

City of Winsted
City Council Work Session
Lewis Room
Tuesday, June 7, 2016
5:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Steve Stotko
Council Member Patty Fitzgerald
Council Member Tom Ollig
Council Member Bonita Quast
Council Member George Schulenberg

Staff Present: Mr. Dan Tienter, City Administrator
Ms. Raquel Kirchoff, Deputy City Clerk
Ms. Melissa Underwood, City Engineer, Bolton and Menk, Incorporated
Mr. Ron Roetzel, City Engineer, Bolton and Menk, Incorporated

I. Call to Order

Mayor Stotko called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

II. Winsted Municipal Airport Environmental Assessment

Ms. Melissa Underwood, Bolton and Menk, Incorporated, provided information regarding the following items related to the Environmental Assessment for the paved runway at the Winsted Municipal Airport.

➤ Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Luce Line State Trail

- ❖ Coordinating with the DNR to acquire property for new trail alignment and removing previous alignment
- ❖ Parcel appraisals underway
- ❖ Land use and property transfer will require review and approval by DNR National Park Service (NPS)
- ❖ NPS allows one year to mitigate loss of federally funded recreation property

➤ Northern Natural Gas (NNG) Line –Re-route

- ❖ Runway shifted 100 feet west to avoid relocation of east NNG line
- ❖ Both Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and NNG approve proposed relocation
- ❖ Approximate relocation costs = \$891,000 +/-30%

Ms. Fitzgerald asked if the gas line had to be relocated. Mr. Roetzel stated yes because the gas line is currently underneath the runway which is no longer allowed according to FAA regulations because they do not want an underlying utility to have rights to close the airport.

➤ Land Acquisition Required for the Project

- ◆ Approximately 186 acres that need to be acquired
- ❖ One business relocation –Winsted Farmers Coop Creamery
- ❖ Cable Avenue

➤ Wildlife Hazard Site Assessment

- ❖ Required by the FAA
- ❖ To be completed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services
- ❖ USDA has completed multiple assessments for airports over the last five –ten years
- ❖ Cost is \$1,668.71 to be reimbursed through the environmental assessment grant

➤ Cable Avenue –Potential Relocation

- ◆ Three options proposed to Winsted Township
- ◆ Winsted Township Open House on June 23, 2016 to consider the options
- ◆ Winsted Township to consider the options at their July 14, 2016 meeting and let the City know the option they prefer.

Council Member Ollig asked if all of the options regarding Cable Avenue depend on a willing seller of the land. Mr. Tienter stated that the City is working with Winsted Township as the road authority first and has not had conversations with the land owner yet.

Council Member Schulenberg asked if emergency services were agreeable with the options. Ms. Underwood stated that emergency services were agreeable to the closing of Cable Avenue and have not seen the options outside of the closure yet.

Mr. Tienter stated that City staff and City Engineers will attend the Winsted Township Open House to answer questions. The Environmental Assessment cannot be completed until Winsted Township makes a decision.

Mr. Roetzel, Bolton and Menk, Incorporated, provided information regarding the following items related to the Environmental Assessment.

➤ **Project Funding**

- ❖ Extra 5% from Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) Aeronautics is subject to annual funding decision by MnDOT and is not guaranteed
- ❖ All project elements are eligible for state or federal funding
- ❖ Timing of funds

➤ **Next Steps**

- ❖ Complete Section 4(f) process
- ❖ Finalize wetland review
- ❖ Wildlife Hazard Site Assessment in June
- ❖ Winsted Township open house June 23, 2016
- ❖ Winsted Township Board meeting July 14, 2016
- ❖ City Council to review the final Draft EA
- ❖ Submit final Draft EA to FAA for review
- ❖ Publish final Draft EA for 30 day public comment period
- ❖ FAA to issue a finding after public comments are addressed

III. Other

a) Administrative Intern – Mr. Michael Creelman

Mr. Michael Creelman, Administrative Intern, introduced himself to the City Council Members and provided some background information regarding himself. Mr. Tienter informed the City Council Members of projects that Mr. Creelman was working on.

b) Wastewater Treatment Facility

Mr. Tienter stated that City staff has requested a meeting with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to discuss what may be permitted for the Wastewater Treatment Facility around the appeal process. Once this is decided, the City will know more on what can move forward with the current planned improvement project for the Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Council Member Ollig asked if the City has any recourse for litigation against the MPCA. Mr. Tienter stated that this question has been raised, but without established time requirements for the MPCA to respond to requests, this is uncertain.

c) Kingsley Street Area Improvements Lighting

Mr. Tienter stated that the City Council made a decision to lease poles and lighting from Xcel Energy for Kingsley Street. Since this decision, inquiries have been received regarding the City procuring poles and lighting from area vendors which the City is now in the process of. Mr. Tienter stated that the subject can be re-visited because the City has not executed the lease agreement with Xcel Energy for the lighting.

d) Maintenance of the Lakefront Promenade

Council Member Ollig requested that Maintenance of the Lakefront Promenade be a discussion topic at the next City Council Work Session.

e) Lakefront Promenade - Blight

Council Member Fitzgerald stated that she received a question from a resident regarding blight behind the buildings on the Lakefront Promenade. Mr. Tienter stated that City staff is addressing this concern.

IV. Purchase or Sale of Real or Personal Property

Mayor Stotko stated that the City Council was now closing the Work Session to discuss the purchase or sale of real or personal property.

Council Member Ollig motioned to close the Work Session. Council Member Schulenberg seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Stotko asked the members of the public to please excuse themselves.

The Work Session was closed.

V. Adjourn

Council Member Quast motioned to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Schulenberg seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Steve Stotko

Steve Stotko
Mayor
City of Winsted

ATTEST:

Raquel Kirchoff

Raquel Kirchoff, CMC
Deputy City Clerk
City of Winsted