

MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA
JULY 22, 2013

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the second meeting of the City Council of the City of La Crescent for the month of July was called to order by Mayor Mike Poellinger at 5:30 PM in the La Crescent City Hall, La Crescent, Minnesota, on Monday, July 22, 2013, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon a roll call taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following members were present: Members Bernie Buehler, John Graf, Greg Husmann, Dale Williams, and Mayor Mike Poellinger. Members absent: None. Also present was City Administrator Bill Waller and City Attorney Skip Wieser.

Mayor Poellinger asked if anyone wished to take action to change the agenda as presented. There were no changes requested.

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 – JULY 8, 2013
- 1.2 BILLS PAYABLE THROUGH JULY 19, 2013

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 Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Husmann, as follows:

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED

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

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graf	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

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

ITEM 3.1 – BEACON VALLEY ROAD STORM WATER

City Administrator Waller gave an overview and Council reviewed information that was presented at the last Council meeting regarding the Beacon Valley Road storm water, along with pictures of the pipe that was removed and correspondence from one of the neighbors. The pipe was removed this past week and it would appear that there are no other pipes that are discharging at or near the property line. Residents of Beacon Valley Road, Doreen Gile and Pat Balacek handed out information regarding damage to their property. Following discussion, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member Buehler as follows:

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE A SUBCOMMITTEE BE FORMED CONSISTING OF CITY ATTORNEY, CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS BERNIE BUEHLER AND JOHN GRAF TO REVIEW THE BEACON VALLEY ROAD STORM WATER ISSUE AND REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL.

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graf	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

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

ITEM 3.2 – PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES – JULY 9, 2013

Council reviewed the minutes from the July 9, 2013 Planning Commission meeting. Planning Commission Chair Smith also reviewed with Council the minutes. It was recommended that the fee for a variance that was tabled at the last planning commission meeting and then withdrawn, be waived and returned to the applicant. The plan was modified such that a variance was not required, and the matter was never formally considered by the Planning Commission. Following discussion, Member Husmann made a motion, seconded by Member Graf as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE WAIVING AND RETURN OF THE VARIANCE APPLICATION FEE TO APPLICANT.

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graf	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

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

ITEM 3.3 – VETERANS PARK PROPERTY REVIEW

Council reviewed information that was presented at past meetings regarding the Veterans Park property and the proposals to demolish the existing house and fill the site. The City received a bid from Wieser Septic & Excavating for \$7,104.00 and from Zenke Incorporated for \$12,295.00. City Administrator Waller and City Attorney Wieser also gave an overview. Dick Wieser submitted an agenda request form to address the option of a new Community Center being located on the property. This proposal would be a non-profit organization with ties to the La Crescent Community Foundation. An update to the City's Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plan was recently completed which included identifying a site suitable to construct a regulation soccer field. This site is the only site in the City's park system that has the space to accommodate a regulation soccer field. It was the consensus of Council to appoint Member Bernie Buehler to sit on the committee regarding the Community Center. Following discussion, Member Graf made a motion, seconded by Member Husmann as follows:

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE BID OF WIESER SEPTIC & EXCAVATING FOR \$7,104.00 TO REMOVE THE BUILDING AT THE VETERANS PARK PROPERTY, AND TO AMEND THE 2013 GENERAL FUND BUDGET TO REFLECT THE ADDITIONAL EXPENSE.

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graf	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

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

ITEM 3.4 – EQUIPMENT CERTIFICATE DEBT SERVICE FUND

Council reviewed a memo from Deb Shimshak, City Finance Director, stating the 2006A GO Equipment Certificates (Fund 321) have been paid off in full leaving a small fund balance of approximately \$400. It was recommended to Council to close this fund out and transfer the remaining balance to the Bonds Paid Up Fund (Fund 300). Following discussion, Member Husmann made a motion, seconded by Member Buehler as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE CLOSING OUT OF 2006A GO EQUIPMENT CERTIFICATES (FUND 321) AND TRANSFERRING THE REMAINING BALANCE TO THE BONDS PAID UP FUND (FUND 300).

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graf	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

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

ITEM 3.5 – AUTHORIZE CELL PHONE

Council reviewed a memo from Chief Todd Nelson of the La Crescent Police Department requesting the authorization for Sergeant Doug Stavenau to have a cell phone allowance in accordance with the guidelines in the city communication policy. Having Sergeant Stavenau carry a cell phone would be beneficial to the city for case investigations, and with coordinating and supervision of officers. Following discussion, Member Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Williams as follows:

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE SERGEANT DOUG STAVENAU OF THE LA CRESCENT POLICE DEPARTMENT TO HAVE A CELL PHONE ALLOWANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GUIDELINES IN THE CITY COMMUNICATION POLICY.

