

City of Winsted  
City Council Work Session  
Conference Room – Lewis Room  
March 3, 2009  
5:00 p.m.

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

Staff Present: Deb Boelter, City Clerk-Treasurer

I. Call To Order

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

Mayor Stotko reminded the City Council that the Work Session is not a meeting where the City Council can take action on an item and/or issue. Mayor Stotko asked the City Council to interject when they feel that topics being discussed are beyond the realm of the Work Session.

II. 2009 City Council Salaries

Mayor Stotko presented information on the City Council salary increases that were approved in December of 2006. The City Council salary increases were effective on January 1, 2009.

Mayor Stotko stated that the City Council agreed not to take the salary increases in 2009 due to budget constraints to the 2009 Budget as a result of the State of Minnesota's proposal to reduce Local Government Aid (LGA) in 2009. Unfortunately, the salary increase was approved by Ordinance and not taking the increase may be a violation of Minnesota State Statute. Mayor Stotko stated that the City Attorney, Fran Eggert, is reviewing the options the City Council may have in this matter.

The City Council discussed the issue of the salary increases and agreed that it should be reviewed by Eggert.

III. Planning for 2009 City Council and Staff Retreat

Mayor Stotko presented the proposed dates of April 23, 2009 or April 30, 2009 for the 2009 City Council and Staff Retreat. The City Council discussed the proposed dates and decided on Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009 for the City Council and Staff Retreat.

Mayor Stotko asked the City Council to contact Brent Mareck, City Administrator, if they have any items that they want presented at the Retreat.

IV. Winsted Farmers Market

Mayor Stotko presented Mareck's proposal to work in conjunction with the Winsted Area Chamber of Commerce to establish a Farmer's Market. Mayor Stotko stated that the Farmer's Market would be located downtown and in the area of the Lakefront Promenade. The goal of the Farmer's Market would be to get more people in the downtown area.

Ollig stated the Winsted Area Chamber of Commerce Board would be discussing the proposal at their Board meeting on Wednesday, March 4, 2009.

V. City Hall Update

Mayor Stotko stated that Mareck has forwarded an e-mail to Greystone Construction Company asking for a response on the repair of the lake bank storm sewer drain. Mareck told Greystone Construction Company that if the City does not receive a response, a representative from their company would have to attend a future City Council meeting to address the City Council. Mayor Stotko stated that as of Monday, March 2, 2009, Mareck has not received a response from Greystone Construction Company.

VI. Updates

a) Company Relocation

Mayor Stotko reported that a company from Litchfield, Minnesota is considering relocating to Winsted and leasing the old, blue Sterner building located on Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Street South. Mayor Stotko stated that they produce erosion control matting and other similar products.

b) Winsted Volunteer Fire Department – Personnel Policy Revision

Mayor Stotko stated that the Winsted Volunteer Fire Department's Personnel Policy revision will soon be complete and ready for a draft review by the City Council.

Mayor Stotko also stated that at the Personnel Policy Committee meeting that was held on Monday, February 23, 2009, the issue was discussed of whether the firefighters should be allowed to drink alcohol in a public establishment while wearing their dress uniforms.

Wiemiller stated that he does not believe that firefighters should be drinking while wearing their dress uniforms.

Quast stated that the Winsted Volunteer Fire Department's dress uniform is not any different than the Winsted Police Department's dress uniform, and both the City's Firefighters and Police Officers should not be drinking when they are wearing them.

Ollig stated that the Personnel Policy should distinguish what the dress uniform is and what attire is appropriate for the firefighters to socialize in.

c) Land Use Planning Workshop – Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mayor Stotko reminded the City Council that the next Land Use Planning Workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall.

d) Security Policy

Boelter presented the proposed Security Policy that the City of Winsted is required to implement regarding the use of credit cards for purchasing gas at the Winsted Municipal Airport. Boelter stated that the proposed Security Policy will be on the Consent Agenda at the March 17, 2009 Regular City Council meeting.

e) Minnesota Municipal Clerks and Finance Officers Association Executive Board Nomination

Boelter stated that she has been asked to submit a nomination for the Minnesota Municipal Clerks and Finance Officers Association (MCFOA) Executive Board as the Vice President of Region V. Boelter stated that the term as Vice President would be two (2) years. Raquel Kirchoff, Administrative Assistant, would be the assistant Vice President.

Boelter stated that there are three (3) Board meetings in 2009 and they begin on Friday afternoon and continue through Saturday morning. There would be no expense to the City of Winsted.

Boelter stated that the nomination has to be approved by the City Council so it will be added to the Consent Agenda for the March 3, 2009 Regular City Council meeting.

VII. Winsted Municipal Airport – Winstock, 2009

Mochinski presented a proposal from Winsted Municipal Airport Commission members, Dave Millerbernd and Kevin Kubasch, to raise money for the Airport by holding two (2) pancake breakfasts, and charging for parking on the empty lot located south of the hangars, during Winstock, 2009. The City Council discussed the proposal.

VIII. Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah R. Boelter  
City Clerk-Treasurer