

CITY OF PIERZ
Official Minutes of the Pierz City Council
May 14, 2007

Members Present: Toby Egan, Herb Broschofsky, Stephanie Fyten, Roland Hartmann, Kathy Kahlhamer and Maureen Watercott.

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

Motion made by Councilmember Broschofsky, seconded by Councilmember Hartmann to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2007 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Councilmember Hartmann, seconded by Councilmember Broschofsky to approve tonight's Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Items of Business:

-Lorae Vardas, Pierz Oktoberfest Committee

Lorae was present to submit a donation request on behalf of the committee. The request was for \$2,000.00, an increase of \$1,000.00 from last year due to their loss of income from charitable gambling. A motion was made by Mayor Egan, seconded by Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk to donate \$2,000.00 to the Oktoberfest Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

-Amy Lardy, Daycare Center Operator

Amy approached the Council with a request to have the pond next to her daycare center enclosed with a fence, and asked if the City would be interested in having this done for her. Councilmember Broschofsky agreed the fence was a wise decision but explained that the pond is natural and is not connected to the City's storm water system, which is the only time the City pays to have ponds enclosed. Amy replied asking if she could install a fence in her yard that would block access to the pond. The Council asked Amy to follow the proper procedures such as obtaining a building permit. No action taken.

Planning & Zoning:

-Consider Building Permit, Todd Macdonell

The Planning and Zoning Committee evaluated this permit application and saw no issues with its approval so long as the deck meets proper setback requirements in the R-1 zoning district that Todd's home is in. Upon no further discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember Broschofsky, seconded by Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk to approve the permit contingent upon the building official issuing the permit. Motion carried unanimously.

-Resolution 051407-01, Request a Feasibility Report, S.E.H. Consulting Firm

City Engineer Jim Schulz presented the feasibility report for the extension of Park Avenue from Vincent Street to Karst Street. The extension also included curbing, gutter and sidewalk installation. The City has agreed to finance the extension of the road up to the Northwesterly corner of Lot 2, Block 3 in the Pond View Estates subdivision. The remainder of improvement costs is the responsibility of the developer. Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk introduced the resolution, and Councilmember Broschofsky moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk and upon no further discussion the motion was carried unanimously.

-Resolution 051407-02, Accept Feasibility Report and Call for Public Hearing

Jim Schulz noted that the feasibility report revealed a total project cost of \$52,000.00 for the Park Avenue extension. Also, in order to have due process, a public hearing must be held in order to give affected property owners and other residents alike the opportunity to speak on this matter. Kathy

Kahlhamer, City Clerk introduced the resolution and Councilmember Broschofsky moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk and upon no further discussion the motion was carried unanimously.

-Resolution 051407-03, Approve Gambling Site Permit for Patrick's Bar and Grill, Pierz Lions
Kathy Kahlhamer introduced the resolution, and Councilmember Hartmann moved for its adoption. The motion was seconded by Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk and upon no further discussion the motion was carried unanimously.

Department Reports:

Fire: Brian Boser was present to discuss the following issues with the Council.

-The employment management committee was present to submit their recommendation of appointing Jeff Hasert to Captain of the fire department. Upon hearing the recommendation, a motion was made by Councilmember Hartmann, seconded by Councilmember Fyten to appoint Jeff Hasert as Captain. Motion carried unanimously.

-Brian also presented the proposed amendment to fire department policy 901 regarding the hiring of new firefighters and the fire response area. A motion was made by Mayor Egan, seconded by Councilmember Broschofsky to adopt the amendments to fire department policy 901. Motion carried unanimously.

-Richard Talberg has submitted a formal letter to the Council notifying them of his retirement from the fire department. A motion was made by Mayor Egan, seconded by Councilmember Broschofsky to accept his notice of retirement and thank Richard for his service. Motion carried unanimously.

Parks: Daniel Baert was present to discuss the following issues with the Council.

-Daniel reported the City now owns every golf cart in operation at the golf course (other than private carts) due to the City buying out the remainder of the lease agreement. Daniel also reported in the coming days the Parks department will be repairing the concrete on the basketball court.

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

-Bob presented an estimate for patchwork on City streets to be completed this summer. Bob has slated 8 streets for the patching project, totaling 4,323 square feet. The total cost for this project is estimated at \$9,750.00

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

-Mike was asked to research how Upsala is able to have a transit system for its senior citizens, and spoke with Michele Caron, Upsala's Clerk. Michele will compile the necessary information and contact Mike when it is ready to present.

-Minnesota Power notified the City of an increase in the fuel adjustment clause for the month of May. The fuel adjustment is now 2.6 cents per kilowatt, which is much higher than normal. The Council directed Mike to arrange a meeting with Minnesota Power to discuss the increase.

-Mike found a potential cost savings for the City in regards to credit card processing at the clubhouse and presented findings to the Council. The City's current provider, North American Bancard based in Troy, MI, takes a larger percentage of each transaction than Brainerd-based US Card Systems would. The Council is in favor of switching carriers, due to the fact that there is no longer a binding contract with North American, and there are lower fees with US Card Systems. Mike will continue pursuing an agreement with US Card Systems.

Treasurer's Report::

April 30 checking account balance:	\$109,893.23
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Motion made by Councilmember Hartmann, seconded by Councilmember Broschovsky to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Claims: The claims for the month were reviewed by the Council and total \$163,474.00 Motion by Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk, second by Councilmember Broschovsky to pay claims as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Additional Items of Business:

-Wage Increase Request, Cleaning Staff

Barb Specker requested an hourly wage of \$8.00 due to her 10 years of service without an increase. A motion was made by Councilmember Hartmann, seconded by Councilmember Fyten to adjust Barb's wage to \$8.00/hour. Motion carried unanimously.

-The Council read correspondence from a resident who opposed the sale of the Peter Avenue and Faust Street lot.

-The Council read correspondence sent from Representative Doty regarding a safety concern on highway 25 and 83rd Street south of Buckman.

-The Council reviewed the correspondence sent to Senator Koering and Representative Doty requesting financial assistance for the Main Street reconstruction of 2009.

-Don Bednar, owner of 233 Main Street South, was present to notify the Council that his property is for sale if the City is actively looking for a location for a new public library. No action taken.

Motion made by Councilmember Hartmann, seconded by Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Mike Menden, Mayor, City of Pierz

Kathy Kahlhamer, Clerk, City of Pierz