

ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 9, 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, Fire Chief Jeff Otto, Street Supt. Dan Thomes, Police Chief Bruce Rovinsky, P&Z Administrator Harry Jenness, Kurt Menk

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

Change items 18d) Railroad Parcel and 18e) Snowmobile Trails - action is needed (not just informational).

Motion by Griep, seconded by Reetz, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2005 meeting as corrected.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Voight, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the bills as presented. Reetz commented that he hoped the MJ Neisen Asphalt bill did not include the time that a city employee (hired to assist with snow removal) was reported driving one of Neisen's trucks during that last snow plowing session. Street Supt. Thomes commented that this did not happen; one of Neisen's drivers looks like the hired employee from a distance.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 1-2006

RESOLUTION APPOINTING CITY ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK/TREASURER

BE IT RESOLVED that David L. Krueger is hereby re-appointed to serve as City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer for the City of Arlington for an additional one-year term commencing on January 9, 2006.

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: Borchert, Griep, Reetz, Voight, Wills; 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 9th 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.

Mayor Czech commented that he had asked Leslie Soeffker to fill the vacancy on the Planning & Zoning Board, but she had not confirmed the appointment yet at the time of the meeting. Reetz questioned if she could be on the Board as she did not live in town. Mayor Czech commented that there are several individuals that are not residents in town, but are on other committees. Reetz commented that he had spoken with Councilmember Borchert prior to the meeting that he feels Councilmember Borchert is not the best person to be on the Police Committee. He does not mean any disrespect, but he feels that someone with personal knowledge (expertise)

should be appointed to the position, as an example he is on committees related to water and wastewater and Councilmember Voight is on committees related to alcohol.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2-2006

RESOLUTION RATIFYING MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

BE IT RESOLVED that Mayor David Czech has appointed the following individuals to the following appointments:

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS FOR 2006

Vice Mayor: Ruth Voight

Chief of Police: Bruce Rovinsky

City Attorney: Ross Arneson

Police Committee: Bill Lensing (05), Joe Kistner (06), Councilmember Gregory Borchert

Planning & Zoning: Steve Geib (06), Dwight Grabitske (07), Lowell Nagel (08), Wayne Kramer (08), Dan Hislop (08), Arden Kreft (08), Mike Scharping (07), Councilmember Curt Reetz

MMUA Delegates: Mike Vrklan, David Krueger

MMPA Delegates: David Krueger, Lisa Tesch

Health Officer: Dr. Dean Bergersen

Cable Commission: John Griep, Rev. Bruce Hanneman

SEDCO Member: David Krueger, Trisha Rosenfeld

Library Committee: Pauline Wiemann, Jean Olson, Phyllis Lensing, Dee Czech

Park Board: Robert Thomes, Gary Hultgren, Alan Ihrke, Sue Schultz, Michelle Battcher, Councilmember Galen Wills, Supt. Dan Thomes

Cemetery Board: Florence Dahl-Bigaouette, Greg Goblirsch, Peter Glieden, Councilmember Gregory Borchert, Vicki Pomplun, Ken Wiemann, Elmer Burdorf, Supt. Dan Thomes

Hospital Board: Kevin Lindstrand (06), Tom Noack (07), Eleanor Trocke (08), Dennis Van Moorlehem (09), Councilmember Ruth Voight

Historical Society: Curt Boeder, Greg Goblirsch, Pauline Wiemann, Dwight Grabitske, Dennis Van Moorlehem, Ramona Bade

Economic Dev Auth: Trisha Rosenfeld (08), Larry Sorenson (06), Jim Kreft (07), Mike Noack (06), Mike Vrklan (07), Councilmember Ruth Voight, Councilmember Gregory Borchert

Railroad Committee: Wayne Feil, John Griep, Kurt Menk, Bruce Pinske

2006 Sesquicentennial (150th Anniversary): Dwight & Pat Grabitske, Bill Ehlke, Lana Woehler, Greg Goblirsch, Dave & Dee Czech, Mike Noack, Dennis & Marion Van Moorlehem, Darwin & Nancy Mathwig, Don & Mary Seeman, Harvey Beneke, Ann Marie Trocke, Ramona Bade, Sheila Arneson, Marlys Buckentin, Tim & Jane Kloeckl, Allan Giesen, Kurt Menk, David Krueger, Jim

Heiland, Marie Kreft, Tim Berger, Rick Koepp, Jean Olson, Pauline Wiemann, Dan Seeman, Tim Hardel, Kay Schumacher, Raymond Meffert

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Streets:	John Griep, Galen Wills
Public Buildings:	Ruth Voight, Gregory Borchert
Trailblazer Operations Advisor:	Ruth Voight
Utilities-Fire Dept-Ambulance:	Curt Reetz, Galen Wills
Bonds & Insurance:	John Griep, Galen Wills
Regional Sludge:	Curt Reetz
A-GI Wastewater:	Curt Reetz, Gregory Borchert
Employee Relations Committee:	Curt Reetz, John Griep
Firefighter Relief:	Mayor Czech, Administrator Krueger, Fire Chief Jeff Otto

Appointments end December 31, 2006.

