

**CITY OF GILBERT**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2011**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Bellerud called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Bellerud, Councilors Garrity, Gentile, Nemanick and Omersa.

Absent: None

Staff Present: City Attorney Aluni, City Engineer Jamnick, Police Chief Skelton, Public Works Foreman Kuitunen, Fire Chief Omersa, Library Director Prieve and City Clerk Darrow

Mayor Bellerud led the audience in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Omersa second by Gentile to approve the following additions to the agenda:

1. Approve transfer of liquor license from John Botta, Bernies Pub to Louise Belanger, The Alibi contingent upon background check and all requirements being met.
2. Approve request from Fire Department for beer license for July 3, 2011.
3. Approve Partial Payment No. 10 for \$33,888.18 to Magney Construction for Wastewater Treatment Improvements project.
4. Approve Partial Payment No. 11 for \$19,104.56 to Magney Construction for Wastewater Treatment Improvements project.
5. Appoint Lyle Gulbranson to the Campground Advisory Board.

All approved.

Motion by Garrity second by Omersa to approve the minutes of Special, Closed and Regular Council Meetings of April 26, 2011. All approved.

Motion by Gentile second by Nemanick to approve minutes of Cemetery Board Meeting of April 7, 2011. All approved.

Mike Skenzich was present express his concerns with the City purchasing a piece of real estate.

Councilor Nemanick noted Bill Addy has expressed interest in refurbishing the Gilbert sign located at the edge of town. Clerk Darrow stated he is currently working with MN DOT on a grant that could be utilized for the Gilbert sign.

Councilor Nemanick announced a new business has opened in Gilbert; Northern Small Engine, owner Paul Turja and also noted there are new owners of Memory Lane Café. Nemanick suggested the City send a letter welcoming the owners of both businesses to town.

City Engineer Jamnick stated he will be holding a re-start-up meeting Thursday, May 12, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. with Mesabi Bituminous on the punch list of items for the Sherwood Forest Drive and Summit Street Improvements projects that were completed last fall. Jamnick noted Jola and Sopp will be working on the Wisconsin and Indiana Avenue sewer line projects once road restrictions are lifted.

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Discussion held concerning stop signs on Indiana Avenue due to the speed of traffic and also Sherwood Forest Drive. Chief Skelton stated the Police Department is patrolling the areas more and stopping vehicles not following the speed limit or obeying signs. Skelton also noted he could put up the digital speed sign in those areas which helps to slow people down.

Motion by Garrity second by Gentile to have street signs purchased and placed on Sherwood Forest Drive where necessary to specify the names of the roads. All approved.

Mayor Bellerud questioned the status of the cemetery signs. Public Works Foreman Kuitunen stated the signs were purchased and received but MN DOT will not allow the signs to be placed on a State Highway right of way.

Councilor Nemanick stated he has received complaints on roads at the Genoa location and requested the Public Works Department to put in culverts and run the grader through and bring in class five.

Mayor Bellerud stated a donation was requested for the Veterans Memorial in the City of Virginia. Clerk Darrow agreed to check what other cities have donated and report back to the Council.

Mayor Bellerud announced the Cemetery Board has arranged a clean-up at the cemetery on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. and if raining it will be on held on the 26<sup>th</sup> to prepare for Memorial Day.

Council denied a reduced rate on the rental of the Community Center kitchen and dining room for the pancake breakfast to be held on July 2, 2011.

Motion by Omersa second by Garrity to approve payment of bills and payroll subject to audit by Mayor and Clerk (check no. 10267-10318). All approved.

Bill Signer of AT Group explained they are an employee benefits company that works specifically with cities, counties and school districts across the state of Minnesota. Discussion was held on the health insurance benefits options that AT Group offers and what is required of the City by law. Clerk Darrow stated the AT Group is also working on short-term and long-term benefit options for the City.

Clerk Darrow stated the Planning and Zoning Commission is considering the rezoning of the Lake Ore-Be-Gone area and there will be a Public Hearing on Monday, May 23, 2011 regarding the rezoning request.

Clerk Darrow stated he has met with Attorney Aluni regarding developing a sales structure and special assessment for the Lake Ore-Be-Gone Development area and will update the Council further at the next Regular Meeting on May 24, 2011.

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Clerk Darrow expressed his appreciation of the Comprehensive Plan Committee for their work and stated the Committee interviewed four firms for the downtown development and marketing plan and the Committee recommends hiring MSA. Darrow stated the entire process will be fully funded by the IRRRB grant.

Motion by Garrity second by Gentile to approve the hiring of MSA for the City's downtown plan in the amount not to exceed \$14,000. All approved.

Motion by Gentile support by Omersa to authorize the City Clerk to submit the grant application and resolution to St. Louis County. All approved.

Clerk Darrow presented the job description for the position of "Operations Supervisor" to the Council.

Motion by Nemanick second by Gentile to change the title of the position from "Operations Supervisor" to "Operating Supervisor". All approved.

