

SPECIAL JOINT ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL &  
HOSPITAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 20, 2007

The Council meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Kreft.  
The Hospital Committee meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairperson Eleanor Trocke.

Council Members Present: Mayor Kreft, Borchert, Griep, Reetz, Vrklan, Wills

Council Members Absent: None

Police Committee Members Present: Chairperson Trocke, Czech, Noack, Van Moorlehem

Police Committee Members Absent: None

Also Present: Interim Administrator Schultz, SMC Administrator Reker, Ridgeview Medical Center CEO Robert Stevens, Kurt Menk, Greg & Maurine Goblirsch, Celia Smykalski, Donna Wolter, Susan Pinske, Marge Kloeckl, Darwin Mathwig, Bertha Sylvester, Julie Scharping, Kay Schumacher, Lorraine Neubarth, Jim Morrisette, Jane Scharpe, Brenda Thomes, David Davis, Pia Larsen, Missy Weber, Jerry Ebersviller, DeAnn Reker, Matt Jaunich, Dr. Dean Bergersen, Heather Krueger, Tove Lund, Diane Ziesmer,

Mayor Kreft stated that the purpose of the meeting was to share information from Ridgeview Medical Center and Sibley Medical Center for the possible Cooperation between these 2 entities. He stated that this was not a public hearing.

Trocke introduced Robert Stevens, Ridgeview Medical Center CEO and SMC Administrator Doug Reker.

Ridgeview Medical Center CEO Stevens talked about Ridgeview Medical Center and that it is a private non-profit organization. He stated that they are fiercely independent and do not want to be owned by any other institution. Their sole mission is to service those individuals in their service area with the best health care. He explained briefly what services Ridgeview can provide to Sibley Medical Center (administrative and management support, coordinate services between both facilities and training for staff). He commented on ambulance services and how they operate such services in other communities.

SMC Administrator Reker talked about what needs SMC has and what Ridgeview could provide (basically all the benefits that come with affiliation). He stated that being affiliated would provide patient/physician referrals and direct admissions (streamline patient processing between facilities). He added that the closeness of the communities is also beneficial to everyone involved, including physicians/specialists. Reker commented on the technological benefits (laboratory and x-rays), being able to keep specific testing in-house. Some additional needs included pharmacy support, doctor/physician recruitment, contract negotiations (insurance, supply purchases, etc.), ambulance services, education/training, and grants. Reker commented on nursing, standards of care and care plans are important to both organizations.

Various questions were asked and answered with regards to how the Cooperative would work. There were positive comments about the idea of the 2 facilities becoming affiliated with each other. There was some concern expressed about confidentiality, gain/loss of control (marketability) and how staffing would be affected. Reker and Stevens re-iterated that growth and stability are what the 2 facilities are striving for.

Brief discussion was held on if other facilities were looked into as far as affiliation. Reker commented on the other avenues pursued and why they were not considered. It was determined that affiliation with Ridgeview would be best for SMC.

Mayor Kreft stated that this was a good meeting and exchange of information. He encouraged the Hospital

Board and Council to continue looking out for the best interests of the Sibley Medical Center.

Motion by Van Moorlehem, seconded by Noack, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the Hospital Committee portion of the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Motion by Vrklan, seconded by Wills, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

HOSPITAL COMMITTEE:

COUNCIL:

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Chairperson Eleanor Trocke

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Mayor James R. Kreft

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Interim Administrator Dennis P. Schultz