

MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA  
FEBRUARY 28, 2022

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 5:30 PM in the La Crescent City Hall, La Crescent, Minnesota, on Monday, February 28, 2022.

Upon a roll call taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following members were present: Members Cheryl Jostad, Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner, Dale Williams, and Mayor Mike Poellinger. Members absent: Member Ryan Hutchinson. Also present was City Administrator Bill Waller, City Attorney Skip Wieser, City Sustainability Coordinator Jason Ludwigson, and City Administrative Assistant 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 – FEBRUARY 14, 2022
- 1.2 BILLS PAYABLE THROUGH FEBRUARY 24, 2022
- 1.3 CASH BALANCE/ACTIVITY REPORT – JANUARY 2022
- 1.4 LIBRARY REPORT – JANUARY 2022

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 O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, 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;

Cheryl 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 by a 4-0 vote.

**ITEM 3.1 – 2022 STREET PROJECT – PLANS & SPECIFICATIONS**

City Engineer Tim Hruska appeared via Zoom and reviewed with City Council the plans and specifications for the 2022 local street improvement project. City Council also reviewed a map of the streets that are

included in the project, along with relevant pages from the plans and specifications. The total project cost is estimated at approximately \$875,000.00. These streets are included in the City's 5-year Street Reconstruction Plan, and the costs for the project will be included in the upcoming 2022 bond issue. In order to proceed with the project, it was recommended to City Council to approve the plans and specifications and authorize to advertise for bids on the 2022 local street improvement project. Following discussion, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member O'Donnell-Ebner, as follows:

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE 2022 LOCAL STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND AUTHORIZE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS ON THE 2022 LOCAL STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.**

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

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 by a 4-0 vote.

**ITEM 3.2 – LA CRESCENT ANIMAL RESCUE AGREEMENT**

City Attorney Wieser reviewed with City Council the existing agreement between the City of La Crescent ("La Crescent") and La Crescent Animal Rescue, Inc. ("LAR"), along with the First Amendment thereto. The agreement is set to expire. Over the last several years there has been many discussions regarding this agreement with LAR. At this time, it was recommended to City Council to agree to a one-year extension that will automatically renew each year thereafter unless prior to December 1<sup>st</sup> either party provides the other with notice of nonrenewal. In which case, the agreement would terminate December 31<sup>st</sup> the following year. Following discussion, Member Jostad made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

**MOTION TO APPROVE A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT AND LA CRESCENT ANIMAL RESCUE, INC. THAT WILL AUTOMATICALLY RENEW EACH YEAR THEREAFTER UNLESS PRIOR TO DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> EITHER PARTY PROVIDES THE OTHER WITH NOTICE OF NONRENEWAL, WITH THE AGREEMENT TERMINATING DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup> THE FOLLOWING YEAR.**

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

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 by a 4-0 vote.

**ITEM 3.3 – REVIEW SAWATCH LAB REPORT**

City Sustainability Coordinator Ludwigson reviewed with City Council Sawatch Labs report that analyzed 13 vehicles in La Crescent’s fleet using their proprietary ezEV Analytics. EzEV compares each vehicle with available EV models to determine if an EV would be a good operational and economic fit. There were 5 EV candidates for the fleet. It was recommended to City Council to have the City Sustainability Coordinator investigate the replacement of 1 existing vehicle with an EV option. Following discussion, Member O’Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Jostad, as follows:

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE CITY SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR INVESTIGATING THE REPLACEMENT OF 1 EXISTING VEHICLE WITH AN EV OPTION.**

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

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 by a 4-0 vote.

**ITEM 3.4 – REVIEW B3 BENCHMARKING**

City Sustainability Coordinator Ludwigson reviewed with City Council the City of La Crescent’s B3 (Buildings, Benchmarks, and Beyond) report. This item was informational, and no action was taken.

**ITEM 3.5 – 2022 VECTOR CONTROL AGREEMENT**

City Administrative Assistant Boettcher reviewed with City Council the 2022 purchase contract regarding mosquito abatement services. Vector control remains part of the MS4 requirements. The contract is once again through Driftless Region Vector Control and compensation is a total of \$3,060.00. This is an increase of \$60.00 from last year. It was recommended to City Council to approve the proposed contract. Following discussion, Member Jostad made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2022 PURCHASE CONTRACT FOR MOSQUITO ABATEMENT SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT AND DRIFTLESS REGION VECTOR CONTROL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,060.00.**

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

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 by a 4-0 vote.

