



COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF WINNEBAGO, MINNESOTA

MINUTES OF THE WINNEBAGO CITY COUNCIL

City of Winnebago, Minnesota

May 12, 2009

A regular meeting of the Winnebago City Council was held on Tuesday, May 12, 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 Weerts. Staff present: City Administrator Feely and Deputy City Clerk Sturtz. City Attorney: Douglas Johanson.

Motion by Weerts, seconded by Gates to approve the Regular Council meeting minutes of April 14, 2009. Motion carried.

Motion by Weerts, seconded by Gates to approve the Special Council meeting minutes of April 28, 2009. Motion carried.

With the addition of charter school discussion, motion by Ziegler, seconded by Gates to approve the proposed meeting agenda of May 12, 2009 with one addition. Motion carried.

Consent Items

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

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Ziegler to approve all department head reports as listed on pages 10 thru 17 in the council packet and building permits. Voting as follows: In favor: Gates, Johnson, and Ziegler. Abstained: Weerts. Motion carried.

Motion by Gates, seconded by Johnson to approve all commission and committee reports on pages 18 thru 23 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.

Charter School Discussion

Steve Schonrock and Scott Robertson, President of the Winnebago Chamber of Commerce, were present and informed the council about a committee that has been formed to possibly convert the Winnebago Elementary School into a charter school. The only difference from the school right now would be that it would be locally governed by staff, parents and possibly a community

member. The committee has asked Blue Earth Area to be the sponsor because state laws require that charter schools have a sponsor. The only responsibility of the sponsor is to make sure that the charter school is meeting the standards of the state. The next step after informing the council is to have public meetings to talk about what charter schools are all about. The charter school will have no tuition charge and that it is supported like a public school. The only difference is that charter schools get extra money for leases, students and more startup money. Schonrock stated that the application has to be in by July 7, 2009. Johnson asked about a timeline when this will get going. Schonrock stated that start of fall of 2010 is the goal. Busing would be provided by the local school district. Robertson stated that a charter school is in charge of their own curriculum. Jesse Haugh, Blue Earth Area School Board, was present and stated that the idea was supported by the Blue Earth Area School Board and that they are looking forward to this happening.

General Business

Authorizations

Resolution 442-2009: Accepting Bid for 6th Street SW Project

Wes Brown, Bolton and Menk, was present and stated that four bids were received for the 6th Street SW Project. He stated that the lowest bid was from Weerts Construction and has since withdrawn their bid. Motion by Gates, seconded by Johnson to adopt RESOLUTION 442-2009 RESOLUTION ORDERING ACCEPTING BID for 6th Street Southwest Improvement and award the bid to GM Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$259,762.54. Voting as follows: In favor: Gates, Johnson and Ziegler. Abstained: Weerts. Motion carried.

Rules of Conduct for Public Comments and Public Meetings

Motion by Weerts, seconded by Johnson to adopt the Rules of Conduct for Public Comments and Public Meetings. Ziegler asked when this would be implemented. Administrator Feely stated this would be in place for the next meeting. Motion carried.

Water Tower Inspection Proposal

Motion by Weerts, seconded by Gates to authorize KLM Engineering, Inc. to perform an inspection of the Winnebago water tower in the amount of \$2,600.00 to be paid out of the 601 fund. Motion carried.

Additional 2009 Lifeguard Applications

Motion by Ziegler, seconded by Weerts to hire Kayla Arndt, Mary Anderson, Zachary Bartlett, Ian Jordan and Taylor Umland for the 2009 pool season. Motion carried.

Expenditure Limits for Department Heads and City Administrator

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Weerts to authorize expenditure limits of \$500 for department heads and \$2000 for the city administrator. Motion carried.

Unblockable Pool Drain Covers

Motion by Weerts, seconded by Gates to purchase two unblockable drain covers from Alden Pool and Municipal Supply Co. in the amount of \$2416.00. Motion carried.

Revolving Loan Fund Request: *Bake My Day*

Motion by Weerts, seconded by Johnson to issue an additional \$3,700 from the revolving loan fund to Dan and Sherie Hanson, owners of *Bake My Day*, to fund necessary roof and ceiling repairs to the building which houses their business. Voting as follows: In favor: Johnson, Ziegler and Weerts. Abstained: Gates. Motion carried.

Wright Express Fleet Card

Motion by Weerts, seconded by Gates to authorize the City's participation in the Wright Express Fleet Card program. Motion carried.

Review of Account Balances and Investments

Administrator Feely reviewed the account balances and investments of the City's accounts.

Open Meeting to Public

Mayor Nowak opened the meeting to the public for the second time. Scott Owen was present and he thanked the council for the parking lot. He appreciates it. Hearing no more comments, Mayor Nowak closed the meeting to the public.

Administrator's Report

No report

Mayor's Report

Mayor Nowak reminded the council the he will be attending the Mayor's conference this weekend.

Council Reports

Gates stated that he is happy about the charter school. He stated that he hopes that it goes well and looks forward to hearing more about it in the future. Johnson wished the charter school committee luck and that there will be a lot of happy people since the committee is going forward with the charter school. Ziegler thanked the charter school committee and looks forward to attending some meetings and getting involved. He hopes that the Governor will come to some senses and can reach an agreement on the budget and not hit cities too hard. Weerts had no report.

Announcements

Next regular meeting: Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Presented to Council June 9, 2009

Randy Nowak
Mayor

Jennifer Feely
City Administrator