

MINUTES
Lake Crystal City Council
Monday, NOVEMBER 6, 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, Michael Turgeon, and Michael Windsperger. Absent: Gina Cooper

Staff members present: City Administrator Angela Grafstrom; Megan Hutchens, Administrative Assistant; and Christopher Kennedy, City Attorney; Police Chief Joe Flavin; Dean Tibbetts, Street and Parks Department; Jeff Becker, Fire Chief

Others present: Grace Kranz, Lake Crystal Tribune; Peter Engelmeyer, MnDOT; Forrest Hasty, MnDOT

Peter Engelmeyer MnDOT on Lakeview Rd

The council previously voted to keep the current intersection design. Peter Engelmeyer of MnDOT would like the council to reconsider the decision that was made, and he presented again the benefits of the “r-cut” design for Highway 60 construction project regarding the intersection of County Road 112 and Lakeview Road.

The council discussed the pros and cons of each design. MnDOT would like to have a town meeting and get community input. MnDOT will host a town meeting in the next few weeks.

No other action was taken by the city council at this time.

Mayor Wiens thanked Peter Engelmeyer and closed the Regular Meeting to open the public hearing on Ordinance 2023-07.

Public Hearing on Ordinance 2023-07 Cannabinoid

Public Hearing opened at 8:29 PM. No discussion. Closed 8:29 PM to open the public hearing on Ordinance 2023-08.

Public Hearing on 2023-08 Revisions to Chapter 153 Floodplain Management

Public Hearing opened at 8:29 PM. No discussion. Closed 8:29 PM

Mayor Wiens opened the Regular Council Meeting at 8:30 PM

Staff Reports

Ambulance Service Update

No report.

Fire Department Update

No report.

Police Department Update

Officer on duty has been walking through the city to follow up with ordinance violations. The police department is urging residents to lock vehicles at night to prevent overnight theft.

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Street & Parks Department Update

22 loads of leaves have been collected. Prep for winter has begun. Lilly Lakes bathroom shut off valve has issues that will need to be resolved prior to winter.

City Administrator Update

Written report provided in the packet. The Forester has been helping the street department mulch leaves.

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 October 16, 2023, Regular Meeting of the City Council
2. Payment of bills totaling \$168,103.74
 - reviewed by Councilor Turgeon and Councilor Windsperger prior to the meeting
3. GM Contracting Pay Request No. 3 of \$312,577.24 for Crystal Gardens Subdivision #7
4. Resolution 2323 Accepting Donations
 - \$50.00 for the Fire Department from Compeer Financial
 - 10 gun and 10 IV for the Ambulance Service at an estimated total of \$1,000.00 from an anonymous donor
 - \$250.00 for the Ambulance Service from Ted Goettl
5. MOU placing Gangelhoff in Sergeant position retroactively to 9/18/23
6. Approve Liquor Licenses for Staples Enterprises Inc (On the Rocks) and Double D Partners LLC (The Lakes Sports Bar & Grill)
7. Reappoint Dennis McCoy to the PUC for a 3-Year Term 2024-2026

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

Action Items

Ordinance 2023-07 Amending the Lake Crystal City Code with Cannabinoid Guidelines (1st reading)

The council did the first reading of Ordinance 2023-07 Amending the Lake Crystal City Code with Cannabinoid Guidelines.

Motion made by Councilor Hanson to approve Ordinance 2023-07 Cannabinoid

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Ordinance 2023-08 Revisions to Chapter 153 Floodplain Management (1st Reading)

The council did the first reading of Ordinance 2023-08 Revisions to Chapter 153 Floodplain Management. Grafstrom reported Ordinance No. 2023-08 An Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Chapter 153 Floodplain Management of the Lake Crystal City Code had been reviewed and approved by the DNR. Grafstrom will be taking a workshop on how to load the new maps once they are released in February of 2024.

