

CITY OF GILBERT
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2015
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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

Present: Mayor Kutsi, Councilors Pontinen, Skalko, and Liimatta

Absent: Councilor Bol absent with notice.

Staff Present: City Attorney Thayer, City Engineer Jamnick, Police Chief Techar, Public Works Operations Director Lautigar, Library Director Miller, Campground Managers John and Barb Rautanen, and City Clerk/Treasurer Sakrison.

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

Motion by Skalko second by Pontinen to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Public Input: None

Motion by Skalko second by Liimatta to approve the May 4, 2015 Special City Council Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Liimatta second by Skalko to approve the May 7, 2015 Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Skalko second by Pontinen to approve the May 26, 2015 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Skalko second by Liimatta to approve payment of \$2,390.20 and \$108,236.68 to Range Cornice and Roofing for pay estimates 1 and 2, respectively, for the City Hall roofing project. This project will use the remaining funds from the 2012 Energy Bonds. Motion carried.

Motion by Liimatta second by Skalko to approve the transfer of the liquor license for Nick's Bar, Inc. effective June 9, 2015 due to transfer of stock of the licensee to Brian C. Maki. The fee for the transfer is \$300 and the fee for the background check is \$15. Motion carried.

Motion by Skalko second by Pontinen to approve the request by Terah Trucano-Rinerson to attend the Minnesota Wastewater Operators Conference in Grand Rapids, MN on July 29-31, 2015 including associated expenses. Motion carried.

Motion by Skalko second by Pontinen to approve Arcelor Mittal's request for the City of Gilbert to act as the fiscal agent for the Arcelor Mittal grant from the IRRRB Innovation Program for Mine Land Reclamation. Motion carried.

Motion by Skalko second by Liimatta to approve a Temporary Liquor License for the Gilbert Fire Relief Association for July 3, 2015. Motion carried.

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Motion by Liimatta second by Skalko to accept the resignation of Breanna Oinonen from the Gilbert First Responders, effective immediately. Councilor Skalko inquired if there are enough people to fill the roster. Steve Peterson stated that Breanna hasn't been available for a while. Motion carried.

Steve Peterson discussed the request to establish compensation for the Gilbert First Responders. Motion by Skalko second by Liimatta to support compensation of \$8.00 per hour, \$225 per month for the Director, \$100 per month for the Assistant Director, \$50 per month for the Secretary, and \$25 per month for the Supply Clerk. Pontinen asked how much would be coming out of the General Fund. The current budget is \$3000 and a six percent fee is charged at the campground to fund the First Responders. Steve Peterson discussed that Gilbert needs First Responders since the Virginia ambulance is too far away if there is a heart attack, or if someone needs attention right away. Pontinen stated that tax payers bear too much now. Kutsi explained the background of the First Responders. Pontinen feels that the higher valued real estate tax payers are paying for the brunt of things. Skalko stated that he respects all the First Responders that have come and gone. They keep their vehicles stocked and ready, and feels they need to be compensated. Mayor Kutsi called a roll call. Skalko: aye; Liimatta: aye; Pontinen: nay; Kutsi: aye. Motion carried 3-1.

Public Works Operations Director Lautigar discussed the renewal of the annual service agreement with Hach Service Partnership for chemical analyzers. Motion by Liimatta second by Skalko to approve the Hach Service Partnership agreement in the amount of \$3,468. Motion carried.

Councilor Skalko stated that Quad City Food Shelf is moving ahead on painting and shelving. He will be following up on whether or not the roof will be replaced.

Councilor Skalko stated that he is hoping to have the photos of the 1951 basketball team up soon.

Mayor Kutsi had concerned citizens approach him and wanted to clarify that the council is not looking to add a \$750 flat tax to each household. Pontinen stated that it costs each household in town \$765 per year to get their services. Kutsi believes that the tax base is set up the proper way.

City Engineer Jamnick stated that for the MN/MI alley project Utility Systems has been working on the restoration. The paving has been completed and they have been working on sodding. They were responsive to the city during the last meeting. Councilor Skalko asked Jamnick if additional sodding could be done in some areas where pipe was set and the grass died. Jamnick stated that he will look into it.

Chief Techar discussed that they are working on the blight issue. They will be focusing on long grass at this time.

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Chief Techar is requesting the authorization to purchase new bullet-proof vests for six officers. There are two possible reimbursement programs that would cover a portion of the vests. Motion by Liimatta second by Pontinen to purchase six bullet-proof vests. Motion carried.

Public Works Operations Director Lautigar reported that they have been cutting a lot of grass and weed whacking, and stated that the cemetery looks good. The MN 135 landscaping project has been staked and he is in the process of getting prices on trees. The tree trimming is almost done and some extra trees are being cut down on the boulevards.

Public Works Operations Director Lautigar reported that the Rock N Pines lift station had two check valves and a pump replaced. He is still working on prices on the electrical panel.

Public Works Operations Director Lautigar reported that Servpro has started to clean up the lime spill damage at the water plant. Skalko inquired if additional cleaning can be done in other parts of the plant. Lautigar stated that he was given a price for the additional areas, but it is expensive due to lead paint issues.

Councilor Pontinen inquired about painting the street light poles on the main street. Lautigar stated he is in the process of getting paint for them and having the summer workers help paint. He is hoping there will be money available in the 2019 project for new poles.

Library Director Miller reported that over fifty people visited with Bernie Kukar. She gave thanks to the Library Foundation for setting it up.

Library Director Miller reported that summer reading is in full swing. It is currently in the second week and about ninety people are registered so far. Library Director Miller discussed a variety of programs going on this summer.

Motion by Skalko second by Pontinen to approve the appointment of Sara Nyberg to the Library Board with the term expiring January 31, 2017. Motion carried.

Campground Managers John and Barb Rautanen are requesting to rent the campground to Crawl 4 the Cure on July 16-19 for \$1800. Motion by Liimatta second by Skalko to approve renting the campground to Crawl 4 the Cure on July 16-19 for \$1800. Pontinen inquired how much we would be losing by doing this. John Rautanen stated that if the campground was 100 percent full that it would be about a \$500 loss. He stated that many of these campers generate additional rentals because they return on additional weekends throughout the season. Pontinen is concerned that it may appear that the city is contributing to a charity. Kutsi, Skalko, Bol: aye; Pontinen: nay. Motion carried 3-1.

Motion by Skalko second by Liimatta to approve payment of bills and payroll. Motion carried.

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Motion by Liimatta second by Skalko to acknowledge the May 4, 2015 Gilbert Public Library Board Meeting Minutes and the May 12, 2015 Gilbert Safety Committee Meeting Minutes.
Motion carried.

Mayor Kutsi acknowledged correspondence from Minnesota GreenStep Cities in which the City of Gilbert was recognized as a Minnesota GreenStep City.

Motion by Skalko second by Liimatta to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Motion carried.

Debra Sakrison, Clerk/Treasurer

ATTEST

Rob Kutsi, Mayor