

CITY OF GILBERT
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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

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

Absent: Councilor Bol (w/Notice).

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: N/A

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

Motion by Robich second by Vertachnik to approve the agenda with the additions of 6.E ó Liaison Reports and 8.M ó MN Power WWTP. Motion Carried Unanimously (MCU).

Motion by Pontinen second by Robich to approve the February 13, 2017 Work Session Meeting Minutes, February 23, 2017 Work Session Meeting Minutes, March 24, 2017 Work Session Meeting Minutes, March 28, 2017 Work Session Meeting Minutes and April 3, 2017 Special City Council Meeting Minutes. MCU.

Public Input:

Bill Addy addressed the City Council:

- Addy asked the City Council to get updated pricing for the baseball field fencing renovations so that he can use it for a presentation.
- He also noted that this will be the last year that he and his wife will be doing the Gilbert 4th of July Kiddie Parade, their kids are grown, and it is time to pass along this tradition. They are looking for someone to take over the kiddie parade for 2018, they are willing to show whoever what it takes to do, contact Bill Addy or the Mayor.
- Mayor Milos asked Addy to explain in more detail the interest in the baseball field renovations. Addy stated there is strong support by community to use the Gilbert baseball fields for High School Baseball. They are currently used by the Jr. High Baseball, but not the High School Baseball as they do not meet MN High School League Standards. The fencing and some infield work are the pressing issues. There is strong support for this from both the Eveleth and Gilbert communities as well as the Baseball Boosters. Mayor Milos explained that the City of Gilbert does not have the funds to help support this. Addy stated they are aware, and the Baseball Boosters are interested in supporting. Addy said they would like to work with the city to reuse what is available. Mayor Milos stated that the city will seek bids for this work.

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New Business:

MN Energy Resources Franchise Agreement

- Pam Sarvela, of MN Energy Resources, addressed the City Council and was there asking the City of Gilbert to renew the franchise agreement for another 25 year term.
- There are 184 communities across the state of Minnesota with franchise agreements.
- MN Energy Resources has worked with the City of Gilbert since 1973.
- There is no fee involved.
- Benefit to Gilbert: Access to one of the lowest cost energy sources.
- Benefit to MN Energy Resources: More customers which will have greater efficiencies.
- Mayor Milos stated she has had several citizens complain about MN Energy Resources, including herself. Ms. Sarvela said she can be contacted to work through any complaints there are from customers. MN Energy Resources has renewed seven franchise agreements in the last three months. This is the first she has heard of any complaints. Sarvela did apologize and said she is available to help with the issues.
- Councilor Robich would like the City Attorney read through the agreement prior to the council approving the agreement. City Attorney Lindsay stated at first glance he is comfortable with Franchise Agreement, but it is up to the City if they want him to review it.

1st Reading of Ordinance 2017-01 ó Franchise Agreement with Minnesota Energy Resources.

Staff Reports:

- Chief Techar:
 - MNDOT will be completely closing Highway 135 at the intersection with Highway 53 from 4/17/17 until 4/22/17 and all traffic will be diverted from USTH 53 down Highway 37 (Broadway), wants the public to be aware and be careful as the main street will be very busy. Highway 135 will be tentatively closed once again around July 24, 2017 for approximately 2 weeks.
- Public Works Operations Director Lautigar:
 - Alley Pick-up has been scheduled for April 24ó28, 2017, no trees/branches over 4 feet long, all leaves and grass need to be bagged.
 - Street sweeper is out cleaning up sand. Had to repair some major parts in the sweeper.
 - Doing spring clean-up.
- Library Director Miller:
 - 4/24/17 ó Cookbook Club ó Ethnic Foods
- City Clerk/Treasurer Sakrison: Agenda

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MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
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Mayor, Council, Boards & Commissions Reports:

- Mayor Milos:
 - Has received a lot of feedback about the City not donating to the 3rd of July. A fundraiser is being planned by Councilor Robich and Mayor Milos at the Gilbert VFW on May 22, 2017. It will be a Pallets and Paints fundraiser. All proceeds will be going to the 3rd of July and the Kiddie Parade. All materials are being donated.
- Councilor Pontinen: Agenda
- Councilor Bol: Absent w/Notice.
- Councilor Robich:
 - Thanked the Addys for doing the Kiddie Parade.
- Councilor Vertachnik: Agenda
- City Attorney Lindsay: Agenda
- City Engineer Jamnick: Agenda
 - Councilor Vertachnik asked about the work on Circle Drive. Blacktop around manholes is cracking, and there is blacktop sinking. City Engineer Jamnick will look and see if frost is an issue. Jamnick stated that Circle Drive sanitary was existing. Crack is due to frost heaving. Warranty work is typically 1 year warranty. The Circle Drive project was completed 2 years ago. Jamnick and Lautigar stated that they will take another look at the issues and monitor it and report back to the Council.
- Liaison Reports:
 - Councilor Vertachnik reported that the DSC Wireless project is about 50% completed, there were some electrical and wiring issues. There are some issues up at the water tower that also need to be taken care of, another circuit needs to be added.
 - Mayor Milos reported on Planning & Zoning: Land Use Permits are required to build.

Motion by Robich second by Vertachnik to acknowledge the March 6, 2017 Library Board Meeting Minutes. MCU.

