

CITY OF GILBERT
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2017
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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

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

Absent: None.

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

Staff Absent: None.

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

Motion by Vertachnik second by Pontinen to approve the agenda with the addition of 8.N – Request from Gilbert Community Church. Motion Carried Unanimously (MCU).

Motion by Pontinen second by Vertachnik to approve the January 24, 2017 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes. MCU.

Motion by Pontinen second by Vertachnik to approve the January 30, 2017 Special City Council Meeting Minutes. MCU.

Public Input:

None.

Staff Reports:

- Chief Techar:
 - Reported that the Police Commission met in October of 2016 and is requesting to hire a part-time police officer. Police Officer Dan Kurtz has passed the background check, has prior police experience and would need a set of uniforms and some minor items.

Motion by Vertachnik second by Robich to approve hiring of Dan Kurtz as a part-time police officer. MCU.

- Public Works Operations Director Lautigar:
 - Requested residents to shovel out fire hydrants. They are also working on clearing out fire hydrants but could use some help.
 - Councilor Pontinen questioned an electrical invoice. Lautigar reported that there were no back-up lights inside the arena, so if power was lost there were no lights. He had back-up lights installed. Councilor Pontinen stated that it should have been approved by the Council as it was over \$1,000. Lautigar stated it was a safety issue and needed to be taken care of. He will report to the mayor from this date forward.
- Library Director Miller:
 - 2/15/17 – Storytime at 2:00 p.m.
 - 2/22/17 – Storytime at 2:00 p.m.

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- 2/16/17 – Fake News Primer at 1:00 p.m.
- 2/23/17 – Fake News Primer at 6:00 p.m.
- 2/20/17 – CLOSED
- 2/27/17 – February Cookbook Club – Aphrodisiacs
- IT Steve Peterson
 - Reported on Sound System.
 - It is hard to get good sound with the current layout.
 - Room could be rearranged.
 - He is working with East Range Police Department on BCA audit, and police video back-up redundancy.
 - Mayor Milos asked for IT a projected 2017 budget. Steve stated that there is no budget, typically each department covers the cost of computers.
 - Stated that the wireless system is on order – DSC will be installing it when the weather improves. It has to go through the campground to push signal to water treatment plant. WWTP has line of site to water tower. Campground visitors may have wifi if the City of Gilbert can get a public wifi network.
- City Clerk/Treasurer Sakrison: Agenda
 - Councilor Robich asked about the report on Iron Range Economic Association meeting. Sakrison forwarded on the email on what they had done. They had discussed the brown fields, with representatives from the MN DEED, NTS and Barr Engineering. A lot of work and discussion on North Span, they have upgrade the website and gave a demonstration on how it is working, hoping to make it a one stop shop for economic development. Sakrison did give the information to Gilbert’s realtor to be uploaded to the site.

Mayor, Council, Boards & Commissions Reports:

- Mayor Milos:
 - Has received 32 of phone calls in the last 2 weeks.
 - Lack of plowing last week, best judgment is used.
 - People plowing on other people’s property.
 - Put complaints in writing and drop off at City Hall.
 - OHV park Virginia – funding at a standstill, working on additional funding.
 - Economic Development – working on some comprehensive plans, knows of two viable businesses are interested, property taxes are an issue.
 - Community center rent is a barrier to people renting. Need to look at to make more affordable.
- Councilor Pontinen: Agenda
- Councilor Bol:
 - Gave a kudos to Public Works Operations Directory Lautigar and crew for snow removal.
 - Fundraiser for Library/Community Center. Could have an activity based fundraiser at ballfield – “Pay to Play”, could be an inflatable obstacle course, or paint ball guns & safety gear. Mayor Milos told Bol to get some people together and brainstorm to get the ball rolling.
- Councilor Robich: Agenda

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- Councilor Vertachnik:
 - Thanked Officer Trucano for doing the D.A.R.E. program, and noted the outstanding job the Gilbert police department is doing to keep people safe.
- City Attorney: Agenda
- City Engineer Jammick: Agenda

Old Business:

Emergency Operations Plan Update: Nothing new to report.

Nuisance Ordinance Update: Nothing new to report.

Motion by Vertachnik second by Pontinen to refund VEBA payment to previous employee. MCU.

