

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
November 29, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Mayor Patrick J. Milliren
Roll Call: Present – Council Members Hayden, Hooker, Menke, Roesler, Weisenbeck, and Weishapple. Also present: Administrator Rasmussen, Public Works Director Gilles (arrived later), Police Chief Ridgeway. Absent: City Clerk Morgan. Due and proper notice of meeting was confirmed.

Certified compliance with Open Records Law. Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Council Member Weishapple and seconded by Council Member Weisenbeck to adopt the agenda. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment: None

Scheduled Appearances: None

Consent Agenda: The City Council Members reviewed the Special Council Meeting minutes from November 15, 2023 and the following bartender licenses for Cayla Mataczynski at Handy Mart. Motion by Council Member Hayden, seconded by Council Member Menke to approve Special Council Meeting minutes from November 15, 2023 and the following bartender licenses for Cayla Mataczynski at Handy Mart as presented under the Consent Agenda. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Public Hearings: A public hearing was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Mayor Milliren to consider any public input relating to a Combination “Class “A”” Liquor & Fermented Malt Beverage License for Convenience Store Operations, LLC dba: Durand BP 4329 at 610 Highway 10, Gurpal (Gary) Dhaliwal, Agent. No one addressed the Council on the pending application, so Mayor Milliren closed the hearing at 6:33 p.m.

Business Agenda - Mayor’s Report: Mayor Milliren praised the recent Dazzle Days parade and events at the school and also noted that he would not be present for the December 13 council meeting.

Administrator’s Report: Administrator Rasmussen discussed the recent 2024 health insurance proposal for city employees. Following several discussions with our local agent representing Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield, the initial 15% increase was lowered to just over 10%, the amount originally budgeted. Rasmussen will be meeting with the insurance agent next week to discuss the difference and other issues.

Discussion and possible action regarding a Class “A” Fermented Malt Beverage License for Convenience Store Operations, LLC dba: Durand BP 4329 at 610 Highway 10, Gurpal (Gary) Dhaliwal, Agent. Motion by Council Member Hooker, seconded by Council Member Roessler to approve a Combination “Class “A”” Liquor & Fermented for Convenience Store Operations, LLC dba: Durand BP 4329 at 610 Highway 10, Gurpal (Gary) Dhaliwal, Agent. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion and possible action regarding a Tobacco License for Convenience Store Operations, LLC dba: Durand BP 4329. Motion by Council Member Weishapple, seconded by Council Member Weisenbeck to approve a Tobacco License for Convenience Store Operations, LLC dba: Durand BP 4329. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Public Safety – Police Department: Police Chief Ridgeway provided an update on the Dazzle Day events, the recent arrival of the City’s new therapy dog, Sam, recent police department training, and the upcoming Explorers Program this winter.

Discussion and possible action regarding Hiring an additional Full-Time Police Officer (Funding approved and included in the 2024 Budget). Police Chief Ridgeway reviewed the rationale for the new officer and discussed the proposed schedule including the new officer. Following several questions pertaining mostly to the schedule, Motion by Council Member Hayden, seconded by Council Member Menke to approve the hiring of a new full-time police officer. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Fire Department: No updates.

Ambulance Department: Short update from Administrator Rasmussen regarding staffing.

Public Works/Utilities: With Director Gilles attending another meeting in the building, Administrator Rasmussen provided an update regarding an upcoming sewer repair on First Avenue.

Update on Funding for the Durand Community Pool Project. Administrator Rasmussen provided an updated donated cash and pledge summary from the SOS group totaling an additional \$150,000, bringing the current collections and pledges to \$4.03 million. Director Gilles joined the meeting to remind the Council of the bid approval process for the December 13 Council Meeting. There were additional questions regarding the concession stand option that will be addressed further at the next Council Meeting.

Vouchers: Motion by Council Member Weisenbeck, seconded by Council Member Hooker to approve the vouchers presented #29208 – 29222 in the amount of \$62,603.59, payroll for November 24, 2023 in the amount of \$27,743.61. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

The next meeting is a Regular Council Meeting on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

Motion to adjourn by Council Member Hooker, seconded by Council Member Menke at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Scott Rasmussen, City Administrator