

CITY OF GILBERT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2015  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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

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

Absent: Councilor Liimatta absent with notice.

Staff Present: City Attorney Kearney, City Engineer Jammick, Police Chief Techar, 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 Bol to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Public Input:

Mike Peterson discussed the Lake Ore-Be-Gone beach area. He feels that we should look into ways to maximize revenues from people coming into town. He discussed declining enrollment in the Gilbert and Eveleth schools and encouraged members of the community to get involved with the schools.

John Briski, representative of Northern Habilitative Services, discussed the company and the services they provide to people with developmental disabilities and mental health issues. They work under contract with Itasca County and St. Louis County. They are looking to build a new facility in Gilbert. They purchased a privately owned lot in Kansas Addition. Soil borings were completed and issues were found with the underlying fill. The lot would need to be dug out and filled with new fill. He contacted IRRRB and was told there may be grant money available to mitigate the site deficiencies, but the City would have to be the grantee, as NHS is a for-profit agency. Mayor Kutsi asked if they would be interested in a lot exchange if it would be possible. Mr. Briski stated that they would be interested if it was the right location. Mayor Kutsi stated that he will see what the City can do to keep NHS in Gilbert.

Motion by Bol second by Skalko to approve the July 28, 2015 Special City Council Meeting Minutes and the July 28, 2015 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

Assistant Fire Chief Skenzich discussed the repairs needed on the 1985 Telesquirt International. Motion by Skalko second by Bol to approve the repairs needed on the 1985 Telesquirt International per the quote from Kirvida Fire, not to exceed \$8,938. Motion carried.

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Motion by Skalko second by Pontinen to approve the appointment of Fire Chief Todd Devich, Assistant Fire Chief Jeremy Skenzich, and Mayor Rob Kutsi to the Fire Department Consolidation Committee. Motion carried.

Motion by Bol second by Skalko to table the discussion on the property located at 317 N Broadway Street. Councilor Bol stated that Mr. Sortedahl hired an electrician that will be starting the work in mid to late August. He would like the council to show leniency on the matter. Councilor Skalko asked if a meeting should be set up to further discuss the issue. City Attorney Kearney suggested setting up a meeting with City Clerk/Treasurer Sakrison, a couple members of the council, Mr. Sortedahl, and himself to discuss possible options. Motion carried.

Motion by Pontinen second by Kutsi to appoint Councilor Bol, Councilor Skalko, City Attorney Kearney, Planning and Zoning Administrator Erik Wedge, and City Clerk/Treasurer Sakrison to the committee. Motion carried.

Motion by Skalko second by Bol to set a work session on Tuesday, August 25, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., to do a 2014 audit recap with Greg Knutson. Motion carried.

Mayor Kutsi discussed the vacancy on the RAMS Board.

Mayor Kutsi stated that Representative Jason Metsa would like to meet with the City to discuss the cliff jumping at Lake Ore-Be-Gone.

Mayor Kutsi stated that he received a letter from the MPCA approving the WWTP facility plan.

Councilor Bol discussed making the cliffs a destination and looking at ways to prevent it from being shut down completely.

Engineer Jamnick stated that bids are due Friday, August 14, 2015 for the Lower Florida/Highway 135 project and the East Industrial Park project.

Councilor Pontinen asked about any progress regarding the gravel pit. Engineer Jamnick stated that permit applications have not been submitted to St. Louis County yet.

Police Chief Techar discussed the issues at the beach. He stated that one out of six calls last month were related to the beach. He stated that a person in uniform would stop a lot of the issues going on at the beach.

Campground Manager John Rautanen stated that things are going well at the campground and most of the weekends are full. He stated that Crawl 4 the Cure went well and raised \$116,000. He stated that the bathrooms were left clean, the campground looked good, and a lot of repeat business was generated from the event.

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

Motion by Skalko second by Pontinen to acknowledge the June 1, 2015 Gilbert Public Library Board Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Skalko second by Bol to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Motion carried.

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Debra Sakrison, Clerk/Treasurer

ATTEST

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Rob Kutsi, Mayor