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

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Arlington this 9th 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.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 3-2006

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE OFFICIAL CITY DEPOSITORY

BE IT RESOLVED that the Arlington State Bank of Arlington, Minnesota be hereby designated as the official City of Arlington depository for the year 2006.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember Griep and upon poll being taken thereon the following voted in favor thereof: Borchert, Griep, Reetz, Voight, Wills; 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 9th 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.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 4-2006

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE OFFICIAL CITY NEWSPAPER

BE IT RESOLVED that the Arlington Enterprise of Arlington, Minnesota be hereby designated as the official City of Arlington newspaper for the year 2006.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember Borchert and upon poll being taken thereon the following voted in favor thereof: Borchert, Griep, Reetz, Voight, Wills; 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 9th 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.

Mayor Czech presented the following goals for 2006:

1. **OUR HERITAGE:** The City of Arlington will be celebrating its 150 year anniversary (sesquicentennial) in 2006. Dwight Grabitske, Chair of the Committee, has written/gathered Arlington history and trivia during the past two years for the Arlington Enterprise and will continue collecting historical stories from the people of the Arlington area. These stories will be published and available for purchase in 2006. Sesquicentennial committees are organizing an all school reunion, parade, and other activities. We have an opportunity to learn some of our city history and also to volunteer in some capacity. I invite the people of Arlington and the surrounding area to be a part of this great celebration.
2. **WALKING AND BIKING TRAILS:** The City of Arlington should continue to explore the development of walking and biking trails including interconnecting the city parks with the Sportsmen's Park. Also begin discussion with the cities of Gaylord and Green Isle and the Sibley County Commissioners pertaining to a Sibley East Area Trail.
3. **ORDERLY ANNEXATION:** Working with Arlington Township and Sibley County officials, with public input develop a plan for the City of Arlington to assume control of zoning for the area within two miles of the Arlington city limits and include this area in our Comprehensive Land Use Plan for future development.
4. **COLLABORATIVE GOVERNMENT:** Continue the process of the City Council and Mayor becoming a team. We agree and disagree, but we work together as a team for the betterment of our city and surrounding area.

Fire Chief Jeff Otto presented 3 quotes (from Haggemiller Lumber, Rick Fredin-Midland Garage Doors, and Overhead Door co. of Mankato) that he had obtained for replacing the garage doors and openers at the fire hall. The doors/openers are approximately 30 years old. The new doors would have windows in them. Haggemiller Lumber had a better quality of door (R-value of 16.3 and double hinged) and they would dispose of the old doors.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to accept the quote from Haggemiller Lumber in the amount of \$8,948.13 for replacing the garage doors and openers at the fire hall.

Fire Chief Otto talked briefly about the salaries for the Fire Department Officers. He stated that back in 1999 the department had voted to give an annual 2% salary increase to the officers and he just recently found out that the Council has never approved this. He stated that the officers have actually been receiving this increase.

Motion by Voight, seconded by Griep, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the annual 2% salary increase for the fire department officers.

Fire Chief Otto explained that the ordinance (No. 189) that was adopted last fall related to fire call billing procedures needed to be amended. Section 3 of said ordinance covers supply costs, which these costs continue to change/increase. He asked Attorney Arneson to revise this section so that the ordinance does not have to be amended every time a new supply gets added or costs change. The first reading of Ordinance No. 191 – Amending Ordinance No. 189 Regulating Arlington Fire Department Fire Call Billing Procedures was held. The second reading will be held at the next regular Council meeting and become effective upon publication thereafter.

Street Supt. Dan Thomes was present to discuss changing the “recycling day” to Tuesday from Thursday. He stated that there has been a lot of “illegal” recycling happening. People are leaving steel chairs, plastic swimming pools, and other garbage, things that really can’t be recycled and are not included in the “regular” recycling process, which get pulled out of the recycling bin and left behind; he then has to find dumpsters to put the garbage into until the next garbage collection day (basically fills up all city dumpsters).

Motion by Griep, seconded by Borchert, and passed by unanimous vote to change Arlington recycling day to Tuesday starting the beginning of February.

Sportsman’s Club acting president Dan Thomes explained that the club was intending to donate 4 scoreboards to the city parks as follows: replace the one at the Sportsman’s Park; place one at Frenzel Park; and place two at Four Season’s Park. He stated that the boards would be donated (valued at approximately \$1,000-\$1,200), but the City would have to cover the cost for the beams and installation.

