

MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA
AUGUST 9, 2021

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 Mayor Mike Poellinger at 5:30 PM in the La Crescent City Hall, La Crescent, Minnesota, on Monday, August 9, 2021.

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, 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 – JULY 26, 2021
- 1.2 BILLS PAYABLE THROUGH AUGUST 5, 2021

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 approve the July 26, 2021 Minutes with revisions to Item 3.3 (Review) – Carbon Free Energy Resolution as presented. Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member Hutchinson, as follows:

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA INCLUDING THE JULY 26, 2021 MINUTES WITH REVISIONS TO ITEM 3.3 (REVIEW) – CARBON FREE ENERGY RESOLUTION 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 – MnDOT LIMITED USE PERMIT RESOLUTION

City Administrator Waller reviewed with City Council a correspondence received from MnDOT regarding the need to update another of the City's existing limited use permits. This limited use permit pertains to the City's Community Entrance Sign. City Council reviewed a resolution regarding the limited use permit. It

was recommended to City Council to adopt the resolution. Following review and discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner introduced the following resolution and moved its passage and adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 08-21-27

A RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO A LIMITED USE PERMIT WITH THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

IT IS RESOLVED that the City of La Crescent, Minnesota, enter into Limited Use Permit No. 2805-0051 with the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation for the following purposes:

To provide for maintenance and use by the City of La Crescent upon, along and adjacent to Trunk Highway No. 61 and limits of which are defined in said Limited Use Permit.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of La Crescent, Minnesota that the Mayor and the City Administrator are authorized to execute the Limited Use Permit.

ADOPTED this 9th day of August, 2021.

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

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, all 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 resolution duly passed and adopted.

ITEM 3.2 – WILDWOOD STORMWATER AGREEMENT

City Attorney Wieser reviewed with City Council that the property owners have signed the Wildwood Stormwater settlement agreement and release, paid their portion of the project costs, and the project is now set to proceed. This item was informational, and no action was taken.

ITEM 3.3 – AGENDA REQUEST – CEMETERY TRANSFER

City Attorney Wieser reviewed with City Council an agenda request regarding the transfer of the Prospect Hill and Toledo Cemeteries to the City of La Crescent. City Council also reviewed a research memo from the League of Minnesota Cities regarding cemetery regulations. City Attorney Wieser reviewed the applicable State statutes with the City Council. Leon Thicke and Peg Senn Wansley addressed City Council regarding the transfer. Following discussion, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member O’Donnell-Ebner, as follows:

MOTION TO ESTABLISH A COMMITTEE AND APPOINT MAYOR MIKE POELLINGER AND COUNCIL MEMBER DALE WILLIAMS TO REVIEW OPTIONS REGARDING THE TRANSFER OF THE PROSPECT HILL AND TOLEDO CEMETERIES TO THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT.

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

| | |
|------------------------|-----|
| Teresa O’Donnell-Ebner | Yes |
| Dale Williams | Yes |
| Mike Poellinger | Yes |

and Member Cheryl Jostad voted against the same. Member Ryan Hutchinson abstained from voting. The motion was declared duly carried by a 3-1 vote.

ITEM 3.4 – HAZARDOUS BUILDING DEMOLITION PROPOSALS

City Attorney Wieser reviewed with City Council information regarding the property located at 226 3rd Street North in the City of La Crescent being determined to be a hazardous building. City Council reviewed a copy of the Court Order. City Council also reviewed proposals the City received to remove the structure. They included the following: Zenke, Incorporated - \$26,899.56; and VanGundy Excavating, LLP - \$39,500.00. It was recommended to City Council to accept the proposal submitted by Zenke, Incorporated in the amount of \$26,899.56, and amend the 2021 general fund budget to reflect this expenditure. City Attorney Wieser also reviewed the process for the City to recover the costs associated with the removal of the structure. Following discussion, Member O’Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Jostad, as follows:

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY ZENKE, INCORPORATED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,899.56 TO REMOVE THE HAZARDOUS BUILDING LOCATED AT 226 3RD STREET NORTH, AND AMEND THE 2021 GENERAL FUND BUDGET TO REFLECT THIS EXPENDITURE.

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 – ANNEXATION REVIEW/UPDATE

City Attorney Wieser updated City Council on the annexation of the properties located in Crescent Valley that are still in La Crescent Township. City Council also reviewed a map of these properties. This item was informational, and no action was taken.

ITEM 3.6 – MnDPS – DRIVERS EXAM LEASE AGREEMENT

City Administrator Waller reviewed with City Council an e-mail and proposed lease to allow the Department of Public Safety to operate a drivers exam station in the current City Council Chambers. This creates an interesting dilemma for the City of La Crescent. The City has done the preliminary planning on reconfiguring City Hall and relocating the Motor Vehicle License Office into a majority of the current City Council Chambers. Due to the cost and availability of materials, along with the availability of contractors, to date the City has not moved forward on the proposed plan. The service provided by offering drivers exams at City Hall is convenient and well received by residents of this community. If the offices at City Hall are reconfigured, there is no other existing space in the current building that could be used to provide drivers exams. It was the consensus of City Council to follow-up with the MN Department of Public Safety about other alternatives and to have this item placed on the next City Council agenda.

