

City of LeRoy MN – Council Meeting Minutes, September 4, 2018

A regular meeting of the LeRoy City Council was called to order by Mayor Brian Thiel on Tuesday, September 4, 2018, at 6:30 PM at the LeRoy Community Center with the following members present: Mayor Brian Thiel, Council Members Kathleen Gottschalk, Gene Miller, Jan Whisler, Maintenance Supervisor John Jones, and City Clerk Patty White. Council Member Ashley Huntley was absent. Also attending: Axel Gumbel, Craig Jacobson, Steve Kasel, and Deputy Tyler Wilson. All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council reviewed the items included in the consent agenda. Motion by Gottschalk, second by Whisler to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 4-0.

During Public Input Time:

- Steve Kasel, a member of the L-O School Board and swimming pool task force, noted the school has a ballot referendum for funds to operate the pool on a year-round basis. He noted that a possible Plan B had been suggested that the pool could be open on a seasonal basis for three to four months during the summer. This option could be reviewed if the ballot referendum fails. Mr. Kasel noted that the school and city would need to contribute the same amount in funds (\$20,000 per year each) if Plan B is pursued. Mr. Kasel requested the council to keep the \$20,000 in the proposed budget for 2019. Thiel reported he had spoken with Justin Kennedy, the chairman of the L-O School Board, about the pool. Mr. Kennedy noted to Mayor Thiel that the school board's unanimous vote was to allow the voters of the school district to vote on the swimming pool. Miller questioned Mr. Kasel if the school board needs to make the statement that the referendum funds will be used for pool needs. Since this is an operating levy referendum, the school board could choose to use these funds for other student educational needs. Miller also posed the question if the referendum passes and operations are taken over by the school and if the city continues to contribute to the pool, if the city will have any representation on pool operations. Mr. Kasel did not have an answer to that. Mr. Kasel noted he doesn't see the school board using a 'bait and switch' tactic if the referendum passes; he felt the school board would make sure those additional funds are dedicated to the operation of the swimming pool. Mr. Kasel noted there are three informational sessions planned for residents of the school district to bring their questions pertaining to this upcoming referendum vote.
- Craig Jacobson noted that LeRoy City Lines has a good problem to have. He reported that parking in the city parking lot is almost full; he is concerned with parking when wintertime comes. Ridership usually increases during the winter months. He questioned where additional parking could be. It was suggested to use an area north of the fire hall, with the cars parking north and south just north of the alley. Other spots were suggested; Jacobson thought these would be too far for the passengers to walk to the bus stop. It was council consensus to proceed with Jones and Jacobson working on this.
- Jacobson also noted that through August, the early AM route ridership has tripled; the late AM route ridership has increased 20%. The note has been signed between the EDA and City for the purchase of the two new buses.
- Steve Kasel questioned if a LeRoy City Lines bus could be parked in the school bus shed and the school bus could continue to be parked in the city shed. It was noted the LCL buses are as long as or longer than a school bus.

During Standing Committee Reports:

- Thiel made note of the discussion in the library board minutes pertaining to the 2019 proposed budget for the library of adding a line item for overtime. Thiel noted this will be up for future discussion.

Police Report:

- White was directed to make contact with Sheriff Amazi requesting written reports if the assigned deputy is not able to attend a council meeting.

In Old Business:

- Thiel noted that people are being hooked up to the Jaguar services. He had been informed by Jaguar that they have 175 signed up for their services now.
- Council had met in a work session to discuss the 2019 budget and proposed levy. Motion by Miller, second by Whisler to pass Resolution 2018-04, a resolution adopting the preliminary levy at \$500,000 and setting the Truth in Taxation hearing for Monday, December 3, 2018, at 6:30 PM. Motion carried 4-0.

EDA Appointment:

- It was noted there is an opening on the LeRoy EDA board due to the untimely passing of Dave Perkins. Thiel read a letter of interest from Sara Gerk. Whisler noted that someone had expressed interest to him in serving on the EDA board, but this person would like to attend an EDA meeting first. Council will review this appointment at their October meeting.

