

**Minutes of Council Work Session and Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 12, 2013**

Mayor Skenzich called the Council Work Session meeting to order at 5:33 PM. All Councilors were present as was Clerk Susan Harper.

Council will approve the fee schedule as presented at their March 26th meeting after holding a public hearing for liquor license holders and any member of the public wanting to be heard. The utility rebates will be approved during the regular Council meeting tonight with pictures of Gilbert on the brochure and LED lights at a \$15 rebate; Councilor Skalko will explore the rental payments to the Eveleth fee office to see if they can be split between two renters, with Council answering the additional decision of where to put the recycling roll-offs if the parcel cannot be split; the addition of the fidelity bond to the city's insurance policy will be the \$100,000 level. The insurance premium refund will be kept fluid for use at a later date on multiple projects, the Community Center being the prime candidate.

Motion to adjourn the Council work session by Councilor Schutte, seconded by Councilor Kutsi. Motion carried unanimously. The Council Work Session was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Mayor Skenzich called the Regular Council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All Councilors were in attendance, including City Attorney Brunfelt, City Engineer Jamnick, Police Chief Techar, Operations Superintendent Lautigar, Library Director Miller and Clerk Harper.

Mayor Skenzich led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Council approved the following additions to the agenda with a motion from Councilor Nemanick, seconded by Councilor Schutte: (1) dismissal of discipline for the Adm. Secretary & agreement with the resolution of the grievances as stated in the AFSCME email and (2) Request from the Gilbert Fire Dept. for equipment. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Councilor Kutsi, seconded by Councilor Schutte to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 22, 2013 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Councilor Nemanick, seconded by Councilor Skalko to approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting of January 29, 2013 as presented. Motion carried unanimously, with Mayor Skenzich changing his vote to an abstention due to his not being at the meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Councilor Schutte, seconded by Councilor Nemanick to approve as presented, the minutes of the Special Council Meetings of February 4th and 5th to interview for the City's mechanic position. Motion carried unanimously.

Request from the Knights of Columbus to conduct bingo for 4 dates in 2013. Motion to approve the request as stated by Councilor Kutsi, seconded by Councilor Schutte. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Councilor Kutsi, seconded by Councilor Schutte to approve the request by the Vineyard Church to rent ~125 square feet in the Community Center basement for storage. Attorney Brunfelt recommended that a flat fee be assessed for the monthly usage instead of altering the fee by the number of Sundays in a month or for use of the kitchen at the Community Center. After discussion, Council decided on a \$625/month flat fee for this monthly rental, also dropping the added \$50 for kitchen use, which was accepted and added to the motion by Councilor Kutsi and Councilor Schutte. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Councilor Schutte, seconded by Councilor Nemanick to approve Resolution 2013-02: A Resolution Allowing Survivor Benefits to be Paid in Cases where the Firefighter Dies before Becoming Vested (PERA). Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Councilor Kutsi, seconded by Councilor Skalko to approve the equipment purchases as presented by Fire Chief Knutson. Motion carried unanimously.

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Motion by Councilor Nemanick, seconded by Councilor Skalko to approve the LMCIT Liability Coverage Waiver Form to NOT WAIVE the monetary limits on municipal tort liability [as recommended by Aspire Insurance Agency]. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Harper presented Council with preliminary quotes for safety equipment and asked if Council would like her to apply for a safety loan from LMC. Council directed Harper to further explore the safety loan. Motion by Councilor Nemanick, seconded by Councilor Kutsi to table the safety equipment purchase until staff can present a solid list of needs and prices. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Councilor Nemanick, seconded by Councilor Skalko to approve the rebate amounts as presented for insertion into the utility rebate brochure to comply with the Conservation Improvement Programs goals in the electric utility. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Skenzich asked the audience for any public input. No one came forward. Under this agenda item there was a request to forgive the outstanding utility bills by a potential new owner of the Whistling Bird restaurant. Former City Councilor Bob Garrity spoke to Council about when the City should stop forgiving past due utility bills. There was mention that the City could work with a new business by possibly offering to assess the delinquent bills over time, like a 10 year period. After further discussion, Mayor Skenzich made the motion to table this item, seconded by Councilor Nemanick. Motion carried unanimously.

Council received a proposal from Donovan Goblirsch Realty to function as the real estate broker for the City. Until the proposal contains more details, particularly the percentage Goblirsch intends to charge, the City will not decide on the proposal. Councilor Skalko will talk to Mr. Goblirsch about the necessary additions to his proposal.

Motion offered by Councilor Nemanick, seconded by Councilor Skalko to table the request for space from the Carson & Barnes Circus. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Skenzich asked for reports from Staff, Boards, Commissions, Council and Mayor. Councilor Nemanick asked the public to adopt a fire hydrant and help keep it shoveled during these snow events. He reminded the public that calendar parking was in effect. Nemanick announced that any touring activity at the Community Center was for potential renters of the space and that the Council was considering preservation repairs to the building.

Councilor Skalko stated that he had alerted the newspaper to the potential change in Sparta if the City decides to take down the skating rink boards and to please submit any pictures or information to the paper for an article on the Sparta community center and rink. Councilor Kutsi stated that funds given to the City in 2009 from the Gilbert Centennial committee were to be used for improvements at Kennedy Park. Harper will have to research this donation and Council will decide what to do with this previous earmarking of funds. Councilor Kutsi also complimented staff on the article in the newspaper that showed Gilbert Water Operators Terah Rinerson and Trudy Salo teaching classes on the water cycle. Councilor Schutte recommended that staff pursue a grant for free paint from the Valspar Company to use in the City by volunteers. Any volunteer group in the City can apply for the paint. Mayor Skenzich stated that there was a dismissal of discipline for the Administrative Secretary and agreement with the resolution of the grievances as stated in the AFSCME email.

City Attorney Brunfelt reviewed the Vineyard Church rental agreement and commenting on it during the Council discussion.

City Engineer Jammick stated that there was an agreement reached with the DNR on their OHV trail extension in Gilbert. The DNR will ask for state funding to repair the OHV Park entrance in 2014, bearing 100% of the costs as the road is in need of repair and is not a City road.

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Police Chief Techar announced that Gilbert now offered a pharmacy drop box in the entrance to City Hall for people to dispose of their old prescriptions.

Operations Superintendent Lautigar stated that the City hired Daryl Saari as the City Mechanic and he will start on Monday, February 25th. Lautigar also asked that residents attend to the hydrants for the sake of the City crew and the Fire Department and for all of our safety.

Library Director Miller updated Council on programs at the library and said that there is a red banner for Love Your Library month up in front of the library. Mayor Skenzich compliment Miller on the energy she has for the library and that he knows that participants are coming from other communities to attend her events.

City Clerk Harper's request to attend the MCFOA annual conference was unanimously approved with a motion by Councilor Nemanick, seconded by Councilor Schutte. Motion carried unanimously. Harper updated Council on the possibility that the LGA amount for 2014 may increase. Harper announced to council that the LMC Annual Conference will be held in St. Paul, June 19-21, 2013. Harper asked people to apply for the Neighborhood Revitalization Program offered by AEOA and stated that it was specific to those in the \$40K to \$80K income groups, who are often not served with these programs.

Motion by Councilor Schutte, seconded by Councilor Skalko to approve payment of the bills and payroll as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Skenzich acknowledged receipt of the MPCA Biosolids Annual Report for Gilbert and asked City Engineer Jamnick to comment on its resolution.

Motion by Councilor Schutte to adjourn the meeting, seconded by councilor Nemanick. Mayor Skenzich adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Mayor Michael Skenzich

ATTEST:

Susan M. Harper, 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.