

CITY OF PIERZ
Official Minutes of the Pierz City Council
May 14 2012

Members present: Toby Egan, Adrian Welle, Stephanie Fyten, Mary Korf, Michael Menden, and Maureen Watercott.

The City Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm at Pierz City Hall by Mayor Toby Egan.

Motion made by City Council Member Mike Menden and seconded by Council Member Adrian Welle to accept the minutes from the April 23 2012 Regular Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Council Member Steph Fyten and seconded by City Clerk Mary Korf to approve the agenda with the additions of a Closed Meeting on May 29th, Picnic Shelter Donation Request, and City Hall Friday Hours. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Council Member Steph Fyten and seconded by City Clerk Mary Korf to approve the Community Picnic Shelter Donation for August 1st. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Council Member Adrian Welle and seconded by Council Member Mike Menden to approve the Pierz Campground Seasonal Camper Agreement. Motion Carried unanimously.

Discussion was made as to where to charge the Crow Wing Power invoice for transformers for the Campground addition to. It was decided to charge it to the campground fund and take it out of their 20% revenue. This would also be applied for any future bills that come through in regards to the campground addition.

City Administrator Anna Gruber gave an update on the Soo Line Trail Legacy grant that is being applied for in coordination with Royalton, Little Falls, Upsala, and Randall. She mentioned that a JPA would be set up to apply for both Legacy Funds and SAFETLU Funds and once a document for the JPA is drafted it would be brought to the Council. Once a JPA is established, a scope of work will be developed for the project.

City Administrator Anna Gruber gave an update on the Sister City project. Gerry Wenner, from MN Sister Cities International, is traveling to Kyllburg this week and brought with him tshirts from the City of Pierz as a gift for the Parliament in Kyllburg. He also is planning to assist Pierz in establishing an art exchange program and pen-pal program with the schools. Gruber also updated the Council on the idea of forming a non-profit for the Sister City program so that donations could be accepted as well as grants applied for.

The City Council reviewed the issue with the vacation of Oak Street. In 1958, the north part of Oak Street (behind Holy Trinity) was vacated, however, the portion behind lots 8 and 9 was never vacated. A request by Leroy Kahlhammer, who owns the property to the west of Oak Street on Lots 8 and 9, was made to vacate the remaining portion of Oak Street and split it 50/50 with him and the school. The City requested the opportunity to have our attorney review the Oak Street property, since the schools have been maintaining it, and also to determine whether there are any utilities in this portion of Oak Street that the City may need access to and may need to maintain ownership of the property.

Motion made by Council member Mike Menden and seconded by City Clerk Mary Korf to approve the deck permit for Tom Abrahamson, concrete permit for the City Shop, handicap ramp permit for Scott Funk, deck permit for Robert Happke, and carport permit for Richard Sauer. Motion carried unanimously.

Bob Otremba informed the Council of the bids for the chip sealing in town along Faust Street, Industrial Park Road, and Ronald Avenue. The lowest bid was Aztec and the bid amount is \$19924.50. A Motion was made by

Council Member Steph Fyten and seconded by Council Member Adrian Welle to approve the bid. Motion carried unanimously.

Otremba also updated the council that a concrete pad will be poured near the City shop for the East Side Oil Tank. The shop gate will always be left open and the shop will remain locked and new lighting will be installed.

Police Chief Eric Hanneken presented the calls report from April to the Council for review. He informed the Council of POST Board Audit and recommendations to make 5 changes to the Pierz Policy Manual for the Police Department and he will make the changes necessary and submit it to POST. He also informed the Council of the new squad car bid and trade in of the old squad car. He would like to purchase a 2013 Chevy Tahoe and would trade in the current tahoe to Murphy Chevrolet. The total cost of the vehicle, equipment, and less the trade in value would be roughly \$33,000. The Council discussed potentially selling the current tahoe to the Fire Department. Eric was instructed to see if the Fire Department would be able to pay the same amount that Murphy Chevrolet is willing to give for trade in value and if so, to offer the tahoe to the Fire Department first and then moved ahead with the new vehicle purchase.

A motion was made by Council member Mike Menden and seconded by City Clerk Mary Korf to approve the picnic shelter donation for the annual Veteran's picnic on July 16 as long as the shelter is available. Motion carried unanimously.

City Administrator Anna Gruber updated the Council on a Closed Meeting on May 29th at 7 pm for Attorney-Client Privilege.

Discussion was made in regards to City Hall hours on Fridays. The Council felt that City Hall needed to either be open all day or closed all day and could not be open just a half day. The Council also felt that at this point Pierz needs to offer the service of having City Hall remain open on Fridays. City Hall will remain open on Fridays.

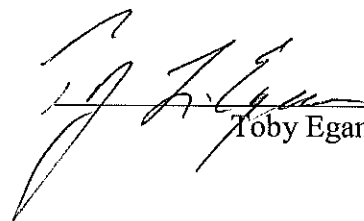
Treasurer's report was given by Treasurer, Maureen Watercott. The April 30, 2012 checkbook balance was \$182,835.73. Motion made by Council Member Steph Fyten and seconded by Council Member Adrian Welle to accept the report. Motion carried unanimously.

City bills were reviewed. Motion made by Council Member Mike Menden and seconded by Council Member Adrian Welle to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$109,188.23. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Council Member Mike Menden and seconded by City Clerk Mary Korf to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.


Mary Korf, Clerk, City of Pierz


Toby Egan, City of Pierz Mayor