Old Business:

Emergency Operations Plan Update: Nothing new to report.

Nuisance Ordinance Update: Nothing new to report.

AEOA Purchase of Property:

- An offer has been made by AEOA for the purchase of the property.
- Councilor Robich wants to know who is going to pay for the pole relocation if they are not able to obtain a grant.
- City Engineer Jamnick mentioned the City of Gilbert has previously used Development Agreements, which would include the purchase price and any requirements.
- The Council's main concern is that they will not directly benefit from the sale of this property.
- City Engineer Jamnick explained easements in property that AEOA wants to purchase.

CITY OF GILBERT
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

- Motion by Vertachnik second by Pontinen to offer a counter Development Agreement to the AEOA Purchase of Property. MCU.
- Motion by Vertachnik to have the City negotiate with AEOA regarding AEOA building that is on City land. Motion withdrawn. This will need to go through Planning and Zoning through the liaisons.

Councilor Vertachnik brought up Water Tower Issues:

- Wiring is not to code with some cabling attached to the access ladder
- Number of customers on water tower that do not pay the City anything.
 - Vertachnik would like City Attorney Lindsay to communicate with them to either begin paying or remove equipment.
 - Vertachnik moved to get a letter to these users.
 - Councilor Robich ó legal authority to begin charging these customers. Additional research needs to be done.
 - Vertachnik ó safety hazard needs to be corrected.
 - Mayor Milos is asking users to contact the City Office if they have equipment on water tower regarding their agreement for use.

Final Payment Request No. 6 MN TH 135

- Actual completion date was July 22, 2016. In June of 2017 a walk-through meeting will be scheduled with the contractor.

New Business:

Motion by Robich second by Pontinen to table action regarding IT Service Contracts with East Range PD and Eveleth PD. MCU.

Motion by Vertachnik second by Pontinen to authorize the Gilbert Police Department to purchase a 2017 Dodge Charger from Waschke Family Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep at the lowest bid of \$24,190.00. MCU.

Motion by Vertachnik second by Pontinen to table authorizing the City of Gilbert to contract with Vermilion Community College for an intern for the 2017 summer season from their wastewater/water program of study. MCU.

Seasonal Summer Employees:

- If none are hired, cemetery, beaches, weed whacking, push mowing, cardboard, and curb painting won't get done. The City Crew does not have time to do these things.
- Things haven't got done because summer crew was cut from four seasonal to two.
- Motion by Robich second by Mayor Milos to hire two Seasonal Summer employees at \$9.50/hour, with a maximum of 65 shifts. Motion failed 2 ó 2.
- Councilor Pontinen stated to see what doesn't get done.
- Councilor Vertachnik wants a report from Lautigar of exactly what the seasonal employees do, and that no one is watching what they are doing.

CITY OF GILBERT
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

- Public Works Operations Director Lautigar stated that they are college students, they cannot be watched all the time, they are doing the work.
- Councilor Robich stated there needs to be consequences if there are complaints.
- Lautigar stated there are plants that need to be watered daily, and cleaning the beaches has to be done daily.
- Mayor Milos stated it would be negative if they do not hire any seasonal employees.
- Pontinen wants an evaluation after 20 days.
- Mayor Milos stated an evaluation could be done after 30 days.

Motion by Councilor Robich second by Vertachnik to hire two Seasonal Summer employees at \$9.50/hour not to exceed 65 shifts. MCU.

Mayor Milos asked if there was going to be a Community Service Officer working over the summer. Chief Techar stated he usually has an unpaid CSO Internship ó 300 hours.

Motion by Vertachnik second by Robich to approve contracting with A1 Services, Inc. for portable restrooms for the 2017 season. MCU.

Motion by Pontinen second by Vertachnik to authorize Public Works Operations Director Lautigar to get cost estimates for ditch work at the lime pond, engineering and wetland delineation prior to getting quotes. MCU.

Motion by Vertachnik second by Pontinen to have Public Works Operations Director Lautigar set up a meeting with Fayal Township, Councilors Vertachnik and Pontinen, possibly City Engineer Jannick and himself regarding proposed dewatering of lime pond. MCU.

Motion by Vertachnik second by Pontinen to approve membership in MN Rural Water Association for \$800, which is based on the number of water connections. MCU.

Motion by Vertachnik second by Robich to acknowledge the resignation of Library Director Nicole Miller effective April 30, 2017. MCU.

Reminder of Thursday, April 13, 2017 Board of Appeal & Equalization meeting at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers in Gilbert City Hall.

Discussion was held regarding the WWTP and consolidating with neighboring communities. Mayor Milos and the council will be researching why this option is not being pursued.

Motion by Robich second by Vertachnik to acknowledge the March 31, 2017 Financial Statements. MCU.

4/24/17 Work Session scheduled at 9:00 a.m., invite City of Eveleth and Fayal Township.

Motion by Robich second by Vertachnik to direct Public Works Operations Director Lautigar to get bids for ballfield fencing and field upgrades. MCU.

CITY OF GILBERT
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Motion by Vertachnik second by Pontinen to table any action regarding the MN Power estimate to relocate the 3-phase overhead line to accommodate the work that will be done at the WWTP. MCU.

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

Motion by Robich second by Vertachnik to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Debra Sakrison, City Clerk

ATTEST:

Dorothy Elizabeth Milos, Mayor