

WILLMAR CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
WILLMAR MUNICIPAL UTILITIES BUILDING
WILLMAR, MINNESOTA

August 9, 2004
7:00 p.m.

The special meeting of the Willmar City Council was called to order by the Honorable Mayor Lester Heitke. Members present on a roll call were Mayor Heitke, Council Members Doug Reese, Bruce DeBlieck, Denis Anderson, Nancy Houlahan, Rick Fagerlie, and Jim Dokken; Present 7, Absent 1 – Ron Christianson was excused from the meeting.

Also present was City Clerk Kevin Halliday.

Mayor Heitke explained the purpose of the special meeting was to meet with citizens from Ward Two who are interested in filling the unexpired term of the vacated position of David Chapin.

City Clerk Halliday explained to the Mayor and Council the procedure for finding a replacement to serve out the remainder of the vacated term pursuant to the Willmar Municipal Code, Subdivision 3.

At this time Mayor Heitke recognized three citizens from the Second Ward.

Suelana Kinney, 1205 Trott Avenue Southwest, stated she has lived in Willmar for two years and is employed as a Law Clerk to the Honorable Judge Spilseth. Ms. Kinney is involved with a Parents Group and currently the president of the Kandiyohi County Bar Association. Issues she felt were of importance to the City included First Street development, business and professional saturation, and Willmar's image.

Tim Johnson, 1417 16th Street Southwest, stated he has lived in Willmar for 30 years and is a Chief Public Defender Eighth District. Mr. Johnson stated the challenges in Willmar today are very different than when he grew up. Issues he felt were of importance to the City included diversity changes/challenges, and large retail challenges.

George "Corky" Berg, 1409 Hansen Drive Southwest, stated he has lived in the Second Ward for 28 years and is retired after a career in human services. Mr. Berg is involved in a number of community groups and feels the issues of importance to the City included the budget, Willmar Regional Treatment Center, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Airport, WMU/KPC merger, downtown parking and infrastructure.

Sue Quist, resident of the Second Ward, appeared before the Mayor and Council to thank them for having the special meeting and including the public in the process.

Following discussion, Council Member Reese offered a motion to appoint George "Corky" Berg to fill the unexpired term of Council Member, Ward Two. Council Member DeBlieck seconded the motion, which carried on a roll call vote of Ayes 6, Noes 0.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. upon motion by Council Member Reese, seconded by Council Member Anderson, and carried.

Attest:

MAYOR

SECRETARY TO THE COUNCIL