

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2014

The January 21, 2014 meeting of the Lake Mills City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building Council Chambers by Council President Ed Grunden. Roll Call was answered by Ed Grunden, Diann Fritsch, Michael Foster, Steve Kurkiewicz and Rudy Schaar. Also present were City Manager Steve Wilke, City Attorney Vickie Schmidt, Finance Director James E. Heilman, Public Works Director Paul Hermanson and City Clerk Elizabeth Milbrath. Others present Bandon Herbert and Brenden Kress of Strand and Dustin Wolff of Mead & Hunt.

Mr. Grunden struck from the agenda item 7d. since the Parks Board had not yet approved these minutes.

City Council Minutes. Motion Mr. Kurkiewicz, second Mr. Schaar to approve the minutes of January 7, 2014. Motion to approve passed 5-0.

Correspondence. Mr. Grunden mentioned that the Lake Mills Main Street Program sent a thank you for the support from the City and a letter received from a constituent who is unable to attend the meeting who discussed the layout of Elm Street. Mr. Kurkiewicz spoke to about 6 people opposed to changing the form of government and he encouraged them to vote. Mr. Foster spoke to someone regarding the petition to change the form of government. During the discussion misconceptions were clarified and this person changed their position and no longer supports change. Mr. Schaar also received similar calls and when facts presented they no longer supported a change to the form of government. Mrs. Fritsch also spoke to individuals with misconceptions on the effects of a change in the form of government and also encouraged citizens to vote.

Questions and Public Comment. Wayne Magnussen, 923 S. Ferry Dr. Speaking on item 8j., provided copies of his notes to the council and staff. He strongly urged citizens to vote against the referendum. He itemized the reasons to keep the City Manager form of government such as a professional in the position rather than someone politically elected. Todd Temperly suggested that the City Council hold a public hearing at their next meeting on the proposed charter ordinance. He pointed out the problems he sees in the ordinance. Stated the pro-mayor group was invited to a debate on March 8th but declined stating they saw no reason to have a public discussion. Leonard Klein, 805 E. Lake St., spoke regarding his zoning request asking that the City Council approve item G, Ordinance 1122A. It doesn't change his zoning but makes that change a possibility. Norman Goeschko, 140 W Oak St., stated that the current City Manager is a strong executive while the City Council is not strong. Citizens don't have a say in how the City is run. Ordinance was left vague so the City Council can make the decisions on how a mayor form of government could be set up.

City Manager Report. Information in the packet included e-mails from the DNR regarding the dam. Explaining that opening up the bowl of the dam may not reduce the high hazard rating to low hazard as previously indicated.

Acceptance of Committee Minutes. Minutes of the Joint Rock Lake Committee, December 3, 2013; Senior Advisory Board, October 3, 2013; Rock Lake Manor, October 22, 2013 and Lake Mills Police & Fire Commission of December 19, 2013 were placed on file as presented.

Council Business:

