

MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA  
JUNE 22, 2020

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the second meeting of the City Council of the City of La Crescent for the month of June was called to order by Mayor Mike Poellinger at 5:30 PM in the La Crescent City Hall, La Crescent, Minnesota, on Monday, June 22, 2020.

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 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 – JUNE 8, 2020
- 1.2 BILLS PAYABLE THROUGH JUNE 18, 2020

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 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;

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 – AGENDA REQUEST - RESOLUTION**

City Council reviewed an agenda request submitted from Marty Holub on behalf of various City business owners and residents regarding a Resolution to Open La Crescent, and approving non-enforcement of Governor Walz' Covid-19 Emergency Executive Orders. Marty Holub and Aaron Holub addressed City Council. La Crescent business owner, Travis Minegar, was available for questions. City Council reviewed an email summary from Member O'Donnell regarding her telephone conference with Patrick Tanis,

Assistant Chief of Staff for Public Engagement and Greater Minnesota Outreach, regarding the concerns of the small business owners in La Crescent. Emails from other concerned citizens regarding both sides of this issue were also reviewed by City Council. City Council also reviewed a memo from the League of Minnesota Cities regarding resolutions supporting local businesses. City Attorney Wieser reviewed with City Council the Resolution submitted, along with alternative resolutions supporting La Crescent businesses and urging Governor Walz to expedite the re-opening of Minnesota's economy and reducing restrictions. Member Jostad made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

**MOTION TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION TO OPEN LA CRESCENT SUBMITTED BY MARTY HOLUB.**

Following a lengthy discussion including business owners, residents and Council, a roll call vote was taken and tallied by the City Administrator, the following Member voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
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and Member Ryan Hutchinson, Member Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner, Member Dale Williams and Mayor Mike Poellinger voted against the same. The motion failed by a 4-1 vote. Neither alternative resolution was acted upon.

**ITEM 3.2 – AGENDA REQUEST – WAGON WHEEL PROJECT**

City Council reviewed an agenda request from Dan Watson who lives on Shore Acres Road regarding the safety and maintenance of Shore Acres portion of the Wagon Wheel Trail. Mr. Watson addressed City Council regarding this issue. Mr. Watson's main concern is the safety of the users of the bike trail. Some recommendations were to increase signage, paint bike signs on the trail, and vertical delineators. There were also concerns regarding erosion and maintenance. No action was taken.

**ITEM 3.3 – SOUTH 3<sup>RD</sup> STREET PROJECT – FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST**

City Administrator Waller reviewed with City Council that the South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street reconstruction project is complete. The City Engineer is recommending that the City Council approve the final payment to Zenke Inc. in the amount of \$3,165.50, which will then begin the two-year maintenance bond. City Council was informed that the contractors bid was \$319,671.13, and the actual project cost was \$316,549.43. Following discussion, Member Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Member O'Donnell-Ebner, as follows:

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE FINAL PAYMENT FOR THE SOUTH 3<sup>RD</sup> STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT TO ZENKE INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,165.50, WHICH WILL THEN BEGIN THE TWO-YEAR MAINTENANCE BOND.**

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 – DNR GRANT**

City Council reviewed a correspondence to Terry Erickson, Community Development Director for the City, from the Minnesota DNR informing the City that its application to the 2020 Local Trail Connections Program has been selected for funding. A reimbursement grant in the amount of \$86,210.00 will be established contingent upon final processing. These funds will be used to pave the balance of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the Wagon Wheel project, which is a 2021 project. This item was informational, and no action was taken.

**ITEM 3.5 – COVID-19**

City Council reviewed the following items relating to the current COVID-19 pandemic:

1. The minutes from the June 11, 2020 Park & Recreation Commission meeting. The Commission is recommending an alternative rate structure for the 2020 season at the aquatic center.
2. Preliminary information regarding the CARES Act funding that the City may be receiving in June for COVID-19 related expenditures.
3. The Governor's Emergency Executive Order 20-75.

City Administrator Waller reviewed with City Council that the Park & Recreation Commission is recommending a rate structure of \$2.00 for individual per session and \$5.00 for family/household per session for the 2020 season at the aquatic center. Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Jostad, as follows:

**MOTION TO APPROVE A RATE STRUCTURE OF \$2.00 FOR INDIVIDUAL PER SESSION AND \$5.00 FOR FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD PER SESSION FOR THE 2020 SEASON AT THE AQUATIC CENTER.**

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.

Updated information regarding the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding was provided to City Council at the meeting. The local funding component is known as the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF). As of the meeting date, no dollar amount or date had been approved. Executive Order 20-75 extends the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency declared in Executive Order 20-01. These items were informational, and no action was taken.

**ITEM 6.1 – EXPLORE LA CROSSE**

City Council reviewed the Agenda from the June 16, 2020 La Crosse County Convention & Visitors Bureau Board Meeting, which included the Minutes from the May 19, 2020 Board Meeting. No action taken.

**ITEM 7.1 – STATE DEMOGRAPHER – 2019 ESTIMATE**

City Council reviewed a correspondence dated June 1, 2020 from the Minnesota State Demographic Center with the population and household estimates for 2019. The total population estimate as of April 1, 2019 was 5,182 and total household estimate was 2,222. No action taken.

**ITEM 8 – CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

There was no update from the La Crescent Chamber of Commerce.

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 6:48 PM.

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

SIGNED:

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Administrator