

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Winger  
June 2, 2014**

**Council Members present:**

The Honorable Mayor Cheryl Wang  
Bonnie Olson, Nick Geray, Byron Kaupang, Lori Lucken

**Council Members absent:**

none

**Guests present:**

Mark Nohre  
Daniel Jantzi  
Ruth Jantzi  
Gerri Balstad from Winger Lions  
Elmyrna Kaupang from Winger Lions  
Jamie Austin from Winger Lions  
Orrie Flermoen from Winger Lions  
Sue Flermoen from Winger Lions  
Deanna Fondor  
Ashley Hand from the McIntosh Times  
Kim Spaeth

**Maintenance Personnel present:**

Ron Locken

**City Clerk/Treasurer present:**

Jennifer Frohrip

The regular meeting was called to order by the Honorable Mayor Wang at 7:02 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions to the agenda were: Winger Lions, Someone to mow and Street grading & gravel

Mark Nohre who owns the property at 21 N Loiten, requested on May 14<sup>th</sup> that the City shut off water services to that property because of disagreements he was having with the renters there. The account was paid in full and Mr. Nohre was told that legally the City could not shut off water to a property because the owner was trying to evict his renters. Mr. Nohre brought a copy of the lease form that he says he has his renter fill out (the form was a blank form with no information filled out or any signatures) and said that was what the Council needed to look at. Council decided to turn the question over to Wayne Swanson, City Attorney, for his advice.

Deanna Fondor was wondering if the City had any plans for the old grocery store building. This building is not owned by the City. The clerk gave Mz. Fonder a copy of the information on that parcel from the Polk County web site.

Daniel & Ruth Jantzi own a bakery wagon and were inquiring as to whether a peddlers license was needed to have the wagon at Winger Livestock on Saturdays. No license is needed.

**Minutes of the May 12th, 2014 meeting:**

Byron motioned to approve the minutes of the May 12th, 2014 meeting, Nick seconds, motion passes.

**Maintenance Report:**

Reading meters at the end of the month.

Met with Dan Wilkins about the ditch. Sounds like if it is going to be cleaned out it would be a City expense. This is a community ditch. It might also be protected waters which would get the Environmental Protection Agency involved. Dan could help us with any permits needed for a clean up of the ditch. Discussion of whether the Fire Dept. could still burn or if it is getting too green.

Float valve is leaking at the bottom of the well at the water tower. Ron will call around to see who is available to work on it and get prices.

The arsenic readings are lesser at the old well so a possibility might be to use the old well and the new well would be used as a stand by. Ron will have more information at the next meeting.

The sewer pipe is plugged up by the ponds and needs a rod run through it, which takes two people.

Council agreed that Ron should contact Chris Roragen to help with this.

Curb stop needs to be shut off at Jeannine Perreault's.

Discussion of the pot holes around town. Ron will pick up some bags for pot hole repair.

**Ron Locken was awarded a plaque in appreciation of his 30 years as a City of Winger employee.****Financial Report:**

On May 15<sup>th</sup> Jennifer met with Andy Gag from USDA. This meeting was called by Mr. Gag as a follow up to the two USDA loans the City was given on August 14, 2014. Mr. Gag mention that the USDA has changed some of their priorities and are now looking at "poverty communities" (Winger would qualify) to make grant money available for such things as waste water projects. When the remaining grant money on the Community Center was discussed, Mr. Gag said that the USDA does have priorities as to the use of those funds and one thing they look at is accessibility issues (such as repairing the ramp). The City has 4 years to use the remaining \$1,000.00.

Nathan Johnson did drop off the information needed to transfer ownership of the Winger Memorial Park parcel from Winger Township to the City of Winger. The information has been forwarded to Wayne Swanson, City Attorney.

Sent out 27 shut off letters.

Council authorized Byron Kaupang to stop by the Clerk's office sometime around the middle of next week to okay a claims list since the next Council meeting won't be for 6 weeks.

**Claims:**

Lori motioned to approve claims, Nick seconds, motion passes.

**Fire Dept. Report:**

No report.

**Winger Renewal Authority Report:**

The WRA met on May 19th.

Lack of building permits was discussed.

The bench will be started on in July. The sign may have to be moved and they are not sure if there will be enough bricks from the old school for the additional flower pots.

The WRA discussed having an ad put in the paper to encourage community participation in creating a new Strategic Investment Plan but nothing had been submitted to the City Clerk.

**Old Business:**

Jamie Austin talked to the Council about the many benefits the Winger Lions make to the community. All donated money goes back into the communities. Concern was expressed over snow removal during the winter when the Lions are using the Community Center.

Because the Lions are a non-profit group and use the Community Center free of charge, the City policy is "In order to receive this Special Rate, the organization will: Sign a rental contract in advance, if applicable: clean all snow and ice from entrees, and adjoining sidewalks, Community Center will be cleaned and returned to the same condition in which it was found."

Going forward, the Lions will have a member sign a contract for each event. This can be done at the Clerk's office or by printing the form off of the City web site ([visitwinger.com](http://visitwinger.com)) and then mailing it in or dropping it off.

Lori left the meeting.

The Lions have their own door code for entry to the Community Center.

Discussion of the water situation on Minnesota Ave./Polk County 1. It has finally thawed out and it now draining.

Bonnie made a motion to approve the blighted property letter, Nick seconds, motion passes. Jennifer will e-mail a copy to WRA. Discussion of WRA applying for grant money to help property owners.

Discussion that the UMC might have a program to help property owners with free paint and/or labor.

Discussion of block 12 (old school site) which is for sale. Clerk has registered the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions of Parcel 94.00108.00 (block 12) of Winger, Minnesota with Polk County. Jennifer was asked to research [zillow.com](http://zillow.com) as a possible web site to advertize the parcel.

Council has discovered that it is not possible to have doors added to the partitions in the ladies' restroom. Lonnie is working on the chimney.

No one has contacted the clerk about the summer worker position. If someone responsible can be found the clerk can go ahead and hire them before the July Council meeting.

**New Business:**

Discussion of someone to mow this summer should a property owner be in violation and it falls to the City to mow their property. Jennifer will contact Scott Revier to see if he is interested. If he isn't then maybe Wayne Benbo might be. Rate of pay is \$40/hour. Discussion of three violation letters to be sent out.

Nick and/or Byron will let the clerk know when it is dry enough to have the streets bladed and she will contact Jason Fortman. After it is bladed will see if gravel is needed.

Clerk was instructed to put snow removal in alleys on the September agenda.

Nick motioned to approved Resolution 2014-2 Resolution Accepting Donation Received which was the \$200 from the Polk County Soybean Growers Assoc., Byron seconds, motion passed.

Winger Renewal Authority will go over the Strategic investment Plan at their June meeting.

Nick motioned to approve the Sign Retroreflectivity Policy, Bonnie seconds, motion passed.

Council received a packet of information that had been dropped off by Maureen Stay from Otter Tail. The existing agreement between Otter Tail and the City of Winger expires in 2015. Otter Tail be in attendance at the July Council meeting to discuss this.

**Adjourn:**

Mayor Wang adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

**Approved**

**Attest**

**Mayor**

**City Clerk**