

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

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

Members Absent: Mike Menden

In Mayor Menden's absence, Councilmember Daniel Sauer resided as Acting Mayor.

Others Attending:

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

Motion by Councilmember Broschofsky, second by Councilmember Kahlhamer to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2006 meeting. Motion Carried unanimously.

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

Election Canvassing:

-The Mayor and City Council act as the Pierz Election Canvassing Board. Resolution 1113-06, a resolution certifying the results of the November 7, 2006 election, was introduced by the City Administrator. Following the reading of the resolution and election results by the City Administrator, a motion was made by Mayor Sauer, seconded by Councilmember Kahlhamer to adopt resolution 1113-06. Motion carried unanimously. The Mayor and Council then further directed the City Administrator to notify the winners by certificate of election upon the ending of the election contesting period, which is November 22nd.

Other Business:

Pierz Community Toy Drive

-Danielle Poster and Sheila Przybilla, two students from Pierz Healy High School, were present to ask for the City Council's support in putting on a toy drive this year once again in Pierz. The public works building serves as storage during the toy drive, and the Council voiced their full support for the toy drive. No action taken.

Mary Tschida, Director, Pierz Community Education

-Mary wrote a thank you letter to the Pierz City Council for their financial support to the Pierz Summer Recreation Program.

Library Project, Bridget Britz

-Bridget was present to thank the City Council for supporting the public's interest in working toward a new library. No action taken

Planning & Zoning:

Building Permit, Horizon Health

-Barb Rebisckke of Horizon Health was present to ask the Council to table the permit approval until the November 27th meeting because of the developer's agreement and the TIF agreement not yet being signed by the City or Horizon Health. Item tabled.

Building Permit, St. Joseph's Church.

-The church has applied for a building permit that would allow for the construction of a new railing that would sit atop the retaining wall on the south east side. A motion was made by Councilmember Kahlhamer, seconded by Councilmember Broschofsky to approve the permit. Motion carried unanimously.

Project Update, Jim Schulz, City Engineer

-The storm sewer project is complete pending a final walk-through which will be conducted by S.E.H. on Wednesday, November 15 by Jim Schulz and Councilmember Broschofsky. The final payment to Tom's Backhoe Service will not occur until after the final walk-through. Jim also explained that the Pondview Estates development will begin construction as soon as the ground thaws in 2007. Also, after speaking with Jim Hallgren of MN/DOT about the Highway 25/Main Street project last week, he determined that the most expensive option for the City would undoubtedly be the Local Initiative Option. The most favorable option would be for MN/DOT to oversee the entire project except for the underground water main/service line replacement phase of it; that phase would of course be a local responsibility. Jim suggested lobbying with politicians in order to receive funding for the water main/service line replacement. The City Administrator explained that lobbying efforts are already underway, and that grant funds are available for a project such as this. Carol Anderson of Community Development of Morrison County has offered her grant writing expertise to Pierz should the Council and R.P.S.W.D. wish to apply.

Storm Water Pond Acquisition, River Park Estates

-The City Council has discovered that lot owners in River Park Estates each paid a sum of money at the time of closing in order for a storm water pond to be installed that would serve the entire subdivision. Now that the City has retained ownership of the pond, the lot owners that paid for it will be reimbursed in full by the City. A motion was made by Councilmember Kahlhamer, seconded by Councilmember Broschofsky to approve reimbursing, in full, the lot owners that paid for the pond. Motion carried unanimously.

Department Reports:

Fire: Toby Egan was present to discuss the following issues with the Council.

-Toby requested that the application deadline for the position of firefighter be extended two weeks. Mayor Sauer asked whether the response area should be expanded as a way to open the job up to more people; Toby suggested that the application deadline first be extended two weeks and then other options can be explored if nothing changes.

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

-The chain link fence that surrounds the River Park Estates pond is almost completed. Bob is working with Morrison County Sentenced to Serve to install the fence. Also, Bob will be training the Assistant Park Complex Superintendent to use a snowplow truck in case no one else is around to do it.

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

-The clubhouse has been completely winterized, with all pipes being cleared and all utilities being shut off for the winter. Daniel will be attending a pesticide training tomorrow. The training will license him for the next two years.

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

-Steve submitted the monthly police report to the City Council and stated that the crime rate, though low, has stayed roughly the same for the past couple of months.

Administration: Michael DeRosia was present to discuss the following issues with the Council. Jessica Fischer completed an update of the Pierz community profile, which is now available on the City's website. She provided a copy of the new profile to each member of the Council. Mike asked the City Council if he could introduce a resolution at the next meeting which would allow for any outstanding storm water annual charges to be put onto property taxes payable 2007. The Council permitted it providing that people are given proper notice.

Treasurer's Report::

October 31 Bank Balance	\$448,630.76

Motion made by Councilmember Broschofsky, seconded by Councilmember Kahlhamer to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Claims: The claims for the month were reviewed by the Council and total \$88,630.30. Motion made by Councilmember Broschofsky, seconded by Councilmember Kahlhamer to pay claims as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Councilmember Kahlhamer, second by Councilmember Gritzmacher to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Mike Menden, Mayor, City of Pierz

Kathy Kahlhamer, Clerk, City of Pierz