

ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 7, 2011

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

Members present: Mayor Kreft, Pederson, Pichelmann, Reetz, Ruehling, Wills

Members absent: None

Also present: City Administrator Jaunich, City Attorney Arneson, Fire Chief Jeff Otto, 1st Asst. Fire Chief John Zaske, Sue Morrisette, Dennis Van Moorlehem, Karen Baumann, Mavis Miller, Larry Gieseke, Denton & Lisa Larson, David Krohn

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

Remove item 4A) Approval of the January 18th Regular Meeting Minutes (as they were not ready).

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

- A) ~~Approval of the January 18th Regular Meeting Minutes (removed)~~
- B) Approval of the Bills
- C) Approval of 2011 Pay Equity Report
- D) Approval of "Additional Location" Request for Gambling Purposes by the VFW.

It was noted that there were no public hearings scheduled.

It was noted that there were no citizens present to address the Council on non-agenda items.

The following announcements were reviewed:

- 1) Gaylord FTTH Workshop Meeting – February 16th @ 7:00 pm in Gaylord
- 2) Fire and Ambulance Meeting with Townships/G.I. is Thursday, February 17th at 7:00 pm
- 3) City Offices will be closed on Monday, February 21st for the President's Day Holiday
- 4) Next Council Meeting will be Tuesday, February 22nd @ 6:30 pm (Change Meeting?).

The Council reviewed the following communications:

- 1) January Building Permit Report
- 2) January Police Calls Report
- 3) January Financial Reports
- 4) Private Snow Removal Report
- 5) Report on Defective Street Lights
- 6) Update on State Budget Discussions and its impact on Arlington
- 7) Discussion on Becoming a Host City for "Community Conversations" put on the LMC.

Fire Chief Otto presented the annual Fire Department Report, which included a detailed summary of the number and/or type of calls responded to and also mutual aid given and received. He commented on the various grants that the department had applied for and been awarded in the last year. It was noted that the following items were purchased in 2010: new turn out gear for each member, new water truck and 6" valves were replaced on the '98 pumper truck. Otto explained that monthly meetings will be starting regarding the upgrading of the two-way radios to the 800 MHz system, which is scheduled to take place within the next 2 years. He stated that they will be applying for a federal grant (through the County) to help cover costs of the upgrade. He added that they are looking into the cost a separate system that will call out to cell phones now (this would be another notification tool and would be in addition to current

pager system). Otto commented that a training group (training officers from each department within the County) was organized and will meet on a quarterly basis to discuss joint training sessions. The Fire Dept. is in the process of implementing a 'lockbox' program for the businesses. Otto stated that the Fire Dept. has been given keys to various properties and by having the lockboxes in place will remove liability from the Department, plus less people will have access to the keys. It was noted that the Department is down 2 members. Otto stated that the FD Officers are currently updating their Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG's).

Considerable discussion was held on the West Elgin alley flooding issues. It was noted that the following residents were present: Sue Morrisette, Dennis Van Moorlehem, Karen Baumann, Mavis Miller, Larry Gieseke, Denton & Lisa Larson, David Krohn. Adm. Jaunich gave a brief history on the flooding issue. He explained that the City Engineer was asked to look at the area and prepare a report on how the problem could be alleviated and at what cost. The Council reviewed the report from the City Engineer, which included two options (1st option: connect to existing storm on west side of alley - \$16,160.10; 2nd option: connect to existing storm at the intersection of 4th Ave. and W. Elgin St. - \$27,134.69). Adm. Jaunich reviewed the section of the Assessment Policy related to this type of project. The residents expressed their concerns about the issues at hand (plus that nothing has been done in the 4+ years they have been complaining about them) and also their opposition to having to pay anything as they didn't feel they were responsible for the problem (it was a development issue). Mayor Kreft commented that he felt the City was directly and/or indirectly responsible for some of the drainage issues and the utility issues (being outside of the easement). He believes the City should help financially with correcting the issues, oversee the project to make sure it is done correctly and also as inexpensively as possible. It was suggested to have the City Engineer look into other options for correcting the problem, such as adding more intakes to the options presented and/or having the water drain to the north. The Council encouraged the residents to put a petition together in order to move things forward.

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

RESOLUTION 10-2011
A RESOLUTION CLOSING AND TRANSFERRING CITY FUNDS

WHEREAS, sound financial planning by the City Council and Staff is the purpose behind the transfer and closing of funds; and

WHEREAS, after the completion of a construction project, the City Administrator has recommended that the following funds be closed and their remaining balances be transferred effective December 31, 2010:

- Close Fund 322 (2009 WWTP Improvement Construction Fund) and transfer any remaining fund balances to Fund 602 (Sewer Fund)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Arlington hereby approve the closing and transferring of these funds as of December 31, 2010.

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: Pederson, Pichelmann, Reetz, Ruehling, Wills; and the following voted against the same: None; and the following abstained from voting: None; and the following were absent: None.

Approved by the City Council of the City of Arlington this 7th day of February, 2011.

CITY OF ARLINGTON, MINNESOTA

/s/ James R. Kreft
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Matthew Jaunich
City Administrator

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

RESOLUTION 11-2011
A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR A LAWFUL GAMBLING PERMIT FOR THE SIBLEY MEDICAL FOUNDATION, INC.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Arlington hereby approves the application for a Lawful Gambling Permit as submitted by the Sibley Medical Foundation for an event on August 17, 2011.

