

**Minutes for a Regular Meeting
Of the Winthrop City Council
Monday, January 7th, 2013**

A regular meeting of the Winthrop City Council was called to order at 7 p.m. on Monday, January 7th, 2013 in the City Council Chambers of City Hall for the purposes of conducting the business of the city.

- I. CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dave Trebelhorn at 7:00 p.m.
- II. ROLL** Council members Rob Edwards, Jessica Wiborg, Colleen Dietz, Lyle Muth and Pete Machaiek were present. Mark Erickson, Dave Schauer, Jenny Hazelton, Dale Malheim and Mike Mattison were also present.
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
 - a. Motion Dietz, and a second by Edwards to approve the current agenda. Passed on a voice vote.
- IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**
 - a. Motion Machaiek, and a second by Edwards to approve the consent agenda as presented. Passed on a voice vote.
- V. PUBLIC HEARINGS**
- VI. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. **2013 Appointments, Designations and Fee Schedule** – Motion Edwards, second Dietz to approve the 2013 Appointments, Designations and Fee Schedule. Passed on a voice vote.
 - b. **Direct Deposit for City Employee Checks** – Motion Dietz, second Muth to approve direct deposit for city employee pay checks. Passed on a voice vote.
 - c. **Charter Commission Recommendations** – Erickson provided a report on the Charter Commission meeting held December 18th. The commission had one recommendation for the council for a change in the charter. The commission decided the Charter should be changed to reflect the position of City Administrator. The council agreed and asked City Attorney Don Lannoye to come up with language.
 - d. **Sewer Back Up Responsibility** – Erickson reported there was a sewer backup just south of the Brown St and 8th Avenue intersection. One home sustained damage to their basement. The LMC insurance division has been notified to investigate the city's responsibility in the matter. More information will be presented at the February 4th council meeting.

- e. **NU Optimist pull tabs for Eagles Landing** – The New Ulm Optimist Club has submitted an application to have pull tabs at Eagles Landing. Dietz asked what the Optimist Club did. They raise money for community service and youth. Motion Edwards, second Machaiek to approve an application for the New Ulm Optimist Club to provide pull tabs at Eagles Landing. Passed on a voice vote.
- f. **Riedel Property Annexation** – Motion Edwards, second Dietz to have the second reading of the Riedel Annexation. Passed on a unanimous voice vote.
- g. **City Hall Heaters** – The city has three heaters that will work to replace the older heaters. Motion Dietz, second Wiborg to have Jackson Electric replace the three heaters and check the fourth heater for safety concerns. Passed on a voice vote.
- h. **Parking Lot on Main Street** – Erickson gave an update on a possible parking lot across from Hahn’s Restaurant in a now vacant lot owned by First Lutheran Church. A cost estimate by I&S Engineering for the lot indicated it would cost about \$30,000 to purchase and gravel the lot for 20 new parking spaces and another \$20,000 to pave it. Edwards thought perhaps the council should look at purchasing the land this year and maybe paving it next year by budgeting for the expense. Dietz said that with Hahn’s, the bank and the Laundromat nearby it can be difficult to find a parking spot at times.
- i. **Golf Cart for Garden Club** – Muth said he and Erickson traveled to Madelia to look at golf carts for the garden club. He indicated it was going to cost more than \$1,500 (amount previously approved by council and EDA) to purchase a reliable cart. Edwards thought we might want to look at upgrading to a newer Gator type of vehicle and suggested having members of the garden club check them out at Menards.

VII. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

a. LEGAL DEPARTMENT

Dave Schauer said that Don Lannoye was continuing his work on the house on Redwood Street, documents for the Knoebel House, the DNR Tree Grant and a potential presentation to the city council on council responsibilities.

b. SEWER DEPARTMENT

Ziegler provided more information to the council on the sewer backup. He suggested we might want to get a camera and find out the extent of the problem. The council suggested he televise the line to find out the problem.

c. CABLE COMMISSION REPORT – The was no report at the cable commission did not meet in December.

- d.** Erickson provided an RS Fiber update to the council. The JPB has developed options for moving the project forward.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk-Administrator