

**Minutes for a Regular Meeting  
of the Winthrop City Council  
Monday, June 6th, 2011**

A regular meeting of the Winthrop City Council was called to order at 7 p.m. on Monday, June 6th, 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 Colleen Dietz were present. Guests included Mark Erickson, Don Lannoye, Gordy Grack and Mike Mattison.
- III. **ESTABLISH AGENDA** – Motion Pelletier second Edwards to add 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Amended Zoning Ordinance and establish agenda as presented. Passed on a voice vote.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**
  - a. Motion Edwards second Pelletier to approve the consent agenda. Passed on a voice vote.
- V. **NEW BUSIENSS**
  - a. **Kokesch Land Purchase for Sub Station** - Motion Dietz, second Edwards to approve resolution 110606-2 for purchase of land from Jess Kokesch for electrical sub station in amount of \$8,000. Passed on a unanimous voice vote.
  - b. **Farm City Fun Fest Liquor License** – Motion Edwards, second Dietz to approve liquor license for Winthrop Chamber for Farm City Fun Fest this year. Passed on a voice vote.
  - c. **First reading of amended zoning ordinance** – Motion Edwards, second Machaiek to have the first reading of the amended zoning ordinance. Passed on a voice vote.
  - d. **Sanitary Sewer Project** – After discussion it was decided to have a special meeting on Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. to approve financing for the sanitary sewer interceptor pipe project.
  - e. **Assisted Living Project** – Erickson provided an update on the assisted living project. The 16-unit project would be built on Good Samaritan land and managed by Good Sam.
  - f. **Jake Wegner Assessment** – Lannoye presented resolution 110606-1 approving assessment between Jake Wegner and the City for sanitary sewer repairs. Motion Dietz, second Pelletier to approve the resolution. Pass on a unanimous voice vote.
  - g. **Railing for City Hall** – Erickson said Dave Ohland said it would cost \$800 to have a handicap railing put on the ramp going into City Hall. The cost include painting and installation of the railing. Motion Edwards, second Dietz to approve the project. Passed on a voice vote.
  - h. **City Sign Project** – Erickson gave an update on the city sign project. The Winthrop Foundation is heading up fund raising for the project. The EDA and Winthrop Opportunities are expected to provide money to help fund the \$24,000 project that would construct a sign on the east side of Winthrop by the water tower and on the NE

corner of the Hwys 15 and 19 intersection on the west side of town. The city will be asked to contribute the land and electrical connection for the sign.

- i. **Bus Tour Reminder** – Erickson reminded the council the city inspection bus tour was scheduled for Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. in front of city hall.

## **VI. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

### **a. LEGAL UPDATE**

Don presented the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and AFSCME Council 65 Local 2439 Chapter #4 regarding a rewrite of a previous agreement to allow retiring police chief Bruce Froehlich to move his accumulated PTO into his POST Retirement Health Savings Plan. Motion Pelletier, second Dietz to approve the MOU and allow chief Froehlich to move his PTO to his health savings plan. Passed on a voice vote.

Don said the Knobler house on Hennepin is going back to the county for non payment of taxes. The city will be able to negotiate the ownership of the house with the county after 30 days.

The city has objected to the Bartels assessment case costs as presented by Bartel's attorney. A hearing on the matter was held a week ago and Judge Perkins is expected to rule soon on the matter.

Eminent Domain – If the council puts their damages offer of \$14,000 into escrow with the court the city can take the easement through a Quit Claim process and damages can be negotiated at a later date. Motion Edward, second Pelletier to put \$14,000 in escrow for the quit take process.

### **b. WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT**

Joe updated the council on the malfunction at the disposal plant. Untreated waste was pumped into the county ditch and the state was notified before the pumping began. The broken electronics has been fixed. In addition, malfunction electronic components at the filter plant have also been replaced.

### **b. STREET DEPARTMENT**

Two quotes were received to fix the frost boils and are over \$100,000. Don said the project must be bid because of estimates are over \$100,000. The council will look at some of the frost boils this Sunday during their inspection trip. I&S will be invited to attend the special meeting on June 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss the situation.

Gordy had two trade-in bids for the John Deere 720. Motion Edwards, second Colleen to accept the bid from Potter Implement in New Ulm for a Z970A commercial diesel mower at a cost of \$5878.13. Passed on a voice vote.

Gordy reported that Brandon Keane and Oscar Olson have been hired for summer help.

- c. **AMBULANCE REPORT**– Don L reported the ambulance fundraiser served more than 300 people and raised more than \$6,000 in gross receipts. The money will be used to purchase a power cot. The department is looking at additional parking at the old fire barn

and is asking if the council would object to paving the north side of the building between the old bell and the ambulance office door. The council will look at it during the inspection trip on Sunday.

Don reported that Medicare is not approving some ambulance payments, perhaps up to \$24,000. The department is appealing the non payments and Jenny is making progress on the matter.

**VII. MISCELLANEOUS**

- a. **Fiber Update** – Erickson gave an update on the fiber project as well as a Cable Commission update.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk-Administrator