Motion by Omersa second by Nemanick to post the Operating Supervisor position for internal candidates only. All approved.

City Engineer Jamnick stated Clerk Darrow and he met with representatives of Inland Steel regarding the draft plan of the Lake Ore-Be-Gone Beach and Boat Landing project. Inland concurred to participate in the project and the City is scheduled to take quotes next Monday, May 16, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. with a tentative completion date of June 10, 2011 so the beach will be open for the summer swimming season. Clerk Darrow noted the project should be fully funded between Inland's contributions and the IRRB grant (that was for the slope stabilization project).

City Engineer Jamnick stated the City received one bid on the Iowa Avenue project from Mesabi Bituminous, Inc.

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| Iowa Avenue Improvements – Base Bid                                | \$84,167.50 |
| Add Alternate No. 1 – Ohio Avenue/1 <sup>st</sup> Court Imp.       | \$20,838.00 |
| Add Alternate No. 2 – New Jersey Avenue/1 <sup>st</sup> Court Imp. | \$21,252.00 |
| Add Alternate No. 3 – Nebraska Avenue/1 <sup>st</sup> Court Imp.   | \$15,844.00 |

Jamnick explained the scope of the project plus the add alternates. The City received a \$100,000 grant from the IRRRB to do the improvements to Iowa Avenue. Councilor Nemanick questioned spending the money on Iowa Avenue versus fixing storm sewers and such. Clerk Darrow stated the Council could look at changing the priority of the projects and check with the IRRRB on the funding. Public Works Foreman Kuitunen stressed the importance of widening Iowa Avenue. Council agreed to do as much as possible with the grant funds received.

Motion by Nemanick second by Gentile to award contract bid in the amount of \$84,167.50 to Mesabi Bituminous for the Iowa Avenue Improvements Project. All approved.

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City Engineer Jamnick stated the water plant cleaning, one of four projects to be completed at the water plant, has been tentatively scheduled. Jamnick also updated the Council on the wastewater plant project.

Motion by Garrity second by Omersa to authorize Change Order No. 6 for the Wastewater Treatment Improvements project increasing the contract amount by \$15,123.26. All approved.

Clerk Darrow presented the Council with correspondence from Minnesota Power regarding the Council's concerns. Lengthy discussion followed.

Motion by Omersa second by Gentile to authorize the City Clerk to develop a three person hiring committee (one from each the Public Works, City Hall and Police Departments) for summer help. All approved.

Clerk Darrow stated a list of names will be brought back to the City Council for final approval.

Clerk Darrow stated the Joint Recreation Board will only supply life guards for one beach in Gilbert. Darrow stated he checked with the League of Minnesota Cities and the City is not required to have a lifeguard at a beach if there is a sign posted stating "no life guard on duty". Council discussed whether to have lifeguards at Lake Ore-Be-Gone or Sparta.

Clerk Darrow stated the scuba event to be held at Lake Ore-Be-Gone on August 13, 2011 will be named Gilbert Scuba Days. Darrow noted they are working on getting local businesses involved in promoting the event and are hoping it will become an annual event for Gilbert.

Clerk Darrow noted the City is actively working on scenarios for the Olde Country Floral building and will continue to provide updates on the building.

Clerk Darrow announced the list of Bills and Payroll approved at each Council Meeting will be available to view on the City website at [www.gilbertmn.org](http://www.gilbertmn.org) and copies are available at City Hall.

Clerk Darrow congratulated the Mayor, Council and Police Chief for the positive feedback from the State and League of Minnesota Cities regarding the partnership of the Gilbert and Biwabik Police Departments. The Council credited Chief Skelton for the work done to make the partnership possible.

Move by Gentile second by Nemanick to approve transfer of liquor license from John Botta, Bernies Pub to Louise Belanger, The Alibi contingent upon background check and all requirements being met. All approved.

Move by Omersa second by Garrity to approve request from Gilbert Volunteer Fire Department for beer license for July 3, 2011. All approved.

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Motion by Gentile second by Omersa to approve Partial Payment No. 10 for \$33,888.18 to Magney Construction for Wastewater Treatment Improvements project and Partial Payment No. 11 for \$19,104.56 to Magney Construction for Wastewater Treatment Improvements project as recommended by the City Engineer. All approved.

Motion by Omersa second by Garrity to appoint Lyle Gulbranson to the Campground Advisory Board as recommended by the Mayor. All approved.

Council discussed purchasing a golf cart to replace the pick-up truck used at Sherwood Forest Campground.

Motion by Garrity second by Gentile to purchase a refurbished golf cart for Sherwood Forest Campground. All approved.

Motion by Gentile second by Omersa to authorize the City Clerk to move forward with replacing the door handle mechanism on the entrance to City Hall. All approved.

Motion by Omersa second by Gentile to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. All approved.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

The aforementioned is a summary of the action items from this meeting. To listen to the full transcript of this meeting, please contact City staff at 218.748.2232.