

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Winger
Monday, August 13th , 2018 – 7:00 PM
Community Center Building - Winger, MN**

Council Members Present:

The Honorable Mayor Darrell Olson

Members Present: Steve Massmann, Dan Kindall, Debra Matson, Nick Geray

Guests Present: Al Jeagar (Al's Tree Trimming, LLC)

Brian Hiles (Ulteig Engineers)

Maintenance Personnel Present: Ron Locken, (PW Supervisor)

City Clerk/Treasurer Present: Dominica Zarkoff

PURSUANT DUE TO CALL and notice thereof the Winger City Council held its regular monthly meeting in the Community Center Building on Monday, August 13th, 2018. Honorable Mayor Olson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions: 1) Liquor Pig's – Dance Friday August 24th, 2018 South Side Street

Minutes: Motion by Massmann, second by Kindall to approve the Minutes for the July 9th, 2018 regular meeting, motion carried.

Maintenance Report: To spray the cattails Locken purchased a gun at Ace's Hardware, cattails have been sprayed and they are drying up.

Dave's welding from Bejou – rail fixing will be here between harvesting.

A tree under the water tower will be removed once the chain saw is sharpened.

Locken is hoping to install up to ten new meters by the end of the month. Get the training done on the 29th for the Sensus the handheld meter reader. Locken will get a Bid from JC&J for the blading of the gravel roads in town.

Financial Report: Motion by Massmann, second by Matson to approve the July financials as presented: Cash balance of - \$230,690.45, Reserves balance of - \$112,274.03 (Ultima Bank - 08/13/2018), Claims for 07/06/18 - 08/13/18 - \$22,336.57. June net wages - \$4,724.83. Motion carried.

Fire Dept. Report: Fire Chief Scott Revier was not in attendance, no report.

OLD BUSINESS: Water System Improvement project update by Brian Hiles, Ulteig.

1) Bid Tabulation – Bids came in higher than what the estimates were two years ago. Being that they are two years old it was expected, said Brian Hiles. Since then the labor rates increased as

well as the price for the raw materials. Low bid of \$1,859,700.00 from Rice Lake Construction Group, this company is very experienced in this kind of construction. It is their bread and butter as Hiles stated. All the bids came in around 10% to 12% range in price, tells us where the market value is at right now. Hiles will send the information over to a loan officer at PFA, forms (form 3 & form 4) all ready to go will be sending them over tomorrow for review and see what kind of package loan officer will come back to us with. City has 60 days to award the project, so for now it will be on standstill until we hear back from PFA loan officer. 2) MN Department of Health – Notice of plan review approval for the project on the Water Tower Plans. The approval for the construction of this project is valid for two years from the date of this letter. The price is holding for what the estimates were two years ago, the only thing might be of concern is that the contractors are getting booked up for next year and City of Winger will need to push the completion date to August 2020 instead of the original set date of December of 2019.

NEW BUSINESS: 1) Mayor Olson requested Al Jeagar to attend the meeting on Monday August 13th, 2018 to discuss the Invoice of \$6,000 dollars that Al's Tree Trimming, LLC submitted for payment for the cleanup of trees and brush after the storm. Mayor Olson started the discussion by stating that we the City of Winger agreed to hire Al Jeagar to use his chipper at 150 an hour to clean up the piles of trees that we had left over after the storm, instead Jeagar hauled it all out after only using the chipper for ten hours and charging the City of Winger the same price at 150 an hour without the use of the equipment that was originally agreed on. The invoice also had 11 hours written down without an explanation of what those hours were for, Jeagar replied that it was all for tree removal along with the rest of the hours when he was asked by Mayor Olson, saying that the branches were intertwined so badly and it was hard to pull the branches apart and it would have taking longer for Al's Tree Trimming to clean up the piles using the chipper instead of hauling it using a trailer to a site twenty miles out of town. Mayor Olson continued by stating why was this not communicated to the City of Winger before making a decision to haul the brush/trees instead of chipping them? The City should have been notified that the plan has been changed and a decision to continue to charge 150 dollars an hour for hauling should have been agreed by the City of Winger before continuing the job. Massmann asked "Wasn't the job supposed to have only taken two or three days to complete"? Only one pile got done for an excessive bill. Jeagar replied that he did not say how long it would take and that he didn't know either. Geray wondered why he would charge 150 an hour travel time, one way twenty miles and back another twenty miles. Kindall wanted to know why none of the decisions were communicated to the Council Members or the City Clerk. Jeagar stated that he let Locken know that he would be hauling instead of using the chipper to finish the job without clarifying how much the cost would be. We all agreed that there was miscommunication all around and the decision was to come up with an agreed amount to pay Al's Tree Trimming, LLC for the job that was completed already. Massmann motioned to pay the amount of \$4,350 for

the project and Jeagar agreed for the price. Zarkoff City Clerk will be mailing the amount as soon as possible. Matson second, motion carried. 2) Deb wanted to address the property across the street from the church, owner Kevin Olson. The City of Winger will mail a concern letter out to the property owner. 3) Clerk's Office Hours – Open at 7:30 4) Gravel Road Needs Attention – To get the gravel roads bladed before winter. 4) Property with No Water Meter – Send a letter to the property owners to collect information on how many occupants are at the residence.

Addition to the agenda: A motion by Massmann to approve Liquor Pig's request to use the South side street from the bar for a Dance on Friday 24th, 2018. Matson Second the motion, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: 1) Fertile Oil Company Summer Fill @ \$1.03/gallon & Pre Buy Special @ \$1.25/gallon. City Council will fill up the two tanks and pre buy 2500 gallons.
2) MN Department of Transportation: Notice of Grade Crossing Safety Program – Section 130 Funding. Two categories of projects will be funded which are the Closure/Consolidations of Railroad crossings & Railroad crossing safety at high risk locations.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Attest: Dominica Zarkoff, City Clerk/Treasurer

Signed: Darrell Olson, Mayor