

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the North Mankato City Council was held in the Municipal Building Council Chambers on August 16, 2021. Mayor Dehen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, asking that everyone join in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following were present for roll call: Council Members Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs, City Administrator Harrenstein, City Attorney Kennedy, Finance Director McCann, Community Development Director Fischer, Public Works Director Host, and City Clerk Van Genderen.

Approval of Agenda

Council Member Steiner moved Consent Agenda Item 8I to Business Item 10B. Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the agenda with Item 8I moved. Vote on the motion Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Approval of Council Minutes from July 19, 2021, Council Meeting.

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock, to approve the Council meeting minutes of July 19, 2021. Vote on the motion Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Approval of Council Work Session Minutes from July 26, 2021, Work Session Meeting.

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock, to approve the minutes of the Council Work Session of July 26, 2021. Vote on the motion Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the Consent Agenda.

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 55-21 Accepting Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Approved Audio Permit for Dvorak-McLeod Wedding at Spring Lake Park Shelter #2, from 1 pm to 7 pm on September 20, 2021.
- D. Approved Audio Permit for 1516 Lor Ray Drive, on September 11, 2021, from 4:00 pm to 10:00 pm.
- E. Approved Parade Permit for Mankato Youth Place on October 17, 2021, on Commerce Drive.
- F. Approved Block and Audio Permit for Oak Terrace Court on August 28, 2021, with music from 4 pm to 9 pm.
- G. Approved Seasonal Extension of Patio Premise for Big Dog Sports Café at 1712 Commerce Drive.
- H. Res. No. 56-21 Waiving Waiting Period for Exemption from Lawful Gambling License for Holy Rosary Church.

Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Public Comments Concerning Business Items on the Agenda

None.

Business Items

Set Public Hearing for 7 pm on September 7, 2021, to consider the Adoption of an Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds of the North Mankato Port Authority Commission in an Amount Not to Exceed \$4,500,000.

City Administrator Harrenstein noted setting the public hearing and passing the Ordinance would fulfill obligations made in the settlement agreement with HyLife Foods. The purchase amount in the settlement agreement is \$3,250,000, and additional funds are being secured to address structural issues or complete a parcel for the redevelopment of the property. Mary Ippel Counsel from Taft Law Offices reported the motion would set a Public Hearing to adopt an ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds of the North Mankato Port Authority Commission in an amount not to exceed \$4,500,000 to which the full faith, credit, and taxing powers of the City of North Mankato are pledged. The proceeds of the bonds are proposed to finance the acquisition and betterment of certain property within the Webster Avenue Industrial Development District. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock, to set a Public Hearing for 7 pm on September 7, 2021, to consider the Adoption of an Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds of the North Mankato Port Authority Commission in an Amount Not to Exceed \$4,500,000. Vote on the motion Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Set Fall Drop-off Dates for October 7-10, 2021.

A discussion was held concerning the request from some residents to return to a pick-up. Public Works Director Host noted the plan is to hold the drop-off on October 7-10, 2021. He is working on getting a paper shredding truck for the Saturday of the event. He noted that as in this past spring, staff would go out and assist those unable to bring their items to the drop-off. Public Works Director Host indicated the plan would be to conduct a pick-up in the spring. Additional discussion was held concerning timing, manpower, and cost associated with a pick-up vs. drop-off. Council Member Steiner noted the recommendation from staff is to conduct the City's traditional fall drop-off and return to a pick-up in the spring of 2022. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock, to set fall drop-off dates for October 7-10, 2021, and return to a Spring pick-up in 2022. Vote on the motion Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Open Forum

Tom Hagen, 927 Lake Street, appeared before Council and requested a Council Member speak with him concerning the Wingert Development agreement. He is dissatisfied with the explanation he received from City Administrator Harrenstein and City Attorney Kennedy. Mr. Hagen reported a letter was sent to 229 Allen Avenue, and he assisted the resident in removing the buckthorn and expressed his displeasure that the letter was sent.

Lance Voegele-Allore, 491 Forest Lane, appeared before Council and thanked the City staff for assistance in setting a memorial bench for his wife. He indicated the staff was professional and empathetic throughout the process.

Barb Church, 102 Wheeler Avenue, appeared before Council and reported she helped remove the buckthorn from the residence at 229 Allen Avenue and also expressed her displeasure that a letter was sent to the resident.

City Administrator and Staff Comments

City Administrator Harrenstein remarked that the Farmers' Market is a wonderful North Mankato resource and a staff member provided a small petting zoo for those that attended the August 16th market.

Public Works Director Host reported Cliff Court and Countryside Drive would be paved soon, bringing reconstruction projects to a close.

Public Works Director Host reported the soccer field artificial turf curb is being installed, and the earthwork is scheduled to be completed by the end to the middle of next week in time for the Pack the Stands event.

City Administrator Harrenstein reported the Youth Football program has over 800 participants registered, which is in line with what was anticipated when the City took over the program.

Finance Director McCann reported the budget process continues, and a budget Council Work Session will be held soon. Preliminary growth indicated a 4% overall growth and 1.3% new growth.

Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Oachs expressed her well-wishes to the resident at 229 Allen Avenue.

Council Member Whitlock invited everyone to Symphony on the Prairie at Benson Park on September 11, 2021. It will be a patriotic celebration.

Council Member Norland thanked Mankato Clinic for their donation to provide swim lesson scholarships for kids.

Council Member Steiner expressed his well-wishes to the resident at 229 Allen Avenue.

Mayor Dehen noted the final Adult Night Pool Party was scheduled for August 27, 2021.

Mayor Dehen invited everyone out to Concerts on Commerce on August 26, 2021, at 1960 Commerce Drive from 11 am to 1 pm for music and food trucks.

Mayor Dehen invited residents to attend the Music in the Park series held on Thursdays in September, hosted by the Library.

At 7:25 pm, on a motion by Council Member Norland, seconded by Council Member Oachs, the Council Meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

City Clerk