

City of Winsted
City Council Meeting
Council Chambers
Tuesday, July 7, 2015
6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Steve Stotko . Temporary Acting City Administrator
Council Member Bonita Quast
Council Member Max Fasching
Council Member George Schulenberg

Absent: Council Member Tom Ollig

Staff Present: Ms. Deborah R. Boelter, City Clerk-Treasurer
Mr. Justin Heldt, Winsted Police Department Chief
Mr. Tyler Bruns, Winsted Police Department Officer
Mr. Dave Meyer, Winsted Public Works Department's Maintenance Supervisor

1) Mayor Stotko called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

a) The Pledge of Allegiance was taken.

2) Consent Agenda

Mayor Stotko read the Consent Agenda.

a) Salary Step Increases

Authorized a salary step increase effective July 1, 2015 for the following City of Winsted employees:

- Mr. Justin Heldt . Winsted Police Department Chief.
- Mr. Jim Lammers . Winsted Police Department Officer.
- Mr. Tyler Bruns . Winsted Police Department Officer.
- Ms. Amanda Zeidler - Utility Billing and Payroll Clerk.
- Mr. Dave Meyer Public Works Department's Maintenance Supervisor) .
Retroactive to anniversary date of January 2, 2015.
- Ms. Raquel Kirchoff - Administrative Assistant . *Retroactive to anniversary date of April 19, 2015.*

b) Appointment – Winsted Volunteer Fire Department

Appointed Mr. Bryan Schaut to the position of Volunteer Firefighter with the Winsted Volunteer Fire Department contingent upon passing a criminal background check and a drug and alcohol test.

c) Barrett Park - Baseball Field Improvements

Authorized improvements to Barrett Park Baseball Field by Glacier Incorporated including temporary drainage resolution on the field and the removal and reinstallation of a foul ball safety fence in the amount of \$3,964, with the City and the Winsted Little League Baseball Association each paying half of the quote amount.

d) Winsted Municipal Airport - Land Lease Agreement Termination - Hangar Number Thirty (30)

Terminated the Land Lease Agreement between the City of Winsted and Mr. Frank Hanish for hangar number thirty (30) at the Winsted Municipal Airport.

e) Winsted Municipal Airport - Land Lease Agreement - Hangar Number Thirty (30)

Approved the Land Lease Agreement between the City of Winsted and Mr. Russ Runck for hangar number thirty (30) at the Winsted Municipal Airport based upon successful submission of all required documents and fees from Mr. Runck to the City of Winsted.

f) Winsted Municipal Airport - Land Lease Agreement Termination - Hangar Number Thirty-Nine (39)

Terminated the Land Lease Agreement between the City of Winsted and Mr. Tom Casey for hangar number thirty-nine (39) at the Winsted Municipal Airport.

g) Winsted Municipal Airport - Land Lease Agreement - Hangar Number Thirty-Nine (39)

Approved the Land Lease Agreement between the City of Winsted and Mr. Dallas Doggett for hangar number thirty-nine (39) at the Winsted Municipal Airport based upon successful submission of all required documents and fees from Mr. Doggett to the City of Winsted.

h) Kid's Run, 5K Run and 4 ½ Mile Run – Winsted Summer Festival

Approved a Kid's Run, a 5K Run, and a 4 ½ Mile Run sponsored by the Winsted Summer Festival, with routes within the City limits approved by the Winsted Police Department on Saturday, August 8, 2015.

i) Claims

Approve the Claims List for July 7, 2015.

Council Member Schulenberg motioned to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Council Member Quast seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

3) Public Hearings

a) Franchise to Operate a Cable System

Mayor Stotko asked for public comment.

There was no public comment received.

Jean Hawk, Government Affairs Manager with TDS Telecommunications, noted they submitted an application for a cable franchise on June 25, 2015, in response to the public notice that was issued on June 2, 2015.

Ms. Hawk provided some background information on TDS Telecommunications. The Winsted Telephone Company is Winsted's local service provider and is a subsidiary of TDS Telecommunications Corporation. TDS is owned by Telephone and Data Systems Corporation, who also own US Cellular and some other cellular companies. TDS is a Fortune 1000 Company and generates \$5 billion in annual revenue. Ms. Hawk stated

TDS offers telephone service as well as broadband and video services, with the goal of TDS being to provide good service to the rural communities.

Ms. Hawk displayed a map depicting the areas TDS operates in and noted that TDS has over six million customers nationwide. Local communities currently being served by TDS include Winsted, Monticello, Pequot Lakes, New London, and areas within the Twin Cities. TDS is the seventh largest telephone company in the Midwest and employs over 200 people in Minnesota.

Mr. Pat Ferguson, Video Services Manager, stated they have started implementing Internet Protocol Television (IPT) services in order to expand the amount of broadband available to its customers. Mr. Ferguson stated 2015 is the largest investment year for IPT services and steps are being taken to expand services through Microsoft Media Room, which allows wireless DVRs, instant channel change, a friendly program guide, integrated Internet content, such as NetFlix, and TDS TV Everywhere.