- a. Board/Committee Appointments. None.
- b. Miscellaneous Licenses. Motion Mr. Schaar, second Mrs. Fritsch to grant the Tavern Operator's Licenses to Larry Jelken and Jonathon Zuleger. Motion passed 5-0.
- c. Discussion/Decision on Request to use Community Center and Become a Class B Sanctioned User, Neighbors for City Manager Form of Government. Motion Mr. Schaar, second Mr. Kurkiewicz to suspend the rules and allow Todd Temperly to speak on this items. Motion passed 5-0. Mr. Temperly invited the City Council and the community to an informational meeting on February 8th in the Community Center at 1:00 if request is approved. City Attorney Schmidt advised the City Council member that they may, as individuals, continue to debate the Council/City Manager vs. Mayor/Council form of government after they have decided the issue at the Council level. She outlined the constraints according to the Government Accountability Board. Mr. Temperly also discussed a tentative meeting planned at the Community Center in March. Motion Mr. Schaar, second Mr. Kurkiewicz to approve the request by Neighbors for City Manager Form of Government to become a Class B Sanctioned user and approve the request to use the community center. Motion passed 5-0.
- d. Discussion on TID #5. Dustin Wolff of Mead & Hunt reviewed the proposed TID #5 on the Southside of the City. He explained the boundaries, which lots are included and the benefits these property owners could receive through the TID.
- e. Discussion on Layout of Elm & Birch Streets. Elm Street laid out with a curve due to the traffic on Tyranena Park Road. Traffic analysis shows that Elm Street going through from Pine to Tyranena Park Road will improve the traffic situation in that area. Discussion on need to bring this street through and benefit to emergency vehicle traffic flow. Discussed Birch Street layout from Pine Street to Tyranena Park Road. City staff worked with the School District on the layout of the street. It will meet at the entrance/exit of the new school. Discussion on traffic flow.
- f. Discussion on Preliminary Design of Light & Water Building. Public Works Director, Paul Hermanson explained that due to the needs of the Parks Department it was decided that the Light & Water Department will build a new building and the Parks Department will remodel the L&W area of the Public Works building. Brenden Kress of Strand reviewed the plans for the building and building site. Discussion on heating/cooling, future expansion needs and storage building.
- g. Ordinance 1122A, Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map Amendment, 246-0714-1823-01, Enterprise Drive, Planned Industrial to General Industrial, 3rd Reading. Motion Mr. Kurkiewicz, second Mr. Schaar to approve Ordinance 1122A. Dustin Wolff explained that the Plan Commission recommended approval of the amendment while the City Planner recommended the amendment be denied based on the Master Plan. This use doesn't foster employment. Mrs. Fritsch stated she was on the City Council when the zoning was set up and the council didn't want warehouses in that area; their objective was to increase employment opportunities. Motion failed 0-4-1 with Mr. Grunden abstaining.
- h. Ordinance 1125, Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map Amendment, 246-0713-1141-054, 721 W. Madison St. Planned Business/Office to Single-Family Residential, 3rd Reading. Motion Mr. Foster, second Mr. Schaar to approve adoption of Ordinance 1125. Dustin Wolff explained that the proposed

amendment is consistent with the Master Plan and surrounding uses. Attorney Schmidt explained that this building was constructed to eventually become single family residential. Motion passed 5-0.

- i. Ordinance 1126, Amending Stop Signs Located at Lilac Lane, 2nd Reading. Passed to 3rd reading.

- j. Ordinance 1127, Charter Ordinance to Change to Mayor/Council Form of Government, 1st Reading. Mr. Foster stated that anybody may ask for a copy of the full petition and clarified that the City Manager may not run for mayor as many have thought. Asked citizens to think about the cost of this action. He feels the truth about the effects of a change needs to be displayed. Attorney Schmidt explained the procedure to certify the petition is in proper form with sufficient signatures. Mrs. Fritsch is in favor of sending this to the voters on April 1st. Mr. Schaar agrees with Mrs. Fritsch and stated it is important that the citizens understand the actual effect a change in the form of government would have. Mr. Grunden stressed to the community to find the truth and hoped for clean discussion of issues. Mr. Kurkiewicz agrees with fellow council members and reiterated that citizens need to understand the time and financial burden of this action. He added that no-one ran for city council so he isn't sure what the Charter Ordinance would accomplish. City Manager Wilke asked the City Council if they feel he tells them what to do. Mr. Kurkiewicz answered that the City Manager provides an excess of information on the topics, not direction. Mr. Foster did not feel the City Manager directs the City Councils actions. Mrs. Fritsch stated that the City Council has appropriate control over the City Manager and even put more controls over him with quarterly reviews to discuss his performance. Weak is not something the City Council is. Passed to 2nd reading.

Recommendations for Future Agendas. Discussion item on the odor from the chicken facility.

Adjourn at 9:35 p.m.

Elizabeth J. Milbrath
City Clerk