

City of Winsted  
City Council Meeting  
Council Chambers  
Tuesday, September 5, 2023  
6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Steve Stotko  
Council Member Jeff Albers  
Council Member Jesse Cafferty  
Council Member Steve Ebert  
Council Member Tom Ollig

Staff Present: Mr. Neil Schlagel, City Administrator  
Ms. Raquel Kirchoff, City Clerk-Treasurer  
Mr. Justin Heldt, Police Chief

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

- a) The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**
- b) 2023 Winsted Pride Award Presentations**

Mayor Stotko recognized the following 2023 Winsted Pride Award recipients for enhancing the aesthetic quality of the property and contributing to the overall enhancement of the City of Winsted's image.

- Millerbernd Manufacturing – 595 Industrial Drive
- Aaron and Patricia Kubasch – 179 Westgate Drive

**2) Consent Agenda**

- a) Approval of Minutes**

Approved the minutes of the following:

- City Council Work Session – July 5, 2023
- City Council Regular Meeting – July 5, 2023
- City Council Work Session – July 18, 2023
- City Council Regular Meeting – July 18, 2023
- City Council Work Session – August 1, 2023
- City Council Regular Meeting – August 1, 2023

- b) Resolution R-23-33 – 2023 Winsted Night Out Donations**

Adopted Resolution R-23-33 to accept donations from various donors to be dedicated toward the 2023 Winsted Night Out event.

- c) Claims**

Approved the claims list for September 5, 2023.

**Council Member Ollig motioned to adopt the Consent Agenda. Council Member Albers seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

**3) No Public Hearings**

**4) No Old Business**

**5) No New Business**

**6) Organization Report**

- a) Winsted Arts Council**

Ms. Julie Guggemos, Winsted Arts Council representative, provided information about the Winsted Arts Council, to include the following items.

- Invited teenagers to a pizza and dance party after the 2022 Winsted Area Chamber of Commerce (WACC) Business Trick-or-Treat event. The teenagers provided ideas of future events to include photography or cooking classes, open microphone nights, painting, etcetera. They are hungry for programming, but the challenges are finding hosts and supervision for those events.
- During the Winsted Winter Festival, the Arts Council was the judge for the holiday lights contest, and it hosted an artisan market in its building.
- Hosted an author event in January, 2023.
- Participated in the WACC Women's Expo.
- Partnered with the Winsted Library for their rock music program.
- Hosted a student art exhibit.
- Hosted Music in the Park every Thursday in July, 2023.
- Participated in the Winsted Summer Festival as coordinators for the Winsted's Got Talent event.
- Will help to judge the upcoming 2023 WACC scarecrow contest.
- Working on an upcoming mural project.
- Hosting an Oktoberfest event on the last Saturday in October at the Blue Note Ballroom, to include an exhibit of some items from the McLeod County Historical Society.
- Ideas for help for the Arts Council include;
  - the City facilitating a work session to bring other community organizations together to brainstorm with the Arts Council, to possibly share resources, and to not duplicate efforts.
  - the City consider sponsoring opportunities for the Arts Council to offer services for parks programming. The City could sponsor Music or Art in the Park, for example.
- Currently spending down the Arts Council's cash reserves. Awarded a grant four (4) years ago, that covered rent and utilities for a period of two (2) years. Continue to apply for this grant, which is very competitive, but did not receive it two (2) years ago. Annual expenses are approximately \$6,000.00 for rent, utilities and insurances.

## **7) Department Report**

### **a) Building Inspector**

Mr. Scott Qualle, MNSPECT, LLC provided a report to the City Council Members, to include the following.

- Reviewed a handout of information provided to the City Council Members regarding;
  - Permits Issued
  - Inspections Completed
  - Inspections Passed
- Reviewed information about the permitting process to include what activity allows a permit application to remain active, and what makes them expire.
- Stated that Mr. Tracy Reimann, MNSPECT, LLC, works with the City on new and renewal of rental housing permits.
- Provided information regarding current inspection work at the following addresses:
  - 121 1<sup>st</sup> St. N, Winsted, MN 55395
  - 351 Lewis Ave W, Winsted, MN 55395

## **8) Open Forum**

### **a) Winsted Boy Scouts Troop 3399 – Eagle Scout Project**

Mr. Orrin Eberhard presented an idea for his Eagle Scout project to construct four (4) benches to be placed along the Luce Line Trail through Winsted. The City would have no cost for the construction of the benches. A location map of the benches was provided.

The City Council Members asked if permission was also needed from the Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Eberhard did not think so, and thought all benches would be on Winsted city property. Mr. Neil Schlagel, City Administrator, stated that he would work with Mr. Eberhard to check who owned the property before benches would be installed.

**b) Winsted Schools – Student Drop Off/Pick Up Locations**

Mr. Justin Heldt, Police Chief, requested that drivers avoid the student drop off/pick-up locations at the schools if possible; and that drivers in those areas during those times use caution for the safety of students.

**8) Winsted City Administrator Updates and Announcements**

Mr. Schlagel stated that he will participate in the 2023-2024 McLeod for Tomorrow program. His first session to attend will be September 7, 2023.

**9) Adjourn**

**Council Member Albers motioned to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Ebert seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

*Steve Stotko*

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Steve Stotko  
Mayor  
City of Winsted

ATTEST:

*Raquel Kirchoff*

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Raquel Kirchoff, CMC  
City Clerk-Treasurer  
City of Winsted