Motion made by Councilor Windsperger to approve Ordinance 2023-08 Revisions to Chapter 153 Floodplain Management

Personnel Manual Updates Effective 1/1/24

The Council reviewed changes to the Personnel Policy based on a new law taking effect 1/1/24. City Attorney, Chris Kennedy presented the council with information regarding the changes that included updating the definition of family, changing Personal Leave to Earned Sick and Safe Time Leave with hours and how they are accrued/used defined in the policy, and adding the city's existing Social Media Policy to the handbook instead of leaving it as a separate policy.

Motion made by Councilor Turgeon to approve the updates to the Personnel Manual as Presented, motion seconded by Councilor Hanson and carried unanimously.

Kennedy noted there are likely other changes to come concerning the fire, ambulance, and seasonal employees.

Sidewalk to Collis Field from School

Ryan Thilges, County Engineer, and Public Works Director of the Blue Earth County's Public Works Department sent a memo to the City Administrator stating various reasons that the crossing on Knights Lane is not recommended. There are higher accident risks for mid-block crossings including motorists not being aware of the crossing and traveling at a higher speed than at an intersection. The County would consider meeting with the city in the future to discuss options.

No action from Council.

Fire Department Generator and Install

Fire Chief Jeff Becker provided a quote from Dave Carlson Electric totaling \$1,567.25 and two

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generator quotes from Tractor Supply Co. Westinghouse 13500W Tri-Fuel Portable Generator for \$1,169.99 and Champion Power Equipment 12,000W Tri-Fuel Portable Generator with electric start for \$2,899.99. Becker mentioned that he will need to provide additional quotes for another portable generator as one is no longer available. Councilor Hanson requested Becker to research the cost of a Generac standby generator instead of a portable generator. There are funds for the fire department to utilize from the equipment reserve fund and the donation reserve. The council will review once quotes are received from Chief Becker for a standby generator and installation instead of the portable.

No action from Council.

Resolution 2325 to Support a Minnesota River – Mankato Watershed One Watershed, One Plan Project

Grafstrom gave a report on the meeting that was held in St. Peter and emphasized the importance of the City's participation since we have lakes, wastewater treatment, stormwater ponds, and are affected by farm run off. The City can participate at the policy level, the steering committee level, and an advisory level. The policy level needs to be a council member. Grafstrom spoke with Gina Cooper prior to the meeting and Gina would be interested in serving on the committee. Grafstrom will continue to serve on the steering committee and share the duties with Jeremy Hutchens, Water/WW Superintendent when appropriate. She also suggested to the committee that a Crystal Waters Project member serve on the advisory board.

Motion made by Councilor Turgeon to approve Resolution 2325 to Support a Minnesota River – Mankato Watershed One Watershed, One Plan Project, motion seconded by Councilor Hanson, and carried unanimously.

By consensus, the council appointed Gina Cooper to the Mankato Watershed One Watershed Policy Board to represent the City of Lake Crystal and Brett Hanson as the alternate. Grafstrom will notify the board organizer of the appointment and send them the resolution needed to participate as a member.

Information/Discussion Items

FYI: "Gig Town" Email from Consolidated Communications

"Gig Town" is a marketing campaign focusing on high-speed fiber to appeal to residents and businesses. The campaign's goal is to attract additional businesses to the city and grow the community. The "Gig Town" campaign is scheduled to roll out on Monday, November 20th with a ribbon cutting event with Consolidate Communications to be held at City Hall. Invitations will be sent out by Consolidated Communications.

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Griffin 'Thank You'

EMT Caitlin Griffin of the Ambulance Service thanked the City for funding her attendance at the annual Greater Northwest EMS Conference in Mahanomen, MN this past October. She expressed gratitude to the city for supporting her education for the residents of Lake Crystal.

Upcoming meetings and events:

- Monday, November 20, 2023, 7:30 PM Regular Council Meeting

Council Comments and Observations

No comments and observations from council.

Adjournment:

There being no further business of the Lake Crystal City Council, Councilor Hanson motioned to adjourn the regular meeting of November 6, 2023, motion seconded by Councilor Windsperger and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 P.M.

Todd Wiens, Mayor

Angela Grafstrom, City Administrator