, 2024 CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Ryan Hutchinson	Yes
Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.3 – LA CRESCENT ANIMAL RESCUE AGREEMENT

Attorney Skip Wieser reviewed with City Council for approval and agreement between the City of La Crescent and the La Crescent Animal Rescue (LAR) with the insertion of a term date beginning February 27, 2024, and authorization for Mayor Poellinger and City Administrator Bill Waller to sign the agreement on behalf of the City. Following discussion, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member O’Donnell-Ebner as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT AND THE LA CRESCENT ANIMAL RESCUE WITH THE INSERTION OF A TERM DATE

BEGINNING FEBRUARY 27, 2024, AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Ryan Hutchinson	Yes
Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.4 – HORSE TRACK MEADOWS NORTH - UPDATE

Attorney Skip Wieser provided City Council with an update on the sale of Horse Track Meadows North. This was informational only, no action required.

ITEM 3.5 – PERSONNEL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

City Council reviewed the following recommendations from the Personnel Committee for approval:

1. That the City Council adopt an earned sick and safe time policy, a copy of which was included with a review of the policy in January 2025. Also included was an informational flyer from the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry that summarized the new legislation. Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Hutchinson as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT EARNED SICK AND SAFE TIME POLICY WITH A POLICY REVIEW IN JANUARY 2025.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Ryan Hutchinson	Yes
Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

2. On March 13, 2024, Roth Clark will have completed his one-year probationary period as a Corporal in the La Crescent Police Department. The Personnel Committee is recommending that effective March 13th, 2024, Mr. Clark’s probationary status be removed, and that he be classified as a Corporal in the La Crescent Police Department. A letter from the Chief of Police regarding the recommendation was included. Following discussion, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member Hutchinson as follows:

MOTION TO REMOVE ROTH CLARK’S PROBATIONARY STATUS AND CLASSIFY MR. CLARK AS A CORPORAL IN THE LA CRESCENT POLICE DEPARTMENT EFFECTIVE MARCH 13TH, 2024.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Ryan Hutchinson	Yes
Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

3. That the City council accept Eric Lambrecht’s resignation from the Fire Department. A letter from the Fire Chief regarding this recommendation was included. Following discussion, Member Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Member O’Donnell-Ebner as follows:

MOTION TO ACCEPT ERIC LAMBRECHT’S RESIGNATION FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Ryan Hutchinson	Yes
Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.6- DONATION RESOLUTION

City Council reviewed a Resolution regarding the acceptance of donations to the City for the month of February. Following review and discussion, Member Jostad introduced the following Resolution and moved its passage and adoption as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 02-24-08

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS MADE TO THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT IN FEBRUARY 2024

WHEREAS, the following donations were made to the City of La Crescent in the month of February 2024:

- 1. AcenTek wishes to donate \$100.00 to the La Crescent Fire Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of La Crescent hereby accepts the donations stated above.

ADOPTED this 26th Day of February 2024.

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Hutchinson and upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Ryan Hutchinson	Yes
Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

6. STAFF CORRESPONDENCE/COMMITTEE UPDATES

6.1 GREENSTEP MEETING MINUTES – 2/7/2024

City Council reviewed the February 7, 2024 GreenStep meeting minutes.

6.2 2023 POLICE DEPARTMENT YEAR-END REPORT

City Council reviewed the Police Department’s year-end report.

6.2 EXPLORE LA CROSSE

City Council reviewed the February 20, 2024 Explore La Crosse Board meeting agenda and the January 16, 2024 meeting minutes.

8. HOUSTON COUNTY

Houston County Commissioner Dewey Severson was in attendance and provided an update.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Member Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Member Williams to adjourn the meeting. Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Ryan Hutchinson	Yes
Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Teresa O’Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried and the meeting duly adjourned at 5:52 P.M.

APPROVAL DATE: March 11, 2024.

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator