

MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA  
JANUARY 23, 2023

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the second meeting of the City Council of the City of La Crescent for the month of January was called to order by Mayor Mike Poellinger at 5:30 PM in the La Crescent City Hall, La Crescent, Minnesota, on Monday, January 23rd, 2023.

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 Deputy City Clerk Angie Boettcher.

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 – JANUARY 9, 2023
- 1.2 BILLS PAYABLE THROUGH – JANUARY 20, 2023
- 1.3
- 1.4

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. Deputy City Clerk Boettcher made the following requested change to the January 9<sup>th</sup> minutes: **Item 3.16 the Abestrol Inc. bid should have read \$1,450.00 as opposed to \$1,4500.00.**

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

**A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA WITH THE CORRECTION TO ITEM 3.16 TO READ \$1,450.00 FOR THE ABESTROL INC. BID INSTEAD OF \$1,4500.00**

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 – DRAFT ATV/UTV/GOLF CART ORDINANCE**

The following City residents requested to speak in regard to the draft ATV/UTV/Golf Cart Ordinance which would allow these special vehicles on City roadways.

Jason Oefstedahl addressed City Council in favor of the ordinance.  
Greg Husmann addressed City Council with his opposition to the ordinance.  
Paul Hatlem addressed City Council in favor of the ordinance.

Attorney Wieser then reviewed the draft ordinance with City Council. Following discussion, Member Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Member Williams as follows:

**MOTION FOR ATTORNEY WIESER TO REVIEW AND BRING BACK AN UPDATED ORDINANCE THAT WOULD INCLUDE A REVIEW WITH POLICE CHIEF AHLSHLAGER.**

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 3.2 – MISSISSIPPI VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGY AGREEMENT**

City Council reviewed a memorandum from City Community Development Director, Larry Kirch recommending that City Council approve entering into an agreement with the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center (MVAC) which is housed at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse (UW-L) to assist the city in consultation services with both the Prairie Island Indian Community and the Ho-Chunk Nation regarding the \$60,000.00 Blandin Foundation Grant project to honor and celebrate the indigenous history of the area. The project will be located downtown adjacent to the Wagon Wheel Bike-Ped Bridge. The cost of the services is \$5,000.00 utilizing city funds for this purpose. The services are anticipated to begin February 15<sup>th</sup> with a summary memorandum due by June 1, 2023, unless mutually extended to September 15<sup>th</sup>. Following discussion, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member O'Donnell-Ebner as follows:

**MOTION TO APPROVE ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGY CENTER TO ASSIST THE CITY IN CONSULTATION SERVICES WITH THE PRAIRIE ISLAND INDIAN COMMUNITY AND HO-CHUNK NATION**

**REGARDING THE \$60,000.00 BLANDIN FOUNDATION GRANT PROJECT WHICH WILL BE LOCATED ADJACENT TO THE WAGON WHEEL BIKE-PED BRIDGE HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE INDIGENOUS HISTORY OF THE AREA UTILIZING CITY FUNDS OF \$5,000.00 FOR THE SERVICES.**

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 – WIESER PARK PAVILION BID RESULTS**

City Administrator Waller reviewed with City Council the Wieser Park Pavilion Improvement Project bid of \$622,5000.00 with an in-kind donation of \$226,300.00 received from Wieser Brothers General Contractors in October of 2022 and in November of 2022, the Council approved an extension of the time frame for approval of the bid by an additional 60 days. Administrator Waller recommended that City Council approve an additional extension of the time frame for approval of the bid until the February 13, 2023, City Council meeting. The sponsors of the project have proposed a modification to the plans for the pavilion that will include the installation of overhead doors in the openings and heat so that the facility will have the option to operate year-round. These changes will add approximately \$93,000 to the base bid for the project. The added costs will be addressed through a change order with the contractor. The additional time between now and the February 13<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting will allow the project sponsors time to continue their fundraising activities while also providing the contractor with additional time to obtain the necessary building approvals that are required for the project to proceed. Following discussion Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Jostad as follows:

**MOTION TO EXTEND THE TIME FRAME FOR APPROVAL OF THE WIESER PARK PAVILION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT BID FROM WIESER BROTHERS GENERAL CONTRACTORS TO THE FEBRUARY 13<sup>TH</sup> 2023 COUNCIL MEETING TO ALLOW FOR PROPOSED MODIFICATION PLANS FOR THE PAVILION WITH ADDED COSTS TO BE ADDRESSED THROUGH A CHANGE ORDER WITH THE CONTRACTOR AND PROVIDING ADDITIONAL TIME FOR THE CONTRACTOR TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY BUILDING APPROVALS THAT ARE REQUIRED FOR THE PROJECT TO PROCEED.**

