

City of Winsted
City Council Work Session
Lewis Room
Tuesday, September 18, 2018
5:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Steve Stotko
Council Member Mike Henrich
Council Member Tom Ollig
Council Member George Schulenberg

Staff Present: Ms. Patty Fitzgerald, Temporary Acting City Administrator
Ms. Raquel Kirchoff, City Clerk-Treasurer
Mr. Justin Heldt, Police Chief
Ms. Amanda Zeidler, Deputy City Clerk

I. Call to Order

II. Winsted Police Department – Police Officer Residency Requirement

Ms. Patty Fitzgerald, Temporary Acting City Administrator, stated that candidates that were recently interviewed for part-time police officer positions were interviewed for the vacant full-time police officer position from Mr. Dylan Reiner's resignation. The recommended candidate from that interview process is Ms. Paige Vick.

Ms. Fitzgerald stated that the City of Winsted has a policy that full-time police officers must live within a five mile radius of the City of Winsted; however, Ms. Vick recently purchased a home in Howard Lake, Minnesota, which is greater than five miles away. Ms. Fitzgerald asked the City Council to consider approval of the hiring of Ms. Vick.

Ms. Fitzgerald stated that Ms. Vick is aware of the five minute, on-call response time required to be a full-time police officer. Ms. Vick would stay at a residence within the five mile radius of Winsted city limits when she is required to be on-call for the Winsted Police Department.

Mayor Stotko asked why the five mile radius was implemented.

Council Member Henrich, former Winsted Police Chief, stated that it was implemented so there was no confusion when an officer was on call for the ability to respond within a five minute time span.

Council Member Henrich stated that Winsted Police squad vehicles have not been allowed to leave because if the equipment in the vehicle needs to be accessed, it needs to be in the city. Council Member Henrich also stated that Winsted residents see if squad vehicles are outside of the city.

Ms. Fitzgerald stated Ms. Vick would commit to the requirement of being in the five mile radius while on call. Ms. Fitzgerald stated that a previous full-time officer was allowed to stay at a residence within five miles of city limits, when on-call, when he moved from Winsted to the City of Mayer.

Ms. Fitzgerald stated that the City Council Consent Agenda for tonight's meeting includes an authorization for Ms. Vick to reside outside of Winsted City limits and to extend the five mile residency requirement, with the contingency that when on-call, the officer shall be within the City limits or within a five minute response time, at all times.

Council Member Ollig asked if this authorization was an exception to the Police Department policy and that the policy would not be changed at this time. Ms. Fitzgerald stated that was correct.

The City Council Members approved of the hiring of Ms Vick being placed on the Consent Agenda for tonight's meeting, with the authorization for Ms. Vick to live outside of the five mile radius.

III. Water Supply Plan Update – Nonessential Water Usage Ordinance

Ms. Amanda Zeidler, Deputy City Clerk, stated that the proposed ordinance regulating nonessential water usage upon critical water deficiency will be considered at a Public Hearing on October 2, 2018. This ordinance is required as part of the update to the City's Water Supply Plan due to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources by October 15, 2018. Bolton and Menk, Incorporated has been working on the City's Water Supply Plan update.

Ms. Zeidler stated that the ordinance language was originally drafted by the League of Minnesota Cities in association with the Rural Water Association and is only related to when the Minnesota Governor would declare an emergency of critical water deficiency.

Ms. Zeidler stated that the City's utility ordinance does not contain any definite water restrictions; however, these should be considered when an update of the full utility ordinance is considered in the future.

Council Member Henrich stated that the proposed ordinance language mentions a fine, and asked what the fine would be.

Ms. Zeidler stated that the fine should be established with the adoption of the next annual City Fee Schedule.

IV. Recommended 2019 Budget

Ms. Fitzgerald reviewed the recommended 2019 Preliminary Budget in order to certify a preliminary property tax levy required by September 30, 2018.

The City Council Members discussed the preliminary budget and recommended setting the preliminary General Property Tax Levy at \$1,072,089, and a total Preliminary Property Tax Levy of \$1,391,889. These numbers were recommended to give the new City Administrator room to examine the budget further when they are hired, since the final property tax levy cannot be higher than the preliminary levy.

V. Other

a.) 121 Baker Avenue East

Ms. Fitzgerald stated that people have contacted her with interest in leasing space at 121 Baker Avenue East to store equipment. She asked the City Council to consider this property for future discussion when the new City Administrator is hired.

VI. Adjourn

Council Member Ollig made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Henrich seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Steve Stotko

Steve Stotko
Mayor
City of Winsted

ATTEST:

Raquel Kirchoff

Raquel Kirchoff, CMC
City Clerk-Treasurer
City of Winsted