

ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 4, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m., Mayor Kreft presiding.

Members present: Mayor Kreft, Griep, Reetz, Vrklan, Wills

Members absent: Borchert

Also present: Administrator Jaunich, Bernet Pinske, Engineer Joel Hawbaker, Police Chief Rovinsky, Cheryl Rovinsky, Darin Mielke, Kurt Menk

Motion by Vrklan, seconded by Reetz, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda with the following additional item:

10B) Resolution No. 38-Appointment of Election Judges.

Motion by Griep, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- A) Approval of the July 21st Regular & July 28th Special/Joint SMC Board Meeting Minutes
- B) Approval of the Bills
- C) Approval of Part-Time Police Officer Job Description
- D) Approval of the request to place barricades at the corner of Creekview & Dayton on August 5th for "National Night Out"
- E) Approve Transient Merchant/Peddler's permit for Jorge Saucedo (Taco Stand)
- F) Deny lowering ambulance call charge fee for Immanuel St. Joseph's – Mayo Health System.

It was noted that there were no public hearings scheduled.

It was noted that there were no citizens present to address the Council on non-agenda items.

The following announcements were reviewed:

- 1) Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Coalition Organizational Meeting – August 20th from 1-4 p.m. at the Winthrop Vets Club
- 2) Historic Preservation Conference – September 19-20 in Northfield.

The Council reviewed the following communications:

- 1) Water/Sewer Reports
- 2) July Building Permit Report
- 3) "Prairie Line Trails" Letter
- 4) 50 Applications for Full-Time Maintenance Worker position.

Engineer Hawbaker presented 4 separate options (including preliminary assessment figures) for extending water and sewer utilities on 401st Avenue NW. He explained that the County had requested that directional boring be done under County Road 69. It was agreed that the property owners should be informed of this information and a public hearing should be held.

Councilmember Reetz introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION 37-2008

A RESOLUTION RECEIVING REPORT AND CALLING HEARING ON IMPROVEMENT

WHEREAS, pursuant to action at the April 21, 2008 council meeting, a report has been prepared by Bolton and Menk with reference to the extension of water and sewer utilities on 401st Avenue to the properties at 22994 and 22998 401st Avenue; and this report was received by the City Council on August 4, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the report provides information regarding whether the proposed project is necessary, cost-effective, and feasible.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ARLINGTON, MINNESOTA:

1. The Council will consider the improvement of such utility extension in accordance with the report and the assessment of benefiting properties for all or a portion of the cost of the improvement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 429 at an estimated total cost of the improvement will be in the range of \$67,369 - \$93,034.
2. A public hearing shall be held on such proposed improvement on the 18th day of August, 2008, in the Council Chambers of the Community Center at 6:30 p.m. and the City Administrator shall give mailed and published notice of such hearing and improvement as required by law.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember Vrklan and upon poll being taken thereon the following voted in favor thereof: Griep, Reetz, Vrklan, Wills; and the following voted against the same: None; and the following abstained from voting: None; and the following were absent: Borchert.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Arlington this 4th day of August, 2008.

Signed: /s/ James R. Kreft
Mayor

Attested: /s/ Matthew Jaunich
City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted and was signed by the Mayor whose signature was attested by the City Administrator.

Engineer Hawbaker gave an update on the Horseshoe Drive and Circle Lane reconstruction project. He stated that they are still waiting for the report from the contractor who was awarded the bid.

Police Chief Rovinsky presented the monthly report for the Police Department. He stated that they had responded to 80 calls for the month of July. He also commented on a few issues that the PD is currently working on. Reetz thanked Rovinsky for the weekly email reports, as they are helpful and informative.

Fire Relief Association Treasurer Darin Mielke asked the City for its annual contribution of \$2,987 (included 3% increase from last year) for the Fire Relief Association (retirement). Mielke noted that in the past it was \$100 per member (29 members), which they are down 2 members currently, but hope to fill vacancies soon. He also asked the Council to consider budgeting \$3,077 for 2009 (to be added to 2009 Preliminary Budget). Adm. Jaunich commented that the Council will discuss the 2009 contribution during their upcoming Preliminary Budget workshop.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Griep, and passed by unanimous vote to contribute \$2,987 to the Fire Relief Association.

Mielke presented a revised version of the Fire Relief Association's By-Laws. He summarized the changes. It was noted that Attorney Arneson had reviewed the By-Laws and recommended some minor changes, which had been incorporated into them.

Motion by Griep, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the Fire Relief Association's By-Laws as presented (*see attached*).

Mielke presented information on the Deferred Pension Rate and Schedule Form for the Lump Sum Pension Plans for the Fire Relief Association. He commented that in previous years it was suggested to increase the benefit level, but this year they were recommending leaving it at the same level.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Vrklan, and passed by unanimous vote to set the deferred pension rate at 5% for deferred members on the Fire Relief Association.

Mielke commented that the Fire Relief Association would like to change auditing companies and would like the City to continue to help finance the auditing services.

Councilmember Griep introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 38-2008

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ELECTION JUDGES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2008 STATE PRIMARY ELECTION AND THE NOVEMBER 4, 2008 STATE GENERAL ELECTION

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Arlington, Minnesota, that pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 204B.21, the following persons are hereby appointed as election judges for the City of Arlington precinct for the September 9, 2008 State Primary and the November 4, 2008 General Election:

Helen Kittock	Loanne Sorenson	Barb Haggenmiller	Deb Brinkman
Pat Grabitske	Ruth Voight	Rena Dose	Carol Mesenbring
Marie Schneider	Marion Von Moorlehem	Pauline Wiemann	Dianne Ebersviller
Bruce Anderson	Ramona Bade	William Ehlke	Edythe Haggenmiller
Celia Smykalski	Audrey Sickmann		

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that compensation for said Judges will be paid at the rate of \$8.75 per hour for regular Judges and \$9.25 for Head Judges.

BE IT ASLO FURTHER RESOLVED, that if any person who is named on the above list as a judge is unable to serve, the City Administrator is hereby authorized to appoint a qualified substitute.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember Wills and upon poll being taken thereon the following voted in favor thereof: Griep, Reetz, Vrklan, Wills; and the following voted against the same: None; and the following abstained from voting: None; and the following were absent: Borchert.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Arlington this 4th day of August, 2008.

Signed: /s/ James R. Kreft
Mayor

Attested: /s/ Matthew Jaunich
City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted and was signed by the Mayor whose signature was attested by the City Administrator.

Adm. Jaunich commented on the need to seek an RFQ/RFB for 2009 Auditing Services. He explained that he feels the City and Fire Department are getting financial reports, not actual audits.

Motion by Vrklan, seconded by Reetz, and passed by unanimous vote to seek RFQ's and/or RFB's for 2009 Auditing Services.

Cemetery Chairperson Bernet Pinske presented a proposal for landscaping within the island at the new entrance of the Cemetery. She commented on a future project for a 'natural' screen along the northern edge of the cemetery near old entrance that overlooks the City Shop area (transformers). Pinske also commented on the watering issue at the cemetery and proposed that a water tank be purchased and have the summer lawn mowing help do the watering.

Motion by Griep, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to accept the recommendation from the Cemetery Committee to landscape the island near the new entrance as presented (shrubs and pavers) in the amount of \$2,496.42.

Pinske thanked the Arlington Conquerors 4-H Group for the wonderful job they did cleaning up the landscaping along the eastern boundary of the cemetery. It was agreed that the City will send a letter of appreciation to the 4-H group.

Discussion was held on whether the City should attempt to sell or trade-in the sanding truck, upon receiving the new truck in December. Adm. Jaunich commented that the company the City was purchasing the new truck from offered \$3,500 for the old truck in trade. It was the consensus of the Council to authorize Adm. Jaunich to try to sell the truck outright with the following conditions: bids must meet set minimum price and bidder would not be allowed possession of the truck until such time as the City receives the new truck.

Mayor Kreft commented that the City had set as one of its goals, at the beginning of the year, to improve the ambulance service (day time coverage). He noted that the City has met numerous times with representatives (including Staff and Board Members) from both Sibley Medical Center and Ridgeview Medical Center to try to come up with solutions for this issue. The SMC Board of Directors (during a recent joint meeting with the Council) recommended that the City upgrade the licensing of the ambulance service from a BLS (Basic Life Support) service to a part-time ALS (Advanced Life Support) service. Adm. Jaunich presented three different options for the Council to consider related to the additional costs associated with a license upgrade. He also commented that the current service contracts with the Townships and City of Green Isle are very low and should be reviewed. Mayor Kreft commented the Ambulance staff was in favor of the license upgrade. Considerable discussion was held on weighing the positives and negatives with changing the licensing and/or management of the ambulance service.

Motion by Vrklan, seconded by Reetz, and passed by unanimous vote to proceed with the application to upgrade the ambulance license from a BLS service to a part-time ALS service.

Adm. Jaunich questioned if the Council wanted to hold another public hearing related to the sidewalk project. He stated that the City has already had a public hearing and presented the information (based on \$4/sq. ft) to the residents, but by law is not obligated to hold another one even though the project is being re-bid. It was the consensus of the Council to hold another public hearing on August 18th so the residents can be informed of what is happening with the project (cost changes).

Brief discussion was held on possibly changing the time of the August 18th meeting to earlier as Adm. Jaunich has another commitment and would need to leave the meeting early. It was the consensus of the Council to leave the meeting at the regularly scheduled time and have EDA Director Schultz cover for Adm. Jaunich.

Brief discussion was held on changing the date for the September 1st meeting as it is Labor Day (holiday). Adm. Jaunich explained that the Council approved a calendar at the beginning of the year regarding meeting dates and times, and that Tuesday, September 2nd had been set for the first meeting in lieu of the holiday and

asked if this date still worked for the Council. It was the consensus of the Council to leave the date as scheduled.

Adm. Jaunich reminded the Council that the Preliminary 2009 Budget has to be approved by September 15th. He suggested that a special (workshop) meeting be held to discuss the proposed budget prior to the September 2nd meeting. It was the consensus of the Council to hold a special workshop meeting on August 25th at 7:00 to discuss proposed 2009 Preliminary Budget.

Griep gave a brief update on what the SMC Board was working on.

Vrklan gave an update on the Library Committee. He noted (and apologized) that he had reported at the last meeting that the 2 new chairs were donated by TSE, when in fact, they were donated by the SEA Lions organization. He commented that TSE had given the Library a check in the amount of \$500 for giving them the old Library furniture.

Griep commented that the Cable Commission had met and will be contributing \$2,000 to each community library.

Brief discussion was held on the City Forester services. Adm. Jaunich asked the Council to start providing him with names/addresses of properties with problem trees.

Mayor Kreft gave an update on the 5 goals set earlier in the year.

Motion by Vrklan, seconded by Griep, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm.

City Administrator Matthew Jaunich

Mayor James R. Kreft