

City of Winsted
City Council Work Session
Lewis Room
July 5, 2011
5:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Steve Stotko
Council Member Tom Ollig
Council Member Bonnie Quast
Council Member Dave Mochinski
Council Member George Schulenberg

Staff Present: Brad Martens, City Administrator
Deb Boelter, City Clerk-Treasurer

I. Call to Order

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

II. Winsted Public Library Request

Martens presented a request from the Winsted Public Library Board to retain a local Head Librarian in the City of Winsted. Martens introduced Julie Guggemos of the Winsted Public Library Board. Guggemos addressed the City Council and gave a brief overview of the operation of the Winsted Public Library and the services they provide. Guggemos stated that the Winsted Public Library's Head Librarian, Sharon Noerenberg, is retiring August 31, 2011. It is the policy of the Pioneerland Library System (PLS) to share a Head Librarian with another library in their system when a retirement occurs. Guggemos stated that the Winsted Public Library would become a satellite site and the Head Librarian from the Hutchinson, Minnesota Public Library would also be the Head Librarian in Winsted. Guggemos shared her concerns about a possible decrease in services and programs available to the Winsted Public Library and its patrons if they do not have their own Head Librarian. Guggemos stated that Lisa Ebert currently works part-time at the Winsted Public Library and has received a Master's Degree that would qualify her to become the Head Librarian in Winsted.

Martens stated that the City of Winsted or McLeod County can challenge the decision to consolidate the Head Librarian for the Hutchinson and Winsted Public Libraries. The City has thirty (30) days from Noerenberg's retirement announcement, which happened on June 14, 2011, to inform PLS of their intention to challenge the consolidation and must submit a formal request within sixty (60) days. Martens continued by stating that the challenge would require a financial commitment from the City of Winsted for materials and also a portion of Ebert's annual salary.

The City Council asked Guggemos what the City's financial commitment would be if they appeal PLS to retain the City's local librarians. Martens stated that it would be approximately \$12,000 to \$15,000. Martens also stated that a portion of these expenses could be covered by the annual fundraisers that the Winsted Public Library conducts.

Ollig stated that the Winsted Public Library is definitely an important part of the community; but, the timing of their request for a financial commitment from the City is difficult because the City may lose some of its local government aid (LGA) from the State of Minnesota. Ollig asked if the City files an appeal to PLS and it is approved, is the City committed to the funding of the Winsted Public Library. Martens and Guggemos stated that they would need to verify if the City is financially committed if the appeal is approved.

Lisa Ebert, part-time Winsted Public Librarian was in attendance at the Work Session. Ebert stated that the employees of the Library and the Winsted Public Library Board are willing to do whatever they need to help raise money to keep the Library operating locally.

Martens stated that he discussed the proposal with McLeod County and they are not willing to pay additional dollars for a local Head Librarian at the Winsted Public Library; so, the appeal will need to come from the City of Winsted.

The City Council discussed and directed Martens to file an appeal with PLS.

Kim Hausladen, Winsted Public Library, was also in attendance at the City Council Work Session.

III. Luce Line Trail Resolution

Martens stated that a Resolution will be presented to the City Council at their Regular City Council meeting for consideration and approval. The Minnesota State Legislature will be presented with a bonding bill that includes funding to pave the Luce Line Trail from Winsted to Cedar Mills, Minnesota. Martens stated that the Resolution indicates the City of Winsted's support to pave the trail.

IV. Minnesota State Government Shutdown Update

Martens presented areas and services in the City of Winsted that have been affected by the Minnesota State Government shutdown.

V. Arrival/Departure Building Update – Winsted Municipal Airport

Martens presented Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) required changes to the proposed Arrival/Departure (A/D) building to be constructed at the Winsted Municipal Airport and funded ninety-five percent (95%) by the FAA.

VI. Winsted Municipal Airport – Pavement Management Program

Martens presented an agreement between the City of Winsted and Bolton and Menk, Incorporated, on the Consent Agenda at the Regular City Council meeting, to complete a Pavement Management Program (PMP) for the Winsted Municipal Airport in the amount of \$4,660. Martens stated that PMP is a requirement of the FAA and would be funded ninety-five percent (95%) by them; so, the City's five percent (5%) match would be \$233.

Martens stated that he researched the possibility of having the City's staff complete the PMP themselves; but, determined it would be more feasible and accurate to have Bolton and Menk, Incorporated complete it.

The City Council discussed and agreed that the City should have Bolton and Menk, Incorporated complete it.

VII. Lakefront Promenade Maintenance

Council Member Ollig presented some citizen concerns that he received on the poor maintenance of the Lakefront Promenade.

Martens asked what level of maintenance the City Council would like to see done on the Lakefront Promenade.

Martens stated that he evaluated the Lakefront Promenade earlier and he thought most of it looked like it was in fairly good condition.

The City Council presented the following areas of concern:

1. Grass growing between the bricks on the south end of the Promenade and in the paved circle.
2. Trees that have growth areas, branches, at the base of the trunks that should be removed.
3. Shrubs that have died or are dying and have not been replaced.
4. Trees that are dying along the Promenade and behind City Hall.

Martens asked if the Lakefront Promenade area is considered a priority in the community and should be maintained accordingly. The City Council stated that it is considered an important part of the community and should be maintained as a priority.

VIII. Other

a) Goal Setting Retreat

Martens stated that the Goal Setting Retreat has been scheduled for Tuesday, August 23, 2011 and will be held at City Hall.

b) Storm Damage – July 1, 2011

Martens presented the different areas of storm damage the City of Winsted received on Friday, July 1, 2011.

c) Hainlin Park – Skate Park

Council Member Schulenberg stated that a group of young men approached him regarding the purchase of more equipment for the Skate Park located in Hainlin Park.

Schulenberg stated that he visited the Skate Park and contacted Public Works Maintenance Lead, Jamie Stotko about the lack of equipment. Stotko, Jamie informed Schulenberg that some of the equipment was damaged beyond repair so the Public Works Department removed it and discarded it.

Martens stated that he will present the request to the City's Park Commission. Boelter recommended that the young men be invited to the Park Commission meeting. The City Council also recommended that the young men attend the Park Commission meeting.

IX. Adjourn

Council Member Quast motioned to adjourn. Council Member Ollig seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

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

Steve Stotko

Steve Stotko
Mayor
City of Winsted

ATTEST:

Deborah R. Boelter

Deborah R. Boelter, MCMC
City Clerk-Treasurer
City of Winsted