

CITY OF PIERZ
Official Minutes of the Pierz City Council
February 13, 2006

Members Present: Mike Menden, Herb Broschofsky, Mary Gritzmacher, Daniel Sauer, Kathy Kahlhamer and Maureen Watercott

Others Attending: Terry Lehrke, Jill Poepping, Todd Preimesberger, Brian Boser, Mike Lucking, Denis Stachowski, Barb Rebischke, Jim Schulz, Shannon Smith, Doug Anderson, Don Bujalski, Steven Boser, Robert Otremba, Shannon Hendrickson and Ryan Monroe.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Mike Menden at 7:00 p.m. at Pierz City Hall.

Motion by Gritzmacher, second by Kahlhamer to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2006 meeting. CU

Motion by Menden, second by Gritzmacher to approve the Agenda. CU

Planning & Zoning:

1. One building permit was issued to Eric Spoden, Spoden Custom Homes to build a single family dwelling in River Park Estates II.

Other Business:

1. Barb Rebischke was present to update the Council on Horizon Health's assisted living project that they are planning on breaking ground for this year. They will be relocating some of their offices as well as the residents from the Harmony Houses in Pierz. The building will be approximately 15,000 square feet per floor. The rough estimate on cost at this point is approximately \$2.3 Million. They are considering the use of geothermal heating and cooling units if the soil types near the building location are appropriate.
2. SEH Engineers were present to give the Council a brief overview of their proposal to design a storm water utility for the City of Pierz. The Council agreed that some type of funding source was necessary and that the proposed utility would be much fairer than increases in property tax levels. SEH's proposal is to complete the setup of the utility for \$7,500. There may be some extra costs involved totaling approximately \$2,000 to \$4,000 dollars depending on the availability of lot size information for parcels within the City. If no information is available, then it will have to be done manually. Motion by Broschofsky, second by Sauer to approve the proposal from SEH and continue on with setting up the utility. CU
3. The Council reviewed donation requests from Faith in Action and the Morrison County Fair Board. Each entity is requesting \$250. The donation consideration was tabled pending an opinion on making such donations from the League of MN Cities.
4. Motion by Menden, second by Broschofsky to approve a Setup License for the Pierz Ballroom. CU
5. Menden shared with the Council that the local Cub Scout troop would like to utilize City Hall on Friday, February 17th from 7:00 pm to 7:00 am on Saturday. Motion by Menden, second by Broschofsky to approve the use of City Hall by the Scouts. Menden also stated that they would possibly utilize the City Hall if it available on an occasional Monday afternoon if their other facilities are not usable. The Council felt this would not be an issue if the City had prior warning and a guarantee that they will have vacated by 6:00 pm on those nights.

Department Reports:

Fire: Steve Boser and Todd Preimesberger were present to discuss the following issues with the Council.

1. Preimesberger presented the Council with the yearly report of fire calls made by the Fire Department. There was a slight decrease from the previous year, approximately 15 calls less. Motion by Menden, second by Kahlhamer to approve the annual report. CU
2. Steve Boser updated the Council on the financial standing of the Fire Relief Association. He was requesting a contribution check from the City in the amount of \$5,850. This contribution will keep the relief association in line with their current three year plan. Motion by Sauer, second by Gritzmacher to approve the donation in the amount of \$5,850 to the Pierz Fire Relief Association. Menden abstained, all others in favor.

Community Development: Crystal Trutnau was present to discuss the following issues with the Council.

1. Website construction began earlier in the day on Monday. The program is found to be user friendly so far. Only one issue with being able to access the site properly, but the fix should be made and the site available for viewing by Friday afternoon.
2. Entries for the City wide garage sale will now be registering at City Hall.

Public Works: Bob Otremba was present to discuss the following issues with the Council.

1. The sidewalk committee met the prior week to discuss some possible solutions to the sidewalk snow removal issues the City is facing. A number of questions have arisen from that discussion. Those questions will be forwarded on to the attorney for his input.
2. Requested approval for attending a maintenance expo in St. Cloud on April 11 and 12, 2006. The cost is \$70 total for the two days. Motion by Broschofsky, second by Kahlhamer to approve Otremba's attendance at the expo. CU

Police: Steve Boser was present to discuss the following issues with the Council.

1. Presented the Council with updated numbers from the entire 2005 year as well as January of 2006 in a new excel format. This will provide a much clearer picture of how many calls were made during each month as well as easy comparison between months/years.

Administration: Ryan Monroe was present to discuss the following issues with the Council.

1. Motion by Menden, second by Broschofsky to set an EDA meeting for 6:45 pm on February 27, 2006 to review responses from David Drown with respect to by-laws, an enabling resolution and a formal subsidy request application for the newly created EDA. CU
2. Updated the Council on the Local Board of Appeals and Equalization set for April 19, 2006 at 1:00 pm. The meeting will be held at City Hall.
3. Motion by Menden, second by Broschofsky to accept the resignation letter from Ryan Monroe. Those in favor: Kahlhamer, Sauer, Gritzmacher and Broschofsky
Those against: Menden

Parks: Shannon Hendrickson was present to discuss the following issues with the Council.

1. Updated the Council on creating five seasonal camp sites. The bid for electric was received from Kummert Electric for \$4100 and the bid for plumbing was from Kiffmeyer for \$1,956. Motion by Menden, second by Gritzmacher to approve the installation of the five camp sites with a charge of \$1,500 per season. CU
2. Would like to have approval to burn the brush pile near the campground.
3. Sled Dog Race is still on for the first weekend in March

4. Hendrickson was offered the opportunity to respond to allegations of misconduct as received from the Pierz Fire Chief. Hendrickson provided a written response to the Council. Motion by Menden, second by Gritzmacher to terminate Hendrickson’s employment with the City of Pierz.

Roll Call Vote: Gritzmacher, Yes
 Kahlhamer, Yes
 Menden, Yes
 Broschofsky, Yes
 Sauer, Yes

Motion carried and employment was terminated, effective immediately. Sauer stated that personal effects and City property should be picked up under the supervision of the Pierz Police Chief. In addition, if other similar complaints are submitted regarding fire fighters for the City of Pierz, they too will be investigated and responded to in a similar manner.

Treasurer’s Report:

Beginning Balance:	\$542,561.57
Receipts:	\$88,710.15
Disbursements:	\$196,552.12
Ending Balance:	\$434,719.60

Motion by Menden, second by Broschofsky to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. CU

Claims: The claims for the month were reviewed by the Council. Motion by Menden, second by Kahlhamer to pay claims as presented. CU

Motion by Menden, second by Sauer to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

 Mike Menden, Mayor, City of Pierz

 Kathy Kahlhamer, Clerk, City of Pierz