

City of Gilbert
Minutes of Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday May 28, 2013
Council Chambers

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. by Mayor Skenzich.

Present: Mayor Skenzich, Councilors Kutsi, Nemanick and Skalko.

Absent: Schutte.

Also present: City Attorney Brunfelt, City Engineer Jamnick, Police Chief Techar, Public Works Operation Director Lautigar, Library Director Miller, City Clerk Mackley and Administrative Secretary Devich.

Mayor Skenzich led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

There were no additions to the agenda.

Motion by Kutsi second by Skalko to approve minutes Regular Council Meeting of May 14, 2013. All approved.

Mayor Skenzich opened the meeting for public input.

Steve Peterson approached the Council regarding his contract with the city for IT computer support. Peterson noted the Library would like to have their own contract and be billed directly for his services. Peterson stated several changes have occurred with the City adding numerous workstations, E-Mail Accounts and other items that were not included in his prior contract. Peterson submitted an equipment list highlighting seven changes that have occurred and deleting four items at the Library. Peterson proposed an amended contract with the City with the same monetary rate as the current contract.

Motion by Nemanick second by Kutsi to approve amended contract with Steve Peterson amending the equipment list and retaining the same dollar amount for the contract ending February 15, 2014. All approved.

Peterson will negotiate a contract with the Library Board and bill the Library directly as requested by the Library Board.

Motion by Nemanick second by Skalko to approve the On-Sale and On-Sale Sunday Liquor License for Range Restaurant, Inc. dba The Whistling Bird effective June 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 contingent on completion of police background check,

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Liquor Control Approval and meeting license requirements. All approved.

Discussion followed on information from St. Louis County local Board of Appeal & Equalization Training in Cotton on October 22, 2013 at 6:00 PM. Mackley noted Skenzich, Schutte and Skalko have met the training requirements. No Councilor's indicated any interest in attending the training.

Discussion followed on the safety equipment loan application submitted to the League of Minnesota Cities Trust by Terah Rinerson on behalf of the City of Gilbert in the amount of \$8,400.00.

Motion by Nemanick second by Kutsi to Approve resolution awarding the sale of a \$8,400 General Obligation Capital Note, Series 2013A and authorizing the Mayor and Clerk signatures on appropriate loan and note documents. All approved.

Discussion followed on proposed sale of State tax forfeited land located on lots 6 and 7, Block 48, Gilbert 2nd Addition. The Council expressed no interest in acquiring the property or withholding it from the proposed sale.

Councilor Skalko stated he had met with Jack Yaklich regarding repairs to the cemetery wall. Yaklich would do the work at \$30.00 per hour and felt the work could be done in 40 hours or less.

Motion by Skalko second by Nemanick to have Yaklich do the repair work on the wall at a cost not to exceed \$1,200.00. All approved.

Councilor Kutsi reported the City has received a grant of \$4,000.00 from the DNR for the ATV trail to Eveleth and Gilbert is working with the City of Eveleth to finish the trail.

Mayor Skenzich reported the city will be working on the alley project between Minnesota and Michigan Avenue and the New Jersey and Ohio projects this summer.

Skenzich also reported the sewer agreement with Fayal should be finalized with a rate hopefully by the next meeting.

Motion by Kutsi second by Skalko to re-appoint Sharon Asselin

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to the Gilbert HRA for a five year term ending May 8, 2018 as recommended by the Mayor. All approved.

Engineer Jamnick reported work on Alaska Avenue will commence tomorrow and sidewalk and finishing work on the project will be completed.

Jamnick also reported he, Terah and Jack met with the MPCA regarding the digester project, the blowers and the long term plan for the anerobic digester.

Chief Techar reported on future traffic issues on highway 97 caused by re-paving and also reported the department is working on blight issues.

Motion by Nemanick second by Kutsi to approve extending Chief Techar's contract to December 31, 2014 with a 1.5% wage increase retroactive to May 1, 2013 and a wage for 2014 to be negotiated later. All approved.

Public Works Operation Director Lautigar reported Minnesota Power would like to start work on replacing underground wiring by Kennedy Park at a cost of approximately \$30,000.00.

Motion by Nemanick second by Skalko to approve Minnesota Power doing the underground wire work at an estimated cost of \$30,000.00 All approved.

Motion by Skenzich second by Skalko to approve sale of the Sparta Community Center glass case to Tony Addy for \$150.00. All approved.

Motion by Nemanick second by Skalko to give the proceeds from the sale of the case to the Library Fund. All approved.

Library Director Miller reported on the activities of the Library and upcoming activities at the library.

Discussion followed on the use of the Centennial Committee funds donated to the City for playground equipment at Kennedy Park in the amount of \$9,791.61 on August 5, 2010. Mackley presented the Council with information as requested by Councilor Kutsi regarding the funds. The funds were received in 2010 and the 2011 budget included a line item for \$20,000.00 for playground equipment which apparently was never used. Nemanick suggested possibly using the money for a

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skateboard park in Kennedy Park.

Motion by Kutsi second by Skalko to match Recreation Funds with the Centennial Committee for playground equipment purchases in 2013. All approved.

Kutsi stated he would like to get a committee together to work on the project possibly contacting the old committee members.

Clerk Mackley reported there were 8 Sparta area residents that were left off the assessment roll certifying installment number five to the County Auditor. The amount that each should have been certified was \$834.00. Mackley had prepared a letter for Council approval to be sent to the property owners directing payment to the City of Gilbert of the 1st half of the assessment by June 30 and payment of the 2nd half by October 15. The letter indicated that failure to pay the assessment installment would result in the City re-calculating the remaining assessment installment for the balance of the assessment resulting in significantly increased amounts for the remaining installments.

Motion by Nemanick second by Skalko to approve the letter as drafted and send the letter requiring payment of the fifth installment to the City of Gilbert. All approved.

Motion by Skalko second by Kutsi to approve renewal of membership in the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities Association for \$3,087.00. Voting in favor: Skenzich, Kutsi and Skalko. Voting against: Nemanick. Motion carried 3 to 1.

Motion by Kutsi second by Skenzich to authorize the Mayor and Council to attend the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities Association. All approved.

Motion by Kutsi second by Nemanick to approve amended Pay Equity report placing Gilbert in compliance. All approved.

Motion by Kutsi second by Skalko to approve payment of bills and payroll with the addition of the Northern Minnesota Consulting bill subject to the audit by the Mayor and Clerk. All approved.

Mayor Skenzich acknowledged the letter to the Mayor and Council received from AFSCME Local 627. Skenzich stated a meeting will be held with Attorney Brunfelt and the

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appropriate parties to discuss the letter prior to responding to the letter.

Motion by Kutsi second by Skalko to adjourn at 7:07 PM. All approved.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk