

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING, AUGUST 14, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Alan E. Oberloh with the following Council Members present: Diane Graber, Rod Sankey, Ron Wood, Scott Nelson. Council Members absent: Mike Kuhle and Honorary Council Member Robert Bristow (excused).

Staff present: Craig Clark, City Administrator; Janice Oberloh, City Clerk.

Others present: Pat Shorter; Aaron Hagen, Daily Globe.

FIRE FIGHTER RELIEF ASSOCIATION DISCUSSION

Pat Shorter, Worthington Volunteer Fire Department member, was at the meeting and presented a request on behalf of the Worthington Volunteer Fire Department for an increase in the amount the City contributes to their pension fund. Council reviewed comparable information from other communities that included assets, State aid amounts, City aid amounts, pension per year of service, funding percent, and whether their account status was surplus or deficit. Also included were two proposals for an increase, one for a .9% increase and the other for a .5% increase - the last increase came in 2007. Worthington firefighters currently receive \$54,500 at twenty years, and their account status as of 12/31/2011 was a \$271,347 deficit. Mr. Shorter said with current market rates that number has dropped to \$104,000 as of 12/31/12, and to \$15,000 as of July 31, 2013, however, the amount was subject to change according to the market. The City is obligated to make the fund whole.

Council consensus was that the fund should be looked at every year for potential adjustments, and noted this would be put on a future Council agenda for Council action.

**ORAL HEALTH PROJECT DISCUSSION WITH DR. AMOS DEINARD M.D., M.P.H.,
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**

Via telephone conference call, Council visited with Dr. Amos Deinard M.D., M.P.H., University of Minnesota, regarding his Minnesota Oral Health Program. The over all goal of the program is to assist each participating community in addressing the dental caries crisis that is affecting its high-risk children. Dr. Deinard said dental caries (the disease process resulting in cavities) has reached “silent epidemic” proportions among the nations’ high risk children, particularly among the 2-5 year olds.

Nobles County has been identified as one of the counties with the highest number of high risk (medicaid eligible) children in the SW district of the state. Dr. Deinard had contacted Nobles County Commissioners, who indicated the County’s willingness to participate, and then suggested he contact Mayor Oberloh for the City’s participation. Dr. Deinard said he hopes to get the stakeholders to take ownership of the problems in their county, increase the knowledge of the caries problems, and increase the number of fluoride varnish treatments provided. Local programs need to provide the service in a billable way at well-checks as the state of Minnesota will reimburse for the treatments

four times a year up to age 20. Council Member Nelson suggested the free clinic recently established at St. Mary's would be a good place to start and they have the billing ability. Dr. Deinard is willing to come to Worthington to provide the training for the program, and invited Council to contact him with any questions they may have. Council thanked Dr. Deinard for his information and noted that Council Member Nelson will provide contact information to him for the program at St. Mary's.

Council Member Graber will follow up with Dr. Deinard on what the process would be if a serious problem was discovered during a well check.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was made by Council Member Wood, seconded by Council Member Sankey and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 a.m.

Janice Oberloh, MCMC
City Clerk