

CITY OF GILBERT
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2014
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

A. Present: Mayor Skenzich, Councilors Kutsi, Nemanick, Schutte and Skalko

Absent: None

Staff Present: City Attorney Brunfelt, City Engineer Jamnick, Public Works Operations Director Lautigar, Library Director Miller and Administrative Secretary Devich

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

C. Motion by Schutte second by Kutsi to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

2. PUBLIC INPUT

Donovan Goblirsch stated he is excited to inform the Council that he has a party very interested in purchasing Lot 15 in the Lake Ore-Be-Gone Development and noted the purchaser has plans to build a one-story 1700-1800 sq. ft. house that would meet the criteria of the development and fit nicely on the lot. Goblirsch noted there is another party interested in one more lot in the cul-de-sac and also a party in lots further down the road. Goblirsch stated he would like to make a recommendation to the Council that they consider re-platting the four lots to three lots in the cul-de-sac that would make the lots more desirable and give everybody just a little extra. Mayor Skenzich stated the re-platting was brought up at the last Council meeting and will be brought to the next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting to discuss and make a recommendation to the Council.

Donovan noted he has submitted a permit to be approved for dark metal picket fencing around his entire property.

3. APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion by Schutte second by Skalko to approve the March 11, 2014 Regular City Council meeting minutes. Motion passed with Mayor Skenzich, Councilors Kutsi, Schutte and Skalko approving and Council Nemanick abstaining because he was not present at the meeting.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Motion by Nemanick second by Skalko to approve Kathy Sedgeman and Mike McGinnis to the Library Board with terms expiring 1-31-17 and to approve re-appointment of Police Commissioners Dr. John Zupancic term expiring 1-31-15, Joe Skofich term expiring 1-31-16 and Greg Petrich term expiring 1-31-17. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by Schutte second by Nemanick to authorize the \$20 registration fee for any city employee or councilor that would like to attend the 2014 LMC Safety & Loss Control Workshop on April 9, 2014 in Duluth. All approved.

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C. Motion by Schutte second by Kutsi to approve Resolution 2014-05, in opposition to the Minnesota Department of Transportation plan for development of an intersection of US Trunk Highway 53 and Minnesota State Highway 135 that would provide a lesser level of service than the existing interchange. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Schutte stated the current plan is unsafe and Mayor Skenzich agreed stating all the Mayors of the surrounding towns are supporting the Resolution. Skenzich noted he has heard there are plans to put in a modified diamond at the intersection but to make sure something is done the towns are passing the resolution.

D. Motion by Kutsi second by Skalko to approve appointment of Sandra Digerness to the First Responders. All approved.

5. REPORTS

A. City Councilors

Mayor Skenzich noted he has been contacted by people about the school co-location and asked if anyone on the Council had anything to say. Councilor Schutte questioned what the plans are for the Eveleth and Gilbert School buildings. Leon Schanlaub, Eveleth-Gilbert School Board Member, responded the only plan the School Board has is to get the financing, there are no other plans until the financing is set-up and the joint powers agreement is completed then committees will be developed to answer questions. Schutte stated it is important to remind the council, the school board and the citizens of Gilbert that the City spent \$20,000 in upgrades for electrical service at the Gilbert campus. Schutte also stated she does not want the taxpayers of Gilbert paying additional funds whether it's to support a building that is no longer going to be in use, the maintenance of it, she does not want to see anything that would burden the taxpayers further. Schutte stated in the School Board minutes it stated there was a facility study done and the both buildings were above average so why is the school board looking at building a new school. Schanlaub replied with Mt. Iron, Buhl and Virginia all collaborating to build a new school they will be able to offer advanced classes and the school board believes within 5-7 years after the school is built Eveleth-Gilbert will end up closing their schools because of open enrollment. Schanlaub explained that after the committees are developed and have informed everyone the residents will be given a chance to vote on whether they want to go with the school co-location or not. Schanlaub stated the group for the co-location meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at the Northeast Service Cooperative at 4:30 p.m.

Schanlaub noted that Eveleth-Gilbert School Board has given Chicagami permission to inspect and consider the Nelle Shean building to house its daycare. Mayor Skenzich noted if grades 7-12 were to leave the Eveleth School then there would be plenty of room for Gilbert's 5-6 grades and we would no longer have a campus in Gilbert. Schanlaub agreed that may be a possibility but the Gilbert school building is not empty it is filled with other groups such as ECFE and Early Fives and we have preschoolers and can open the building up for other entities also. Skenzich stated I know your job as a school board member is education and what is best for the students where the City is in a different situation and question is where are the cost savings? Councilor Nemanick questioned what the money that was approved for in the additional referendum went to because it didn't go for the original curriculum it was planned for and the Gilbert residents passed that referendum. Schanlaub stated the referendum was for technology and he guaranteed that it is in the process of being utilized with iPads for the students and

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smart boards for the teachers, which allow students to access the curriculum from home. Further discussion followed.

B. City Attorney

City Attorney Brunfelt stated he incorporated changes Chief Techar had to the Rental Ordinance and will submit a draft to Zoning Administrator Wedge to discuss the parts of the ordinance that may involve him.

C. City Engineer

Engineer Jammick reported the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency approved the City's plan for the breach at the lime lagoon. Jammick noted he will be meeting with Mesabi Bituminous tomorrow at 3:30 p.m. concerning the future of Enterprise Drive.

D. Operations Director

Public Works Operations Director Lautigar reported he received quotes for grubbing and vegetation removal from the dike at the lime lagoon. Lautigar stated the lowest quote was from Mesabi Bituminous.

Motion by Kutsi second by Skalko to approve the quote of \$6,500 from Mesabi Bituminous for grubbing and vegetation removal from the dike at the lime lagoon. Motion passed unanimously

Lautigar reported that water/wastewater employee Bradach received quotes to update the computer software to automatically monitor the chlorine, fluoride feeds and PH levels at the water plant. Everything is compatible but the upgraded equipment is needed before In Control can do the programming.

Motion by Nemanick second by Kutsi to approve the following quotes from HACH Inc.:

Fluoride feed	\$9,142.04
Chlorine feed	\$4,678.25
PH sensor unit	\$3,861.65

for upgrades to the equipment at the water plant. All approved

Councilor Nemanick questioned the situation with the garbage truck and Lautigar explained the truck was never purchased because a larger arm to pick up the big containers was not compatible.

E. Library Director

Library Director Miller stated the Duluth Playhouse will be in the Auditorium for a kids show and this Friday is Game Day at 4 p.m. Miller noted she filed her annual report and the statistics went up a lot for the library even with it being closed for carpeting and the work being done on the front of the building.

6. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS AND PAYROLL

Motion by Schutte second by Kutsi to approve bills and payroll subject to audit by Mayor and Clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

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7. ACKNOWLEDGE MINUTES

Motion by Kutsi second by Schutte to acknowledge the following minutes:

- A. Gilbert Library Board Meeting February 3, 2014.
- B. Gilbert Police Commission Meeting February 11, 2014.
- C. EFGSD Joint Powers Recreation Board Meeting of January 8, 2014 and February 12, 2014.
- D. Eveleth/Genoa Joint Trail board Meeting February 20, 2014.

Motion carried unanimously.

8. ADJOURN

Mayor Skenzich wished Ex-Councilor Garrity to get well soon noting he broke his knee and will be in the nursing home for a few weeks.

Motion by Schutte second by Skalko to adjourn the meeting at 7:17p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Michael Skenzich, Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra Sakrison, City Clerk