

City of Winsted
City Council Work Session
City Council Chambers
March 22, 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: Deb Boelter, City Clerk-Treasurer
Raquel Kirchoff, Administrative Assistant
Dave Meyer, Maintenance Lead
Jamie Stotko, Maintenance Lead

I. Call to Order

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

II. Construction of a Small Dike – 141 Fairlawn Avenue East

Meyer informed the City Council that Collin Botner, 141 Fairlawn Avenue East, was building a small dike and part of his project was on the City's property. Meyer asked for the City Council's input on whether Botner could continue building the dike or if he had to stop. The City Council discussed the issue and agreed to allow Botner to continue with his project. They also directed Meyer to inform Botner that no one is allowed to dig or work on any City property without the City's permission.

III. Small Cities Development Program (SCDP) Grant – Shannon Sweeney, David Drown and Associates

Shannon Sweeney, David Drown and Associates, presented modifications that are available to the current Small Cities Development Program grant that could encourage more commercial rehabilitation projects. The City Council discussed the modifications and directed Sweeney to bring the modifications to the April 5, 2011 City Council Meeting for approval, including a conversion of current participant's, Bryan's Service Station, agreement to include the modification, since it was not available to them when they enrolled in the program.

IV. Acceptance of Outside Wastewater – Dan Wroge, People Service

Dan Wroge, People Service, Incorporated, presented the City Council with information regarding accepting outside wastewater from septic haulers at Winsted's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The City Council directed Wroge to provide further information on this issue, including paperwork on how the amount of outside waste disposed at the WWTP would be tracked for billing purposes.

V. Crack Filling/Seal Coating – Jamie Stotko

Stotko, Jamie asked the City Council if crack filling and seal coating should be completed in 2011, and stated that there was a budgeted amount for this. The Council stated yes, and directed Stotko, Jamie to acquire bids for the areas scheduled for crack filling and seal coating in 2011.

VI. Sewer Realigning – Jamie Stotko

Stotko, Jamie stated that it was recommended to their department to complete sewer realigning every two years, instead of yearly. This was recommended because the City would then have a larger amount of money to work with and would not have to pay for set up costs twice. Set up costs are high, ranging from \$10, 000 - \$20,000.

Quast asked that if the City decides to wait until 2012 to complete sewer realigning, are there sewer lines that may become a problem. Stotko, Jamie replied that he feels that lines will make it until 2012.

Stotko, Jamie also stated that there are some areas of town that may not be able to be realigned and will need to be dug up when they are not working properly anymore.

The City Council directed Stotko, Jamie to; wait for the completion of the 2010 City Audit to determine how much money was in the budget for sewer realigning, create a specific budget line item or fund for sewer realigning, and when it is decided to a project, to obtain more than one bid.

VII: St. John's Water Drainage – Dave Meyer

Meyer stated that St. John's Lutheran Church, 410 – 1st Street North was pumping a lot of water out of their elevator shaft into the City street, creating a problem in the winter time; therefore, they wanted permission to run their sump pump into the City's storm sewer. Meyer stated that he told representatives from St. John's Lutheran Church that any expenses incurred would be their responsibility. The City Council discussed and agreed to give permission to the St. John's Lutheran Church to do this.

VIII. Edco Property – Tom Ollig

Ollig stated that the Edco property, 311 McLeod Avenue West, was for sale and at one time the City discussed purchasing this property to develop an ice skating rink and to expand Hainlin Park. The City Council discussed and agreed that Ollig should contact the realtor for information regarding the property.

IX. League of Minnesota Cities Newly Elected Official's Conference – George Schulenberg

Schulenberg stated that he attended the League of Minnesota Cities Newly Elected Officials Conference and was impressed with the valuable information he learned. He offered his manual for anyone that would like to review it.

X. Updates

a) 163 Main Avenue West – Blight Issue

Boelter stated that she, Kirchoff, Meyer and Schlechter attended McLeod County Court regarding a blight issue at 163 Main Avenue West.

b) 2011 Budget

Mayor Stotko stated that he reviewed the 2011 budget and had some concerns. Boelter and Stotko, Jamie voiced their concerns that the budget would need to be reviewed because there are items they asked to be in the budget that appear not to be there.

c) Waste Management – Open House

Boelter reminded the City Council that there is an Open House at Waste Management following the Work Session, at 6:30 p.m. Mochinski stated that when the contract is finished with Waste Management, the City should advertise for other bids.

XII. Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted,

Raquel Kirchoff
Administrative Assistant