

CITY OF GILBERT
MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Mayor Kutsi called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Kutsi, Councilors Skalko, Pontinen, Bol and Liimatta.

Absent: None.

Staff Present: City Attorney Michael Kearney

Planning Commissioners: Administrator Wedge, Commissioners St. Lawrence, Dennie & Goblirsch.

Also present: Kraig Sortedahl

This Special Meeting was called to meet with resident Kraig Sortedahl to find out what is happening with his building construction project on the north end of Broadway Street.

Mayor Kutsi gave a brief overview of the issues at hand:

- \$400 Commercial Building Permit has not been paid.
- Plans that were approved by Planning & Zoning have not been met yet and it has been two years.

Sortedahl stated the following:

- He is out of money.
- He hopes to be able to come up with the money by the end of next week for the permit.
- He stated he has been out of work for awhile.
- Business that they were planning on putting in the building, this time of year is slow for it.
- Another option he has is to rent it out, to have an income coming in.

Mayor Kutsi stated that the permit should have been paid for before construction even started. Planning & Zoning Administrator Wedge reiterated that he told Mr. Sortedahl that he needed to pay the \$400 fee for the Commercial Building Permit and then it would be issued and he could begin construction. He also stated that the City Council wanted to be sure that it was a commercial structure and not a residential garage.

Sortedahl asked to get a list of items he needs to complete in order for his building to comply with what was approved by the city.

Councilor Skalko asked about running a business without having a sanitary sewer or water line. How can a business run without utilities? Sortedahl's response was that those items are expensive.

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Councilor Skalko asked what type of business they were planning on conducting in the building? Sortedahl stated that his wife does internet selling and if the business grew it would move into this building.

Planning & Zoning Administrator Wedge stated that the city of Gilbert has not yet adopted the MN State Building Code, which would require the utilities. But he would still have to comply with the plumbing ordinance. The Planning Commission issues land use permits only.

Councilor Bol stated that Sortedahl should make good on the building permit and complete the items that were previously approved by the Planning Commission.

Councilor Pontinen asked if there was an electrical inspection. Sortedahl stated that there was none. Pontinen stated that is mandatory with a new building. Sortedahl stated that it was not even ready for a rough-in inspection, he has an extension cord running from his house.

Sortedahl stated that he will pay the building permit and work on getting the building complete, and that it is not an eye sore and to be patient.

Sortedahl stated that he has personal items stored in the building as well as his vehicle. He also stated that St. Louis County has deemed it a residential garage.

Motion by Mayor Kutsi to direct Sortedahl to pay the \$400 fee for the Commercial Building Permit and to comply with all items as approved by the Planning Commission for the Building Permit, and state of MN requirements for commercial plumbing & electrical.

Wedge stated that if Sortedahl has a commercial business he should provide the Federal ID # and MN Sales Tax ID # to the city, and do they have a business plan.

Motion by Mayor Kutsi second by Skalko to give Sortedahl 90 days to pay the \$400 fee for the Commercial Building Permit and to comply with all items as approved by the Planning Commission for the Building Permit, including state of MN requirements for commercial plumbing & electrical. Roll Call: Pontinen – Aye; Skalko – Aye; Kutsi – Aye; Bol – Nay; and Liimatta – Aye. Motion carries 4 – 1.

Motion by Bol second by Liimatta to adjourn the meeting at 5:49 p.m.

Robert Kutsi, Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra Sakrison, City Clerk