

CITY OF GILBERT
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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

Present: Mayor Milos, Councilors Bol, Pontinen and Robich.

Absent: Councilor Vertachnik absent with notice.

Staff Present: City Attorney Lindsay, City Engineer Jamnick, Police Chief Techar, Public Works Operations Director Lautigar and City Clerk/Treasurer Sakrison.

Staff Absent: Library Director Su Dabbas absent with notice.

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

Motion by Pontinen, second by Robich to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion Carried Unanimously (MCU)

Motion by Robich, second by Pontinen to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2017 Regular City Council Meeting and the minutes of the October 11, 2017 Budget Work Session Meeting. MCU

Public Input:

Amanda Metsa, AFSCME Labor Representative, read a prepared statement regarding concerns about language used by the City Council at the October 10, 2017 City Council meeting. Metsa would like the City Council to meet with the union to follow the contract. Mayor Milos rebutted Metsa's response as argumentative and confrontational.

Staff Reports:

- Police Chief Techar:
 - MOU St. Louis County ATV Grant will be reduced. The grant covers overtime for patrolling. Funding was cut this year slightly. Received approximately \$10,400 in grant funding. In 2016 they received a \$12,000 grant.
- Public Works Operations Director Lautigar:
 - Called Ryan Capelle from Stantec. Meet with USDA personnel, will get direction for potential funding.
 - October 25, 2017 MN DOT ADA walk through.
 - Fall Alley Pickup is scheduled for November 6-10, 2017.
 - Public Works is working on patching pot holes, they are and will continue to be sweeping the streets, renovating the hockey arena and working at the Community Center.
- Library Director Dabbas: Absent with Notice.

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- City Clerk/Treasurer Sakrison: Agenda
- Liaison Reports: Agenda.

Mayor, Council, Boards & Commissions Reports:

- Councilor Pontinen: Agenda.
- Councilor Bol: Agenda.
- Councilor Robich: Agenda.
- City Attorney Lindsay: No formal report.
- City Engineer Jammick:
 - The equalization basin liner has been installed at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. We are waiting for some test results. The site work is done, paving will be done with shortly. The pumps will be delivered in December.
 - Funding for the Trunk Highway Project MN DOT is doing. Jammick recapped with a few options. Local Road Program available through MN DOT applications are due December 1, 2017. Another option would be called Safe Route to School, applications are due in early January. MN DOT representatives will be making a presentation to present to the City Council on November 14, 2017 to recap options. These are funding applications worth looking into.
 - If the pond can't be tested this fall it will need to wait until spring when the weather breaks. The test can't be done if the water freezes. The test takes approximately two weeks.
 - They have experienced delays getting the liner due to the recent hurricanes. This has been a bit of a setback.
 - Top soil is being stockpiled and some grading is being done.

Old Business:

Update Nuisance Ordinance: Nothing new to report, Mayor Milos and Police Chief Techar will be working on the Nuisance Ordinance this winter.

AEOA Purchase of Property: Nothing new to report.

Ordinance 92.06: Attorney Lindsay forwarded a new district definition to Planning and Zoning. The Planning and Zoning Commission meeting is November 6, 2017.

Final Payment Request No. 6 MN TH 135: The estimate to replace came in higher than anticipated. It came in at \$2,000. Before we have the contractor replace this Lautigar would like to get the City Attorney Lindsay involved on next steps.

Title Searches for Outlot S: This is wrapped up.

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Utility Meters Upgrade: This is tabled until Lautigar meets with Ryan Capelle.

Request from Gilbert Fire Relief Association for Benefit Increase: Councilor Robich spoke to PERA. Councilor Robich stated that the PERA Representative that she spoke with disagreed with the information the Fire Department gave and stated that anyone that was effective as of January 1, 2013 will not see a reduction for any of the years of service. The reduction will come January 1, 2018.

Todd Devich spokesperson for the Relief Association, this needs to be taken care of by the end of this calendar year.

Councilor Robich is bothered that this was taken to the City Council two months after being advised that action was needed. It bothers her that the Fire Department is aware of timelines and waited. In response, Devich stated the Fire Department members have to take action at the Fire Relief Meetings.

Councilor Robich would have appreciated more notice. The letter came to City Hall and then it went to the Fire Department. Sakrison sent the letter to the Fire Relief Association because they made the initial request. Sakrison was not aware of the pension decrease. Mayor Milos requested that Sakrison sends an email whenever something comes into City Hall that is budget related to Mayor Milos. Mayor Milos was unaware that this was an issue with the Fire Department until the previous City Council Meeting. Mayor Milos is looking for more information and better communication.

Mayor Milos expressed views in favor of increasing pension.

Devich spoke. They have a box alarm system for mutual aid, they respond to the same fires. They feel they should be attempting to increase pension to get a little closer with other area departments. They are aware the timeline is tight but they are not in control of the timeline.

Councilor Robich would like to see an increase this year and add this to the budget annually.

