

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

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

Staff Present: Brent Mareck, City Administrator
Deb Boelter, City Clerk-Treasurer

I. Call To Order

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

II. New Home Construction

Mareck stated that he and Mayor Stotko have been considering ways to encourage contractors and others to build a new house in Winsted. Mareck stated that they have discussed the idea of reducing the Sewer Access Charge (SAC) and Water Access Charge (WAC) so newly constructed homes can access the City's water and sewer system for a minimal fee. Mareck stated that the decreased SAC and WAC fees would be a temporary program.

Mochinski recommended that Mareck discuss the proposed SAC and WAC fees reduction program with area contractors to determine if this would increase their interest in building a house in Winsted. The City Council recommended that Mareck contact area contractors.

Mareck stated that he will present the proposed program at a future City Council meeting.

III. Concrete Projects

Mareck presented photographs showing areas in the City of Winsted that are being considered for concrete projects. The first is in Mill Reserve Park. A concrete pad would be installed next to the sidewalk and a portable toilet would be placed on the concrete pad. The City would install a fencing screen to cover the portable toilet.

The second area presented by Mareck for consideration is located at the Herald Journal Office on the County Road 1 and Main Avenue West corner of the property. A curb would be installed in the curb cut and the sidewalk would be extended west to the blacktop entrance to the parking lot.

Mareck then presented photographs showing the proposed sidewalk extension from the newly constructed Ridgeview Winsted Clinic, located at the corner of Fourth Street North and Linden Avenue West, and installed east along Linden Avenue West and continued along the west side of First Street North to the existing sidewalk on the west side of First Street North. Mareck stated that the Public Works Department recommended that the trees located along Linden Avenue West be removed so that the sidewalk can be installed in a straight line. The City Council discussed and decided that they would prefer that the trees not be removed and that the sidewalk be installed between the trees and curb along Linden Avenue West. The City Council asked Mareck to evaluate the ten (10) to fifteen (15) feet of the existing sidewalk along the west side of First Street North that would be connected to the new sidewalk. They stated that the existing sidewalk is in poor condition and may need to be replaced.

IV. Sewer Connection – 114 Linden Avenue East

Mareck presented a letter from the City's engineer, Jake Saulsbury, Bolton and Menk, Incorporated, regarding the property at 114 Linden Avenue East being connected to the City's water system but not the sewer system.

Mareck stated that he will schedule a meeting with the property owner to discuss a connection to the City's sewer system.

V. **Updates**

a) **Blight – 140 Sherman Avenue East**

Mareck presented an e-mail from attorney, Jody Winters, regarding the blight conditions at 140 Sherman Avenue East and what is being done to eliminate the blight.

b) **Blighted Properties**

The City Council discussed other City properties that they would like Boelter to evaluate and take the necessary steps to have the blight removed.

c) **113 – 6th Street South**

Mareck gave an update on the request to clean up the property at 113 – 6th Street South. The property representative was given until the end of April, 2009 to clean up the property and it has not been done. The City Council directed Mareck to forward the issue to the City Attorney.

d) **Papa Tom's Bar and Grill, Incorporated – Liquor License Violation**

Mareck stated that Chief Henrich will be presenting information to the City Council at their May 19, 2009 City Council meeting regarding the Liquor License Violation involving Papa Tom's Bar and Grill.

e) **163 Main Avenue West**

Mayor Stotko asked for an update on the property at 163 Main Avenue West. Mareck stated that it is still in the appeal process.

f) **American Legion – Flag Pole**

Ollig stated that Tony Radtke, American Legion, asked him if the City would consider installing a flag pole behind the American Legion. Ollig stated that the original flag pole behind the American Legion was removed for the construction of the Lakefront Promenade.

The City Council discussed Radtke's request and asked Mareck to obtain information regarding the height of the flagpole, the required lighting, the cost and any other pertinent information that would assist the City Council in making a decision.

Ollig agreed to talk to some of the American Legion members and report back to the City Council.

VI. **Adjourn**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah R. Boelter
City Clerk-Treasurer