Motion by Voight, seconded by Griep, and passed by unanimous vote to accept the donation of the 4 scoreboards from the Sportsman’s Club as listed above.

Police Chief Bruce Rovinsky explained that 6 individuals had been offered an interview for the full-time police officer position, but 2 cancelled. He was asking permission to proceed with hiring Patrick Longbehm (at the first step on the salary step plan) for the position pending a psychological exam.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Voight, and passed by unanimous vote to authorize Police Chief Rovinsky to hire Patrick Longbehm for the full-time police officer position pending a psychological exam.

Chief Rovinsky commented that the Police Committee (formerly Commission) was asking for some direction from the Council as to what guidelines they are to follow (Employee Relations or other) and what expectations the Council may have for the Committee in the upcoming year. Mayor Czech suggested looking over the existing guidelines at the next meeting and possibly revising them.

P&Z Administrator Jenness presented a proposed ordinance that regulates public rights-of-way that he obtained from the State. He stated that the City currently does not have an ordinance that covers this. The Planning & Zoning Board had reviewed the proposed ordinance and was recommending that the Council approve it. He read for the first reading Ordinance No. 192 – Administer and Regulate the Public Right-of-Way in the Public Interest, and to Provide for the Issuance and Regulation of Right-of-Way Permits Within the City of Arlington, Sibley County, Minnesota. The reason for this ordinance is the State is now requiring cities to provide

information (map) showing where all utility lines are for every property. The second reading will be held at the next regular Council meeting and become effective upon publication thereafter.

Administrator Krueger talked about the need to increase ambulance rates and presented the following information:

\$400 Base rate resident	(increased from \$350)
\$550 Base rate non-resident	(increased from \$500)
\$8.00/mile Mileage rate (loaded)	(increased from \$7.00/mile)
**Supplies included in the base rate	(supplies such as oxygen were billed out as an extra cost, which cannot be done anymore).

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Borchert, and passed by unanimous vote to increase the ambulance rates as mentioned above.

Mayor Czech talked about the indoor swimming pool. He suggested that the City be a “sponsor” for the pool in the amount of \$20,000 for the entire year, not just during the summer. The School was hoping to find other sponsors to help contribute to the pool for the year. The school superintendent was hopeful to have the pool operational all year round. Mayor Czech also suggested that a committee should be formed to help with the pool operations. Reetz stated that he was favorable to the proposition of sponsorship, but expressed concern that if no one else “sponsors” the pool along with the City, would the pool then close when the money ran out. Mayor Czech said that the school asked for help in finding other sponsors. It was the school’s intention to utilize the facility and have it open year round.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Borchert, and passed by unanimous vote to budget (pay) \$20,000 for the annual operation of the indoor swimming pool (starting with the summer swimming lesson program and extending through the same in 2007).

Motion by Voight, seconded by Reetz, and passed by unanimous vote to authorize the travel request from P&Z Administrator Jenness to travel to St. Paul to attend the 50th Annual Institute for Building Officials on Tuesday, January 10th and the International Residential Code Update on Thursday, January 12th (Increasing the Credibility of the Code Official) at a combined cost of \$180 as part of his continuing education as a State Building Official.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Griep, and passed by unanimous vote to authorize the travel request from Assistant EDA Director Schultz and Administrator Krueger to travel to Mankato on January 26th to meet with the Small Business Development Center, to attend the Minnesota Capital Community Fund lecture and to also visit with Region 9 on financial loan options (all in the same building complex).

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to authorize WW Supt. McCormick to attend the 22nd Annual Water & Wastewater Technical Conference on March 7-9 at the St. Cloud Civic Center.

Griep informed the Council that the Cable Commission had money available and was looking to invest it back into the communities. He stated that cities could give him proposals to bring to the Commission for consideration. Administrator Krueger commented that he would like to see the broadcast equipment upgraded to DVD and each city then set up with DVD-r equipment. Griep suggested that he (Krueger) should speak with Ron Swanberg or Wade Warner about this.

Mayor Czech commented that the Historical Society would like to be on the next agenda to present their year end report.

Wills commented that at the last Sibley County Fire Chief’s meeting, the Sheriff’s Department brought over their response van for everyone to look over. He stated that a new numbering system for each department was being established. He stated the current numbering system was established in 1979 and they are running short on numbers. Arlington’s departments will be the 300’s, police department and ambulance will each have 30

numbers and the fire department will have 40 numbers. Fire Chief Otto commented that there is a downfall to the new numbering; most, if not all, of the fire departments have their numbers on their trucks and will cost approximately \$300 to change the decals. The County would like to have all cities done at the same time, however they don't all get their decals from the same company.

Reetz commented that the Planning & Zoning Board had discussed putting a Comprehensive Plan together for extending Land Use outside of city limits 2 miles. They also discussed future growth of the town, such as industrial parks, etc.

