

ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 3, 2011

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

Administrator Jaunich administered the Official Oath of Office to James Kreft as Mayor and Curt Reetz and Jason Ruehling as Councilmembers.

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

Members absent: None

Also present: City Administrator Jaunich, City Attorney Arneson, Fire Chief Jeff Otto, Kurt Menk

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Pichelmann, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda as presented.

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

- A) Approval of the December 20th Regular Meeting Minutes
- B) Approval of the Bills.

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) SEDCO "Fiber to the Home" Meeting – Thursday, January 13th @ 6:00 pm
- 2) City's Annual Meeting – Friday, January 14th @ 6:00 pm
- 3) City Offices will be closed on Monday, January 17th for the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
- 4) Next Council Meeting will be Tuesday, January 18th @ 6:30 pm (Change Meeting?)
- 5) LMC Conference for Newly Elected and Experienced Officials is set for January 28-29 in Mankato or February 25-26 in Brooklyn Center.

The Council reviewed the following communications:

- 1) November Water/Wastewater Report
- 2) December and 2010 Year End Building Permit Report
- 3) December Police Calls Report
- 4) 3rd Quarter Financial Report for MMPA
- 5) CAPX2020 Update.

It was noted that there were no Officers, Boards or Committees reporting to the Council.

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

RESOLUTION 1-2011
A RESOLUTION APPOINTING CITY ADMINISTRATOR

(See attached for complete resolution.)

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 3rd day of January, 2011.

CITY OF ARLINGTON, MINNESOTA

/s/ James R. Kreft
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Matthew Jaunich
City Administrator

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

RESOLUTION 2-2011
A RESOLUTION RATIFYING MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS AND COMMITTEES

(See attached for complete resolution.)

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 3rd day of January, 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 3-2011
A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE OFFICIAL CITY DEPOSITORY

(See attached for complete resolution.)

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember Ruehling 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 3rd day of January, 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 4-2011
A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE OFFICIAL CITY NEWSPAPER

(See attached for complete resolution.)

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 3rd day of January, 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 5-2011
A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2011 CITY CALENDAR

(See attached for complete resolution.)

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 3rd day of January, 2011.

CITY OF ARLINGTON, MINNESOTA

/s/ James R. Kreft
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Matthew Jaunich
City Administrator

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

RESOLUTION 6-2011
A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING COUNCIL MEMBER MIKE VRKLAN FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF ARLINGTON

(See attached for complete resolution.)

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 3rd day of January, 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 7-2011
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PFA LOAN APPLICATION

(See attached for complete resolution.)

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 3rd day of January, 2011.

CITY OF ARLINGTON, MINNESOTA

/s/ James R. Kreft
Mayor

Attest: /s/ Matthew Jaunich
City Administrator

It was noted that there was no unfinished business on the agenda.

Discussion was held on the Prairie Line Trail System that will run throughout Sibley County. Adm. Jaunich commented that the City and County have been working together on the 'in town' portion of the trail system, which is to run from the Sportsman's Park through the City of Arlington over to Gaylord (maps showing locations were reviewed). He stated that the Prairie Line Trail Committee had applied for and was awarded a federal grant for said trail system, which has a 20% local matching fund requirement. He explained that the City of Arlington would be responsible for some of the costs associated with the 'in-town' portion of the trail, which would be considered part of the matching funds needed. It was noted that the County was handling all of the necessary paperwork. Adm. Jaunich stated that the trail system would include sidewalks (4 feet wide), trails (10 feet wide) and bike lanes. He explained that the City is planning to use TIF money to help pay for the sidewalk improvements needed. It was noted that the Parks Committee had been looking at the proposed plan for a couple of years and was recommending that the City move forward with it. Adm. Jaunich commented that a Letter of Approval from the City of Arlington was needed to accompany the paperwork for the grant.

Motion by Pichelmann, seconded by Reetz, and passed by unanimous vote to authorize Adm. Jaunich to write a Letter of Approval for the in-town portion of the Prairie Line Trail as presented (see attached maps).

The Council reviewed a proposal from Denny Schultz to provide for the continued design and maintenance of the City's web site. Adm. Jaunich commented that Schultz was proposing a rate of \$33 per hour for said services up to 160 hours (an average of hours put into the site in past years). He stated that he had found other companies charging anywhere from \$50-\$95 (average of \$65/hour) per hour. Wills questioned why the position was not being advertised. Adm. Jaunich stated the City could advertise it, but Denny has the experience and was already familiar with site.

Motion by Reetz, seconded by Pederson, and carried (Wills opposed) to accept the proposal from Denny Schultz for continued Design and Maintenance of the City's Web Site as presented.

The Council, along with Fire Chief Otto, reviewed Ordinance 189-Fire Department Fire Call Billing Procedures. Adm. Jaunich stated that back in December when the 2011 Fee Schedule was being proposed, there was a question about fire call billing procedures, more specifically accidents. Adm. Jaunich stated the current policy is that if the Fire Dept. gets paged via Sibley County Dispatch, a bill will be generated regardless of what is or is not done. Wills expressed concern about the ordinance being unfair (example used was to bill for an accident when nothing is done, yet don't bill the school for false alarms). Considerable discussion was held. Fire Chief Otto commented that he does not want the decision of whether or not a bill should be generated on the Fire Dept. Officers, as that was why the ordinance was created. Arneson suggested a 'tiered' system of billing (a minimum call out/fuel fee, then the next level(s) are based on what is done and amount of time on scene). Otto commented that language should be added that allows for so many days in which a bill may be disputed. It was noted that the ordinance will be revised once Staff and Fire Dept. Officers can put something together.

Discussion was held on the prosecution of repeat ordinance violators. Mayor Kreft explained that there is an ongoing situation with a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) that was issued some time ago (Neisen's

property along Hwy 5). Attorney Arneson stated that he feels the City has a good system in place and has the right enforcement tools. He reviewed the current policies in place (nuisance, etc.) and how they work in conjunction with the court system. The Council expressed their frustration with the delay time between citation and court action, basically violation is allowed to continue during this period. Considerable discussion was held on how the City could get tougher on these problem properties. City Staff and Attorney Arneson will look at revising the nuisance ordinance.

Mayor Kreft presented his Goals for 2011 (*see attached*). He assigned a goal to each Councilmember as follows:

- 1) Evaluate the condition and use of our municipal buildings – Wills
- 2) Attain 'Minnesota GreenStep City' recognition – Reetz
- 3) Co-ordinate the railroad upgrade and create a re-use concept plan for our downtown railroad corridor – Ruehling
- 4) Construct the in-town portion of the Prairie Line Trail – Pederson
- 5) Explore an affiliation of Sibley Medical Center and Ridgeview Medical Center - Pichelmann.

Adm. Jaunich commented that he would like to hold a couple of workshops for the purposes of discussing fire/ambulance township protection fees and holding new member/City Council orientation. It was the consensus to hold a workshop meeting on Monday, February 7th at 5 pm before the regular Council meeting.

Brief discussion was held on snowbird parking violations on Main Street. It was suggested to send out a reminder to the business owners (to talk to their clients/patrons) about parking on Main Street in relation to snow removal.

Mayor Kreft commented on an idea he had about starting a citizen recognition award to be presented at the City's Annual Dinner/Meeting each year. He would like to call the award the "Darwin Mathwig Community Service Award".

Motion by Wills, seconded by Pederson, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 pm.

City Administrator Matthew Jaunich

Mayor James R. Kreft