Mr. Ferguson stated the construction project is expected to begin at the end of July of this year and will bring fiber to approximately 1,100 homes in the Winsted area, which will then enable them to have access to IP TV. Mr. Ferguson stated in conjunction with the project, there will be a marketing campaign that will be undertaken to inform the residents of the new services and various incentives. Start of the new service is expected to be no later than November 1, 2015.

Mr. Ferguson reviewed the technical specifications of the cable system.

Ms. Hawk stated the new service will enable TDS to be competitive and provide customers with a choice of companies and Internet packages. Ms. Hawk stated the next step in the process is for TDS to work with the City to negotiate the terms of a franchise agreement, which would then be approved by the City Council in the form of an ordinance. State Statute requires that TDS's franchise agreement with the City not be any more favorable than other cable franchises in the area and TDS will work to ensure that happens. Ms. Hawk stated she will be the contact person during that process and that they would like to have the franchise agreement completed by the end of August.

Council Member Fasching asked what some of the discounted incentives will be.

Mr. Ferguson stated one of the incentives is free high-density TV for life as well as some monthly discounts. Mr. Ferguson indicated he can provide that information to City Staff.

Mayor Stotko asked if products like Roku would interfere with this technology.

Ms. Hawk stated Roku is another Internet based service and is a replacement product for cable television services but it does not offer as many Internet services as IP TV would offer.

Mayor Stotko asked if the customer would have a choice of television channels.

Mr. Ferguson indicated there is a basic package, an expanded, and an expanded plus package available currently but that customers would not have the ability to create a custom package.

Council Member Schulenberg asked where this service would be available.

Ms. Hawk stated their footprint will be identical to MediaCom's and that the cable will not be expanded to outside City limits.

Council Member Schulenberg asked whether it would be a dedicated line to each house.

Mr. Ferguson indicated it would be and that it would be a fiber optic line, which does not currently exist in this area. Mr. Ferguson

Dave Meyer, Supervisor of the Winsted Public Works Department, requested that he be kept up-to-date on the location and timing of the construction activities.

Mr. Ferguson stated they are planning to start construction the end of July and that the residents will be notified a couple of weeks prior to any construction starting in their neighborhood.

Council Member Quast motioned to close the Public Hearing. Council Member Schulenberg seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

4) Old Business

a) Resolution R-15-24 – Order for Remediation or Abatement – 121 Baker Avenue East

Mayor Stotko stated the City Council is being asked to consider a resolution ordering remediation or abatement at 121 Baker Avenue East. Mayor Stotko noted this issue goes back to the fall of 2014 and that the property owner has failed to remedy the unsafe conditions. The City has photographed the property and provided a list of suggestions to the property owner for what work should be completed. The proposed work consists of fencing around the machinery and boarding up the doors and windows.

Council Member Quast motioned to adopt Resolution R-15-24 to order the remediation or abatement of damaged property at 121 Baker Avenue East. Council Member Fasching seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

5) New Business

a) Conditional Offer of Employment – Winsted Police Department Officer

Police Chief Heldt stated the department conducted the first round interviews with five applicants, with the second round being completed last week Thursday. Mr. Reiner has part-time experience with the City of Ortonville. The psychological testing and physical have been completed but Mr. Reiner will need to undergo some training.

Council Member Fasching motioned to approve a conditional offer of employment to Mr. Dylan Reiner for the full-time position of Winsted Police Department Officer based on the successful completion of a background check, psychological examination, physical, and drug and alcohol screening. Council Member Schulenberg seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

6) Department Report

a) Public Works Department

Mr. Dave Meyer, Public Works Department's Maintenance Supervisor, reported on the following:

- Streets in the downtown area have been plowed & broomed
- The new siren was received in January and stored until it was installed in May
- Water meters have been read monthly
- Water notices are delivered monthly
- Annual and monthly water reports are provided to the State

- The annual storm water report for the airport has been completed
- Serviced the street sweepers
- Hauled and stockpiled gravel for gravel roads and spread it this spring
- Held the monthly safety meeting
- Filled potholes around town
- Found a water valve that was blacktopped over on Northgate Drive for service to the trailer court
- Changed oil on squad cars
- Opened up all park bathrooms
- Swept entire town to pick up winter sand
- Flushed all fire hydrants
- Had a water main break towards the end of Baker Avenue.
- Push up the brush site weekly
- Planted flower boxes for the downtown area
- Put up summer banners on County Road 1
- Put up and take down flags
- Put up new handicap signs by Holy Trinity Church and painted the road
- Sprayed weeds in all parks and at the airport
- Crack sealing was done in preparation for seal coating

Mayor Stotko asked when delivery of the new street sweeper is expected.

Mr. Meyer stated they expect it by the end of July. Mr. Meyer stated the Public Works Department is also performing work in preparation of the summer festival.

The City Council discussed mowing at Southview Park. Mr. Meyer noted the City's contract does not require bagging of the grass and that he mows the area a number of times in an effort to reduce clumping of the dead grass.

7) Open Forum

None.

8) Announcements

Mayor Stotko noted starting at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 9, the City Council will be interviewing candidates for the City Administrator position and that it will be broadcast over the local television channel.

9) Adjournment

Council Member Quast motioned to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Schulenberg seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Steve Stotko

Steve Stotko
Mayor and Temporary Acting City Administrator
City of Winsted

ATTEST:

Deborah R. Boelter

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