**ITEM 3.6 – FEE SCHEDULE UPDATE**

City Administrative Assistant Boettcher reviewed with City Council the Golf Commission’s recommendations for rates for 2022 that were discussed at their February 10, 2022 meeting. City Council reviewed an Ordinance with these fee schedule changes. Following further discussion, Member Williams introduced the following Ordinance, and moved its passage and adoption:

**ORDINANCE NO. 557**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT AMENDING THE MASTER FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT AS SET FORTH IN ORDINANCES NO. 404, NO. 483, NO. 492, NO. 500, NO. 540, NO. 542, NO. 544, NO. 545, NO. 548, NO. 552 AND NO. 554**

The City Council of the City of La Crescent, Houston County, Minnesota hereby ordains:

1. The La Crescent City Code established on March 8, 2004, stated that certain fees may be set from time to time by the City Council.
2. The La Crescent City Code was amended on January 13, 2014, February 9, 2015, February 8, 2016, February 24, 2020, April 13, 2020, April 27, 2020, May 18, 2020, December 14, 2020, April 20, 2021, and December 13, 2021 by Ordinance to amend certain fees.
3. The Fee Schedule has been reviewed by City Staff and amended each year from 2016 to 2019 by Motions passed by City Council. These amendments passed by City Council shall remain in effect.
4. The City staff has reviewed the fees which the City currently charges and is recommending that the fee schedule be amended as follows:

**GOLF**

2022 SEASON PASSES – GOOD ANYTIME REQUIRES TEE TIME (ON A 1 <sup>ST</sup> COME BASIS)	
FAMILY – (2 ADULTS AND CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 17)	\$555.00 to \$565.00
SINGLE	\$425.00 to \$430.00
SINGLE WITH CAR	\$725.00 to \$730.00
COUPLES WITH CART (2 ADULTS SAME RESIDENCE)	\$950.00 to \$960.00
GOLF CAR TRAIL PASS	\$125.00 (FOR USE OF PERSONAL RIDING CART)
<i>\$8.00 to \$9.00 PER PERSON CAR RENTAL/1/2 CAR FRIDAY/PLAY AT RECIPROCAL COURSES*/SEASON PASSES MAY BE USED FOR LEAGUE PLAY &amp; GROUP OUTING DISCOUNTS WHEN SPECIFIED</i>	

2022 DAILY FEES	
9 HOLES	\$13.50 to \$14.00
18 HOLES	\$21.00 OR \$35.00 W/RIDING CART
RIDING CART	\$9.00 to \$10.00 PER PERSON 9 HOLES
PULL CARTS	\$3.50 to \$4.00
TRAIL PASS	\$5.00 to \$6.00 (DAILY RATE FOR USE OF PERSONAL CAR)
<i>WEEKDAYS "ALL DAY" RATE WALKING \$25 with car \$40**</i> <i>**Subject to availability of tee times, and not offered on holidays or weekends</i>	
<b>DAILY RATE SPECIALS</b>	
<i>"EARLY BIRD" RATE BEFORE 10:00 AM Saturday/Sunday - \$10.00 to \$11.00 GOLF/\$8.00 to \$9.00 CAR***</i>	
<i>"The NOONER" 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM Monday thru Friday - \$10.00 to \$11.00 GOLF***</i> <i>***9 Hole RATE PER PERSON AND EXCLUDES HOLIDAYS</i>	
<b>SENIOR (60+)</b>	
9 HOLES – WEEKDAY	\$11.50 to \$12.00
18 HOLES – WEEKDAY	\$18.00 OR \$32.00 W/RIDING CART
<b>JUNIOR RATES (11-17 YEARS)</b>	
9 HOLES - EVERY DAY	\$6.00 to \$7.00 – MAY RIDE FREE WITH PAID ADULT
18 HOLES – EVERY DAY	\$9.00 - MAY RIDE FREE WITH PAID ADULT
<b>JUNIOR RATES (10 AND UNDER)</b>	
9 HOLES – (ALL DAY) EVERY DAY	\$4.00 to \$5.00 – WITH PAID ADULT/MAY RIDE FREE WITH PAID ADULT
<b>PUNCH CARDS</b>	
5 ROUND GOLF ONLY \$60.00 to \$65.00/10 ROUND GOLF ONLY \$110.00 to \$120.00	
5 PUNCH CAR \$40* to \$45.00/10 PUNCH CAR \$75* to \$80.00	
5 ROUND PLAY & RIDE \$100.00* to \$110.00/10 ROUND PLAY & RIDE \$185.00* to \$200.00	
<b>LEAGUE ONLY CARDS</b> —SENIOR 10 ROUND GOLF \$70.00 to \$80.00/SENIOR 10 PUNCH PLAY & RIDE \$140.00* to \$150.00	
6 ROUND MEN’S, LADIES LEAGUE \$50.00 to \$55.00	
<b>LEAGUE RATES</b>	
SENIOR LEAGUE \$8.00 to \$8.50 9 HOLES/\$8.00 to \$8.50 RIDING CAR	
TUESDAY NIGHT MEN’S LEAGUE \$9.50 to \$10.00 9 HOLES/	
THURSDAY NIGHT LADIES LEAGUE \$9.50 to \$10.00 9 HOLES	
FRIDAY NIGHT COUPLES LEAGUE \$8.00 to \$8.50 9 HOLES/\$8.00 to \$8.50 RIDING CAR	
<b>*RECIPROCAL COURSES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, MUST CALL FOR TEE TIMES, AND RECIPROCAL COURSE RESTRICTIONS.</b>	
<b>*PUNCH PLUS \$3.00 WHEN RIDING ALONE USING A RIDING CAR PUNCH CARD.</b>	

These fees shall become effective from and after due passage and enactment and publication according to law.

ADOPTED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2022.

SIGNED:

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Administrator

The foregoing motion was duly seconded by Member O'Donnell-Ebner and upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

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

and none voted against the same. The ordinance was declared duly passed and adopted by a 4-0 vote.

City Council also reviewed the Summary Ordinance for publication. The Council made the following findings of facts: that publication of the summary informs the public of the intent and effect of the Ordinance.

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

**MOTION THAT A PRÉCIS FORMAT OF SAID ORDINANCE 557 BE PUBLISHED IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE CITY AND WITH "OFFICIAL COPY" SO MARKED BE KEPT ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR.**

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

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 by a 4-0 vote.

**ITEM 3.7 – AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURE – BUS SHELTERS**

City Administrative Assistant Boettcher reviewed with City Council that the City has received a grant from MnDOT that will pay for 80% of the acquisition cost of three new bus shelters. The new bus shelters would be placed near Crestview Apartments, Springbrook Village, and Lancer Village. The City received the following proposals: Handi-Hut, Inc. - \$9,850.00 per shelter; and Columbia Equipment Co., Inc. - \$14,565.22 per shelter. It was recommended to City Council to accept the proposal submitted by Handi-Hut, Inc. in the amount of \$9,850.00 per shelter, with a total cost of \$29,550.00. The City will receive \$23,640.00 in grant funds towards the purchase of the shelters, with the City's portion of the project cost coming from the City's 2017 capital equipment certificate. City Council was also informed that the City's Utility/Maintenance Department would install the bus shelters once they are delivered. Following discussion, Member Jostad made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY HANDI-HUT, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,850.00 PER SHELTER, WITH A TOTAL COST OF \$29,550.00, FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THREE NEW BUS SHELTERS FOR THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT WITH \$23,640.00 IN GRANT FUNDS FROM MNDOT BEING USED TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF THE SHELTERS AND THE REMAINING PORTION OF THE PROJECT COST COMING FROM THE CITY'S 2017 CAPITAL EQUIPMENT CERTIFICATE.**

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

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 by a 4-0 vote.

**ITEM 3.8 – COMMISSION RESIGNATION – APPOINTMENT**

City Administrator Waller reviewed with City Council that Linda Gasper is resigning from the City's Park & Recreation Commission. It was recommended to City Council to accept Ms. Gasper's resignation, and appoint Marge Loch-Wouters to fill the vacancy on the Park & Recreation Commission. Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

**MOTION TO ACCEPT LINDA GASPER'S RESIGNATION FROM THE PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION.**

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

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 by a 4-0 vote.

Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

**MOTION TO APPOINT MARGE LOCH-WOUTERS TO THE PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION.**

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

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 by a 4-0 vote.

**ITEM 3.9 – HOUSTON COUNTY ASSESSOR – 2022 VALUE INCREASE**

City Administrator Waller reviewed with City Council a correspondence to La Crescent City Officials and a map from the Houston County Assessor regarding the value increases for Houston County properties for 2022. An extended discussion ensued. Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Jostad, as follows:

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING BEING HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2022 AT 5:30 P.M. BE MOVED TO THE LA CRESCENT COMMUNITY BUILDING.**

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

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 by a 4-0 vote.



**ITEM 6.1 – STAFF CORRESPONDENCE/COMMITTEE UPDATES – EXPLORE LA CROSSE**

City Council reviewed the Agenda from the February 15, 2022 La Crosse County Convention & Visitors Bureau In Person Board Meeting, which included the Minutes from the January 18, 2022 Board Meeting. No action taken.

**ITEM 6.2 – STAFF CORRESPONDENCE/COMMITTEE UPDATES – GOLF COMMISSION MINUTES – 2/10/2022**

City Council reviewed the Minutes from the February 10, 2022 La Crescent Golf Commission meeting. No action taken.

**ITEM 7.1 – CORRESPONDENCE – XCEL ENERGY UPDATE**

City Council reviewed an email correspondence from Xcel Energy regarding the Upper Midwest Energy Plan (Integrated Resource Plan). No action taken.

**ITEM 7.2 – CORRESPONDENCE – BLUFF COUNTRY FAMILY RESOURCES**

City Council reviewed an email correspondence from Bluff Country Family Resources regarding postponement of their 5k scheduled for April 30, 2022. They will discuss the possibility of moving it to the fall and will keep City Council informed. No action taken.

**ITEM 8 – CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Sarah Danielson of the La Crescent Chamber of Commerce gave an update to City Council on the Chamber’s annual meeting and auction that was held on February 26, 2022 at the Event Center.

Houston County Commissioner, Dewey Severson, gave an update to City Council regarding the ARPA checks.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member O’Donnell-Ebner, 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;

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 by a 4-0 vote and the meeting duly adjourned at 6:36 PM.

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

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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