

ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 22, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m., Mayor Kreft presiding.

Members present: Mayor Kreft, Pederson, Pichelmann, Reetz, Ruehling, Wills

Members absent: None

Also present: City Administrator Jaunich, City Attorney Arneson, Lyle Wiest, Jane Scharpe, Arl. Historical Society Members Dwight Grabitske & Curt Boeder, Ron Otto, Gary Burdorf, Sheila Henke, Darrel Alsleben, Jerry Narr, Kurt Menk

Motion by Wills, seconded by Pederson, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda as presented.

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

- A) Approval of the January 18th Regular Meeting Minutes
- B) Approval of the February 7th Regular Meeting Minutes
- C) Approval of the February 7th Workshop Meeting Minutes
- D) Approval of the Bills
- E) Accepting the Retirement of Chad Carpenter from the Arlington Fire Department.

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) Joint Council/Hospital Board Meeting – March 21st @ 5:00 pm (SMC)
- 2) Open House for the 2011 Intersection Safety Improvement Projects (Railroad) – March 24th from 4:00 – 7:00 pm.

The Council reviewed the following communications:

- 1) January Water/Wastewater Report
- 2) MDH Public Water Supply Inventory Report
- 3) Update on State Budget Deficit.

Dwight Grabitske and Curt Boeder presented the annual Historical Society Report. It was noted that the AHS had restored the Lido Theater Marquee as their 2010 project. Grabitske commented that it was a very successful project. He stated that the community was very supportive of it and generous with their donations. Grabitske talked briefly about the AHS's 'public interaction'. It was noted that the AHS is looking for museum space, as it continues to receive artifacts and has nowhere to display them. Boeder stated that they are looking into other restoration projects, one of which includes an old fire truck.

Sibley County Relay for Life Co-Chair Jane Scharpe was present and talked briefly about their upcoming event, which will be held in Arlington at the Sibley East Track & Field on Friday, June 17th. She explained that the event is held at night and they were requesting a variance from the nuisance (noise) ordinance. The Council reviewed Nuisance Ordinance 165.

Motion by Pederson, seconded by Pichelmann, and passed by unanimous vote to approve a variance from the nuisance (noise) ordinance for the Sibley County Relay For Life event on Friday, June 17th and authorize Adm. Jaunich to work out the details with the organization.

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

RESOLUTION 15-2011
A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR A LAWFUL GAMBLING PERMIT FOR AN
ADDITIONAL LOCATION FOR THE VFW POST 6031

WHEREAS, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 6031, is seeking an additional location to conduct lawful gambling; and

WHEREAS, the VFW currently conducts lawful gambling at Triple E's Café (306 W. Main St.) and is looking to conduct lawful gambling at the Arlington Dugout (310 W. Main St.).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Arlington hereby approves the application for a Lawful Gambling Permit for an additional location as submitted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 6031.

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: Pederson, Pichelmann, Reetz, Ruehling, Wills; and the following voted against the same: None; and the following abstained from voting: None; and the following were absent: None.

Approved by the City Council of the City of Arlington this 22nd day of February, 2011.

CITY OF ARLINGTON, MINNESOTA

/s/ James R. Kreft
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Matthew Jaunich
City Administrator

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

RESOLUTION 16-2011
A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION AND DESIGNATING ITS USE

WHEREAS, the City of Arlington may accept a gift of real or personal property, including money, and use it in accordance with the terms prescribed by the donor; and

WHEREAS, the City may not, however, accept or use gifts for religious or sectarian purposes; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arlington has received a donation of money from the Green Isle Lions Club to be used to assist in the costs of the purchase of an Auto Pulse machine for the Ambulance; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Arlington that the City accepts the \$1,000 donation in full from the Green Isle Lions Club and designates its use to the Ambulance Fund to assist in the costs of the purchase of an Auto Pulse machine.

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

Approved by the City Council of the City of Arlington this 22nd day of February, 2011.

CITY OF ARLINGTON, MINNESOTA

/s/ James R. Kreft
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Matthew Jaunich
City Administrator

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

RESOLUTION 17-2011
A RESOLUTION RATIFYING ADDITIONAL MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

BE IT RESOLVED that Mayor James R. Kreft has appointed the following individual to the following appointment:

Cemetery Committee:

Citizen Appointee: Jerry Ebersviller

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

Approved by the City Council of the City of Arlington this 22nd day of February, 2011.

CITY OF ARLINGTON, MINNESOTA

/s/ James R. Kreft
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Matthew Jaunich
City Administrator

Considerable discussion was held on the Fiber to the Home Project and the establishment of a Joint Powers Board. Adm. Jaunich stated that the Cities of Green Isle, Gibbon, Winthrop and New Auburn, along with Sibley and Renville Counties have all voted to join the Joint Powers Board. He noted that the Cities of Fairfax and Gaylord were to be making their decisions on the project also. The Council reviewed the information that had been obtained through various meetings regarding the project and the joint powers. It was suggested to set a cap on the dollar amount the City would be willing to contribute if it agrees to move forward to the next phase of the project. Pichelmann commented that he still believes this project should be run solely as a County project. Wills expressed his concerns about the ‘unknowns’ with the project (primarily will the City still be paying on something {in 30 years} that is obsolete as technology changes so fast).

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

RESOLUTION 14-2011
A RESOLUTION APPROVING JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT FOR CONSIDERATION OF A
COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

WHEREAS, Sibley County and the municipalities located in the County are interested in exercising their powers jointly and collectively under Minnesota Statutes, Section 471.59 to create a joint powers organization by which the parties may cooperatively analyze and assess communications delivery and service issues affecting the parties and the region, and develop plans for construction and operation of a communications network and enhancement of local communications services; and

WHEREAS, the membership will include all municipalities who execute the proposed joint powers agreement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Arlington, Minnesota, as follows:

Joint Powers Agreement. The Joint Powers Agreement attached hereto is hereby approved. The Mayor and City Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Joint Powers Agreement. (*See attached for complete resolution.*)

1. Director. The City Council hereby appoints (To be determined at a later date) to be its initial director on the “Committee” formed pursuant to the Agreement. The director shall represent the City with respect to actions considered or taken by the Committee and shall have one vote on the Committee. The City Council may from time to time appoint a different director or may appoint an alternate to attend when a director is unable to do so.

BE IT FURTHERMORE RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby caps its financial contribution to the Joint Powers Board at \$21,420 at this time.

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

Approved by the City Council of the City of Arlington this 22nd day of February, 2011.

CITY OF ARLINGTON, MINNESOTA

Mayor

Attest: /s/ Matthew Jaunich
City Administrator

Considerable discussion was held on the Ambulance and Fire Coverage Rates for the Townships, along with costs for the new fire truck. Adm. Jaunich stated that the final bill for the fire truck had come in, putting the total cost at \$133,363.78. He reviewed the formulas he uses to calculate the rates being assessed (per section) to the Townships. He reviewed the expenses and revenues for both services. It was noted that the proposed 2012 costs per section for fire coverage was \$434.52 and \$157.49 for ambulance coverage. The Townships expressed their concerns about the dramatic increase in rates. Some discussion was also held on splitting the costs 50/50 or 64/36. Various comments were made and questions were asked/answered.

Motion by Wills, seconded by Pichelmann, and carried (Pederson, Reetz opposed) to set the 2012 Township Assessment rate per section for Ambulance Coverage at \$157.49.

Motion by Pichelmann, seconded by Reetz, and carried (Pederson opposed) to set the 2012 Township Assessment rate per section for Fire Coverage at \$434.52.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Pichelmann, and carried (Pederson, Wills opposed) to use a 64/36 (City/Townships) formula when figuring fire truck sharing costs.

The Council reviewed a letter from the Fire Department Officer Committee regarding a minimum 60% training requirement. Adm. Jaunich stated that such a requirement is not currently included in the Personnel Policy. The question was asked what would happen if individuals didn't meet the requirement. Attorney Arneson thought recollected that something had been put in place years ago, but was inadvertently omitted when the City revised its Personnel Policy to include the Fire Department members. It was suggested to have Adm. Jaunich research this subject further to see what other City's may or may not have in place.

Discussion was held on the City purchasing a water pump and trailer. Adm. Jaunich stated that the equipment would help with flooding issues that the City tends to experience; it would not be used for private purposes. The Council reviewed a couple of price estimates for water pumps and trailers.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Pichelmann, and passed by unanimous vote to purchase a Semi-Trash Water Pump with hoses in the amount of \$1,127.79.

Motion Pederson, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to table discussion/action on the trailer for the water pump until more information can be obtained.

Wills commented on the most recent Fire Department Officer's meeting.

Reetz gave an update on the Planning & Zoning Committee. He stated that they are looking in the GreenSteps Program and will be working with the High Island Watershed District.

Pichelmann commented that the new Administrator for the hospital will not be starting until mid-April.

Pederson commented that the Ambulance has been working on updating their Policies/Procedures Handbook.

Brief discussion was held on the City's snow blower and how old it was.

Reetz commented on the "City Well Authority" and how it may affect the City of Arlington's regulations for well drilling within city limits.

Mayor Kreft talked about a meeting that he and Adm. Jaunich had with SE Supt. Jones recently about the proposed school sites near Arlington. He stated that it was a good meeting. He commented that City was willing to help out wherever it could with evaluating the sites.

Mayor Kreft commented that he feels the Council has done a good job with evaluating the Fiber to the Home Project. He stated that there are definite pros and cons with the project.

Motion by Wills, seconded by Pederson, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 pm.

City Administrator Matthew Jaunich

Mayor James R. Kreft