ITEM 3.7 – ROTARY BIKE RIDE

City Council reviewed a memo from La Crescent Police Chief Doug Stavenau and a correspondence from Ellen Krenz of the La Crescent Rotary Club regarding the Apple Blossom Bike Tour on August 14, 2021. Five rides are offered, all leaving from Abnet Field. Some bicyclists will leave before the official start at 8:00 am, but the bulk of the riders will leave at 8:00 am. The riders on the 16-mile route will leave Abnet Field at 14th Street and travel along Highway 61 to the Dresbach Travel Center to ride along the Mississippi River to Dakota and back. The Rotary Club is requesting assistance from the Police Department to help bikers safely cross the traffic on Highway 61 at South 14th Street at 8:00 am. It was recommended to City Council to approve the La Crescent Police Department in assisting with the bicyclist crossing U.S. Hwy 16 at South 14th Street. Disruption to normal traffic flow is anticipated to be minimal. Following discussion, Member Hutchinson made a motion, seconded by Member Jostad, as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE LA CRESCENT POLICE DEPARTMENT IN ASSISTING WITH THE BICYCLIST CROSSING U.S. HWY 16 AT SOUTH 14TH STREET FOR THE LA CRESCENT ROTARY CLUB HOSTED APPLE BLOSSOM BIKE TOUR ON AUGUST 14, 2021 AT 8:00 AM.

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 3.8 – AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURE – COVID REVIEW

City Administrator Waller reviewed with City Council this item that was discussed at the last City Council meeting. It was recommended to City Council to approve hiring Ryan Stotts to prepare a written narrative, including a timeline and interviews, of the City's experiences to date during the COVID-19 pandemic. The estimated cost is between \$1,500 and \$2,000. There are funds in the City Council's discretionary portion of the budget for this expenditure. Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Williams, as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE HIRING RYAN STOTTS TO PREPARE A WRITTEN NARRATIVE, INCLUDING A TIMELINE AND INTERVIEWS, OF THE CITY'S EXPERIENCES TO DATE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000.00 AND TO USE FUNDS IN THE CITY COUNCIL'S DISCRETIONARY PORTION OF THE BUDGET FOR THIS EXPENDITURE.

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 3.9 – DONATION RESOLUTION

City Council reviewed a Resolution regarding the acceptance of donations to the City for the month of July, 2021. Following review and discussion, Member Jostad introduced the following resolution and moved its passage and adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 08-21-28

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS MADE TO THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT IN JULY, 2021

WHEREAS, the following donations were made to the City of La Crescent in the month of July, 2021:

1. Doug Albrecht wishes to donate \$1,000.00 to the La Crescent Fire Department for departmental purposes.
2. Breyer's Sales & Services wishes to donate \$100.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor's Night Out.
3. Voss & Sons Construction wishes to donate \$125.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor's Night Out.
4. Wieser Law Office wishes to donate \$75.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor's Night Out.
5. Sons of Norway wishes to donate \$50.00 to the La Crescent Fire Department for departmental purposes.
6. Pat's Insurance Agency wishes to donate \$150.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor's Night Out.
7. GreatBigOutlet.com wishes to donate \$200.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor's Night Out.
8. Wieser Precast – Doric Vault wishes to donate \$200.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor's Night Out.
9. Tom Niebeling Landscaping wishes to donate \$25.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor's Night Out.
10. Crest Precast wishes to donate \$500.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor's Night Out.
11. Zenke, Inc. wishes to donate \$100.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor's Night Out.
12. Ryan Quanrud wishes to donate \$100.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor's Night Out.
13. Destination Dental wishes to donate \$200.00 to the La Crescent Police Department for Neighbor's Night Out.
14. Peace Mind Counseling wishes to donate \$250.00 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 9th day of August, 2021.

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution 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 |
| 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 5.1 – MAYOR’S COMMENTS – RECOGNITION CERTIFICATES

City Council reviewed Recognition Certificates to Linda Larson, La Crescent City Planning Commission Member, and Mike Limberg, La Crescent City Park and Recreation Commission Member, for their years of service to the community. No action taken.

ITEM 6.1 – EXPLORE LA CROSSE

City Council reviewed the Agenda from the July 27, 2021 La Crosse County Convention & Visitors Bureau In Person Board Meeting, which included the Minutes from the June 15, 2021 Online Board Meeting. No action taken.

ITEM 6.2 – CHOOSE LA CROSSE

City Council reviewed the Choose La Crosse.com resource brochure for residents in the Greater La Crosse area. No action taken.

ITEM 7.1 – CORRESPONDENCE – MN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

City Council reviewed a correspondence dated June 21, 2021 from the MN Department of Health congratulating La Crescent on the 2020 Community Water Fluoridation 50 Year Award. No action taken.

ITEM 7.2 – CORRESPONDENCE – GREENSTEP – STATE FAIR

City Council reviewed a brochure asking GreenStep communities to volunteer for a shift at the Minnesota State Fair scheduled for August 26 – September 6, 2021. No action taken.

ITEM 7.3 – CORRESPONDENCE – PAUL AND JUDY ULLAND

City Council reviewed an email dated August 4, 2021 from Paul and Judy Ulland thanking the City for City water and sewer connections for their Hickory Lane neighborhood. No action taken.

ITEM 8 – CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Eileen Krenz of the La Crescent Chamber of Commerce updated City Council on Chamber activity.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member Jostad, 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 6:14 PM.

APPROVAL DATE: _____

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator