COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF WINNEBAGO, MINNESOTA

MINUTES OF THE WINNEBAGO CITY COUNCIL

City of Winnebago, Minnesota

August 11, 2009

A regular meeting of the Winnebago City Council was held on Tuesday, August 11, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Center Council Chambers.

Mayor Nowak called the meeting to order and conducted roll call. Council members present: Gates, Johnson, Ziegler and Stauffer. Staff present: City Administrator Feely and Deputy City Clerk Sturtz. Absent: City Attorney: Douglas Johanson.

Motion by Gates, seconded by Johnson to approve the Regular Council meeting minutes of July 14, 2009.

With the addition of an additional application for ambulance and a noise permit, motion by Stauffer, seconded by Gates to approve the proposed meeting agenda of August 11, 2009 with the two additions. Motion carried.

Consent Items

Motion by Gates, seconded by Ziegler to approve all bills as listed in the council packet. Motion carried.

Motion by Ziegler, seconded by Johnson to approve all department head reports as listed on pages 6 thru 13 in the council packet and building permits. Motion carried.

Motion by Gates, seconded by Johnson to approve all commission and committee reports on pages 15 thru 20 of the council packet. Motion carried.

Open Meeting to Public

Mayor Nowak opened the meeting to the public for the first time. Hearing no comments, Mayor Nowak closed the meeting to the public.

General Business

Authorizations

Charitable Gambling Donation Requests

Motion by Gates, seconded by Stauffer to authorize the request of donations from the 10% Gambling Funds to the Winnebago Ambulance Department in the amount of $2,000 and the Blue Earth Area Mentors (BEAM) in the amount of $300. Motion carried.

Consumption and Display Permit Application
Motion by Ziegler, seconded by Johnson to approve a Consumption and Display Permit for Scott Robertson, owner of the Winnebago Grill. Motion carried.

Muir Library Board Renewals
Motion by Ziegler, seconded by Gates to renew a three year Muir Library Board term for Helen Dressen and Helen Nelsen. Motion carried.

Parkson Credit Application and Security Agreement
Administrator Feely stated Wastewater Supervisor Darold Nienhaus requested authorization to purchase aeration diffusers from Parkson in Florida. To do so, a line of credit would need to be applied for. Gates asked if this line of credit be closed after the purchase is made and paid off. Motion by Gates, seconded by Stauffer to accept the Parkson credit application assuming that the City can use the line of credit, pay for the item and close the credit line so it doesn't stay open. Gates stated that if Administrator Feely finds out that the line of credit cannot be closed to bring it back to the Utility Committee Meeting. Motion carried.

Department Head Spending Limit Increase
Increase department head spending limit from $500 to $1,000. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Ziegler to authorize a $1,000 expenditure limit for all department heads. Motion carried.

Ambulance Crew Member Hiring Authorizations
Motion by Gates, seconded by Ziegler to hire Lisha Gobats as a Winnebago Ambulance Crew Member. Motion carried

Motion by Gates, seconded by Johnson to hire Angela Francis as a Winnebago Ambulance Crew Member. Motion carried.

Chlorination/Dechlorination System and Chlorine Ejector Pump Replacement
Motion by Ziegler, seconded by Stauffer to authorize the use of 602 funds to pay for a new chlorination/dechlorination system from Alden Pool and Municipal and Supply in the amount of $9,018.82, plus tax, and chorine ejector pump from USA Bluebook in the amount of $570, plus tax and shipping. Motion carried.

Submersible Sewage Pump
Motion by Ziegler, seconded by Gates to authorize the use of 602 funds to purchase a new submersible sewage ejector pump from USA Bluebook in the amount of $930, plus tax and shipping. Motion carried.

Annual Lift Station Maintenance

Motion by Ziegler, seconded by Gates to authorize the use of 602 funds to pay for a three year annual lift station maintenance program from Braun Pump in the amount of $75 per lift station. Motion carried.

Fire Department Pagers

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Gates to authorize the purchase of eight new pagers for the fire department from Alpha Wireless in the amount of $4,319.26. The pagers will be purchased with the $2,000 CenterPoint Energy Grant and $2,319.25 from the capital equipment funds. Voting as follows: in favor: Gates, Johnson and Stauffer. Abstained: Ziegler. Motion carried.

1st Ave SE Pothole Repairs

Motion by Ziegler, seconded by Gates to authorize the use of street funds to pay for the necessary bituminous repairs on 1st Ave SE and limit it to no more than $5,000. Motion carried.

