

ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 5, 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, City Attorney Arneson, P&Z Administrator Jenness, Deputy Clerk Tesch, Clayton Strobel, Carol Maeder, Kurt Menk

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

4.5) Clayton Strobel – Eagle Scout Project.

Motion by Voight, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the August 21, 2006 meeting as corrected.

Motion by Griep, seconded by Reetz, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the bills as presented.

Clayton Strobel stated that he was applying to be an Eagle Scout and to do so he needs to work on a project that benefits the community and shows leadership. He stated that he would be interested in making or replacing benches for the hospital park or any other project the city may need done. Wills commented that the benches could be constructed from maintenance free materials. Voight commented this should be discussed by the Park Board because the expenses associated with this type of project will come out of their budget. Griep suggested looking at all the parks, not just the hospital. Borchert commented that possibly something could be done in association with the time capsule for the Arlington birthday celebration in October. Wills commented that there is a process for becoming an Eagle Scout and there would not be enough time to put something together before October. Mayor Czech stated that the project must be completed before the individual turns 18. Administrator Krueger commented that benches could be made for the Community Center as well. Mayor Czech asked Wills to work with Administrator Krueger and Strobel on this and bring it back to the Council at a later date.

P&Z Administrator Jenness presented Ordinance No. 200 – An Ordinance Regulating the Use of Private Water and Sewer Systems Within the City of Arlington and Providing for the Administration and Enforcement of Such Regulations for its second reading. Mayor Czech commented that the mandatory hook up date was changed to September 1, 2020. Jenness explained that he added language to Section D about needing an automated metering system on private wells and how this would be handled. He believes he made all the changes and/or additions suggested at the previous meeting. Wills questioned what happens if this ordinance is not passed. Jenness stated that Ordinance No. 133 would still be used to enforce the sewer portion, which states that any property that is within 500 feet of the city sewer would have to hook up within 30 days and Ordinance No. 201 covers the private septic systems. Wills expressed concern about forcing people to hook up to the city system, who have perfectly good wells (better water than the city water). Jenness stated we do not know what kind of water is coming out of any of the private wells, no test results have been given to the city. Jenness stated some of the problem with the water is the pipes the water travels through; they could be going bad in certain areas. Some discussion was held on how flushing hydrants affects the water and how often this should be done. Reetz commented that he would like to see this ordinance pass, but would not be opposed if it gets tabled until the city can address the current water quality issues. Jenness stated he is aware of 2 properties that could be affected almost immediately by this ordinance as they are for sale, otherwise he does not think this will be a very big issue for some time. He believes that this ordinance and the water quality are 2 separate issues. Mayor Czech suggested addressing the water quality issue and re-address this ordinance at a later date. Reetz commented that he was in favor of this ordinance and believes it is necessary. Voight agreed, but expressed concern about the

water quality. Krueger questioned when to bring this topic back to the Council for consideration; he does not want to see it get set aside and forgotten about, nor have to start the whole process over with a new Council. Jenness suggested passing it now but does not become effective until January 1, 2007. Mayor Czech suggested bringing this back in 2 months and see what can be done about the water quality. Jenness stated that the problem areas need to be pinpointed and corrected.

It was the consensus of the Council to bring Ordinance No. 200 back for a second reading and approval in November after the water quality issue can be looked into.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to authorize P&Z Administrator Jenness to travel to Redwood Falls on September 6th to attend the quarterly meeting of the Southwest Minnesota Building Officials.

P&Z Administrator Jenness presented the August building permit report for the Council to review. He stated that the permit for the Good Samaritan expansion project was only for the building portion, it did not include the mechanical or plumbing portions.

Motion by Voight, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to set December 4th for the Initial Truth in Taxation hearing and December 18th for the Continuation hearing if needed.

The Council reviewed the proposed 2007 Budget. Administrator Krueger explained what changes he and Deputy Clerk Tesch were able to make after the last Council meeting. It was his recommendation the Council should approve the preliminary budget (at 13.90%) and then in November when the health insurance rates are determined, to re-evaluate the budget and cut where possible (capital outlay and insurance, etc.). Reetz expressed concern about what was all being considered for capital outlay from the wish lists that had been put together, but not necessarily needed anytime soon. Even though this is only the preliminary budget, he would still like to see the final down around 4-5%. Krueger stated that he intends to itemize the capital outlay areas. He added that these numbers are up because they are trying to make up for what has not been done in the past and to plan ahead for the future (maintenance and purchases). Administrator Krueger and Deputy Clerk Tesch answered various questions from the Council.