Motion by Pontinen second by Vertachnik to continue having the City of Gilbert pay the VEBA contribution for COBRA enrollees. MC 4 to 1.

Motion by Robich second by Pontinen to approve Resolution 2017-06, Code of Ethics and Conduct with the exemption of the Gilbert Police Department who is currently operating under a separate Code of Ethics and Conduct. MCU.

Motion by Bol second by Vertachnik to approve sending Public Works Operations Director Lautigar to the St. Louis County Noxious Weed Workshop in April, 2017. MCU.

New Business:

Motion by Pontinen second by Vertachnik to Approve Partial Payment Estimate No. 2 for the Genoa Sanitary Sewer project to Jola & Sopp Excavating for \$20,087.75. MCU.

Motion by Vertachnik second by Pontinen to approve Resolution 2017-07, A Resolution Requesting Funding Through the State Bonding Bill in the amount of \$8,000,000. MCU.

Motion by Bol second by Pontinen to approve a contract for temporary coverage for a mechanic, Attorney Lindsay will work on contract, contract price not to exceed \$1,000 per week. MCU.

Request was to send Terah Rinerson and Trudy Salo to Cumberland, WI to visit a plant that uses the type of membranes the city is planning to use in the sewer plant upgrade. There was discussion about the overtime for the employees traveling to Cumberland, WI. Motion by Robich second by Pontinen to approve sending Terah Rinerson to Cumberland, WI to review their plant with Ovivo brand filters, along with Councilors Vertachnik & Pontinen. MCU.

Motion by Bol second by Pontinen to pay 2017 member dues for the Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association in the amount of \$1,787. MCU.

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Motion by Vertachnik second by Pontinen to set a Work Session for working on the City Fee Schedule for Thursday, February 23, 2017 @ 10:00 a.m. MCU.

Congratulations to Aidan Lofstrom, winner of local Minnesota Rural Water Association poster contest for local 4th grade students. Runners up were Luca Pellini and Katie Johnson.

Motion by Robich second by Vertachnik to support sending a letter to IRRRB to fund a collaboration study that would involve Gilbert, Fayal and Eveleth Fire Departments. MCU.

Motion by Vertachnik second by Bol to approve the Job Description for the Administrative Assistant for the Police Department, establish the rate of pay as \$17.00, establish the classification of the position as part-time not to exceed 25 hours per week and to authorize advertising for applications. MCU.

Motion by Robich second by Vertachnik to table any action regarding snow removal issues involving private parties. MCU.

Motion by Vertachnik second by Pontinen to table appointing City Council Liaison's for the following Planning & Zoning, Library Board, Police Commission, Eveleth Gilbert Joint Trails Board, Safety Committee and Campground Board. MCU.

Motion by Pontinen second by Vertachnik to have Project Meetings on the first Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m. and classify as a standing City Council Work Session. MCU.

Motion by Bol second by Robich to allow the Eveleth-Gilbert High School Close-Up Group Use the Gilbert Community Center free of charge on Friday, February 24, 2017 for a middle school dance, and they are also responsible for cleaning. MC 4 – 1.

Motion by Bol second by Robich to approve a reduced rate of \$100 per day for renting of the Gilbert Community Center in April for a pasty sale. MC 4 – 1.

Motion by Robich second by Pontinen to approve bills and payroll subject to audit by Mayor and Clerk. MCU.

Motion by Pontinen second by Bol to acknowledge the receipt by the city of the December 5, 2016 & January 3, 2017 minutes of the Gilbert Public Library Board, and the December 7, 2016 & January 11, 2017 minutes of the EFGSD Joint Powers Recreation Board. MCU.

Motion by Vertachnik second by Pontinen to recess the City Council Meeting for a Closed Session Meeting. MCU.

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Open meeting re-opened at 9:16 p.m.

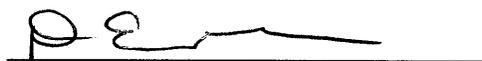
Discussion from Closed Session

Motion by Vertachnik second by Pontinen to suspend the IT Manager's contract without pay pending an investigation, but can access sick & vacation time. MC 4 – 1.

Motion by Bol second by Pontinen to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. MCU


Debra Sakrison, City Clerk

ATTEST:


Dorothy Elizabeth Milos, Mayor