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

Approved by the City Council of the City of Arlington this 7th day of February, 2011.

CITY OF ARLINGTON, MINNESOTA

/s/ James R. Kreft
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Matthew Jaunich
City Administrator

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

RESOLUTION 12-2011
A RESOLUTION RATIFYING ADDITIONAL MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

BE IT RESOLVED that Mayor James R. Kreft has appointed the following individual to the following appointment:

*Sibley County Economic Development
Corporation (SEDCO):*

Citizen Appointee:

Richard Thomes

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: Pederson, Pichelmann, Reetz, Ruehling, Wills; and the following voted against the same: None; and the following abstained from voting: None; and the following were absent: None.

Approved by the City Council of the City of Arlington this 7th day of February, 2011.

CITY OF ARLINGTON, MINNESOTA

/s/ James R. Kreft
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Matthew Jaunich
City Administrator

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

RESOLUTION 13-2011
A RESOLUTION GRANTING SIBLEY MEDICAL CENTER FULL USE OF THE HONEY WAGON DURING AN EMERGENCY SITUATION

WHEREAS, Sibley Medical Center, as a part of their emergency preparedness, needs to make sure they have a back-up plan in each of the areas that could be a potential problem; and

WHEREAS, Sibley Medical Center is requesting that in the event of an emergency, where the sewer system is failing, the City would bring them the honey dew wagon; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arlington has agreed to make the honey dew wagon available if there is not a need for it with a City emergency.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Arlington hereby approves the use of the honey dew wagon by Sibley Medical Center in the case of an emergency.

BE IT FURTHERMORE RESOLVED, that this agreement between the City of Arlington and Sibley Medical Center will be ongoing until a written notice is provided by the City stating that the agreement is void.

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

Approved by the City Council of the City of Arlington this 7th day of February, 2011.

CITY OF ARLINGTON, MINNESOTA

/s/ James R. Kreft
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Matthew Jaunich
City Administrator

Discussion on the Fiber to the Home Project resumed from the previous meeting. Adm. Jaunich stated that a letter had been sent to Mark Erickson and the other communities within the County expressing the City of Arlington's concerns/risks with the project and the financing thereof. He stated that he had not heard back from Mark Erickson, but had been contacted by 2 other communities who expressed the same concerns. He commented that the EDA had not really discussed this project in great detail (financing it) yet and would need much more information before they could make any kind of recommendation to the Council. It was noted that two cities have approved joining the Joint Powers Board. Adm. Jaunich commented that he had been doing some research on the financing/debt associated with the project and how it would impact the City. Pederson expressed his concerns about the lack of information being provided about the project. Reetz and Mayor Kreft expressed their concerns also about all of the unanswered questions. Adm. Jaunich stated that this topic would be put on the next regular Council meeting for some kind of action.

The Council reviewed a letter from Mark Walford, Line Superintendent for McLeod Power, asking that the bill that they had received from the Fire Department for being dispatched to an arcing power pole be waived. Adm. Jaunich stated that he had talked with the Fire Department about the call and was told there was nothing they could do for it.

Motion by Wills, seconded by Pichelmann, and passed by unanimous vote to waive the fire call bill for McLeod Power.

Discussion was held on purchasing a new lawn mower. Adm. Jaunich commented that the mower had been budgeted for (was part of the Capital Improvement Plan). The Council reviewed some estimates, which Supt. Thomes was recommending the Kubota Diesel Model ZD321 from Arnold's of Glencoe in the amount of \$12,990 less the trade in amount of \$7,750 for a total of \$6,145.32.

Motion by Pederson, seconded by Wills, and carried (Reetz opposed) to purchase the Kubota Diesel Model ZD321 from Arnold's of Glencoe in the amount of \$6,145.32 (after trade in).

The 2011-2015 Electrical Construction Work Plan was reviewed.

Motion by Wills, seconded by Ruehling, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the 2011-2015 Electrical Construction Work Plan as presented.

Reetz provided an update on the Planning & Zoning Committee. He stated that they had an in depth discussion on the “Greenstep Program”.

Wills gave an update on the Library and the projects they were working on (downloading books for iPods, etc.).

Pichelmann commented that Todd Sandberg, the new Administrator was going to be starting on or around March 16th. He stated that on March 21st they will be meeting with an attorney who specializes in hospital affiliations.

Pichelmann also provided an update on the EDA. He stated that they discussed the Fiber to the Home project. He added that he thought consulting EDA Director Smith-Strack did a great job of running the meeting; she provided lots of good information.

Brief discussion was held on the master plan for the Sportsman’s Park.

Mayor Kreft talked further about the affiliation meeting on March 21st with SMC and Ridgeview Medical Center. He stated that this is a regular Council meeting night, but the meeting would be pushed back to 7 pm.

Adm. Jaunich talked briefly about the upcoming railroad crossings project and where things were at with it. Reetz expressed some concerns he had with the project (type of crossing proposed-wood versus concrete). Adm. Jaunich commented that the Street and/or Utility Committee would be getting together soon to review the project.

Wills questioned if some information could be put together and provided to the public regarding the wind generator (more specifically cost to build it and to operate it, power it generates and how it benefits the City, etc.); he continues to have people ask him questions about it. Adm. Jaunich stated that he has written several articles and put them in the newsletter, but will put something together again.

Motion by Pederson, seconded by Pichelmann, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 pm.

City Administrator Matthew Jaunich

Mayor James R. Kreft