

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING, MARCH 31, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Alan E. Oberloh with the following Aldermen present: Lyle Ten Haken, Mike Kuhle, Scott Nelson, Ron Wood, Mike Woll. Honorary Council Member: Martin Rickers.

Staff present: Craig Clark, City Administrator; Mike Cumiskey, Director of Public Safety; Janice Oberloh, City Clerk; Jim Laffrenzen, Public Works Superintendent (7:25 a.m.); Scott Rosenberg, Parks Supervisor (7:26 a.m.).

Others present: Gary Kellen and Lynn Olsen, Sanford; Jim Bunner, KWOA; Brittany Workman, Daily Globe.

Mayor Oberloh requested to take the agenda out of order with the Hospital Reserve Update to be last.

FIRE STATION / AMBULANCE - SANFORD PARTICIPATION REQUEST

Craig Clark, City Administrator, gave a brief background on the fire station project and the discussions thus far between the City of Worthington and Sanford Health regarding their participation in the project. Sanford has expressed a renewed interest in participating in the project, but with scaling the ambulance portion down from four bays to three. The architects estimate for that portion of the project is \$600,000, but Sanford is bringing \$400,000 to the project. Lynn Olsen, Sanford Worthington CEO, and Gary Kellen, President of Sanford Worthington Board of Directors were at the meeting to discuss their participation with Council. Discussion included Sanford's capital expenditure program, preferred location of the ambulance garage, helipad, etc. Mr. Olsen noted they had received notification from the City that their current ambulance storage location on 14th Street did not allow for them to dispatch from, and added that they would comply with that notification. Council consensus was to not push Sanford into a location that did not fit with their capital plan, but noting that the City needed to continue to move ahead with their plans for the fire hall project.

SNOW REMOVAL POLICY APPROVED

Jim Laffrenzen, Public Works Superintendent, told Council the proposed snow removal policy is an update to the policy adopted in 1996, and includes some language changes but the biggest change would be the City's ability to declare a snow emergency. Declaration would come from either him or Mike Cumiskey, Public Safety Director, or their designee, and would apply on those occasions when "no travel was advised". The City is restricted by the State on when we can tow vehicles but declaring a snow emergency would allow the City to tow a vehicle for snow removal without waiting two days.

Council also discussed the possibility of "no parking" on Humiston Avenue, whether it be during snow removal, odd even parking enforcement months, or at all times. More information will be

obtained on this issue for a future discussion.

The motion was made by Alderman Wood, seconded by Alderman Nelson and unanimously carried to approve the changes to the City of Worthington Snow Plowing and Ice Control Policy as stipulated, and that staff review the specific situations discussed by Council.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER AGREEMENT (WORK STUDY) APPROVED

Mike Cumiskey, Public Safety Director, was requesting authorization for participation in a program through the local college that would allow the use of students from the MN West Law Enforcement program to work limited hours for the City of Worthington with the Community Service Officer for a limited number of hours. Chief Cumiskey noted the goal is to add some night and weekend enforcement times, possibly 40 hours every two weeks, and possibly between two people. The City would be responsible for 25% of the wage, or \$2,340 for 52 weeks. No benefits would be required to be provided while the position is less than 30 hours per week.

The motion was made by Alderman Wood, seconded by Alderman Woll and unanimously carried to move forward with the contract for the work study program participation after having it reviewed by legal council.

HOSPITAL RESERVE UPDATE/DISCUSSION

Council discussed the hospital sale proceeds including projects completed thus far with the sale proceeds, the recent request from the Clean Water Partnership for funds, and investing the remaining hospital sale proceeds and allowing only the interest to be spent. Also discussed was paying back some of the funds from the designated accounts, including the aquatic center. Council requested that staff come back with a procedure that Council could use in considering future requests for funding from hospital sale proceeds. In addition, staff will investigate how much the City has contributed already to some of the projects being considered for hospital sale dollars, including clean water, and the amount put into public safety. Payments from Nobles County and Worthington Public Utilities will also be looked at to be sure there is participation from our partners.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was made by Alderman Wood, seconded by Alderman Woll and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 a.m.

Janice Oberloh
City Clerk