The Council took the appropriate action on the following correspondence:

- a) Monthly Building Permit Report for December
- b) LMC Leadership Conference for Experienced Officials
- c) Letter from Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Authority.

Attorney Arneson spoke on the triangular-shaped parcel of land that the railroad owns behind Chef Craig's building. He had been contacted by Bruce Pinske (Chairman for the Railroad Authority) who informed him that the Railroad Association would consider offers to purchase the property. Arneson indicated to Attorney David Schauer (attorney for the Railroad Authority) via telephone conversation, that the city was not interested in purchasing this property. He questioned if the Railroad Authority would donate it to the City, but was informed that the Railroad Authority cannot give away land because of the regulations that it operates under and it must get approval from the State because of the grants it has received. The Railroad Authority hired an appraiser and determined the value of the parcel to be \$9,000. Arneson indicated that there were 3 parties that could get some use out of the parcel and they were Robert Meyers, Craig Bullert or the City. The Railroad Authority was in the process of contacting Meyers and Bullert to see if they would be interested in purchasing it. No action was taken.

Attorney Arneson talked about the Snowmobile Club and their proposed trail system through Arlington. He explained that he has since found out that the Snowmobile Club had not contacted the Railroad Authority to get permission to run their trail in the easement area along the railroad tracks. The Railroad Authority was no longer permitting snowmobiles to be in the right-of-way area due to liability reasons. Administrator Krueger had met with Mike Scharping (of the Snowmobile Club) about a new trail system that had been put together by the Snowmobile Club and was asking for permission from the City to place it as follows: Coming from Green Isle along Hwy 5 up to Quickshop/Subway, proceed west in the ditch along Hwy 5 (on south side of road) to Cenex Convenience Store, cross over the highway going north along Sheila Drive to the road approach between Technical Services and the Lynch property, continue north a distance out onto the field and then turn left going west to and along Olive Street to County Road 9, cross over County Road 9 (west side of road) and exit town; and also Coming from Gaylord along Hwy 5 to West Baker Street, go east 1 block on West Baker Street to 4th Avenue SW, go north 2 blocks to municipal parking lot so they can then walk to either to the Arlington Haus or Neisen's Grill & Bar. There was some discussion about using 3rd Avenue SW, 4th Avenue SW, West Baker Street and West Adams Street. Borchert suggested using Hwy 5 (5th Avenue SW) up to West Adams Street, go east along West Adams Street up to 2nd Avenue. Reetz suggested keeping with the West Baker Street to 3rd Avenue SW to West Adams Street to 2nd Avenue as proposed at the last meeting. Arneson presented some different scenarios for the Council to consider as far as liability issues.

Motion by Griep, seconded by Borchert, and passed by unanimous vote to allow the Snowmobile Club to use the City (EDA) property for their snowmobile trail (as follows) with the condition that they get permission from the Lynch family (Arneson-Hennies), to cross over their property as well: Coming from Green Isle along Hwy 5 up to Quickshop/Subway, proceed west in the ditch along Hwy 5 (on south side of road) to Cenex Convenience Store, cross over the highway going north along Sheila Drive to the road approach between Technical Services and the Lynch property, continue north a distance out onto the field and then turn left going west to and along Olive Street to County Road 9, cross over County Road 9 (west side of road) and exit town; and also Coming from Gaylord along Hwy 5 to West Baker Street, go east 1 block on West Baker Street to 4th

Avenue SW, go north 2 blocks to municipal parking lot. It was understood that all snowmobiles would leave town the same way they entered town.

Fire Chief Otto talked briefly about the expansion of the ethanol plant in Winthrop. He stated that once the plant is running at full speed, there will be an increase in the number of railcars (7,000-8,000) traveling through Arlington, which will in turn affect the emergency response for the emergency vehicles in town.

Reetz suggested having either the streets or utility committees work on establishing a policy about alleyways.

Administrator Krueger apologized for the misunderstanding with the signs in the alleyway that lies within the 400 Block of East Main Street and East Adams Street. He would be writing a letter to the residents explaining about the misunderstanding and inform them that the signs will be going back up.

Wills commented on the proclamation article that had been published in the paper for "Marge Kloeckl Day". He was not opposed to the proclamation, but he had been questioned by someone about a comment in the article. He commented that the article read that the Council had voted unanimously on this, when in fact they had not voted on it all. Mayor Czech said he did not want the proclamation information to get out to the public too soon and that is why he did not bring it up at the Council meeting.

Administrator Krueger informed the Council that he had been receiving quite a few good comments about the recent City Appreciation Dinner. He said everyone did a great job.

Griep commented that he read in the paper that the Sibley County & Le Sueur County Joint Drug Task Force did not get the grant that they had applied for. Brief discussion was held.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Voight, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Administrator David L. Krueger

Mayor David Czech