

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 4, 2014

The March 4, 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, City Treasurer James Heilman and City Clerk Elizabeth Milbrath.

City Council Minutes. Motion Mr. Kurkiewicz, second Mr. Foster to approve the Minutes of February 18, 2014. Motion to approve passed 4-0-1 with Mr. Grunden abstaining.

Correspondence. Mr. Grunden received calls about the water line freezing problems and commended Public Works Superintendent Paul Hermanson and staff for their work to thaw the frozen lines. He also commended the neighbors who have allowed their water to be hooked up to those with frozen lines. Mr. Schaar also received comment on water line freeze-ups and commended the staff for their work. Mrs. Fritsch noted that the air quality complaints link on the city website give the number for City Hall who will give temporary contact information at the DNR. The City Website contains the City Attorney job description and other information. Mr. Kurkiewicz also received calls on freezing water lines and had visited Public Works and viewed the machine used to thaw frozen pipes. He commended Harold and Wayne of the Water Department for their weekend work. Thanked Mr. & Mrs. Burrows have dedicated \$5,000 in playground equipment in memory of someone who has passed. Mr. Foster received an e-mail against the resolution for raising the severance pay for the City Manager. Mr. Grunden had an issue that involved the Police Dept. and was very impressed with how the Police Chief handled the situation and commended Parks Dept., Streets Dept., Volunteer fire, police and others for their work in the adverse conditions.

Questions and Public Comment. Todd Temperly, 408 Fremont St., Neighbors for a City Council/Manager Form of Government. Directly responded to the questions posed in a recent letter to the editor of the Lake Mills Leader. The questions involved the full time status of the City Attorney, decisions about building the Municipal Building, anti-business reputation and notice about projects.

City Manager Report. The City Manager will make an appointment tonight.

Acceptance of Committee Minutes. Minutes of the Public Works Board, January 14, 2014; Police & Fire Commission, January 16, 2014 and L.D. Fargo Public Library, January 20, 2014 were placed on file as presented.

Council Business:

- a. Board/Committee Appointments. The City Manager appointed Craig LaFleur to the Housing Authority.
- b. Miscellaneous Licenses. Motion Mr. Kurkiewicz, second Mrs. Fritsch to approve the tavern operator's license application for Richard Chappell, Jessica Dobratz and Cody Raasch. Motion passed 5-0.
- c. Discussion/Decision to Accept Donation from Lake Mills Rotary Club for Wallace Park Playground Equipment. Motion Mr. Foster, second Mr. Kurkiewicz to accept the donation as stated in Motion #14-3-1-1. Mr. Kurkiewicz explained that the Rotary Club has donated equipment and hired a project planner for the playground equipment installation. Expect

installation May 1st. This equipment will cover 45% of the area set aside for playground. Motion passed 5-0.

- d. Resolution 14-08, Authorization to Borrow Funds, Electric & Water Utilities. Motion Mr. Kurkiewicz, second Mrs. Fritsch to approve Resolution 14-08. City Treasurer Heilman explained that this is short term financing for Electric Utility distribution system upgrades and utility work in TID #4. Financing for 3-4 months then he will do a bond issue. Mrs. Fritsch thanked Greenwoods State Bank for working with the City. Motion passed 5-0.
- e. Resolution 14-07, Lake Mills Police Department Participation in Suburban Mutual Assistance Response Teams. Motion Mr. Schaar, second Mr. Foster to approve Resolution 14-07. Mr. Grunden asked Police Chief Matuszewski about the cooperation between different agencies; Chief Matuszewski responded that it is outstanding. Motion passed 5-0.
- f. Resolution 14-06, Funds Transfer for Strong Towns Consultant. Motion Mrs. Fritsch, second Mr. Schaar to approve Resolution 14-06. City Manager Wilke reviewed the schedule and explained that Strong Towns is an organization that evaluates municipal plans. Mrs. Fritsch stated she thought the presentation was significant and feels the City Council should look at it before their goal setting sessions. Mr. Grunden supports the work Steve has done and the City is meeting all 10 of the items that are suggested in the Strong Towns information. Motion passed 5-0.
- g. Discussion/Decision on Strong Towns Consultant Meeting Date. The consultant suggested the week of March 17th. Since the agenda for March 18th appears to be light the council agreed by consensus that the meeting dates are to be March 18th and 19th. Mrs. Fritsch stated that Plan Commission, Economic Development Commission, City staff and Dustin Wolff of Mead and Hunt are also invited.

Recommendations for Future Agendas. Mr. Schaar mentioned daylight savings time begins this weekend and it is a good time to replace batteries in carbon monoxide and smoke detectors. Fire fighters can assist if help is needed in replacing batteries.

Adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

Elizabeth J. Milbrath
City Clerk