

ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 23, 2006

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

Members present: Mayor Czech, Borchert, Griep, Reetz, Voight, Wills

Members absent: None

Also Present: Administrator Krueger, Attorney Arneson, Police Chief Bruce Rovinsky, P&Z Administrator Harry Jenness, Arlington Good Samaritan Center Administrator Todd Howell, Ambulance Manager Brian Thomes, Elroy Schwirtz, Arden Kreft, Don Goethke, Arlington Historical Society Members Dwight Grabitske & Greg Goblirsch, Arlington Township Clerk Don Nuessmeier, Al Kistner, Kurt Menk

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

5d) Veterans Walking Path of Honor – Arden Kreft

7.5) Ambulance Manager Brian Thomes – a) Approve 3 new people & b) On-call time.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2006 meeting as corrected.

Motion by Voight, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the bills as presented and the Statement of Funds for December.

Mayor Czech commented that Lisa Tesch has done a really nice job over the last 7 years as the financial person (handles investments) for the City and is an outstanding employee. He also commented that Administrator Krueger does a good job in keeping up with and analyzing things. He feels the City has excellent office personnel to keep everything together. He acknowledged the Council and past Councils for keeping the City in good financial order.

Administrator Krueger commented that after the last Council meeting, P&Z Administrator Jenness and Attorney Arneson reviewed proposed Ordinance No. 192-Rights-of-Way and made some changes. P&Z Administrator Jenness reviewed the changes that were made. He commented that some language needed to be added appointing a Director; throughout the document there is numerous mention of a Director, but nowhere in the document does it say who the Director is. He suggested adding the following language under Section 1.01: The City shall appoint the Director who is the principal City Official responsible for the administration of the right-of-way, right-of-way permits, and for the ordinances related thereto. Voight questioned if this was really necessary. Attorney Arneson reiterated that it is necessary, in order to define who the authority (Director) is. Attorney Arneson explained that some changes were needed with regard to the paragraph that talks about performance bonds. He also suggested adding language to the Appeal paragraph that explains that a Contractor can appeal the Council's decision to the District Court. Jenness commented that the standard language for violators/misdemeanors needs to be added. Mayor Czech suggested making all the necessary changes to the proposed ordinance and bringing the revised version to the next meeting. Reetz questioned if homeowners (private individuals) will be allowed to waive the insurance requirements and continue doing their own work.

The Council reviewed the 2005 Accumulative Building and Land Use permits. P&Z Administrator Jenness answered questions related thereto. He reported that there were 4 single family homes constructed and 8 twinhomes constructed for a total of 12 new construction permits; 23 additions/remodel permits; 48 roofing/siding permits; 6 garage/accessory permits; 33 miscellaneous permits; 1 Conditional Use permit; 3 Variances and 1 Illuminated Sign permit.

P&Z Administrator Jenness presented a proposed fee schedule related to right-of-way permits. Mayor Czech suggested tabling this and addressing it at the time of the second reading of Ordinance No. 192 – Rights-of-Way.

Arden Kreft and Elroy Schwirtz were present on behalf of the Veteran's organizations to talk about the Walking Path of Honor dedication ceremony in Memorial Park. They were asking permission to fire 3 shots at the end of the ceremony. Mayor Czech asked Chief Rovinsky if there would be any issues with this. Chief Rovinsky said no.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Voight, and passed by unanimous vote to allow the Veterans to fire 3 shots at the end of the dedication ceremony for the Walking Path of Honor in Memorial Park on August 18th.

Arden Kreft commented that they would be starting phase 3 of the project for the Walking Path of Honor this year, which is to place approximately 16-18 canister lights along the path in and around the shrubbery. Voight questioned who would pay for this and maintain the lights. Elroy Schwirtz commented that they are in the process of raising money for this project and establishing a maintenance fund for the Walking Path of Honor to include the lighting and shrubbery.

Motion by Borchert, seconded by Griep, and passed by unanimous vote to authorize the Veteran's organizations to proceed with putting canister lighting (phase 3 of the project) along the Walking Path of Honor in Memorial Park.

