

MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA  
AUGUST 8, 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 August was called to order by Acting Mayor Dale Williams at 5:30 PM in the La Crescent City Hall, La Crescent, Minnesota, on Monday, August 8, 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 Acting Mayor Dale Williams. Members absent: Mayor Mike Poellinger. Also present were City Attorney Skip Wieser, City Engineer Tim Hruska (via zoom), City Administrator Bill Waller, and Deputy Clerk Angie Boettcher.

Acting Mayor Williams 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 Acting Mayor read the following items to be considered as part of the Consent Agenda for this regular meeting:

- 1.1 MINUTES – JULY 25, 2022
- 1.2 BILLS PAYABLE THROUGH AUGUST 5, 2022
- 1.3 CASH BALANCE/ACTIVITY REPORT – JUNE 2022
- 1.4 LIBRARY REPORT – JUNE 2022

At the conclusion of the reading of the Consent Agenda, Acting Mayor Williams 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 Jostad, 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;

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

Member Hutchinson abstained from voting and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried by a 3-0 vote.

### **ITEM 3.1 – BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE PROJECT REVIEW**

City Engineer, Tim Hruska provided City Council with an update on the construction of the Wagon Wheel Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge. This was informational only, no action required.

### **ITEM 3.2 – BID RESULTS – SPORTSMAN ROAD LANDING PROJECT**

Following discussion, this item was continued to the August 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

### **ITEM 3.3 – CITY PROPERTY**

City Administrator, Bill Waller reviewed with City Council the information that was presented last year regarding the property that the City purchased adjacent to the Horse Track Meadows development. It was suggested that the City Council approve proceeding with the property's re-development as outlined in the townhome site plan. This development plan maximizes lot sale revenue and future tax base, while eliminating the cost to replace services that would not be needed if the property were developed as single-family lots. In addition, it was recommended that City Council authorize WHKS to prepare a preliminary and final plat for the property based on the townhome site plan. The cost to prepare the preliminary and final plat is \$7,000.00. The City will recover these costs when the property is sold in the future. Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Hutchinson as follows:

#### **MOTION TO APPROVE PROCEEDING WITH THE TOWNHOME RE-DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AT HORSE TRACK MEADOWS AND FOR WHKS TO PREPARE A PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLAT AT A COST OF \$7,000.00.**

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

Ryan Hutchinson	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes

Member Jostad voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried by a 3-1 vote.

### **ITEM 3.4 – REVIEW NO PARKING ON SOUTH NINTH STREET**

City Administrator Waller reviewed with City Council the adoption of Ordinance No. 556 regulating parking on South 9<sup>th</sup> Street, which was adopted on January 10, 2022. It was recommended that the City Council rescind Ordinance No. 556 due to the effect that it has on the property owner at 530 South 9<sup>th</sup> Street. The property at 530 South 9<sup>th</sup> Street is a twin home that has a one-car garage and a one-car driveway. They are now prohibited from parking in front of their residence. Following discussion, Member Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Member O'Donnell-Ebner as follows:

**MOTION TO RESCIND ORDINANCE NO. 556 REGULATING PARKING ON SOUTH 9<sup>TH</sup> STREET.**

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

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

**ITEM 3.5 – PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES – AUGUST 2, 2022**

City Administrator Waller reviewed with City Council Planning Commission minutes from August 2, 2022. This was informational only, no action required.

**ITEM 3.6 – CALL FOR PUBLIC HEARING – PARK/RECREATION PLAN**

City Resident, Greg Watson, turned in an agenda request to address the City Council regarding the Park & Recreation Plan.

Following discussion, a consensus was made by City Council to continue this item to the August 22, 2022 meeting.

**ITEM 3.7 – AUTHORIZE LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS**

City Administrator Waller reviewed with City Council that as part of the Partners in Energy Program an audit of the lighting system at City Hall was conducted. The audit recommends the removal of the existing fluorescent bulbs and replacement with LED lighting. The payback on that lighting replacement would be 2.1 years. The P&T Electric payback for LED lighting would be less than 2 years, including the Xcel lighting rebates. P&T Electric would remove the existing ballast, recycle the lamps and replace the lamps with LEDs for a total cost of \$6,371.00. Including the lighting rebate from Xcel the total cost is \$3,742.97. Upgrading all of the interior building lighting to LED would save the city financially, improve the work environment, and reduce pollution. It was recommended that Council approve the expenditure. Following discussion, member Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Member O'Donnell-Ebner, as follows:

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF \$3,742.97 AFTER REBATE FOR LED LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS FOR CITY HALL WITH P & T ELECTRIC PERFORMING THE WORK.**

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

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

### **ITEM 3.8 – DONATION RESOLUTION**

City Council reviewed a Resolution regarding the acceptance of donations to the City for the month of July, 2022. Following review and discussion, Member Jostad introduced the following resolution and moved its passage and adoption:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 8-22-26**

#### **RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS MADE TO THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT IN JULY, 2022**

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 the City of La Crescent in the month of July, 2022:

1. Susan Horihan wishes to donate \$100.00 to the La Crescent Fire Department in memory of Bob Hafner.
2. Tom Niebeling Landscaping wishes to donate \$25.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor’s Night Out.
3. La Crescent Chamber of Commerce and Tourism wishes to donate \$100.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor’s Night Out.
4. Breyer’s Sales and Service wishes to donate \$50.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor’s Night Out.
5. Crest Precast wishes to donate \$250.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor’s Night Out.
6. P & T Electric Inc. wishes to donate \$250.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor’s Night Out.
7. Voss & Sons wishes to donate \$100.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor’s Night Out.

8. Crescent Electric Inc. wishes to donate \$100.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor's Night Out.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of La Crescent hereby accepts the donations stated above.

ADOPTED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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

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

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

### **ITEM 3.9 – PERSONNEL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

1. That the City Council appoint Brent Thesing as Training/Safety Officer. Pursuant to the Fire Department Rules and Regulations Mr. Thesing will serve a 12-month probationary period.
2. That the City Council accept James Sakelakos's resignation as a Firefighter.

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

**MOTION TO APPOINT BRENT THESING AS TRAINING/SAFETY OFFICER PURSUANT TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS MR. THESING WILL SERVE A 12-MONTH PROBATIONARY PERIOD.**

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

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

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

**MOTION TO ACCEPT FIREFIGHTER JAMES SAKELAKOS'S RESIGNATION.**

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

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

**ITEM 9 – CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Julie Hatlem was in attendance and gave Council an update.

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

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried and the meeting duly adjourned at 6:04 PM.

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

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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