

**Minutes for a Regular Meeting
of the Winthrop City Council
Monday, May 2nd, 2011**

A regular meeting of the Winthrop City Council was called to order at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 2nd, 2011, 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 CALL** Council members Ed Pelletier, Pete Machaiek, Rob Edwards and Lyle Muth were present. Guests included Mark Erickson, Don Lannoye, Mike Trebesch and Mike Mattison.
- III. **ESTABLISH AGENDA** – Motion Pelletier second Edwards to add pay request from I&S and establish agenda as presented. Passed on a voice vote.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**
 - a. Motion Muth second Pelletier to approve the consent agenda. Passed on a voice vote.
- V. **NEW BUSIENSS**
 - a. **Ambulance Billing** - Erickson informed the council that Barb Ahlbrecht would be taking over the ambulance billing duties at the request of the ambulance department. The change should make the process of billing ambulance calls more efficient.
 - b. **Tree Bids** – Erickson informed the council that Belek Tree Services had the lowest submitted bid for the city’s tree work. Motion Pelletier, second Edwards to accept the Belek Tree Service bid as presented. Pass on a voice vote.
 - c. **Dale Malheim Interest forgiveness on Linden Lane Assessment** – Erickson informed the council that Dale Malheim would like to be forgiven about six month of interest on the assessments for the lot he purchased September 2010. City staff had difficulty finding the assessment which caused the delay. The total amount to be forgiven is less than \$200. Motion Edwards, second Pelletier to forgive six months of accrued interest on the assessment for the lot Malheim purchased on Linden Lane. Passed on a voice vote.
 - d. **Toddler Swing at South Park** – Erickson informed the council that a South Winthrop resident has asked that a toddler swing be added to the south park. He added that perhaps the toddler swing from the Linden Lane Park could be moved to the south park and a higher age group swing be added to the Linden Lane Park because there has been a previous request for such a swing at that park. Motion Edwards, second Muth to purchased up to two swings if needed to add a toddler swing to the South Park and an adult swing to Linden Lane park. Passed on a voice vote.
 - e. **Annual Citywide Tour** – Following discussion the council agreed by consensus to schedule the annual citywide tour for Sunday, June 12th at 5 p.m. in front of City Hall. Erickson will schedule the Trail Blazer bus for the occasion.
 - f. **Generator for City Hall** – Erickson provided an update on enabling city hall for an emergency generator. Quades needs to come down and do some work for a

transformer and a switch.

- g. **Knoble House Condemnation** – Don Lannoye informed the council they have two options to address the condition of the Knoble house. It has already been declared a health hazard. The city can demand the house be taken down but the owners cannot be found. Or the city can start eminent domain proceeding against the property. He added that eminent domain is the cleaner way to proceed. Motion Edward, second Pelletiker to approve eminent domain for the property at 307 North Hennepin. Passed on a voice vote.
- h. **I&S Pay Request** – Motion Edwards, second Pelletier to approve the pay request from I&S for the sanitary sewer interceptor project work at \$38,730.13. Passed on a voice vote.
- i. **Summer Help** – Motion Machaiek, second Edwards to advertise for the position of summer help for the city and hire the person approved by the committee. Passed on a voice vote.
- j. **Frost Boils** – They are an abnormally high number of frost boils on city streets this year that must be repaired. The amount could go as high at \$200,000. Motion Edwards, second Pelletier to bid out the repair of the frost boils with specs put together and bids received by the June 6th council meeting. Passed on a voice vote.
- k. **Frisbee Golf Course** – Erickson showed the council the proposed layout of a Frisbee golf course in the City Park. Motion Edwards, second Pelletier to purchase and install the Frisbee Golf course equipment as presented at a cost not to exceed \$3,000. Passed on a voice vote.

VI. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

a. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Erickson provided an update on the county-wide fiber project, telling the council the marketing should begin the first week of June.

b. LEGAL UPDATE

Don updated the council on the eminent domain issue with Pat Bartels. The next hearing is scheduled for June 22nd.

b. WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT

Joe Ziegler informed the council the city's ponds are full and they should be able to discharge water as soon as they get a good test reading. Well 3 is being pulled on Monday to determine why it is malfunctioning. The city will receive \$3,300 in revenue for providing pumps for Brownton. Joe continues to work on the pump trailer and may have to store it in the old fire barn.

c. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Trebesch said the department is looking for 4-5 new fire personnel. The new fire barn roof leaks and he will be contacting Merlin Benson.

- c. **AMBULANCE REPORT**– Department Captain Nick Schmidt said the annual fundraiser and open house will be held on Sunday, May 22nd at the fire barn. One new department member just passed his test and they would like to have one more recruit in training.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. **City Hall Steps** – Erickson informed the council that the steps in front of City Hall deteriorated badly over the winter and Miller Masonry was called replace and widen the steps leading to Main Street. Council member Pelletier said he would like to see a railing put on the handicap ramp. Erickson will get a quote for the next meeting.
- b. **Planning Commission Zoning recommendation** – Erickson said the Planning Commission will have a recommendation on the update Zoning Ordinances for the June 6th council meeting.

Sanitary Sewer Financing – Shannon Sweeney recommendation the city participate in the Minnesota Public Finance Authority Credit Enhancement program. It will save substantial revenue in the form of a lower interest rate on the sewer bonds. The consensus on the council was the application be submitted.

Assisted Living Project – Howard Lake, Warren and Mountain Lake are working on assisted living projects in cooperation with Good Samaritan and Community Assets Group out of Chaska. Winthrop has also been working with both groups on a similar project. Shannon said financing the project would probably require the formation of a TIF district. He said he would have a better idea on the financial risks at the June 6th council meeting.

Closed Session to discuss land purchase – Motion Edwards, second Pelletier to close the regular meeting and open a closed meeting to discuss terms for a potential land purchase.

Following the closed session, there was a motion by Edwards and a second by Pelletier to close the closed session, reopen the regular meeting and adjourn at 9:02 p.m. Passed on a voice vote.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk-Administrator