

**City of Ottertail
April 14, 2016
SPECIAL MEETING
Joint Planning & Council
5:00 p.m.**

Council present: Mayor Myron Lueders, Jill Carlson and Ronald Grobeck.
Absent: Darold Woessner, Heather Rosenthal

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

Planning Committee: Chairman Keith Fleischauer, members Tom Behm, Jerry Martin, Mike Windey and Vanessa Neels.

Mayor Lueders opened the meeting. Council reviewed minutes provided by Council member Ron Grobeck.

After some discussion on the projects, it was determined the council did not need a representative on the committee at this time and could eliminate that position. Hawes previously asked not to be on the committee but that he would help if they needed something which was agreed by all present.

It was suggested that perhaps the group would only need to meet with the council a couple times a year. The committee explained what they thought their role was in looking into projects and how they would be brought before council. Currently Mike Windey is trying to see if there is interest in an Arts Council. This Arts Council would need authorization from the City Council to apply for grants, but mostly now they are looking into what is available. There is no plan as of yet to organize. Battle Lake, as an example, enabled by Resolution, has an Arts Council that reports directly to the City Council there. After further discussion, a motion was made by Carlson and second by Grobeck to remove the council liaison position and to allow the group to call upon Loren as needed. All voted in favor, carried.

Further discussion on the need to meet monthly. As a committee of the council, the group is required to follow Open Meeting Law restrictions. A suggestion that if they were an independent group, they could look into as much as they wanted without involving the City and if they had a good idea they wanted to present, at that time they could be placed on the agenda to request further involvement. This seemed like a plausible solution to many of the communication problems resulting in frustrations by everyone. A motion was made by Carlson and second by Grobeck to consider the planning committee as an independent group and no longer a committee approved by the City Council. All voted in favor, motion carried.

With no further business, a motion was made by Grobeck to adjourn, second by Carlson. Council adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Elaine Hanson, MCMC
City Clerk-Treasurer

Myron Lueders
Mayor