

CITY OF PIERZ
Official Minutes of the Pierz City Council Workshop
March 28th, 2022
6:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Dave Fischer, Council Member Don Bujalski, Council Member Lynn Egan, Council Member Jacque Ballou, City Clerk Kyle Bednar, Treasurer Linda Sczublewski

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Bob Otremba, Police Chief Eric Hanneken, Public Works Supervisor Eric Gaffke, Clubhouse Manager Mary Caughey

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dave Fischer at 6:00 pm.

AGENDA:

PART-TIME CITY EMPLOYEES:

The city council discussed the part-time employee wages for the golf course clubhouse staff that was recommended by staff and the park board. Clubhouse Manager Mary Caughey stated the basis for each increase is the employee's availability, work experience, and abilities. Additional responsibilities and pay will be given to Madison Hoheisel to allow Clubhouse Manager Mary Caughey more time off during the season.

Part-time public works employee Phil Scribner's wage increase was discussed. Public Works Supervisor Eric Gaffke stated Phil can operate all the equipment, is readily available, and does his job very well. Staff recommended to the city council to increase Phil's wage from \$18.00/hr to \$22.00/hr to be more comparable with other CDL operators in the area.

POLICE CONTRACT WITH PIERZ SCHOOLS:

Police Chief Eric Hanneken presented the idea to the city council to charge the Pierz School District a set dollar amount each year because of the high volume of calls the police department responds to at the Pierz Healy High School and Pioneer Elementary. He estimates the call load to the schools is between 11% - 15% of all calls handled by the Pierz Police Department. Chief Hanneken will discuss the contract with Pierz Superintendent George Weber and bring a proposal back to the city council at a future date.

LCCMR UPDATE:

Mayor Dave Fischer updated the city council on the LCCMR bills that have been introduced in the MN Senate and MN House. The Pierz project is funded in the Senate bill but not in the House bill. A conference committee will be needed if both bills are passed as is by each body.

GRAVEL PIT DISCUSSION:

Mayor Dave Fischer presented the option of purchasing the gravel pit if the city does not get the LCCMR grant.

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KIRSCHBAUM UPDATE:

Mayor Dave Fischer informed the city council that the Commissioner's Hearing was held for the Kirschbaum case involving him contesting the value of permanent easement that was taken by the city on the Third Ave N project. The court appointed commissioners will convene in the future to make a determination on the case.

RON KRESHA UPDATE:

Mayor Dave Fischer explained that State Representative Ron Kresha held office hours in Pierz and Mayor Dave Fischer and City Administrator Bob Otremba attended. City involved projects that were discussed included the LCCMR gravel pit project, day care, LGA, and the bonding bill.

AMERICAN RECOVERY PLAN ACT FUNDS:

City Administrator Bob Otremba explained the final rule that was communicated by the US Treasury allows cities to use a one-time standard allowance for revenue replacement of up to \$10 million not to exceed the ARPA funds received by the city. He will keep exploring this avenue because the approximately \$146,000 could then be used to support general government functions including roads.

DAYCARE (FYI):

Mayor Dave Fischer updated the council on the work he has been doing with other community leaders to establish day care in the area.

TRAIL DEDICATION DISCUSSION:

Mayor Dave Fischer presented the council with the possibility of dedicating the trail on 3rd Ave N in memory of Dr. Stein who practiced medicine in Pierz.

PIERZ LOGO CLOTHING – COUNCIL, OFFICE STAFF:

City Administrator Bob Otremba updated the city council on Pierz logo clothing that will be available soon to the office staff and council members that can be used during city functions.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Council Member Don Bujalski and seconded by Council Member Lynn Egan to adjourn the workshop at 6:45 pm. Motion carried unanimously.



Dave Fischer, Mayor



Kyle Bednar, City Clerk