

**Minutes for a Regular Meeting
Of the Winthrop City Council
Monday, November 2nd, 2015**

A regular meeting of the Winthrop City Council was called to order at 7 p.m. on Monday, November 2nd, 2015, 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 Kelly Pierson at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL: Council members: Kelly Pierson, Julie Trebelhorn, Pete Machaiek, Dale Malheim, and Bob Rickheim were present. **City Staff present:** City Administrator Jenny Hazelton, City Attorney Dave Schauer, City Clerk Barb Ahlbrecht, EDA Director Mark Erickson, and Ambulance Captain Erin Wersal. **Audience:** Mike Mattison (Winthrop News), and Roxy Traxler (Sibley County Administrator) were present.

- II. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM**
No one spoke

- III. ESTABLISH AGENDA**
a. Motion Rickheim, second Trebelhorn to approve the agenda.
Passed voice vote.

- IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**
a. Motion Trebelhorn, second Malheim to approve the consent agenda. Passed voice vote.

- V. PUBLIC HEARINGS**
No public hearing

- VI. NEW BUSINESS**
a. **Introduction of Sibley County Administrator Roxy Traxler (I)**
Roxy introduced herself to the council and updated them on the new SEDCO board. She also gave them an update on some other things going on at the county. They have updated their salary schedule and are working on budgets and capital planning.
b. **R2015-28 Resolution Approving Variance 2015-02 Banda (A)**
Hazelton reported that the Planning Commission held a public hearing on October 19th for the purpose of hearing public comment on the proposed variance. After the public hearing was closed the Planning Commission reviewed the five requirements of a variance and agreed that this variance complies with the five requirements

and voted to approve the request. Motion Trebelhorn, second Rickheim to approve R2015-28. Passed voice vote.

- c. **Logo Contest (A)** Hazelton presented the council with some logos that were submitted through an online logo contest. The council chose a logo submitted by GiraphicSpark as the winner. Motion Malheim, second Trebelhron to purchase the logo files. Passed voice vote.
- d. **Winthrop Ambulance request to purchase pagers. (A)** Ambulance Captain Erin Wersal presented the council with a request to purchase \$4,000 worth of new pagers. Hazelton reported that they have funds in their operating budget to cover the pagers. Motion Rickheim, second Trebelhorn to approve purchase of the pagers. Passed voice vote.
- e. **R2015-29 Resolution Authorizing Participation in Green Step Cities (A)** Hazelton brought back to the council a resolution to participate in the Green Step Cities program sponsored by the League of Minnesota Cities. Councilor Trebelhorn had brought back information from the League conference earlier in the year and thought it might be a good program for the city to join. The program is at no cost to the city and provides information and resources in how the city can reduce their carbon footprint and become more energy efficient. Motion Trebelhorn, second Rickheim to approve R2015-29. Passed voice vote.
- f. **R2015-30 Resolution Supporting Dedicated State Funding for City Streets (A)** At the League regional meeting in Springfield much discussion was on funding for cities to help offset costs for repairing streets. The Small Cities Assistance program is a good start and this resolution will be sent on to the Legislature to show our support for continuing funding for streets and transportation. Motion Malheim, second Trebelhorn to approve R2015-30. Passed voice vote.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

VIII. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- a. **ADMINISTRATORS REPORT** Hazelton reported that the tree situation with Jeff Bussler has been resolved. The Lyle's Café sign permit will be amended to the new location so it will be in compliance with city code. She met with Gibbon and Henderson on the tour buddy app. She attended the League of MN Cities regional meeting in Springfield. A letter of support will be sent to MNDOT for the Prairie Line Trail as part of their state wide bicycle plan. A meeting on the final round of the Blandin Grant had some great ideas, we will be moving forward on some of them.

Chamber banquet is November 14th, tickets are \$15, and everyone is invited.

- b. **WEDA REPORT** Director Erickson presented to the council that the new SEDCO board has been appointed. The EDA board discussed the planning and visioning session and plan to revisit it on a regular basis to keep it relevant. They would also like to meet jointly with the other groups in town to discuss a vision for Winthrop. We have been invited to the Greater MSP annual meeting in St. Paul on November 10th. They have begun discussing housing issues for Winthrop and Erickson and Hazelton are meeting with Shannon Sweeney to discuss options for housing and cleaning up dilapidated properties in town. Plans for the innovation center are coming along, they are hoping to have something set up for after the first of the year.
- c. **CITY LEGAL REPORT** None
- d. **WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT REPORT** None
- e. **STREET DEPARTMENT** None
- f. **ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT REPORT** MMPA Public Report was included in the packet.
- g. **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT** None
- h. **AMBULANCE REPORT** None
- i. **POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT** Included in the packet
- j. **CABLE COMMISSION REPORT**-Erickson updated the council on the last Cable Commission meeting. All the library grant funds have been expended. Including the RS Fiber franchise as part of the commission was also discussed.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Rickheim, second Malheim to adjourn. Passed voice vote.
Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Administrator