

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Winger
February 13, 2012**

Council Members present:

The Honorable Mayor Cheryl Wang
Steve Massmann, Aaron Neubert, Byron Kaupang

Council Members absent:

Lori Lucken

Guests present:

Jeff Lucken
Scott Revier
Ken Buchanan
Lee Meier

Maintenance Personnel present:

Ron Locken

City Clerk/Treasurer present:

Jennifer Frohrip

The regular meeting was called to order by the Honorable Mayor Wang at 7:03 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Wang added mailings to the agenda.

Minutes of the January 9, 2012 meeting:

Byron motioned to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2012 meeting, Aaron seconds, motion passes.

Maintenance Report:

Has discussed lights with Otter Tail.
DNR reports are done on-line now.
Redoing maps with sewer lines, shutoffs, etc.
Discussed snow removal.

Financial Report:

Jennifer is starting her third year as city clerk.
CD #14048 at Ultima Bank is Appreciation Day monies that are not listed in the City accounting system but is using the City's Tax ID. This caused a discrepancy between the investment list that Jennifer provided to the City Auditor and the list that Ultima Bank gave him. Gordon Dale is aware of what caused the problem.

On 02/06/2012 received a \$350 check from Jay Gunderson for land rent.

Per the list given out by LMC it looks like the Local Government Aid for 2013 will be cut by \$2200 going from 33,075 to 30,875. This is their projected amount.

Discussed changes in fund balances from 01/01/2011 to 12/31/2011.

General Fund increased \$8,709.73
Debt Service Fund increased \$12,051.04
Enterprise Water Fund increased \$33,663.21
Enterprise Sewer Fund decreased \$32,726.15.

Gordon Dale, City Auditor, will probably be at the March City Council meeting to discuss 2011 finances as well as looking to the future in regards to the Debt Service Fund.

Revenue from the street lighting fees paid 86% of the lighting expenses.

Discussed the unpaid amounts of the water/sewer invoices:

end of the year aging report in 2009 was \$10,000+

end of the year aging report in 2010 was \$6,000+

end of the year aging report in 2011 was \$4,000+.

The large amount owed in 2009 was due to old, old uncollectible accounts that were never cleaned off of the system.

Steve motioned to change the time of the March City Council meeting from 7 pm to 6:30 pm, Byron seconds, motion passes.

Claims:

Steve motioned to approve claims, Aaron seconds, motion passes.

Fire Dept. Report:

From 01/09/2012 to 02/13/2012

1 medical aid

1 chimney fire

1 mutual aid

elections will be held at the February Fire Dept. meeting.

Winger Renewal Authority Report:

Met on 01/23/2012.

Mark Finstad is Chairperson, Tony Espeseth is Co-Chair, Dawn Crane was appointed secretary, Kathy Iverson will serve another term.

WRA will now meet every other month with the next meeting being in March.

Lee Meier from NW MN Multi-County HRA spoke on possibilities for the old school site.

Hwy 59 project will be talked about again in the spring.

Mark has pledged to make a 2nd donation (this one in the amount of \$150) to the Old School Site Demolition if everyone on the City Council and the WRA donate something. Dawn stated that she would match the donation.

Old Business:

Lee Meier, NW MN Multi-County HRA discussed various buildings for the old school site.

Once a house is completed the city or developer handles the holding costs and after 6 months, if the property has not been sold, the city or developer is responsible for coming up with the purchase price.

Possibilities include a 1400 sq. ft. Homark home with a 26' X 28' attached garage; a 1008 sq. ft. Northern Lumber home with a smaller garage; a 2 bedroom/3 bedroom twin home from Homark; a 2 bedroom/2 bedroom twin home from Northern Lumber; also discussed a new apartment building and how high the rent would be.

Discussion of advertising the land to see what the interest is. Ideas included a sign on the property, using the City web site, sign on Hwy 59, information at businesses (possibility of employees looking for housing). Marketing is important. Could a college student do a rendering of what the property might possible look? Advertising is important.

Council will bring ideas to the March meeting for discussion.

Steve motioned to approve the Resolution Accepting Donations Received, Byron seconds, motion passes.

New Business:

Ken Buchanan, NW MN Multi-County HRA, discussed the progress of the \$155,000 Winger SCDG for Commercial Rehab. Out of the seven applicants, five have committed funds. The sixth applicant will use up the remainder of the funds available. There won't be any money left for the seventh applicant. All work will be probably be done by the end of July 2012.

The residential rehab property has started to have some of their work done. There is still work left to do.

Fund Balance Policy is tabled until the March Council meeting.

Discussion of free paint offered by the Northwestern Minnesota Foundation.

Discussion of the Municipal Clerks and Finance Officers Assoc. conference being held in St. Cloud in March.

Adjourn:

Mayor Wang adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Approved

Attest

Mayor

City Clerk