Truck Parking Request

Keith Eyler and Bruce Broden from ITC were present and addressed the issue that Toby Pudwell wasn't able to drive or have his utility truck parked at his residence on Cleveland Ave W and 6th. Eyler stated that Cleveland Ave W is rated at 5 tons per axle and that Pudwell's truck doesn't come close to exceeding that. Pudwell had his truck weighed in June and Eyler presented those weight tickets to the Council. Pudwell would be happy to park his truck on his private property versus on the curb. ITC is worried about Pudwell's response time for their customers since Pudwell is a first responder. He is asking for a variance or a permit so Pudwell can have his truck on his property. Administrator Feely asked what his truck was licensed at and that is where the problem is because the police officers do not have access to a scale. Broden stated that the truck is licensed at 18 thousand. Johnson stated that doesn't see a problem with this if he is going to park the truck in his driveway. Administrator Feely stated that if this happens, the Council would have to go through the process of amending the ordinance. Gates asked if this truck legally cannot drive on Cleveland and if that is the issue. Bob Toland, Police Chief stated that the way the ordinance is written is the officers always go by the gross weight of the vehicle as per license and not the actual weight. Toland stated that this has been an issue throughout the whole community. He said that the police department has always enforced how the ordinance was written. The police department doesn't care either way but everyone needs to be treated exactly the same. He asked the Council if they would look very carefully on how they change the ordinance in that is will be easy for the police department to follow. He stated that this has been an issue for years. Ziegler stated that he personally doesn't have a lot of interest in going through all the public hearings and everything to amend the ordinance and that it would take a lot of time and research. Administrator Feely stated that another thing to think about is that we have emergency services vehicles here. People have to come to City Hall to respond to emergencies because we don't let people take fire trucks home with them. Gates asked Administrator Feely what other towns do. Administrator Feely said that she will have to do some research. Motion by Stauffer, seconded by Johnson to table this matter and have Administrator Feely find out other options.

Trust Services Agreement
Motion by Gates, seconded by Johnson to authorize Administrator Feely to sign the Trust Services Agreement Relating to Pay Agent, Registrar and Transfer Agent Services. Motion carried.

Pay Estimate No. 1: 6th Street SW Project
Motion by Gates, seconded by Johnson to authorize payment of Pay Estimate No. 1 in the amount of $62,505.60 to GM Contracting, Inc. Motion carried.

Noise Permit
Motion by Stauffer, seconded by Gates to approve the noise permit request for Jane Sturtz at 616 1st Ave NW on August 22, 2009 from approximately 5-10 p.m. Motion carried.

Budget Workshop
After a short recess, Mayor Nowak reconvened the meeting. Administrator Feely presented the preliminary budget to the Council. After reviewing the preliminary budget, the Council decided on the following additions: ambulance to $7.25 after the initial $10.00 per hour and fire department to $7.25, paint for the library, and increase the building maintenance for the Municipal Center to $10,000.

Open Meeting to Public
Mayor Nowak opened the meeting to the public for the second time. Bob Toland, Police Chief, stated that the St. Peter Rodeo wanted Bob to express their appreciation for the rodeo coming to town. They liked our community and stated that it was one of the nicest to work with this year. He thanked the Moto Fest committee. He stated that he is the Vice Chair on the Regional Radio Board. He is helping with the transition of radios and what is going to be happening by 2012. He stated that Board is looking into many different scenarios on how the replacement of the radios for various communities is going to be handled. The metropolitan area and the central part of the region are charging through taxes or going through a levy or bond for replacement for these radios. He said that there are some options out there along with some grants to help. He stated that the County has already applied for a grant. Some of the costs are going to be better than what they anticipated. The standard firefighter radio or a general radio for the ambulance will be in the range of $1500 and for police $2500-$3500. He stated that the $2500 should be purchased for the command staff so they have a broader range. The user group that Bob is Vice Chair on is trying to get information on from each county and each department to writing the operability plan that the Board has to submit to the state. They will start to get together with fire departments and ambulance departments to get this started. Gates asked Toland if he anticipated the prices getting any better. Toland stated that there are federal standards that are set up if you are going to go with the higher end radio and more companies are coming forward to meet that standard so the prices are going to be going down a little. 2012 is the target for the FCC to do a mandatory switch over. 2017 is the target date to amend them again so if people purchase the lesser amount radio, they will have to upgrade again in 2017. It appears that the lesser amount radio will be the smart way to go, but the more expensive one will be cheaper because they

won't have to be updated again. All of the targeted federal grant money is intended for the more expensive radios as well. Mayor Nowak asked if this price include the programming of them. Toland couldn't answer it right now because the Board hasn't given out the figures yet. Johnson asked Administrator Feely to put together a debt service schedule for when the next one drops off so they have an idea of when the next one is paid off. Hearing no more comments, Mayor Nowak closed the meeting to the public.

Administrator's Report

Administrator Feely stated she was pleased that Bob Toland is the Vice Chair on the Regional Radio Board. She reminded everyone about the animal control meeting on Wednesday night at the library in Blue Earth at 6:00 p.m. She thanked Rick for his help at the community clean-up event before Moto Fest.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Nowak thanked the Moto Fest Committee. He stated that the flowers look great on Main Street.

Council Reports

Gates stated that he was happy the parade was back this year and the rodeo was very good. He welcomed Angela to the ambulance department. Johnson thanked the volunteers at the clean-up day and thanked the volunteers for Moto Fest. Ziegler heard a lot of nice comments about Moto Fest and was glad the parade was back. He said that the rodeo was a big success. He stated that he may miss the next meeting because there is going to be an addition to his family next month. Stauffer stated that she was not here for Moto Fest but heard it was good. She welcomed the new EMT members.

Motion by Gates, seconded by Johnson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Presented to Council September 8, 2009

Randy Nowak
Mayor

Jennifer Feely
City Administrator