Devich stated that only twice in fifteen years has the Fire Department approached the city to make up any funding issues. The pension is funded through the 2% money charged on insurance premiums. Switching to PERA was a benefit to the pension plan.

Councilor Robich proposed increase to \$1,400 and to make this part of the annual budget.

Devich questioned if this needs to be addressed on an annual basis or if it could be handled annually as part of the budget.

Mayor Milos said this will be discussed further at the Budget Meeting on October 25, 2017.

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Motion by Robich, second by Pontinen to table tonight. MCU

Billboard Lease with Lamar Companies: Attorney Lindsay has reached out to Lamar.

New Business:

Ore-Be-Gone Recreational Proposal: John Shega, Range Partnership LLC, recapped what businesses used to be in Gilbert and how the times have changed.

Proposal focused on tremendous asset. Expense to the city to maintain that property.

Step 1 - Determine if the city wants to explore development opportunities.

Step 2 - Determine to either sell or lease the property.

Step 3 - Determine process and timing to obtain qualified bids.

Step 4 - Accept bids and select top proposals.

Range Partnership would work with a professional property management firm. Range Partnership would pay the city a monthly fee for their exclusive rights to seek proposals. Encourage a conversation.

Mayor Milos stated the campground is making a profit. The city is working with a lobbyist to get funding to make improvements. Potential to get state and federal funding. The city will develop.

Bol moved to accept Mr. Shega's proposal. No second.

Robich has no interest in giving up rights to city property.

Motion by Pontinen, second by Bol to have a Work Session on November 1, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the Ore-Be-Gone recreational area. MCU

Premises Permit from Eveleth Elks Lodge: Eveleth Elks Lodge 1161 is requesting a premises permit to conduct lawful gambling at the Downtown Bar. Resolution 2017-21 is needed to approve the premises permit.

Motion by Robich, Second by Bol to approve Resolution 2017-21 Approving a Lawful Gambling Premises Permit to Eveleth Elks Lodge #1161 for the Downtown Bar. MCU

Fire Department Turnout Gear: Request from Chief Skenzich for two sets of turnout gear. 12 sets are "aged" beyond service life, they have seven current sets. They are still seeking grants. They are looking for authorization to purchase two sets of turnout gear.

The current gear was purchased with a FEMA Grant in 2003 or 2004, didn't look to future and time got away.

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Mayor Milos, members of the community would be willing to give back to the community. This would be an opportunity to do that. She will personally raise \$3,400 to cover two sets of turnout gear and possibly more.

Proposed budget cut of \$3,200 to the Fire Department is going to be difficult. SCBA tanks all need to be pressure tested, should look to begin replacing.

Moving forward, a capital equipment replacement line item will be added to the budget for the Fire Department.

Motion by Robich, second by Pontinen to table the Fire Department turnout gear until the next City Council Meeting. MCU

Cemetery Software: Councilor Vertachnik would like the City Council to take action to not renew the annual subscription for the Pontem cemetery software and go back to using paper records. This software isn't needed, the intention was for public use. Training for the public would be needed in order to use this software. Lautigar spoke, it was intended for public use when it was first purchased but it isn't usable by the public. We are unable to upload this software to the website which was the original intent. It costs roughly \$700 per year. Office staff and Lautigar do use the software. Mayor Milos is aware of free cemetery applications.

Motion by Pontinen, second by Robich to not renew the cemetery software. MCU

Request to advertise for Rink Attendants: Rink Attendants take care of the ice, the grounds, the building, run the Zamboni and test air quality on a weekly basis. Discussed hours of the Rink Attendant. Discussed budget of advertising for the position. A budget of \$120 or less for advertising for the Rink Attendant position was set.

Motion by Robich, second by Bol to approve advertising for Rink Attendants. MCU

Resolution for 2017-22 Authorizing Applying for Voting Equipment Grant: Resolution 2017-22. The grant is based on applications. How many applications received will determine how much of a grant is given.

Motion by Robich, second by Bol to approve Resolution 2017-22 Authorizing the City of Gilbert to Make Application To and Accept Funds From the Office of Minnesota Secretary of State for the Voting Equipment Grant. MCU

Acknowledge Financial Statements September 30, 2017:

Motion by Robich, second by Bol to acknowledge Financial Statements of September 30, 2017. MCU

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Miscellaneous: AquaPower quote to clean and televise the new lines at the Sewer Plant \$4,215 and the back wash tank at the Water Plant is \$840.

Motion by Pontinen, second by Robich to approve quote for cleaning of the lines at the Sewer Plant and the backwash tank at the Water Plant. MCU

Pontinen questions the Water Tower Antennas. Mayor Milos has received a phone call from AEOA. Attorney Lindsay has not heard from any of the others.

Approve Payment of Bills and Payroll:

Motion by Robich, second by Pontinen to approve bills with the exception of the MN Unemployment and Energy Insights billings. MCU

Motion by to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. MCU



Debra Sakrison, City Clerk

ATTEST:



Dorothy Elizabeth Milos, Mayor