

City of Winsted
Special City Council Meeting
Lewis Room
Tuesday, January 28, 2016
3:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Steve Stotko
Council Member Bonita Quast
Council Member George Schulenberg
Council Member Tom Ollig
Patty Fitzgerald, newly appointed City Council Member to be sworn into office on February 2, 2016

Staff Present: Mr. Dan Tienter, City Administrator
Ms. Deborah R. Boelter, City Clerk-Treasurer
Mr. Chad Engel, Fire Chief

1) Mayor Stotko called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2) Consent Agenda

a) Special City Council Meeting Fee

Waived the fee of \$400 for the special meeting of the City Council scheduled and held on January 28, 2016.

Council Member Schulenberg motioned to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Council Member Ollig seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

3) No Public Hearings.

4) No Old Business.

5) New Business

a) Winsted Volunteer Fire Department Equipment

Mr. Tienter stated that new turnout gear, personal protective gear, worn by fire fighters when they are fighting fires is needed. The City Council budgeted \$44,000 in the 2016 Fire Department Capital Equipment and Improvement Plan for this purchase. Most, if not all, of the funds for this purchase were donated to the City from the Winsted Fire Relief Association. Mr. Tienter presented three quotes for the turnout gear.

Fire Chief Engel provided information regarding why it was necessary to replace the gear. According to safety standard regulations, fire gear has a maximum of a ten year life span. These regulations look at gear exposure to heat, chemicals, toxins, and sun damage to make these recommendations. The current gear is 15 years old.

In November, the Winsted Fire Department Relief Association voted to donate money for the purchase of new gear. A committee was formed to research gear types and styles. Based on the three quotes, Fire Chief Engel recommended the turn out gear from Ultimate Safety Concepts – Clarey's Saffey Equipment; the Inotex turn out gear with Kevlar belts for \$40,810.00. The Winsted Volunteer Fire Department would purchase 22 custom sized sets, which would cover the current members. The gear would be delivered in about eight weeks.

Council Member Ollig asked if the gear could be re-fitted to new fire fighters if someone retires or resigns. Fire Chief Engel responded that the gear cannot be re-tailored but if the gear fits new fire fighters, it can be re-used.

Mayor Stotko asked if other fire departments are ordering fitted fire gear. Chief Engel replied that the last set of gear that was purchased was "off the shelf" gear. The gear was a standard length that would then be altered by cutting down the pant or arm length, etcetera. This caused supports to be in the incorrect area (the knee support might be two inches below the knee if the person were shorter) therefore not supporting the fire fighters as needed. These suits will be custom fit to

ensure that all the supports and attachments are where they need to be. A belt instead of take-up straps will be used because belts hold better to their bodies.

Mayor Stotko asked if new gear needed to be purchased for new fire fighters, could it be purchased at this price since the City purchased the rest of the gear from this company? Fire Chief Engel replied that the City would not get a discount on new gear because the company has raised its prices 5% since the current quote. Mr. Tienter added that the budget includes new turnout gear for newly added fire fighters.

Council Member Ollig motioned to approve a quote from Ultimate Safety Concepts, Incorporated in the amount of \$40,810.00 for turn out gear for the Winsted Volunteer Fire Department. Council Member Quast seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

6) No Open Forum

7) Announcements

Mayor Stotko stated that the next City Council Work Session will start at 4:00 p.m. to discuss ideas to retain City Administrators.

8) Adjourn

Council Member Quast motioned to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Schulenberg seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

Steve Stotko
Mayor
City of Winsted

ATTEST:

Deborah R. Boelter, CMC
City Clerk-Treasurer
City of Winsted