Motion by Griep, seconded by Borchert, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the Preliminary 2007 Budget as presented and try to reduce it before the end of the year when the actual Budget must be approved.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 14-2006

RESOLUTION PROPOSING THE 2006 TAX LEVY COLLECTIBLE IN 2007

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following General Fund Tax Levy, collectible in 2007 is hereby proposed:

General Fund		\$ 527,548.00
Pub. Proj. Lease Rev. Crossover	12/14/04	40,000.00
2000 Improvement Bond	12/01/00	36,000.00
2001 Improvement Bond	9/01/01	24,400.00
Fire Certificates	11/10/04	36,000.00
2004 Improvement Bond	11/10/04	<u>42,000.00</u>
Total Tax Levy		\$ 705,948.00

TOTAL CERTIFIED TAX LEVY \$ 705,948.00

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 5th day of September, 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.

Motion by Griep, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to accept the quote from Carr Tree Service in the amount of \$7,000 to trim trees around utility lines in the south half of the city.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to accept the low bid from Five-Star Pumping in the amount of \$12,000 to do the sludge hauling for the city.

Motion by Voight, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to accept the quote from Thomes Bros in the amount of \$638.99 for a new air conditioner for the Senior Citizen's Building and will be installed by city staff.

Motion by Voight, seconded by Reetz, and passed by unanimous vote to set Friday, December 8th as the date for the City Appreciation Dinner.

The Council reviewed the schedule for the upcoming League of MN Cities Regional meetings. Administrator Krueger commented that he was planning to go to the meeting being held in St. Peter on October 25th.

Voight, Reetz, and Mayor Czech toured both of the Technical Services for Electronics facilities. Voight commented that she did not realize what they all did make. She stated that they have outgrown both buildings and are looking ahead to the future for expansion. Reetz commented that they are a 2006-2007 global company and moving forward who employ a lot of people and are a good employer. Mayor Czech commented that he would like to see the city work with them on their expansion needs and try to keep them in the community. Administrator Krueger commented that he and EDA Members Jim Kreft and Denny Schultz would like to see a small committee formed to work with Technical Services.

Borchert commented that the Police Committee has not met for some time. They were looking to fill the vacancy on the committee and would probably have a name at the next meeting. Mayor Czech commented that they were looking at the situation of being shorthanded due to injury and suspension of officers.

Administrator Krueger stated that the EDA would be meeting on Monday rather than Tuesday due to the Primary Election. He reminded the Council of the joint meeting with the EDA on September 20th to review the Housing Study. He stated that the EDA would also be holding a Strategic Planning Session on September 22nd. Reetz commented on the upcoming A-GI Wastewater meeting on September 14th.

Mayor Czech commented on the League of MN Cities program that he had watched on the PBS channel.

Griep commented on the most recent Street Committee meeting; topics discussed included curb damage and alley issues. He commented that it was suggested to pave alleys only if the residents petition the city to do so, but the residents would be assessed 100% for the construction and the city would then be responsible for the maintenance and associated costs. Administrator Krueger commented that once alleys are blacktopped, they will be maintained by the city. He stated they are compiling information from other cities to try to put an ordinance together that covers alleys (construction and maintenance).

Wills questioned if the new software had been installed that controls the heating and cooling at the Community Center. Administrator Krueger said it has been installed and we should be saving money. A subcontractor has to be hired to deal with the load management portion.

Wills commented that the city spent approximately \$4,500 to resurface the basketball court at Four Season's Park before the Sesquicentennial Celebration. He wanted to know who authorized to put the tent up and pound the stakes into the new surface. Voight commented that she had questioned Mr. Thomes about this and he had talked with the company that put up the tent; they informed him they would refill the holes and things would be fine at no cost to the city. Wills commented that the holes were refilled but not compacted properly. He feels the Council should have made the decision as to where the tent should have been placed and if any holes would be allowed to be made in the new surface.

Borchert and Wills commented that the hanging planters and tree planters need to be maintained (watered).

Motion by Wills, seconded by Voight, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the regular meeting.

Administrator David L. Krueger

Mayor David Czech