

CITY OF GILBERT
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2015
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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

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

Absent: None.

Staff Present: City Attorney Michael Kearney, City Engineer Jamnick, Police Chief Techar, Public Works Operations Director Lautigar, Library Director Miller 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. All approved.

No Public Input.

Motion by Skalko second by Bol to approve the January 13, 2015 Regular Council meeting minutes. All Approved.

Motion by Liimatta second by Pontinen to approve the 2015 Regular Meeting Schedule, the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. All approved.

Motion by Skalko second by Pontinen to appoint Scott Dennie to the Planning Commission for a three year term expiring January 31, 2018. All approved.

Motion by Pontinen second by Skalko to set up a joint meeting with resident Sortedahl and the Planning Commission for Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. All approved.

Erik Wedge gave an update on some ordinances that are in place and need revisions made. This includes some recent updates required if you want to get an FHA loan.

Motion by Bol second by Liimatta to have City Attorney review ordinance revision language proposed by the Planning Commission. All approved.

Motion by Pontinen second by Skalko to approve the first distribution of \$65,000 to Mesabi Bituminous, provided the requirements of the Development Agreement are met. All Approved.

Motion by Bol second by Liimatta to approve modifying the contract with MacNeil Environmental, Inc. for safety training and policy development to quarterly. All Approved.

Motion by Liimatta second by Skalko to approve payment of \$1,186.00 to RGGGS for Surface Lease 13474 for 2015. All approved.

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Motion by Skalko second by Liimatta to approve payment to Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association in the amount of \$1,598.00 for 2015 dues. Public Works Operations Director Lautigar stated that this is a good tool to have at your disposal, they have different training seminars that can be attended regarding water and electric, and they have safety measures that are shared also, and it includes a magazine subscription. It has not been a resource that has been needed much. Lautigar stated he could bring additional information of what they use the MMUA for at the next council meeting. Motion failed.

Motion by Bol second by Pontinen to table request for payment to Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association in the amount of \$1,598.00 for 2015 dues. All approved.

Motion by Mayor Kutsi second by Liimatta to join the Range Association of Municipalities & Schools and pay the dues in the amount of \$700. Skalko has full support for Mr. Tomassoni, Mayor Kutsi supports. Motion carried.

There was no action taken by the City Council to join the Minnesota Association of Small Cities and paying the dues in the amount of \$479.77.

Motion by Pontinen second by Liimatta to appoint Councilor John Skalko as the City of Gilbert's official representative of the Laurentian Vision Partnership to attend meetings and report back to the City Council. All approved.

Motion by Liimatta second by Bol to authorize Steve Peterson to attend the Iron Range Economic Alliance (IREA) meetings as a representative of the City of Gilbert. All approved.

Motion by Skalko second by Liimatta to approve the draft Bylaws of the Iron Range Economic Alliance. All approved.

There was no action taken by the City Council to approve payment of \$50 for the IREA Annual dues for 2015 membership.

Motion by Bol second by Liimatta to sponsor two students to attend the Iron Range Youth in Action (IRYA) 20th Annual Young Leaders Convention: Make a Difference 2015 for \$50 per student. All approved. Mayor Kutsi volunteered to replace former mayor Mike Skenzich on the organization's board of directors.

Discussed the July 3rd & 4th activities. Parade is held on the 3rd, street dance is on the 4th. Crowd seems to be getting smaller every year for the street dance. Discussed having both events the same night. With the dwindling numbers of attendees it is hard to justify the cost of shutting down the street. Needs to be discussed with the bar owners and the 3rd of July Committee. Eveleth has its street dance on the 3rd also.

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Motion by Bol second by Pontinen to appoint John Skalko as liaison with the 3rd of July Committee to discuss the 3rd & 4th of July activities. All approved.

City Clerk/Treasurer Sakrison formally apologized to Brian Lindsey, of Trenti Law Firm, as she was misinformed that he set the prices of the Lake Ore-Be-Gone lots, and Councilor Pontinen shared some emails that the prices were set by former City Clerk Darrow.

Councilor Pontinen read a prepared statement regarding attorneys.

- There is a signed contract for legal representation. Mayor Kutsi has full confidence in legal representation.
- Motion by Pontinen to terminate Colosimo, Patchin & Kearney, Ltd. and hire Trenti Law Firm. Motion failed for lack of a second.
- Motion by Pontinen second by Bol to set up a special meeting to review the detachment hearing results. Need a third councilor to support calling for a special meeting per the City Charter. Motion failed for lack of a third councilor supporting.

Councilor Bol reported about a resident that is opposed to rental ordinance. Also stated that calendar parking & plowing coordination is frustrating.

Mayor Kutsi noted that the Economic Development Committee is working to restart. They would work with businesses and see what they can do for the city.

Motion by Bol second by Skalko to start an Economic Development Committee. Resident Mike Peterson stated that he has names of people that are interested in being on the committee. All approved.

Motion by Pontinen second by Liimatta to appoint Councilor Corey Bol as liaison to the Economic Development Committee. All approved.

City Engineer Jammick reviewed the Project Status Report. He also noted that the city had applied to the St. Louis County CDBG for water meters; the committee did not support the project even though it was an eligible project. He and Public Works Operations Director explained the new water meter project and the impact it would have with the city and their time.

Public Works Operations Director Lautigar stated that the pump problem at the water plant is fixed. The water plant filters project has been ongoing and filter media has been replaced in the third filter.

Librarian Nicole Miller reported on events taking place at the library:

- February is “Love Your Library” month.
- Eveleth/Gilbert Schools has “I Love to Read” month, ECFE kids are coming in for story times.
- Saturday, February 7, 2015 @ 2:00 p.m. at the Community Center – Library Foundation paying for Chad Lewis “Hauntings in MN”

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- Thursday, February 12, 2015 @ 5:00 p.m. - “Frozen” Sing-a-long.
- Friday, February 13, 2015 – Speed Date with a book – talk about favorite book for 5 minutes.

Motion by Liimatta second by Bol to appoint Dave Setnicker to the Gilbert Public Library Board for a term ending January 31, 2018. All approved.

Motion by Skalko second by Liimatta to set the date & time for twelve (12) interviews for Confidential Administrative Assistant for Wednesday, February 11, 2015 @ 5:30 p.m. All approved.

Motion by Skalko second by Liimatta to approve bills and payroll subject to audit by Mayor and Clerk. All approved.

Motion by Skalko second by Liimatta to acknowledge the meeting minutes of Eveleth/Gilbert Genoa Trail Board of November 20, 2014; Gilbert Public Library Board of December 1, 2014 and Gilbert Safety Committee of January 7, 2015. All approved.

Motion by Skalko second by Mayor Kutsi to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Robert Kutsi, Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra Sakrison, City Clerk