

City of Winsted
Winsted Municipal Airport Commission Meeting
Winsted Municipal Airport – Hangar Number 31
Wednesday, May 9, 2012
6:00 p.m.

Airport Commission Members Present: Michelle Baird
Joe Johnson
Russ Paschke
Glenn Weibel
Dave Mochinski (Council Liaison)

Airport Commission Members Present: Kevin Kubasch

Staff Present: Dave Meyer, Public Works Lead
Amanda Zeidler, Utility Billing & Payroll Clerk

1) Call the Meeting to Order

Russ Paschke, Airport Commission Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2) Approval of Minutes

Weibel made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2012 Airport Commission Meeting. Baird seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

3) Financial Report

The Airport Commission reviewed the April, 2012 Financial Report.

4) Staff Report

Dave Meyer, Public Works Lead, reported on the following:

- He has been working with Marcus Watson, Airport Specialist for Bolton and Menk, Incorporated to complete punch list items for the Arrival/Departure (A/D) building
- The airport slurry seal project is tentatively scheduled to begin May 21, 2012.
- The installation of an outdoor water spigot and landscaping should be wrapped up by the end of June, 2012.
- Crack filling will be completed after the slurry seal project is done.
- The runway has been checked frequently due to the large amounts of rain to monitor the condition of the runway.
- He and Jamie Stotko attended a lighting conference at the Saint Cloud Regional Airport, which offered schooling for airport lighting, and they learned a great deal. They also met with vendors at the conference.
- The hole on the entrance road has been filled so it is fixed before the slurry seal project begins.

Johnson mentioned that there are a few lights that need to be replaced on the runway.

Eric Peterson, hangar owner, asked if a turf maintenance plan is in place for filling in the low spots on the runway. Meyer explained that the Public Works Department and the City Administrator have had discussions regarding runway maintenance, and the possibility of purchasing equipment to reseed the runway, and noted that they would like to concentrate on the center of the runway.

Marty Ziermann, asked if seal coating can be applied from the taxi lane to the hangar door. Meyer stated that the contractor informed City staff at the pre-construction meeting that he does not want to do any work beyond the scope of the contract. Dave Hannus, hangar owner, asked how long it will take to complete the slurry seal project. Meyer stated that the project will hopefully be completed in one (1) day, and traffic will not be allowed for a twenty-four (24) hour period. Hannus asked if the taxi lanes will be closed for the day. Meyer stated that the taxi lanes will be taped off for approximately twenty-four (24) hours. Rick Stodola, hangar owner, asked if the compass rose will be repainted on the taxi lane after the slurry seal project is complete. Meyer stated that he understood that it would be replaced, and added that he would follow-up with Marcus Watson.

5) Old Business.

a) 2012 Airport Event

Weibel asked the pilots and hangar owners if there is any interest in sponsoring an event at the Airport to coincide with the 2012 Winsted Summer Festival. There was no response to the request.

6) **New Business**

a) **Open Forum**

Steve Stotko, City of Winsted Mayor, addressed issues that took place while Westside Skydivers was conducting a special night time skydiving event at the Winsted Municipal Airport. Stotko stated that a question came to Deb Boelter, City Clerk-Treasurer, who was acting for Brad Martens, City Administrator who was on leave. Stotko stated that Johnson had received several requests from his customers to jump at night, while the moon was bright. Stotko stated that he spoke with the City Administrator, and there were stipulations set forth from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) that Johnson had to abide by. Stotko stated that in the future, when a contract is involved, special requests will go before the City Council.

Paul Gatz, 22711 County Road One (1), stated that the noise from the airplane and event woke he and some of the other neighbors up at night, and added that the neighbors should have some kind of right to have some peace and quiet. Stotko apologized to Gatz, and asked Gatz to pass his apologies on to the other neighbors.

Burt Ackerman, hangar owner, stated that it seems like jumping in the dark would be dangerous. Johnson stated that it is not against any regulations to fly at night, and added that there were lights on and everything was marked properly.

Weibel stated that there is a portion of Johnson's contract which limits the hours of operation. Weibel stated that he thinks that from this point forward, the requests should go through the Airport Commission and the City Council.

Gatz asked how many people have to land in the target zone while skydiving. Johnson stated that there is no requirement for skydivers to land in a specific location. Gatz stated that some people have stated that the skydivers have landed on private property and people have been driving across private property to pick skydivers up. Johnson stated that occasionally a skydiver will miss the target. Johnson added that usually staff from Westside Skydivers will ask permission of a property owner before entering a property, and invited anyone to speak with him about any issues.

Weibel stated that the City should place a sign on the A/D building to ban firearms. Weibel added that there have been allegations of sponge bathing taking place in the A/D building, and asked that Westside Skydivers place a sign as to who should use the refuse container near Johnson's hangar. Meyer stated that he would address the firearms signs with Martens and added that none of the City buildings currently have signs to ban firearms.

Hannus inquired as to whether or not there are restrictions for night time air traffic at the Winsted Municipal Airport. The Airport Commission affirmed that there are not any night time restrictions for air traffic.

Weibel asked the pilots and hangar owners to inform him of any hangars that are for sale or rent. Amanda Zeidler, Utility Billing and Payroll Clerk, added that the hangar owners can also contact City Hall with this information, in case there are interested parties that contact City Hall to inquire about hangars that are for sale or for rent.

Weibel asked if the hangar owners would like to have a safety talk at the next Airport Commission meeting that is held at the Airport. He asked for permission to contact the FAA to schedule this talk.

7) **No Other Business.**

8) **Adjournment**

Weibel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.



Steve Stotko,
City Administrator
City of Winsted

ATTEST:



Amanda J. Zeidler,
Utility Billing & Payroll Clerk
City of Winsted