Todd Howell, Administrator for the Arlington Good Samaritan Center was present to talk about the proposed expansion project and the need for 2 more feet of Fairview Park. He stated that they wanted the addition to have a residential feel to it and had their architect redraw the plans, but in order to keep the residential feel, an additional 2 ft. of park land is needed. He explained that a residential feel has a gabled roof line, sliding doors and windows that stick out, whereas institutional has a more elongated boxed look to it. Voight commented that 18 ft. had already been approved and now they wanted more. She questioned when the Good Samaritan would have enough land and what was to keep them from coming back in a year or so and asking for even more land, say for a parking lot. Howell explained they have no plans for a parking lot, they just want to have as large of a court yard area as possible. Voight commented that the Park Board has listened to many variations of what is actually wanted by the Good Samaritan Center and commended the Park Board for all of their work on this project. Reetz questioned if the setback was from the overhang or the foundation. Howell explained that he was asking for bare minimum, which did not include any landscaping, etc. It was the consensus to have the Park Board, City Administrator, Bolton & Menk and a member from the Utility Committee work with the Good Samaritan Center to resolve the issues with the proposed expansion and bring a recommendation to the City Council.

Police Chief Rovinsky explained that the new officer had a prior commitment and would come to a future meeting. Chief Rovinsky did hand out a biography about Patrick Longbehn for the Council to review. He stated that Officer Longbehn has been training and ready to start the first of February. Chief Rovinsky commented that once the police department was up to full staff, he would be meeting with SMC Administrator, Ambulance Manager Brian Thomes and Fire Chief Jeff Otto on upcoming events. He would also be meeting with the school superintendent on updating the disaster policies.

Chief Rovinsky presented his year end report. He commented that he did not have the sheet for assisting other agencies done due to his working nights, but would have it with his next monthly report.

Discussion was held on updating the rules and/or guidelines for the Police Committee. Mayor Czech suggested involving the Police Committee in the process of updating the rules. Voight commented that she felt the Council alone should determine the rules for the Police Committee to follow. Wills suggested that each Councilmember should go through the document, write down their thoughts and bring them to a future meeting,

then put a summary together. Administrator Krueger commented that the Employee Relations Committee should also be given some consideration. The Police Committee and Employee Relations Committee should run parallel to each other in that if there is a general question from the public on police matters, it should be addressed by the Police Committee. However, if the question is about a specific officer, it should be addressed by the Employee Relations Committee. Mayor Czech suggested having a work session to discuss this further.

Motion by Wills, seconded by Reetz, and passed by unanimous vote to authorize WW Supt. McCormick to purchase 2 pumps from Waldor Pump & Equipment Company in the amount of \$5,643 + \$287 each (5% of pump price will be deducted for getting 2 pumps simultaneously) for the wastewater treatment plant.

Ambulance Manager Brian Thomes presented a list of 3 individuals (Krysten Carlson, Amy Dittmer, Shelly Winters) who were in the process of taking the EMT Class in Silver Lake. He commented that he was unaware that prior approval from the Council was needed before individuals could take classes. He commented that all 3 applicants live in Arlington.

Motion by Griep, seconded by Borchert, and passed by unanimous vote to approve hiring Krysten Carlson, Amy Dittmer and Shelly Winters as EMT's with the understanding that if they do not pass the EMT class or do not stay on the Ambulance for a period of 1 year, they will reimburse the City of Arlington for the cost of taking the class.

Ambulance Manager Thomes explained that the ambulance personnel have asked for an increase in their on-call pay. He has reviewed the revenues and expenditures and feels that there is a surplus in revenues, which would cover an increase in on-call pay and still keep the revenues above the expenditures. They currently receive \$1 per hour on-call and \$2 per hour holiday on-call. They would like to see the on-call pay increased to \$2 per hour regardless of holiday or not. He has found in talking with other members that the on-call fee has been the same for about 14 years. Administrator Krueger will work with Thomes to put a proposal together and present it at the next meeting.

Dwight Grabitske and Greg Goblirsch presented the year end report for the Historical Society and Sesquicentennial Committee. The Historical Society had applied for a Capital grant, but did not qualify. The restoration of the old fire hall was essentially put on hold this last year due to a lack of funds and also Kasota Stone's backlog. Goblirsch commented that they will be applying for at least 3 other grants this year. Grabitske commented that once the lower portion of the building is completed, they will be able to list the building on the National Historic Register and then a new window will open up for more grants. The Sesquicentennial Committee held a successful Chicken Dinner fundraiser and will be holding a Prime Rib Dinner fundraiser in February. They are also selling t-shirts to help raise money. They are anticipating 100-120 units in the parade. Grabitske talked briefly about the book (stories and recollections from the past) that is being put together for the celebration.

