

**CITY OF GILBERT**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 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 Bonnie Thayer, City Engineer Jannick, Police Chief Techar, Public Works Operations Director Lautigar, Library Director Miller, Campground Managers John & 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 Liimatta to approve the agenda. All approved.

Public Input: None

Motion by Liimatta second by Skalko to approve the August 25, 2015 Special City Council meeting minutes & the August 25, 2015 Regular City Council meeting minutes. All Approved.

Motion by Bol second by Liimatta to acknowledge the Revenue & Expenditure Reports through February 28, 2015. All approved.

Tom Dye, of Stantec, gave an update on the Wastewater Treatment Facility.

- Facility plan has been developed.
- Could do a few reduced scoped projects
- Projects must address:
  1. Safety issues
  2. Bring buildings up to code
  3. Resolve bypassing raw wastewater during high flow events
  4. Meet impending mercury limits
- Essential:
  1. Resolve sludge treatment/storage issues
  2. Replace motor controls/electrical
- Approx. cost just to do essential items is \$4,369,500. And then in the future an additional \$1,900,298. There is a potential phasing of project increases costs to \$6,269,798.
- The current Wastewater Treatment Plan has 15 processes. 8 are weak links, NOT including safety issues.

Mayor Kutsi discussed plans to meet with City of Eveleth looking for state bonding money.

Councilor Skalko asked which system would be the best to address any future demands to remove other pollutants. Mr. Dye said the MBR system would be best to meet those future needs.

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Mr. Dye discussed a City Growth Projection. They will modify the reported growth down from 400 new people to 200 new people for a more realistic projection to use as grant money could be increased by approximately \$200,000 for MBR, or approximately \$500,000 for sand filters. The submitted document needs to be amended.

Councilor Pontinen asked about pilot testing.

Mr. Dye reported on pilot testing.

- On-site testing is needed, just sending in a sample will not work
- Reduce duration (6 weeks instead of 10 – 12 weeks)
- Reduce cost to approximately \$25,000
- Still recommends this testing to be done in 2015

Mr. Dye stated the schedule as follows:

- No construction project in 2016, so it can stay on grant list
- Style of MBR to be used in pilot style – a flat plate style.
- He would propose bringing the pilot testing before council for approval along with plan amendment.

Motion by Bol second by Skalko to send a letter to the property Owner's at 317 Broadway Street North informing them that they will have 12 months to get the structure into compliance. All approved.

Discussed Bill Addy's Request to Use East Dakota Avenue for Tire Spinning. There was concern about safety issues for spectators, would need a better location. Chief Techar stated that the City of Duluth recommends a \$3 million minimum liability insurance policy, and that there is potential damage to public property. Insurance Agent John Shega explained exposure. Another option may be to "rent" the Catholic Church parking lot. Request failed due to lack of a motion.

Motion by Skalko second by Liimatta to authorize any Gilbert Safety Committee members' attendance at the LMCIT safety workshop to be held in Mt. Iron on October 7, 2015. All approved.

Motion by Liimatta second by Skalko to authorize registration for any City Councilor or City Staff member that would like to attend the League of MN Cities Regional Meeting at the Mt. Iron Community Center, in Mt. Iron, MN, on October 8, 2015. All approved.

Motion by Skalko second by Liimatta to approve the Salvation Army HeatShare Program Agreement to participate in the customer contribution fund program. All approved.

Motion by Skalko second by Pontinen to approve the 11 policies that are required for the Gilbert Police Department by the MN P.O.S.T Board as reviewed by the City's legal counsel. All approved.

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Mayor Kutsi asked about fall clean-up. Public Works Operations Director Lautigar will come up with some dates and advertise in the paper.

Motion by Bol second by Skalko to allow Mayor Kutsi & another councilor to meet with the MN DNR & OHV Representative and report back with a recommendation for camping. All approved.

City Engineer Jamnick updated that there will be a pre-construction meeting soon for the lower Florida Street project.

Public Works Operations Director Lautigar stated that the trees have been ordered for the Highway 135 project and should be delivered soon.

Library Director Miller:

- Toddler Tales beginning on Thursday.
- Adult murder/mystery on September 18, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m. Call the library to pick your character.
- Friday night movie on September 25 – *Cinderella*.
- Coloring club starting on September 28.

Campground Directors Rautanen stated they had a good Labor Day weekend. 100% full most weekends. Weekdays are slowing down with kids going back to school. Mayor Kutsi thanked them for what they have done, and stated that he has heard nothing but positive remarks about the campground.

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 Mayor Kutsi to acknowledge the Safety Committee minutes of September 2, 2015. All approved.

Motion by Skalko second by Bol to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

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Debra Sakrison, Clerk/Treasurer

ATTEST:

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Rob Kutsi, Mayor