Land Use Permits:

- Council reviewed one land use permit.
 1. NWTRLY 148.59 FT, N 118.85 FT, S 207.02 FT, SWTRLY 324 FT Old RR RTWY ADJ to Block 23, Original Village, 111 S Broadway-build steel bin cluster with enclosed driveway

Motion by Gottschalk, second by Miller to approve said permit. Motion carried 4-0. Thiel noted he would like to see the whole permit process revamped. This will be discussed at upcoming meetings.

The Communications File was reviewed. Items included:

- A thank you from Samantha Steinkamp was read. Ms. Steinkamp was awarded one of the Pangborn scholarships.
- An invitation from the L-O Forever group was reviewed. A donation to this cause would not fall under a public purpose expenditure.
- The invitation to the fall LMC Regional Meetings was reviewed. This meeting usually coincides with the fall SEMLM meeting.
- The next semi-annual meeting of the Mower County League of Cities will be held on October 11.

2018 Street Maintenance:

- Jones reported he should be receiving information from Mr. Nerstad of Four-Season Maintenance on the south Everett project. Council will review this when the information is received.
- The patch on Main Street will be completed when the weather permits.

Water & Sewer Service Extension:

- Miller reported that Councilor Huntley had talked to Tammi Guy about crossing her property to extend water and sewer to the Northern Country Coop shed and the Mel Albrecht property.
- Miller questioned what the city wants to pay for and to what extent would the council be involved with payment of this project. Miller noted the entire project could be done as service lines crossing Ms. Guy's property. It was questioned if the grade would allow gravity feed of sanitary sewer.
- Miller noted he had tried to get Northern Country Coop to commit to a dollar figure they would be willing to pay; NCC has not given that information. Miller suggested to the council that the city do whatever they can to make this happen. Motion by Miller to help in any way the city can to make this happen with the city paying no more than 25% of the project costs. Second by Whisler. Motion carried 4-0.

Sewer Maintenance/Repair Under Main Street:

- White updated council on a conversation with the project engineer for the Highway 56 project. During the scoping process done by MnDOT, MnDOT found the pavement within the City of LeRoy to be in poor shape. It was noted there is a better than 70% chance that Highway 56 here in LeRoy from the intersection of County Road 56 to Ada Street will need to be completely reconstructed. It was consensus of the council to wait on any further action for re-lining of the sanitary sewer main until more information is received from MnDOT.

Water Tower Inspection Report:

- Jones reviewed the engineer's report on the recent inspection of the water tower. The report was received from KLM Engineering.
- No urgent recommendations were made in the report. Council requested copies of the report be forwarded to them. A full review of the report will be considered at future council meetings.

Police Report:

- Deputy Tyler Wilson arrived to give his oral police report. He noted it has been quiet as of late. Miller questioned about receiving a written report on a monthly basis. Wilson will prepare these reports as requested. Council thanked Deputy Wilson for his time.

Security Improvements:

- Thiel presented bids for security cameras for City Hall, Community Center, and maintenance shop. Bids were received from two reputable companies. Bid #1 from On-Site Computers was in the amount of \$5365; Bid #2 from Custom Alarm was in the amount of \$9865. It was noted that all the cameras would have night vision and would record on motion.
- Council posed questions on both bids. The bid from On-Site Computers would have the maintenance employees pulling the cables for the camera operations. Miller noted he would rather have On-Site pull all the cables. Miller also noted he would like to see full installation costs from On-Site. Thiel questioned council if they would be willing to offer an additional \$500 to On-Site to do the complete installation.
- Motion by Miller to proceed with the bid from On-Site if everything can be done for \$6000. Second by Whisler. Motion carried 4-0. Miller questioned about any type of service contract. Thiel will check into this.

Nuisance Properties:

- There was nothing new to report.

Being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM on a motion by Gottschalk, second by Miller.

Brian Thiel, Mayor

Attest:

Patty A. White, City Clerk-Treasurer