

CITY OF PIERZ
Official Minutes of the Pierz City Council
March 26, 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 Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2007 meeting. Motion carried unanimously

Motion made by Councilmember Broschofsky, seconded by Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk to approve tonight's Agenda with the addition of the fire dept. policy advisory board. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning & Zoning:

-Consider Permit, New Dwelling, Steve Stumpf

The Planning and Zoning board reviewed Steve's plans to construct a new dwelling for Jim Gerwing in River Park Estates. Upon the board recommending approval, a motion was made by Mayor Egan, seconded by Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk to approve of the building official issuing the permit. Motion carried unanimously.

-Consider Permit, Fence, Gary Brausen

The Planning and Zoning Board reviewed Gary's plans to construct a 5-foot chain link fence on the property line in between Dura Supreme and Magic Wand Car Wash. The board recommended that since the fence is proposed to be directly on the property line, further analysis is necessary to make sure that the fence is properly placed. A motion was made by Mayor Egan, seconded by Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk to table the permit pending further findings. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

-Fire Department Policy Advisory Board

The board was present to provide their analysis of the policies. After reporting that the policies were sound and very similar to many other fire departments statewide, they pointed out that a few minor changes could be made so that the general city employee policy manual does not contradict the firefighter policy manual. Mayor Egan replied, stating that firefighters are told upon their employment that they have two policy manuals they are required to comply with (general and fire department). Jill Poepping, 110 Schoenes Dr. found the City's required psychological evaluation for all prospective firefighters to be overly extensive. She recently took the evaluation, and suggested other screening methods for the hiring process. Moving on, the committee explained that some grammatical changes to the fire department manual are necessary. Mayor Egan suggested presenting those changes to the City Administrator so that they can be presented to the Council at the next meeting. No action taken.

-Presentation of Annual Audit, Mary Backlund, Gary Paulson CPA's Office

Mary was present and briefed the Council on her findings which included an improvement in the golf course's revenues from 2005, and a large portion of the City's revenue generation coming from the city's electrical utility. Mary also presented several copies of the City's annual audit which are available for public viewing at City hall. A motion was made by Councilmember Broschofsky, seconded by Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk to accept the 2006 financial audit as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

-Approve On-Sale Liquor License, Karen Gruber

Karen Gruber applied for an on-sale liquor license to sell liquors at Old Bank Restaurant beginning April 1. Police Chief Steven Boser reported that he had no problem with the City issuing the license. Upon no further discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember Broschofsky, seconded by Councilmember Hartmann to approve the issuance of the license. Motion carried unanimously.

-Approve On-Sale Sunday Liquor License, Karen Gruber

Karen applied for this license in addition to her initial regular on-sale license to sell liquors at Old Bank Restaurant. Chief Boser did not have any issue with this license being approved of, and upon no other discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember Broschofsky, seconded by Councilmember Hartmann to approve the issuance of the license. Motion carried unanimously.

-Approve Gambling Permit, St. Joseph's Church

St. Joseph's must apply for a raffle and bingo permit for August 5th through the state, but the City must provide its consent first. Upon no discussion being made, a motion was made by Councilmember Fyten, seconded by Councilmember Broschofsky to approve the one-day permit. Motion carried unanimously.

-Approve Additional Depository, Unity Bank

With the City investing money at Unity Bank, it must now declare it a depository of the City's finances. A motion was made by Kathy Kahlhamer, seconded by Councilmember Hartmann to approve Unity Bank as a depository. Motion carried unanimously.

-Approve Policy Amendment, Policy 505

The City Administrator summarized the changes to the policy. The Parks, Public Works, and Streets department's full-time employees' method of compensation will now be hourly and limits are now set on the amount of overtime hours those employees can work. A motion was made by Councilmember Broschofsky, seconded by Councilmember Hartmann to approve the amendment of policy 505. Motion carried unanimously.

-Resolution 032607, Setting New Parks Complex Rates

Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk introduced the resolution and Councilmember Hartmann moved for its adoption with the stipulation of the park shelter fee being \$150.00, and that the clean-up fee is removed. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Broschofsky. Motion carried unanimously.

-Approve City Contribution to Pierz Firefighter Relief Association

Motion made by Councilmember Broschofsky, seconded by Councilmember Fyten to table this item until the April 9th meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

-Main Street Property Offer Issue (tabled from last meeting).

After the City Administrator explained that the property is scheduled to be auctioned in late May or early June, the Council discussed briefly whether the property should be purchased by the City or not. The Council further decided it may be necessary to have inspectors go through the property and assess what costs would be for removal of the buildings. A motion was made by Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk, seconded by Mayor Egan to find two certified inspectors to assess the costs for removal. Motion carried unanimously.

Department Reports:

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

-Daniel told the Council that his rough grass mower, Bob Boser, will not be returning for work this season. Daniel will be advertising the rough mower position in the Record this weekend and the listing will also be on the city's website.

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

-Morrison County is trying to coordinate a county-wide Flag Day celebration where every City lines its major thoroughfares with American Flags. He will be purchasing more flags this year to participate in the celebration and they will be mounted to the streetlights.

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

-Steve will be moving forward with removing a dilapidated trailer in the Pierz Mobile Home Park.

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

-Mike is updating the City's health insurance policy to include the cafeteria plan benefits that the City offers to its full-time employees.

-Mike was approached by an owner of a fireworks company regarding holding a show at Pierz's Oktoberfest. Mike will get cost estimates for that and report back to the Council.

Correspondence: none.

Motion made by Kathy Kahlhamer, City Clerk, seconded by Councilmember Broschofsky to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Toby Egan, Mayor, City of Pierz

Kathy Kahlhamer, Clerk, City of Pierz