

City of Ottertail
October 5, 2016
Work Session Notes
6:45 AM

*This is an open forum. Council and Staff may speak openly.
No other business will be discussed at this session in order to keep under one-hour.*

Council present: Mayor Myron Lueders, Ron Grobeck, Jill Carlson

Absent: Darold Woessner, Heather Rosenthal

Staff present: City Clerk/Treas., Elaine Hanson; Deputy Clerk, Shari Wheeler; Maint. Coordinator, Loren Hawes;

Others: Tom McSparron, West Central Initiative; Jerry Smith & Jerry Martin, Ottertail Community Foundation.

Ottertail Community Fund

Jerry Smith and Jerry Martin presented information on the Ottertail Community Fund. The fund was set up originally to allow groups to keep their money local. For the Lions, June 30th is the cut-off date to make donations otherwise pay taxes on the funds. They have expanded this to all the community as well as the other clubs. Tom McSparron reviewed the process how persons are able to donate to the Fund and how the monies are expended. Any project has to start with the City Council level with minutes showing that the City Council is in favor of a project. Then the project goes to the Foundation Advisory Committee for their approval and then to West Central. Projects that are over \$20,000 have to have approval from the West Central Initiative Board. Right now the group is trying to get the word out to people that their gift/donation would be tax deductible and their money would stay in Ottertail.

Miscellaneous

Elaine and Shari reported on a visit they had with Bill Kalar at Land and Resource at Otter Tail County. The County has made some changes to the Shoreland Ordinance and now the City is more restrictive in some areas. Elaine also reported that in discussion with Kalar, the City should consider carefully how it handles new developers. She also suggested that Shari, Loren and she, compare the county to the city and come back with some suggestions on getting our ordinance more in line with the county. Elaine reported that a new Transportation grant is available that could help with land acquisition for historical sites on the scenic by-way which goes through Ottertail. She will be checking with Wayne Hurley at West Central Initiative to see if the idea would be doable.

Work session adjourned at 8:10 a.m.

Elaine Hanson, MCMC
City Clerk-Treasurer