

City of Winsted
City Council Work Session
Lewis Room
January 18, 2011
5:00 p.m.

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

Staff Present: Andrew Elbert, City Administrator
Deb Boelter, City Clerk-Treasurer
Mike Henrich, Chief of Police
Dave Meyer, Maintenance Lead

I. Call to Order

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

II. Snowmobile Ordinance Discussion

Elbert presented language in the current Snowmobile Ordinance that Council Member Mochinski would like the City Council to consider for amendment.

Mochinski stated that he would like to consider removing the language that states, "no snowmobile shall be operated within the City between the hours of 1:30 a.m. to one-half hour before sunrise." Mochinski stated that he believes the language is too restrictive.

Henrich stated that the time frame was put in the ordinance because the Winsted Police Department had received complaints from residents regarding snowmobiles creating a noise hazard in the early morning hours and disrupting their sleep.

Quast stated that she received telephone calls from concerned residents and business owners regarding whether the Winsted Police Department was going to be required to follow the same hour restrictions indicated in the ordinance if they are using their snowmobile. Henrich stated that the ordinance reads, "the only exception to this rule is a medical emergency or the use of a snowmobile by law enforcement."

Ollig recommended that the ordinance not be amended and the time restriction remain. Mayor Stotko was in agreement with Ollig.

The City Council directed staff to prepare for a public hearing to consider amendments to the Snowmobile Ordinance.

III. City Survey

Elbert presented the proposed City survey to be forwarded to residents in 2011.

The City Council gave their recommendations on what questions they would like asked.

Mayor Stotko directed the Council Members to contact Elbert with any questions they would like included on the survey.

IV. Garbage Hauling – Customer Service Update

Elbert presented some issues that business owners presented to the City regarding the different fees that Waste Management is charging for commercial garbage service.

Ollig recommended that a representative from Waste Management attend a Winsted Area Chamber of Commerce General Membership meeting and the business owners be invited to the meeting to ask Waste Management about their varying charges.

Ollig directed Elbert to give him the names of the business owners who have contacted the City regarding the fee they are paying for Waste Management and he will invite them personally to the Chamber meeting.

V. Public Works Pay Loader Maintenance

Meyer presented the damage to the pay loader and the repairs that need to be made.

Ollig asked how the repair is going to be funded. Elbert stated that it would come from the Capital Equipment Fund.

VI. Credit Card Use Policy

Boelter presented the proposed amendments to the Credit Card Use Policy.

VII. Goal Setting Information

Elbert presented the proposal from Richard and Irina Fursman, Brimeyer Fursman, Limited Liability Company (LLC), for the Planning and Goal Setting meeting. Elbert also presented the date of Wednesday, February 16, 2011. The City Council directed Elbert to proceed and plan for that date.

The City Council asked Elbert to inquire about the presenter's policy in the event the City would have to cancel the meeting due to inclement weather.

VIII. Draft Winsted Community Guide Book Advertisement

Elbert presented the draft Winsted Community Guide Book advertisement. The City Council presented Elbert with the changes they wanted made to the draft.

IX. General Updates

a) Ice Skating Rink

Elbert stated that the Public Works Department is going to make the ice skating rink larger. The City has received complaints on how small the ice skating rink was constructed and they would like it increased in size.

b) City Administrator – Performance Review

Mayor Stotko stated that the City Council will be conducting a six (6) month review of the City Administrator, Andrew Elbert at the end of January, 2011. Mayor Stotko stated that he will contact the City Council with a date when the review is scheduled.

X. Adjourn

Ollig motioned to adjourn. Mochinski seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah R. Boelter
City Clerk-Treasurer