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 – WIESER PARK ENGINEERING AGREEMENT**

City Council reviewed for approval an engineering agreement and site plan from WHKS for improvements at Wieser Park. The agreement includes the overall stormwater improvements for the park and the construction of the new parking lot. The proposed costs for the improvements will be paid through the revenue generated from the sale of the 9 or 10 lots that are included in the City's Horse Track Meadows North development. Following discussion, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member Hutchinson as follows:

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH WHKS FOR IMPROVEMENTS AT WIESER PARK WITH THE COSTS PAID FOR THROUGH THE REVENUE GENERATED FROM THE SALE OF THE 9 OR 10 LOTS THAT ARE INCLUDED IN THE CITY'S HORSE TRACK MEADOWS NORTH DEVELOPMENT.**

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 3.5 – DONATION RESOLUTION**

City Council reviewed a Resolution regarding the acceptance of donations to the City for the month of January 2023. Following review and discussion, Member Hutchinson introduced the following Resolution and moved its passage and adoption as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 01-23-06**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS MADE TO THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT WIESER MEMORIAL PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN JANUARY 2023**

WHEREAS, the City of La Crescent (“La Crescent”) is required by Minn. Stat. § 465.03 to accept donations by Resolution;

WHEREAS, the following donations were made to La Crescent in the month of January 2023 to the Wieser Memorial Park Improvement Project to be used for the specific purpose of improvements to the park shelter and bathroom facilities:

1. Tyler and Sandy Wieser wish to donate \$500.00
2. Michael Feuerhelm wishes to donate \$500.00
3. An Anonymous donor wishes to donate \$25,000.00
4. Tina and Leslie Loff wish to donate \$500.00
5. An Anonymous donor wishes to donate \$25,000.00
6. An Anonymous donor wishes to donate \$25,000.00

WHEREAS, La Crescent agrees to accept the donations for Wieser Memorial Park  
Subject to the conditions identified above.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of La Crescent hereby accepts the donations stated above for Wieser Memorial Park subject to the conditions identified above.

ADOPTED this 23rd day of January 2023.

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Williams and 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 and the resolution duly passed and adopted.

**ITEM 3.6 – 2023 LICENSE RENEWALS**

City Council reviewed a proposed on-sale liquor license renewal for 2023 from the Best Western Plus/La Crescent Hotel Group. The application appears to be in order, and it was recommended to City Council to approve the license renewal application. Following discussion, Member Jostad made a motion, seconded by Member Williams as follows:

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2023 ON-SALE LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL FOR THE BEST WESTERN PLUS/LA CRESCENT HOTEL GROUP.**

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
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

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

**ITEM 3.7- MnDOT BOOST GRANT RESOLUTION**

City Council reviewed a Resolution regarding the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Boost Grant. Following review and discussion, Member O’Donnell-Ebner introduced the following Resolution and moved its passage and adoption as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 01-23-07**

**RESOLUTION FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SRTS) BOOST GRANT**

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) Safe Routes to School Program assists schools and communities by making it safer for children to walk and bike to school; and

WHEREAS, MnDOT Safe Routes to School Program solicits applications to enable schools and communities to implement Safe Route to School non-infrastructure activities; and

WHEREAS, if the City of La Crescent is awarded an SRTS Boost Grant, these funds would be used to provide non-infrastructure activities to local communities to develop Safe Routes to School initiatives that increase safety and encourage more children to walk and bicycle to school; and

WHEREAS, no local match funding is required; and

WHEREAS, SRTS Boost grant activities will commence after the grant agreement is fully executed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the City of La Crescent authorizes the City Administrator to enter into a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation for financial assistance to fund a Safe Routes to School Boost Grant and eligible expenses.
2. That the City Administrator is authorized to execute such Agreement and any amendment(s).

ADOPTED this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2023.

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Administrator

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 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 resolution duly passed and adopted.

## **6. STAFF CORRESPONDENCE/COMMITTEE UPDATES**

City Council reviewed correspondence from Explore La Crosse.

## **7. HOUSTON COUNTY**

Houston County Commissioner, Dewey Severson was in attendance and provided updates to City Council.

## **8. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Chamber of Commerce representative, Olivia Lamke was in attendance and had no updates for City Council.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Hutchinson 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 6:35 PM.

APPROVAL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Administrator