Mayor Czech presented a historic story that he was asked to write for the Sesquicentennial book in place of the State of City. (See attached)

Annexation was discussed for the 2 platted developments (High Island Creek and Polar Circle Phase II) within city limits that have a small portion of land outside city limits. Attorney Arneson stated that both developers have (as a part of their Developer's Agreements) petitioned to have the land (portion of the platted area) outside city limits annexed into city limits. It was suggested to have a diagram of the proposed annexation at the next meeting.

Don Nuessmeier was present on behalf of the Arlington Township and asked some general annexation questions and wanted to see documentation showing boundary lines. Attorney Arneson commented that he had been working with the State to obtain a copy of what the State showed for boundaries between the City and

Township. It was determined that what the City showed as boundary lines was what the State showed and a copy had then been given to Nuessmeier.

Administrator Krueger explained that the EDA had voted to put up a billboard on Hwy 212 in Norwood Young America near Lano Equipment. The EDA had contacted some of the developers (Meyerson, Witt, Schwartz/Soeffker) about splitting the cost of the billboard with them. They all agreed on the layout and cost and felt this was a good thing for the EDA to be doing. The cost of the billboard is \$275 per month plus approximately \$500 for the vinyl sign. The billboard is to be rented for 6 months for a total cost of \$2,150, which will be split 4 ways (\$537.50 each).

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Voight, and passed by unanimous vote to authorize the EDA to use money from the EDA fund to put up a billboard on Hwy 212 in Norwood Young America as proposed above.

The second reading of Ordinance No. 191 – Fire Department Billing (amends #189) was held.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the following:

ORDINANCE NO. 191

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARLINGTON, MINNESOTA TO PROMOTE THE PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE, HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

An ordinance amending Ordinance 189 regulating Arlington Fire Department Fire Call Billing Procedures.

Section 3 of said ordinance is hereby amended as follows:

Section 3. SUPPLIES COST: In addition to the basic fire call charge, the fire department shall be reimbursed its supply replacement cost for every 5 gallons of foam used, plus reimbursement for the fire department cost of any other supplies or materials expended in fighting the fire.

This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon publication.

For the City of Arlington:

/s/ David Czech

By David Czech

It's Mayor

/s/ David L. Krueger

By David L. Krueger

It's City Administrator

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

RESOLUTION NO. 5-2006

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR A LAWFUL GAMBLING LICENSE FOR THE ARLINGTON BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Arlington hereby approves the application for a Lawful Gambling License as submitted by the Arlington Baseball Association.

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

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Arlington this 23rd day of January, 2006.

Signed: /s/ David Czech
Mayor

Attested: /s/ David L. Krueger
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.

Brief discussion was held on changing the date of the 2nd meeting in February in lieu of the President's Day Holiday. It was the consensus of the Council to change the date of the second meeting to February 27th.

Reetz explained that at the last fire fighter officer's meeting discussion was held on the rate the townships are currently paying for fire protection versus what the cities are paying. They are inquiring with surrounding departments to see what they are charging their townships. The department is also considering setting a specified yearly increase to help with future equipment purchases, so when equipment is needed they won't have to ask the townships to try to budget out of their means.

Administrator Krueger asked for clarification on the snowmobile trail through town. It was understood that when snowmobiles come in from Gaylord along Hwy 5, they would turn onto West Baker Street and go east 1 block to 4th Avenue SW, turn onto 4th Avenue SW going north 2 blocks to the municipal parking lot; when coming in from County Road 17 (south), they would turn onto Henderson Road going west to 1st Avenue SE, turn onto 1st Avenue SE going north up to East Adams Street, then turn onto East Adams Street going west to 4th Avenue SW and then north 1 block to municipal parking lot.

Griep questioned how the proposal was coming for upgrading the recording equipment. Administrator Krueger commented that he was working with Asst. EDA Director Schultz on this.

Voight questioned if there was money available for tarring the parking lot next to the fire department. Administrator Krueger commented that there is money available in the capital outlay fund. Wills commented that the fire department has asked to have a door put in on the northeast side of the building also, and this could possibly be done at the same time.

Wills questioned the EDA loan with G.E.I.S. Attorney Arneson gave an update on this and commented that the City is working with DEED to collect on this loan.

Motion by Voight, seconded by Borchert, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Administrator David L. Krueger

Mayor David Czech