

City of Gilbert  
Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting  
Tuesday, March 25, 2025  
Council Chambers

Mayor Oberstar called the meeting to order at 6:00P.M.

Quorum determined.

Present: Councilors Rudy Vertachnik and Dylon Horne, Mayor Karl Oberstar, Jr., Councilors Paul Skrbec and Bob Pontinen, Clerk Mike Skrbich and Police Chief Ty Techar

Absent with notice: None

Pledge of Allegiance

**Additions to the Agenda:** Proclamation for Sexual Assault awareness month; Letter from Approved Plumbing, giving to Attorney Lindsay.

**Motion** by Vertachnik, seconded by Horne to approve the additions to the Agenda. MCU

**Approve Consent Agenda:**

City Council Minutes

- March 11, 2025 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
- March 11, 2025 City Council Working Session Minutes
  - Correction – Mayor Oberstar was absent during the March 11<sup>th</sup> Working Session.

Invoices from Previously Approved Projects

Boards and Commissions Minutes

- Planning & Zoning Commission Minutes
- Library Board Meeting Minutes
- Cemetery Board Meeting Minutes

Payment of Bills and Payroll upon proper audit of Clerk and Mayor

- Check register 3/11/2025 – 3/17/2025

**Motion** by Skrbec, seconded by Horne to approve the Consent Agenda with the corrections. MCU

**Public Participation:** None

(New Business) Michael Bradach, representing the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July Committee, asked the council for use of the community center, hockey arena and ball fields. This year will mark the 50<sup>th</sup> year the evening parade has been held in Gilbert. Plan of events include a Soc Hop at the VFW on June 28<sup>th</sup>, a pancake feed at the VFW on the 29<sup>th</sup> and other events including a craft show at the Community Center, a car show, inflatables for kids and possibly an evening bonfire. Fireworks to follow the evening parade on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. The committee also requested to add their donation letter to the back of the utility bills in either April or May.

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**Motion** by Vertachnik, seconded by Skrbec to approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July Committee to use the community center, hockey arena and ball fields for the 50<sup>th</sup> celebration festivities. MCU

**Reports – Mayor & Council**

**Councilor Pontinen:** Nothing at this time.

**Councilor Skrbec:** The detour for the Highway 53 project will start on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Clerk Skrbich will look for the project link to add to the City of Gilbert website for informational purposes.

**Councilor Vertachnik:** Nothing at this time.

**Councilor Horne:** Request for the City crew to fix the fence at the recycling bins. Councilor Pontinen suggested starting a priority list for work orders. Mayor Oberstar suggested discussing the idea at the next work session.

Councilor Horne suggested the Sherwood Forest sign get an update. Mayor Oberstar stated it will be brought up at the next working session, as well.

**Mayor Oberstar:** Nothing at this time.

**Reports – Staff, Boards & Commissions**

**City Attorney Bryan Lindsay:** Not present.

**Police Chief Ty Techar:** There will be a Hearing at 5:30pm on April 1, 2025 at Rock Ridge to discuss the detour and Highway 53 Project. The City of Gilbert will see an approximate 20% increase in traffic due to the detour.

Complaints on pigeons. Approximately 150 pigeons in town, each pigeon defecate 25 pounds a year, it is adding up too fast. The Department has been trying to decrease the pigeon population. Various methods were discussed. Techar stated there are buildings in town where the pigeons are roosting. Techar stated there are 3-4 properties in town he would like to see condemned. He discussed the various conditions each of the buildings is in, etc. Techar asked the Council if they would be willing to speak to homeowners about cleaning up their property. Mayor Oberstar would like to see the City reach out to the County first. He also spoke on how pigeons were handled in the past.

City of Gilbert Police Department received \$13,000 DNR grant for ATV enforcement. The amount of the grant is decreasing every year. Of the \$13,000, \$4,000 will be used for equipment. Techar asked the Council for permission to put the following up for bid: the 2013 Razor and a 2018 Polaris 570 EPS and to go towards the purchase of a side by side with cab (approximately \$24,000). The department also has a 1985 Blazer that they would like to put up on bid, as well, to go towards the purchase of a side by side.

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**Motion** by Skrbec, seconded by Horne to allow Police Chief Ty Techar to put surplus property up for bid. MCU

**Clerk Mike Skrbich:** Nothing at this time.

**Old Business:**

**Motion** by Skrbec, seconded by Horne to accept the language changes of Ordinance 31.20, after the second reading. 4 yays, 1 nay – Mayor Oberstar. Motion carries 4 to 1.

**Motion** by Skrbec, seconded by Horne to accept Ordinance 31.25, establishing a Parks and Rec Board, after the second reading. 4 yays, 1 nay – Mayor Oberstar. Motion carries 4 to 1.  
The public is encouraged to join the Parks and Rec Board.

**Motion** by Vertachnik, seconded by Potinen to accept the East Mesabi Sanitation three-year contract for City of Gilbert garbage services, contingent on the City Attorney reviewing the contract. MCU

**New Business:**

**Motion** by Vertachnik, seconded by Oberstar to post for three summer part-time positions. MCU

The City will reach out to the DNR to make sure the setbacks are accurate for the Heitzman Building permit. No action taken until then.

**Motion** by Pontinen, seconded by Skrbec to approve the 2025 Sexual Awareness proclamation, declaring April as Sexual Awareness Month. MCU

**Miscellaneous:**

**Motion** by Skrbec, seconded by Horne to adjourn meeting at 7:13P.M. MCU.

*\*These minutes are paraphrased and are not written word for word.*

ATTEST:

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Mike Skrbich, Interim Clerk/Administrator

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Karl Oberstar, Jr., Mayor