

**Minutes for a Regular Meeting  
Of the Winthrop City Council  
Monday, December 5th, 2011**

A regular meeting of the Winthrop City Council was called to order at 7 p.m. on Monday, December 5th, 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 Vice Mayor Pete Machaiek at 7:00 p.m.
  
- II. ROLL** Council members Ed Pelletier, Pete Machaiek and Colleen Dietz were present. City Administrator Mark Erickson, City Attorney Don Lannoye, Mike Mattison, Karen Johnson, Ed Stoll, Nick Schmidt, Gordy Grack, Jenny Hazelton and Joe Ziegler were also present.
  
- III. ESTABLISH AGENDA**
  - a.** Motion Pelletier, second Dietz to add 2012 Liquor Licenses, Ambulance Payroll and Tree Ordinance to the agenda. Passed on a voice vote.
  
- IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**
  - a.** Motion Pelletier, and a second by Dietz to approve the consent agenda as presented. Passed on a voice vote.
  
- V. NEW BUSINESS**
  - a. 2012 Levy** – There was discussion on the 2012 but no action was taken. A special meeting was called for Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. to take action on the 2012 budget.
  - b. Arlington Generator Bid** – Erickson informed the council that the city of Arlington was accepting bids on a 375 Kw generator. Water and Sewer Supt. Joe Ziegler was recommending the council put in a bid of \$10,000. the generator is large enough to handle the entire load at the filter plant in case of an extended electrical outage. Machaiek thought the city should up the bid to \$12,500. Motion Pelletier, second Dietz to submit a bid of \$12,500 for the generator. Passed on a voice vote.
  - c. CSAH 32 Discussion** – Erickson informed the council that Sibley County Engineer Darin Mielke was asking if the city would be willing to take back CSAH 32. The city would lose about \$4,500 in revenue each year from the county for maintenance of the road but would be free from county and state mandates for the road if the city took it back. After a short discussion it was decided to take no action. Erickson said Mielke is willing to come and talk to the council about the matter at a future meeting.

**VI. PUBLIC HEARING – Truth in Taxation Hearing**

- a. Machaiek call the Truth in Taxation Hearing to order. There was no one present for the hearing. After five minutes Machaiek closed the public hearing.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)**

- a. **Tree Ordinance** - City Clerk Jenny Hazelton presented the council with a draft tree ordinance to begin the work of applying for a DNR grant and Tree City USA designation. Motion Pelletier, second Dietz to have the first reading of the tree ordinance. Passed on a voice vote.
- b. **2012 Liquor Licenses** – Motion Pelletier, second Dietz to approve the 2012 Liquor Licenses as presented contingent upon all necessary paper work being presented to the city before December 15<sup>th</sup>. Passed on a voice vote.
- c. **Ambulance Payroll** – Ambulance Captain Nick Schmidt went through the 2012 pay amounts for 2011. Motion Dietz, second Pelletier to approve the payments in the amount of \$39,079. Passed on a voice vote. Schmidt reported the department will be buying seven new pages at a cost of \$450 each. The Wine Tasting fundraiser raised about \$5,000 for the department.
- d. **Sidewalk by Park** – Machaiek reported that a homeowner by the park wanted the city to abandon a sidewalk that has been displaced by a tree on the boulevard but that he was requesting the city pay to have the sidewalk removed because it was a city tree that caused the problem. Machaiek said it was the responsibility of the homeowner to pay for any upkeep on the sidewalk. Dietz and Pelletier agreed. Erickson was directed to send a letter explaining the situation to the homeowner.

**VIII. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

**a. LEGAL DEPARTMENT**

Don provided an update on the police discussions with the city of Gibbon and handed out a draft contract to council members. The Gibbon City Council will be discussing the matter at their next meeting. Nothing will happen until both councils agree on an arrangement for police services. He updated the council on the Bartels easement appeal and requested the council pay an additional \$37,000 to Bartels for loss of income and damages in addition to the \$14,000 already in escrow with district court. The total of \$51,000 is the amount awarded to Bartels. Motion Pelletier, second Dietz to approve payment of an additional \$37,000 to Pat Bartels. Passed on a voice vote.

**b. WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT**

Joe updated the council on the wellhead protection plan nearing completion. Copies of the plan will go out to local units of government and affected watershed offices for their comment. A hearing will be

held in the first quarter of 2012 on the plan. He also reported information is still being gathered on replacing the filter media at the water plant along with an inspection and maintenance of Filter #1. He hopes to have information to the council and get their approval to change out the media in March or April of 2012. Weather permitting he will start putting water on the ice skating rink.

**c. POLIC DEPARTMENT**

Chief Johnson reported that the School Resource Officer budget looks good and the department is involved in pro-active safety programs at the schools.

**d. MISCELLANEOUS**

- Erickson gave a fiber optic project update.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

---

Mayor

ATTEST:

---

City Clerk-Administrator