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graf	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes

Mike Poellinger Yes

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

ITEM 3.6 – SERVICE CONTRACT – EMERGENCY GENERATORS

The City’s current 3 year contract with Interstate Power Systems to perform annual inspection, maintenance and service of the City’s two generators is expiring. This contract covers the generator at the wastewater facility and the radium facility. The annual cost is \$2,168. The proposed new agreement reflects a \$19 per year increase over the previous agreement. It was recommended to Council to approve the renewal of this service contract. Following discussion, Member Graf made a motion, seconded by Member Williams as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE SERVICE CONTRACT WITH INTERSTATE POWER SYSTEMS.

Bernie Buehler Yes
John Graf Yes
Greg Husmann Yes
Dale Williams Yes
Mike Poellinger Yes

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

ITEM 3.7 – WAGON WHEEL PROJECT UPDATE

The Wagon Wheel Project has been approved by MnDOT and FHA, and the City has been authorized to solicit bids. Council reviewed a copy of the bid notice with the opening bid date set for August 16 and the bid results being presented at the August 26 City Council meeting. Following discussion, Member Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Husmann as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS OF THE WAGON WHEEL PROJECT AND AUTHORIZE THE ADVERTISEMENT OF BIDS FOR THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

Bernie Buehler Yes
John Graf Yes
Greg Husmann Yes
Dale Williams Yes
Mike Poellinger Yes

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

ITEM 3.8 – PERSONNEL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Personnel Committee recommended to Council to authorize that the position of Utility Maintenance Worker I be advertised regarding the vacancy created by the resignation of Chris Oliver. They also recommended that pursuant to the terms and provisions of the AFSCME contract, the authorization of the

posting of the Utility Maintenance Supervisor position created with the retirement of Mike Albrecht. Following discussion, Member Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Husmann as follows:

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POSITION OF UTILITY MAINTENANCE WORKER I AND THE POSTING OF UTILITY MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR POSITION PURSUANT TO THE TERMS AND PROVISIONS OF THE AFSCME CONTRACT.

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

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graf	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

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

ITEM 3.9 – AUTHORIZE STOP SIGNS

With the South 14th Street improvement project, it was recommended to Council to authorize that the intersection of South 14th Street and Lancer Boulevard be a four way stop. This would require that new stop signs be installed so that vehicles traveling from the east and west on South 14th Street are required to stop at the intersection with Lancer Boulevard. Following discussion, Member Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Husmann as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THAT THE INTERSECTION OF SOUTH 14TH STREET AND LANCER BOULEVARD BE A FOUR WAY STOP AND THAT NEW STOP SIGNS BE INSTALLED SO THAT VEHICLES TRAVELING FROM THE EAST AND WEST ON SOUTH 14TH STREET ARE REQUIRED TO STOP AT THE INTERSECTION WITH LANCER BOULEVARD.

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

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graf	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

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

ITEM 3.10 – LA CRESCENT ANIMAL RESCUE UPDATE

La Crescent Animal Rescue has been working to develop an agreement with La Crescent Township that would allow them to accept dogs and cats from the Township for a fee when there is space available at the facility. It was recommended to authorize City Attorney to prepare this agreement. Following discussion, Member Husmann made a motion, seconded by Member Graf as follows:

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE CITY ATTORNEY TO PREPARE AN AGREEMENT WITH LA CRESCENT TOWNSHIP THAT WOULD ALLOW LA CRESCENT ANIMAL RESCUE TO ACCEPT DOGS AND CATS FROM THE TOWNSHIP FOR A FEE WHEN THERE IS SPACE AVAILABLE AT THE FACILITY.

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

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graf	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

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

ITEM 3.11 – WATER HAULING – NON-CITY PROJECTS

Council reviewed the policy of the City to allow contractors working in the area to access City water for a fee. The demand and use in the past, along with the fees collected, have been very limited. However, with the I-90 project, the demand for water by the contractors has the potential to place a burden on the City's water distribution system. It was recommended to Council to discontinue this policy. Following discussion, Member Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Husmann as follows:

MOTION TO DISCONTINUE THE CITY POLICY OF ALLOWING CONTRACTORS WORKING IN THE AREA TO ACCESS CITY WATER FOR A FEE.

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

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graf	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

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

ITEM 3.12 – LIZFEST REQUEST

Council reviewed a correspondence from Monica Holmen on behalf of LIZFEST requesting the use of Veterans Park for the 3rd Annual LIZFEST. They would like to use the entire park which would include the ball field on the upper level, all of the shelters and available parking space along with several picnic tables and garbage cans. The event would be Saturday, August 9, 2014 with set-up on Friday afternoon by placing a tent. Following discussion, Member Buehler made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE USE OF VETERANS PARK FOR LIZFEST ON AUGUST 9, 2014.

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

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graf	Yes
Greg Husmann	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

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

ITEM 8.1 – CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Chamber of Commerce gave an update on their golf tournament at Pine Creek and steak fry.

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

Bernie Buehler	Yes
John Graf	Yes
Greg Husmann	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 6:40 PM.

APPROVAL DATE: _____

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator