

MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA
MARCH 14, 2022

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the first meeting of the City Council of the City of La Crescent for the month of March was called to order by Mayor Mike Poellinger at 5:30 PM in the La Crescent City Hall, La Crescent, Minnesota, on Monday, March 14, 2022.

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, and Mayor Mike Poellinger. Members absent: Member Dale Williams. Also present was City Administrator Bill Waller, City Attorney Skip Wieser, 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 28, 2022
- 1.2 BILLS PAYABLE THROUGH MARCH 10, 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.

It was recommended to amend the February 28, 2022 Minutes regarding Item 8 – Chamber of Commerce to change the wording to “was held” rather than “to be held” regarding the date of the Chamber Annual Meeting. Member Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Member O'Donnell-Ebner, as follows:

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED INCLUDING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FEBRUARY 28, 2022 MINUTES REGARDING ITEM 8 – CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO CHANGE THE WORDING TO “WAS HELD” RATHER THAN “TO BE HELD” REGARDING THE DATE OF THE CHAMBER ANNUAL MEETING.

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

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

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried by a 4-0 vote.

ITEM 2.0 - PUBLIC HEARING – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN PUBLIC HEARING

At 5:30 pm the City Council held a public hearing regarding the City's intention to issue general obligation capital improvement plan bonds and the proposal to adopt a capital improvement plan. Tammy Omdal from Northland Securities reviewed with City Council via Zoom the updated Five-year Capital Improvement Plan. The Five-year Capital Improvement Plan would reimburse the City for the costs associated with the City's purchase of the property at 332 South 1st Street. The City purchased this property in 2021. The Plan would also provide funds for the City to potentially purchase the property at 328 South 1st Street. City Council reviewed the resolution giving preliminary approval to the issuance of general obligation capital improvement bonds and adopting the 2022-2026 capital improvement plan as presented. There were no questions from City Council. It was recommended to City Council to adopt this Resolution. It was recommended by a City Council Member to amend the Capital Improvement Plan to read from 10 to 20 years.

Mayor Poellinger opened the meeting for public comment. There were no public comments. Mayor Poellinger closed the public hearing. Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner introduced the following resolution with amendment to include the Capital Improvement Plan read from 10 to 20 years and moved its passage and adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 03-22-09

RESOLUTION GIVING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL TO THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN BONDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500,000 AND ADOPTING THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR THE YEARS 2022 – 2026

1. WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of La Crescent, Minnesota (the "City") proposes to issue its general obligation capital improvement plan bonds (the "Bonds") and adopt the City of La Crescent, Minnesota, Capital Improvement Plan for the years 2022 through 2026 (the "Plan"); and
2. WHEREAS, the City has caused notice of the public hearing on the intention to issue the Bonds and on the proposed adoption of the Plan to be published pursuant to and in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.521; and
3. WHEREAS, a public hearing on the intention to issue the Bonds and on the proposed Plan has been held on this date, following published notice of the public hearing as required by law; and
4. WHEREAS, in approving the Plan, the City Council considered for each project and for the overall Plan:
 - (a) The condition of the City's existing infrastructure, including the projected need for repair and replacement;
 - (b) The likely demand for the improvement;
 - (c) The estimated cost of the improvement;
 - (d) The available public resources;
 - (e) The level of overlapping debt in the City;
 - (f) The relative benefits and costs of alternative uses of the funds;

- (g) Operating costs of the proposed improvements; and
- (h) Alternatives for providing services more efficiently through shared facilities with other local governmental units; and

5. WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the issuance of general obligation capital improvement plan bonds in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$500,000 is the best way to finance the capital improvements identified in the Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of La Crescent, Minnesota, that the City hereby adopts the Plan and authorizes the issuance of up to \$500,000 aggregate principal amount of general obligation capital improvement plan bonds.

ADOPTED this 14th day of March, 2022.

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator

The foregoing motion 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
Mike Poellinger	Yes

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

City Council reconvened with the schedule of the Regular City Council Meeting.

ITEM 3.1 – REVIEW OF FINANCE PLAN AND TRIGGER RESOLUTION

Tammy Omdal from Northland Securities reviewed with City Council via Zoom the Finance Plan for the City's proposed 2022 bond issue. City Council also reviewed a draft list of the items that are proposed to be included in the capital equipment certificate portion of the bond issue. As proposed, the 2022 bond issue will include funds for the costs of the 2021 and 2022 street reconstruction projects. These streets are included in the City's Street Reconstruction Plan. The 2022 bond issue will also be used for the purchase of capital equipment that would be included in a capital equipment certificate. The final portion of the 2022 bond issue may include the cost for land acquisition that is included in the draft of the Five-year Capital Improvement Plan. It was recommended to City Council to adopt the resolution approving the issuance of

the 2022 A General Obligation Bonds as presented. Following discussion, Member Hutchinson introduced the following resolution and moved its passage and adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 03-22-10

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2022A**

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of La Crescent, Minnesota (herein, the “City”), as follows:

1. The City Council hereby finds and declares that it is necessary and expedient for the City to sell and issue its fully registered general obligation bonds in the total aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$2,500,000 (herein, the “Bonds”). The proceeds of the Bonds will be used to purchase equipment, finance various street reconstruction projects, and acquire land pursuant to adopted Capital Improvement Plan for municipal facilities, and the costs of issuing the Bonds.
2. The City Council desires to proceed with the sale of the Bonds by direct negotiation with Northland Securities, Inc. (herein, “NSI”). NSI will purchase the Bonds in an arm’s-length commercial transaction with the City.
3. The Mayor and City Administrator are hereby authorized to approve the sale of the Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$2,500,000 and to execute a bond purchase agreement for the purchase of the Bonds with NSI, provided the true interest cost is less than 3.00%.
4. Upon approval of the sale of the Bonds by the Mayor and the City Administrator the City Council will take action at its next regularly scheduled or special meeting thereafter to adopt the necessary approving resolutions as prepared by the City's bond counsel.
5. NSI is authorized to prepare an Official Statement related to the sale of the Bonds.
6. If the Mayor and the City Administrator have not approved the sale of the bonds to NSI and executed the related bond purchase agreement by September 30, 2022, this resolution shall expire.

ADOPTED this 14th day of March, 2022.

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator

The foregoing motion was duly seconded by Member Jostad and upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Administrator, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

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

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

ITEM 3.2 – PRECINCT RESOLUTION

City Administrative Assistant Boettcher reviewed with City Council Resolutions reestablishing precincts and polling places for both Houston County and Winona County. There are not any changes in the City's current districts. However, all precincts in the State, whether in a city or township, must be reestablished by March 29, 2022. These established precinct boundaries become effective on the date of the 2022 primary, August 9th. (M.S. 204B.14, Subd. 3). Even though the City completed the Polling Place Designation Resolution at year end, these new Resolutions are needed to fulfill the necessary statutory requirements. It was recommended to City Council to approve the Resolutions for each Houston County and Winona County. Following discussion, Member Jostad introduced the following resolution and moved its passage and adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 03-22-11

RESOLUTION REESTABLISHING PRECINCTS AND POLLING PLACES HOUSTON COUNTY

WHEREAS, the legislature of the State of Minnesota has been redistricted; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute Section 204B.14, Subd. 3 requires that precinct boundaries must be reestablished within 60 days of when the legislature has been redistricted or at least 19 weeks before the state primary election, whichever comes first.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council for City of La Crescent, Houston County, Minnesota hereby reestablished the boundaries of the voting precincts and polling places as follows:

La Crescent City Precincts – P1, P2 and P3 - current boundaries left as is.

Designated Polling Place for State and Federal Elections for Precinct 1: La Crescent Community Building at 336 S. 1st Street, La Crescent MN 55947 in Houston County.

Designated Polling Place for State and Federal Elections for Precinct 2: La Crescent Ice Arena at 520 S. 14th Street, La Crescent MN 55947 in Houston County.

Designated Polling Place for State and Federal Elections for Precinct 3: La Crescent Ice Arena at 520 S. 14th Street, La Crescent MN 55947 in Houston County.

Attached to this resolution, for illustrative purposes, is a map showing said precinct.

Adopted by the La Crescent City Council, Houston County, Minnesota this 14th day of March, 2022.

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

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, all Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

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

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

Following discussion, Member Jostad introduced the following resolution and moved its passage and adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 03-22-12

**RESOLUTION REESTABLISHING PRECINCTS AND POLLING PLACES
WINONA COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the legislature of the State of Minnesota has been redistricted; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute Section 204B.14, Subd. 3 (d) requires that precinct boundaries must be reestablished within 60 days of when the legislature has been redistricted or at least 19 weeks before the state primary election, whichever comes first.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of La Crescent, County of Winona, State of Minnesota hereby reestablishes the boundaries of the voting precincts and polling places as follows:

La Crescent City Precincts – P4 – current boundaries left as is.

Designated Polling Place for State and Federal Elections for Precinct 4: Mailed Ballot for Winona County, Minnesota, to City of La Crescent, 315 Main Street, La Crescent, MN 55947.

Attached to this resolution, for illustrative purposes, is a map showing said precinct.

Adopted by the La Crescent City Council, Winona County, Minnesota this 14th day of March, 2022.

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator

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

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

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

ITEM 3.3 – PERSONNEL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

City Administrator Waller reviewed with City Council the following recommendation from the Personnel Committee:

Interim Police Chief Luke Ahlschlager will be on vacation for a period of time during March of 2022. Given that there are currently no Sergeants in the Police Department, the Personnel Committee is recommending that Police Officer Mike Ernster be appointed the Temporary Commander during Interim Police Chief Ahlschlager's absence. During the period of time where Mr. Ernster is

designated the Temporary Commander, it is recommended that his rate of pay be increased by \$3.00 per hour above his regular wage. Finally, it is recommended that City Administrative Staff be given the decision-making responsibility to make this appointment again, in the immediate future, should the need arise. Following discussion, Member Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Member O'Donnell-Ebner, as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THAT POLICE OFFICER MIKE ERNSTER BE APPOINTED THE TEMPORARY COMMANDER DURING INTERIM POLICE CHIEF AHLSCHLAGER'S ABSENCE DURING MARCH OF 2022 AND THAT DURING THE PERIOD OF TIME WHERE OFFICER ERNSTER IS DESIGNATED THE TEMPORARY COMMANDER, HIS RATE OF PAY BE INCREASED BY \$3.00 PER HOUR ABOVE HIS REGULAR WAGE AND ALSO APPROVE THAT CITY ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF BE GIVEN THE DECISION-MAKING RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE THIS APPOINTMENT AGAIN, IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, SHOULD THE NEED ARISE FOR 2022.

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

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

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried by a 4-0 vote.

ITEM 9 – CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Jen Etrheim of the La Crescent Chamber of Commerce gave an update to City Council on the membership meeting and Anytime Fitness.

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
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 5:49 PM.

APPROVAL DATE: _____

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator