

ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 2, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m., Mayor Kreft presiding.

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

Members absent: None

Also present: Administrator Jaunich, Attorney Arneson, EDA Director Schultz, Jim Heiland, Larry Sorenson, Mike Feterl, Bruce Dahlke, Ross Bergs, Jeff Hennen, Larry Reichenbach, Lindsey Stumm, Kate Pomplun, Lana Tullis, Chris Welsh, Wendell & Lorraine Terlinden, Tim Kloeckl, Police Chief Rovinsky, Kurt Menk

Motion by Griep, seconded by Reetz, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda with the following changes:

Delete Item 4A) Approval of the May 19th Regular Meeting Minutes (were not ready)

Items 5A and 7B were amended

Add Item 15.5) Trees in Planters.

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

A) Approval of the Bills

B) Approval of Bid from Klehr Grading & Excavating for graveling - \$103.50 per load.

Jeff Hennen addressed the Council regarding his property in the southwest corner of town and gave a history on it, which included several different development concepts. He stated that a large portion of it is not in city limits and he has approached the Township about platting it and was given their support to do so. He stated that he would like to develop the property currently outside the city limits, which would include seven 1-acre lots with wells and septic systems. Attorney Arneson explained that, per the Orderly Annexation Agreement, before any property within the area can be developed it must first be annexed into the city limits or at a minimum be approved by both the City and Township. He proceeded to explain how the zoning control worked within the Orderly Annexation Agreement. Mayor Kreft questioned why Hennen was not seeking annexation. Hennen commented that he received a letter that stated the City was working on a Comprehensive Plan, which would allow for commercial zoning along the Hwy 5 corridor and he doesn't want any portion of the property to be zoned commercial. Hennen commented that he would not be opposed to annexation as long as the property could be zoned residential or even light industrial/business. He also clarified that if the property were annexed, he would like to go back to the concept he had presented a year or so back for the "Building Better Homes" program.

Motion by Griep, seconded by Reetz, and passed by unanimous vote to table the discussion on the proposed Hennen plat outside of city limits until the next meeting to give the Council time to review the information presented.

Business owner Jim Heiland addressed the Council about police coverage and lack thereof in the early morning hours due to the current staffing of the police department. He explained that he has incurred financial loss due numerous accounts of vandalism/damage and theft on his property (vehicles). He stated that as a taxpayer he should have 24 hour police coverage and demanded the Council consider hiring additional officers. Various business owners were present and in support of Heiland.

Katelyn Pomplun and Lindsey Stumm of the Arlington Ambassador Program asked the Council to consider making a donation to its sponsorship program, which it has matched the Chamber's donation of \$600 in the past. It was noted that the Chamber was proposing an increase this year of \$800. Mayor Kreft stated that the

Council could not take any action on this item as it was not on the agenda and would be placed on the June 16th meeting agenda for action.

The following announcements were reviewed:

- 1) Sidewalk/Budget Workshop on June 3rd
- 2) LMC Annual Conference is June 11-13 in Rochester
- 3) Arlington Town & Country Days is June 13-14
- 4) Sibley County Municipalities Association Meeting - June 19th in Arlington @ 6:00 pm
- 5) Sibley County Relay for Life – June 20th-21st in Gaylord
- 6) Sibley County Public Health Full Scale Exercise – June 26th from 4-6 pm.

The Council reviewed the following:

- 1) Thank you from St. Paul's Lutheran School to Mayor Kreft for speaking about Arbor Day at their school
- 2) Thank you from St. Paul's School for their tree
- 3) Thank you from Supt. Langenbrunner for continued financial support with the swimming pool
- 4) Drinking Water Report
- 5) Water/Sewer Reports – Adm. Jaunich noted that a couple of fire hydrants are in need of replacement (one due to vehicle accident). The Council authorized Adm. Jaunich to proceed with having the hydrants replaced/fixed.

EDA President Feterl and Director Schultz were present on behalf of the EDA to give the annual report. The following is a list of things the EDA wants to continue to promote:

- 1) Support long-term economic development
- 2) Support innovation and competitiveness
- 3) Encourage entrepreneurship
- 4) Collaborate and coordinate projects with local business sector, relevant regional partners, and local, state, and federal governments to ensure economic growth
- 5) Secure real estate that will foster economic and residential growth which will achieve the highest return on the taxpayer's investment
- 6) Provide financial expertise and support for current and new small businesses.

It was noted that the EDA has had some question as to what is its role within the City and what are they authorized to handle with/out Council permission. It was suggested to hold a joint EDA/Council meeting to discuss this, plus review the By-Laws and information from the League of Cities. Mayor Kreft suggested that the EDA should consider meeting more than once each quarter, to keep in contact with each other. Schultz commented that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday evening, July 9th.

Police Chief Rovinsky presented the monthly police report. It was noted that there were 92 calls for the month. He stated that they continue to address the yard and/or weed/grass issues. Rovinsky commented that they have the speed trailer for the month of June and will be moving it around to various locations. Reetz expressed concern about the public dances held on Main Street each week and the need for additional officers that have to be staffed to cover these events. He suggested that the County should be getting more involved with these events.

Engineer Lana Tullis was present to give an update on the Wastewater Treatment Facility (digester modifications). She reviewed the difference between anaerobic and aerobic systems and the A-B classifications. Tullis advised the City to stay at the Class B level as long as possible and to go to aerobic storage. It was noted that the City's Investment agent (Shannon Sweeney) was advising the City to bond for the "rehab" project and not use its reserves. The question was asked how Green Isle would be affected by this project. Tullis stated that at the Spring A-GI Board meeting this was discussed and approved.

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

RESOLUTION 25-2008

A RESOLUTION ORDERING AN IMPROVEMENT AND PREPARATION OF PLANS

WHEREAS, a resolution of the City Council adopted the 5th day of May, 2008, called for a preliminary engineering report on improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has received and reviewed the preliminary report for the digester modifications and HVAC improvements at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

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

1. Such improvement is necessary, cost-effective, and feasible as detailed in the feasibility report.
2. Such improvement is hereby ordered as proposed in the council resolution adopted on the 5th day of May, 2008.
3. Lana Tullis of Bolton & Menk is hereby designated as the engineer for this improvement. The engineer shall prepare plans and specifications, and obtain the necessary permits from the MPCA for the making of such improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Administrator is hereby authorized to pursue financing for this project.

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, Vrklan, Reetz, 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 2nd day of June, 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.

Larry Reichenbach was present on behalf of Neisen's Bar to clarify the request for the Sunday Liquor License. He stated that Neisen's Hall (above the Bar) hold events on Sundays; the license would not be for the bar itself it can't be open on Sundays (State law). Attorney Arneson explained that a Sunday license can only be issued to restaurants or hotels with the following 2 requirements: that a minimum of 60% of revenue comes from food sales or there is a seating requirement. He stated that since Neisen has discontinued the "Grill", Neisen's Hall does not qualify for this any longer. Adm. Jaunich explained that there is a State Statute that allows a "governing body" to operate a facility on Sundays, such as in the case with the Community Center. Adm. Jaunich explained that the City can issue up to 12 Temporary Licenses (issued only to certain types of organizations, not private party events) throughout the year and Neisen can apply for them as needed. He added that when Neisen is scheduled to have Community Center license again, he can apply for the Sunday license at that time.

Motion by Wills, seconded by Griep, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the On Sale/Off Sale Renewal Liquor License for Neisen's Bar.

The first reading of Ordinance No. 226 – An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 214, Section 7(A) and Section 10(B), Addressing the Assessment of Sidewalks was held. Adm. Jaunich stated that these sections were being amending to address sidewalks so that the assessments would be consistent with the other assessments.

Discussion was held on the sealcoating bids from the previous meeting. Adm. Jaunich explained that he asked both companies to re-bid the project and include skin patching. He stated that only Caldwell Asphalt submitted a new bid in the amount of \$109,341.88, which was still lower than the other company's original bid.

Motion by Griep, seconded by Vrklan, and passed by unanimous vote to accept the bid from Caldwell Asphalt in the amount of \$109,341.88 for sealcoating and skin patching.

Discussion was held on whether the City should pursue a GIS mapping system. Mayor Kreft stated that the informal GIS Committee (himself, Adm. Jaunich, Councilmember Vrklan, EDA Dir. Schultz, and Planning Consultant Smith-Strack) had put some information together and asked the Council to review it. It was noted that this would be discussed further during the upcoming budget workshop.

Adm. Jaunich commented on the proposed 2008 Bonding Projects. He advised the Council to focus on the Horseshoe Drive and Circle Lane area this year due to time of year issues.

Motion by Vrklan, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to authorize the City Engineer to focus in the southeast area of town for the 2008 Bonding Project. Adm. Jaunich will send letters to the residents in the area.

Griep commented that he had been contacted by a business owner about the poor looking trees in the planters on Main Street and 2nd Avenue NW. Adm. Jaunich will have Supt. Thomes check into this.

Mayor Kreft gave a brief update on the Library remodeling project. He stated that the mold problem was being taken care of.

Borchert gave an update on the most recent Cemetery Committee meeting. He stated that they had met out at the cemetery and reviewed certain areas, including the area by the old entrance where the curve was put in. He added that both larger mowers have been seen in the area where the monuments are and have moved some of the monuments off their washes, which they are supposed to be trimming around first and not using the big mowers. Mayor Kreft commented that city staff has fixed the old entrance sign.

Griep gave an update on the Hospital Board. He stated that they were hopeful to do a heating/ventilation system project this year, but the bids came in much higher than they had estimated them to be.

Griep commented that the Cable Commission came into some money and will be donating \$6,000 to each school district, plus purchasing some additional equipment in the near future.

Adm. Jaunich spoke on the blight yards. He also commented that he had drafted a RFP and was waiting to get a list of locate companies so send letters out to.

Discussion was held on the police issue raised earlier in the meeting. It was suggested to install security cameras and add officers. Adm. Jaunich commented that this should be addressed during the budget process.

Motion by Wills, seconded by Vrklan, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm.

City Administrator Matthew Jaunich

Mayor James R. Kreft