

CITY OF PIERZ  
Official Minutes of the Pierz City Council  
August 28, 2006

Members Present at Opening of Meeting: Herb Broschofsky, Mary Gritzmacher, Daniel Sauer, and Kathy Kahlhamer. Daniel Sauer assumed the position of Acting Mayor.

Members Absent: Michael Menden, Maureen Watercott.

Meeting was called to order by Acting Mayor Daniel Sauer at 7:00 p.m. at Pierz City Hall.

Motion made by Councilmember Sauer, seconded by Councilmember Broschofsky to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2006 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Councilmember Sauer, seconded by Councilmember Kahlhamer to approve the Agenda of tonight's meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**Other Business:**

**-Resolution 082806 appointing election judges**

-The City Administrator recommended tabling this resolution until the September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Item tabled.

**-Russ Nygren, County Auditor and Carol Anderson, Morrison County Community Development**

A low-interest loan/equity program was introduced by Russ and Carol to the council that allows the City, in partnership with Morrison County Community Development, to issue low-interest loans to businesses. The council indicated their interest in the program, which will be discussed further in the future. No action taken.

**-Rachel Hanley, Aflac Insurance Agency**

Aflac gave a brief presentation to the Council regarding supplemental insurance benefits. This is a service Aflac would provide to City employees via payroll deduction. It was agreed that Aflac should arrange a time to come speak with employees and see who may be interested. No action taken.

**-Disclosure of Thursday night's closed meeting**

The Council acknowledged that a closed meeting was held last Thursday regarding preliminary consideration of discipline against an employee. No action will be taken at this time.

**-Increase proposal, Utility Billing Clerk**

The City Administrator, acting as the immediate supervisor of the Utility Billing Clerk, recommended an hourly wage increase of \$2.00 based upon the average pay rate of that position in other cities, bringing the rate to \$11.50/hour. Motion made by Councilmember Gritzmacher, seconded by Councilmember Sauer to raise the rate \$1.00, making it \$10.50/hour. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 082806-01 adopting a special question**

-This resolution would approve the placement of a special question on the voter's ballots in November. Motion made by Councilmember Sauer, seconded by Councilmember Kahlhamer to adopt resolution 082806-01. Motion carried unanimously.

**Great Waters Gone Bad Discussion**

-The League of MN Cities has sent the City multiple copies of a DVD entitled "Great Waters Gone Bad," a documentary regarding how the cleanliness of water in Minnesota can be impaired. Copies will be available to the public at the Library, and at City Hall. No action taken.

**Call for Hearing, Truth in Taxation**

-Motion made by Councilmember Gritzmacher, seconded by Councilmember Kahlhamer to set this hearing date for December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. with continuation just prior to the opening of the December 11<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

*(At this point, Mayor Menden arrived and Daniel Sauer assumed his seat as City Council Member).*

**-Mutual Aid Agreement, Onamia**

Police Chief Steve Boser was present to discuss the mutual aid agreement and cited that most cities are executing these agreements as a part of their emergency preparedness plans. It was decided that it is appropriate for the Fire Chief and the Emergency Services Director to review the agreement before it is executed. Item tabled.

**-River Park Estates Retention Pond Discussion**

The City Administrator introduced this issue which is being analyzed by both the City Attorney and Councilmember Broschofsky. It was decided that until the pond is deeded over, no action shall be taken by the City in regards to reimbursement of subdivision land owners, or installation of a fence surrounding the pond. Item tabled.

**-Special Olympics Donation Proposal**

The Special Olympics has asked the City for a donation. The Council decided to disregard their proposal. No action taken.

**Department Reports:**

**Parks:** Daniel Baert was not present.

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

**-Usage of fill on Ronald Avenue**

A resident is building a new dwelling on Ronald Avenue and is concerned about displacement of fill upon his basement being excavated. His intention was to use his abutting lot to store the excess dirt, but has just recently found out that it is a classified wetland and it cannot be altered. Bob can use a portion of the excess fill for landscaping on Ronald Avenue.

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

**-NIMS Training**

Each member of the Pierz Fire Department has completed the NIMS 100, 200, 700, and 800 training courses and has passed said courses.

**Administration:** Mike DeRosia was present to discuss the following issues with the Council.

-Residents seem to be confused at times when it comes to recycling and garbage pick-up.

Councilmember Gritzmacher and Mike have been receiving calls regarding this. A calendar will go in the next newsletter showing the pick-up dates.

-Dura Supreme has approached the City wanting to lease lot 6 in the Industrial Park and obtain first right of purchase on lots 3, 4, and 5. Motion made by Mayor Menden, seconded by Councilmember Sauer to approve the lease agreement. Motion carried unanimously. An additional motion was made by Mayor Menden, seconded by Councilmember Broschofsky to approve the first right of purchase agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

**Fire Department Update, Councilmember Gritzmacher**

-Mayor Menden and Councilmember Gritzmacher acted as representatives of the City at the most recent meeting of the Eastern Morrison County Rural Fire Association. At this meeting, it was proposed to raise Fire Officer's pay by \$200.00 for each officer, with the City covering \$100.00 of that and Rural Fire covering the rest. Motion made by Councilmember Sauer, seconded by Councilmember

Kahlhamer to raise the Fire Officer's pay. Motion carried unanimously. Councilmember Gritzmacher also informed the Council that the Fire Department would like to add an officer with the title of Assistant Secretary. That will be discussed at the next Council meeting.

Motion by Councilmember Sauer, second by Councilmember Gritzmacher to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

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Mike Menden, Mayor, City of Pierz

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Kathy Kahlhamer, Clerk, City of Pierz