Members present: Mayor Ahrenstorff, Councilors Gengler, Schultz, and Cooper.

Members not present: Councilor Wiens.

Staff members present: Taylor Gronau, City Administrator; Teri Thompson-Hobart, Office Manager; Dean Tibbetts, Street and Maintenance Superintendent; Jeanine McDonald, Ambulance Chief; Jeff Becker, Fire Chief; Mike Maurer, Blue Earth County Sheriff’s Department; and Christopher Kennedy, City Attorney.

Others present: Don Marben, Lake Crystal Tribune; Ryan Yunkers, Lake Crystal Recreation Center; and Chad Setter.

Call to Order: Mayor Ahrenstorff called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance: All present stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:
Councilor Gengler moved and Councilor Cooper seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2019 Regular Meeting of the City Council. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

Approval of City Bills:
Councilor Schultz moved and Mayor Ahrenstorff seconded the motion to approve the city bills totaling $175,322.96. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

Presentation from Chad Setter concerning the proposed Dog Park:
- The Lions Club agreed to act as the financial host for donations accepting donations.
- $3,000 of the $15,000 has currently been raised.
- A pancake feed fund raising event will be held Sunday, March 17, 2019.
- The area for the dog park has been surveyed and staked.
- Construction on the dog park is estimated to be Spring 2020.

Staff Reports

Ambulance Department Update:
- There were 36 calls during the month of February.
- There have been 80 call year to date.
- The Ambulance Department will participate in the upcoming Jungle Boogie Event.
- Recruitment banners have been placed at LC Ace and Kevins Market.

Fire Department Update:
- A house burn for training purposes was conducted last weekend.
- There was a house fire in Lake Crystal on March 11, 2019.
- The Rib Feed fund raising event will be held Saturday, March 16, 2019.
Police Department Update:
- The Police Department is working with the Fire Marshall concerning the house fire.
- There has been damage to both police vehicles due to the weather.

Street & Parks Department Update:
- Snow Plowing continues.
- Catch basins are being opened as time permits.

City Attorney Update:
- No report.

City Administrator Update:
- The City has received a proposal to purchase a vacant lot at 112 W. Humphrey St. As part of the purchase, the “K” building will be demolished at no cost to the City.
- Staff has wrapped up investigating ways to address the shortage of daytime help for the ambulance service. A report will be drafted and presented to the City Council at a future meeting.
- Mayor Ahrenstorff, Councilor Cooper and City Administrator Gronau signed up to attend the League of Minnesota Cities Annual Conference, June 26-28, in Duluth.

Lake Crystal Area Recreation Center Update:
- The Street Department was thanked for their work in clearing the parking lot.
- Madelia Pool staffing will be taken over by the Lake Crystal Recreation Center.
- Membership and rentals have increased.

Action Items:

A. Consider adoption of Ordinance No. 2019 – 01: An Ordinance to Amend Title 15, Chapter 156 of the Lake Crystal Code of Ordinances Relating to Zoning Code: Zoning Map:
Councilor Schultz moved and Mayor Ahrenstorff seconded the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2019-01. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

B. Consider approval of a proposal from Malterer Mechanical to replace the water heater at the Lake Crystal Area Recreation Center:
Councilor Cooper moved and Councilor Gengler seconded the motion to approve Option A of the proposal from Malterer Mechanical for a water heater. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

C. Consider approval of a proposal from the Region Nine Development Commission to develop a City of Lake Crystal Economic Development Strategic Plan:
Councilor Cooper moved and Councilor Gengler seconded the motion to approve the Region Nine Development Commission proposal at an estimated cost of $15,000. Mayor Ahrenstorff abstained from the following vote: Ayes: Cooper, Gengler, and Schultz, Nays: None. Motion carried.

Councilor Cooper moved and Councilor Gengler seconded the motion to use the proceeds from the sale of the Thompson Subdivision lots to fund the aforementioned Economic Development Strategic Plan. Mayor Ahrenstorff abstained from the following vote: Ayes: Cooper, Gengler, and Schultz, Nays: None. Motion carried.
D. Consider approval of a Public Recreational Facilities Use Agreement for School Functions:
Councilor Schultz moved and Councilor Gengler seconded the motion to approve the Public Recreational Facilities Use Agreement for School Functions. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

E. Consider approval of 2019 LMCIT Property/Casualty Insurance Binder:
Councilor Gengler moved and Councilor Cooper seconded the motion to approve the 2019 LMCIT Property/Casualty Insurance Binder. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

F. Consider approval of street closure request and parking plan for the 2019 Cruz 'IN Lake Crystal events:
Councilor Cooper moved and Councilor Schultz seconded the motion to approve the aforementioned street closure request. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

G. Consider cancelling the March 18, 2019 regular meeting of the City Council:
Councilor Gengler moved and Councilor Cooper seconded the motion to cancel the March 18, 2019 City Council meeting. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

H. Consider scheduling a joint workshop with the Public Utilities Commission to discuss bids for the Southwest Street and Utility Improvements Project:
Councilor Gengler moved and Councilor Cooper seconded the motion to hold a joint workshop on Monday, April 1, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. with the Public Utilities Commission. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

I. Consider accepting the resignation of Connie Van Raalte from the Lake Crystal Ambulance Service:
Councilor Cooper moved and Councilor Gengler seconded the motion to accept the resignation of Connie Van Raalte. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

J. Consider accepting the resignation of Wendy Hennager from the Lake Crystal Ambulance Service:
Councilor Schultz moved and Councilor Gengler seconded the motion to accept the resignation of Wendy Hennager. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

K. Consider the appointment of Jesse Cherney to the Lake Crystal Ambulance Service:
Councilor Gengler moved and Councilor Cooper seconded the motion to approve the appointment of Jesse Cherney to the Lake Crystal Ambulance Service. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

Information/Discussion Items:

A. Commission/Committee Training and Orientation Manual
B. Upcoming meetings and events:
   • Public Utilities Commission regular meeting – Tuesday, March 12 – 7:30 a.m.
   • Economic Development Authority regular meeting – Tuesday, March 12 – 4:30 p.m.
   • Blue Earth County Mayors’ and Clerks’ meeting – Thursday, March 14 – 6:30 p.m.
   • LCFD Firehouse Rib Feed – Saturday, March 16 – 4:30 p.m. – Lake Crystal American Legion
   • Parks and Recreation Commission regular meeting – Monday, March 18 – 6:30 p.m.
   • Lake Crystal Business Blitz – Wednesday, March 27
   • Southwest Street and Utility Improvements Project bid opening – March 28–10:00 a.m.
   • Planning and Zoning Commission regular meeting – Monday, April 1 – 6:30 p.m.
• City Council regular meeting – Monday, April 1 – 7:30 p.m.

Council Comments and Observations:
  • No report

Adjournment:
  Councilor Gengler moved and Mayor Ahrenstorff seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Brad Ahrenstorff, Mayor

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Taylor Gronau, City Administrator