

**MINUTES**  
**Lake Crystal City Council**  
**Monday, October 2, 2023, 7:30 pm**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**100 E. Robinson St.**

Mayor Todd Wiens called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Members present: Councilors Brett Hanson, Gina Cooper, Michael Turgeon, and Michael Windsperger.

Staff members present: City Administrator Angela Grafstrom; Megan Hutchens, Administrative Assistant; and Christopher Kennedy, City Attorney; Police Chief Joe Flavin

Others present: Chris Smith

**Peter Engelmeyer, MnDOT**

Peter Engelmeyer of MnDOT presented the Highway 60 construction project regarding the intersection of County Road 112 and Lakeview Road. Two intersection options were designed for the council to choose from. One design includes updated plans to the current design and the other includes an “r-cut” to the east of the intersection. MnDOT recommends the “r-cut” design for safety reasons, keep traffic moving at the intersection, and less impact on the lake. The council discussed the pros and cons of each design and decided to make a final decision for the October 16, 2023, council meeting.

**Staff Reports**

Ambulance Service Update

No report.

Fire Department Update

No report.

Police Department Update

The Lake Crystal Police officer that was involved in a crash earlier in the year is currently undergoing rehabilitation. The police department had full staff for Homecoming Week and were also involved in the parade.

Street & Parks Department Update

No report.

City Administrator Update

Written report provided in the packet.

**Consent Agenda** *(The following agenda items are considered to be non-controversial and routine innature. They will be handled with one motion of the City Council. Councilors may request that specific items be removed from the Consent Agenda and be acted upon separately)*

1. Minutes September 18, 2023, Regular Meeting of the City Council

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2. Payment of bills totaling \$808,692.71
  - Payments reviewed by Councilor Turgeon and Councilor Windsperger prior to the meeting.
3. Approve Lake Crystal Cemetery Deed for Barb Rock of \$625.00 to Blue Earth County and State of MN for Burial Lot No. 919, Section C, Space 8.
4. GM Payment Request No. 2 of \$237,308.32 for Crystal Gardens Subdivision #7

***Motion made by Councilor Windsperger to approve consent items one through four, motion seconded by Councilor Turgeon and carried unanimously.***

**Action Items**

Approve Resignation of Tyler Enger from Ambulance Staff

Tyler Enger submitted his resignation to the Lake Crystal Ambulance Service on September 25 due to schooling and other commitments. Mayor Todd Wiens suggested that staff send a letter of appreciation for Enger's volunteer service to the ambulance.

***Motion made by Councilor Cooper to approve Tyler Enger's resignation from the Lake Crystal Ambulance Service, motion seconded by Councilor Hanson and carried unanimously.***

Approve Updated SRO Agreement with the School

The City of Lake Crystal and the Lake Crystal Wellcome Memorial Schools have agreed to the updated School Police Liaison Program Agreement. Sherriff Jeff Wersal and Lieutenant Joe Flavin agree to the updated terms. According to the agreement, one officer will provide services on a part-time basis through May. Payment will be prorated for 2023-2024 school year at \$27,720.00 instead of \$31,500.00 due to no services for the first 20 days of school.

***Motion made by Councilor Turgeon to approve the updated School Police Liaison Program Agreement between the City of Lake Crystal and Lake Crystal Wellcome Memorial Schools and to be prorated at \$27,720.00, motion seconded by Councilor Windsperger and carried unanimously.***

League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust Liability Coverage Waiver

The council annually has to approve waiving or not waiving the monetary limits on municipal tort liability. They traditionally "do not waive" the limits.

***Motion made by Councilor Hanson to "not waive" the monetary limits on municipal liability tort on the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust Liability Coverage Waiver form, motion seconded by Councilor Cooper and carried unanimously.***

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**Information/Discussion Items**

Cannabinoid Ordinance Review – start adoption process?

City Attorney Chris Kennedy suggested that the council follow the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act for guidance on how to regulate the use of cannabis in city limits. Councilor Gina Cooper would like the addition of no smoking within 25 feet of a public entrance added to the ordinance rough draft. Lieutenant Joe Flavin would prefer no smoking at any of the parks due to the odors and others enjoying the outdoors. The rough draft of the ordinance will remain a review item for the October 16<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

Floodplain Ordinance Review – goes back to DNR before adoption process

A correct map needs to be added to the ordinance. No further discussion from council.

Upcoming meetings and events:

- Monday, October 16, 2023, 7:30 pm Regular Council Meeting

**Council Comments and Observations**

Mayor Todd Wiens stated that planning commission was concerned about whether or not council still had to take some sort of action as the EDA did not agree to the rezoning of lots to an R3 at Crystal Gardens #7, which is what Planning and Zoning were recommending. EDA, who owns the lots want it to stay R2. City Attorney Chris Kennedy stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Economic Development Authority are advisory boards and do not make final decisions, but the EDA does own the property and did not request a change. City Administrator Angela Grafstrom mentioned that there has been interest in the lots, but no purchases or agreements are in place. The electricity and gas will be installed in the spring and interest will potentially peak once that work has been completed. Interest rates are likely to go down during the spring as well.

Mayor Todd Wiens spoke with Resident Scott Anderson who has concerns about the trees dying on the west side of Robinson Park. They need to be removed for safety reasons. Grafstrom will speak with Superintendent Tibbetts about this.

**Adjournment:**

***There being no further business for the Lake Crystal City Council, Councilor Hanson motioned to adjourn the regular meeting of October 2, 2023, motion seconded by Councilor Cooper and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 P.M.***

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Todd Wiens, Mayor

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Angela Grafstrom, City Administrator