

Pursuant to the due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the North Mankato City Council was held in the Municipal Building Council Chambers on February 21, 2023. Mayor Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, asking everyone to join the Pledge of Allegiance. The following were present for roll call: Council Members Oachs, Peterson, Whitlock, City Administrator McCann, Finance Director Ryan, Community Development Director Fischer, Public Works Director Arnold, and City Clerk Van Genderen. Absent: Council Member Steiner.

**Approval of Agenda**

**Council Member Oachs moved, seconded by Council Member Peterson, to approve the agenda as presented. Vote on the motion Oachs, Peterson, Whitlock, and Carlson, aye, no nays. Motion carried.**

**Approval of Council Minutes from February 6, 2023, Council Meeting.**

**Council Member Whitlock moved, seconded by Council Member Oachs, to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2023. Vote on the motion Oachs, Peterson, Whitlock, and Carlson, aye, no nays. Motion carried.**

**Approval of Council Work Session Minutes from February 6, 2023, Council Work Session.**

**Council Member Whitlock moved, seconded by Council Member Oachs, to approve the Council Work Session Minutes of February 6, 2023. Vote on the motion Oachs, Peterson, Whitlock, and Carlson, aye, no nays. Motion carried.**

**Consent Agenda**

**Council Member Whitlock moved, seconded by Council Member Oachs, to approve the Consent Agenda.**

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 17-23 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Approved the Audio and Parade Permit for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Girls on the Run 5K on April 29, 2023, from 8:00 a.m. to noon at Spring Lake Park.
- D. Set Spring Pick-up for April 17-20, 2023, for Lower North Mankato and April 24-28, 2023, for Upper North Mankato.
- E. Set Water Main Flushing for April 3-April 21, 2023.
- F. Approved Audio Permit for June 4, 2023, for Mankato Brewery BBQ Cookoff at 1119 Center Street.

**Vote on the motion Oachs, Peterson, Whitlock, and Carlson, aye, no nays. Motion carried.**

**Public Comments Concerning Business Items on the Agenda.**

None.

**Business Items**

**Approved the Preliminary and Final Plat of Northport No. 22.**

Community Development Director Fischer reported that the City platted Northport No. 15 in 2011 to accommodate industrial development within the Northport Industrial Park. Northport No. 15 is adjacent to Lookout Drive, Carlson Drive, and Timm Road.

The City is currently working with Gordini, a company that manufactures and warehouses winter outerwear, on the sale of land to accommodate the construction of a new 120,000-square-foot warehouse/distribution facility. Gordini wishes to purchase 10.76 acres of land which is part of Lot 1, Block 1, Northport No. 15. The lot is currently 12.57 acres in size. It is necessary to replat Lots 1 & 2 to accommodate the amount of land Gordini needs. The result is Northport No. 22, a replat of Lots 1 and 2, Northport No. 15. The preliminary plat of Northport No. 22 with Lot 2, a 10.76-acre lot that will be sold to Gordini and Lot 1 will be marketed by the Port Authority for future development.

**Council Member Whitlock moved, seconded by Council Member Peterson, to approve the Preliminary and Final Plat of Northport No. 22. Vote on the motion Oachs, Peterson, Whitlock, and Carlson, aye, no nays. Motion carried.**

### **Open Forum**

Tom Hagen, 927 Lake Street, appeared before Council and requested a refund on the water meters he recently installed because the City Council had discussed the possibility of becoming the owners of the meters.

### **City Administrator and Staff Comments**

Public Works Director Arnold requested residents prepare for the snow by parking off the street to allow plow crews to remove snow.

Public Works Director Arnold reported that the City and the Minnesota DNR had confirmed the presence of the Emerald Ash Borer in the City of North Mankato. If the public would like additional information, they can review the information posted on the City's website.

City Administrator McCann reported that the City had declared a snow emergency beginning Thursday at 12:01 am and ending on Friday at 12:01 am to allow staff to clear the anticipated snow.

City Administrator McCann welcomed the City's newest Police Officer, Jesse Gunderson, who will begin work on February 27, 2023.

City Administrator McCann invited the public to the edible book event at the Library on February 25, 2023, from 1-3 pm.

City Administrator McCann announced the return of the Community Read program with the book reveal on March 6, 2023.

City Administrator McCann invited everyone to review the Caswell Sports offerings as the activities will start soon.

City Administrator McCann asked potential lifeguards to apply beginning March 1, 2023.

City Administrator McCann reported that he came to an agreement with Gary Wolters, who reported concerns about being billed for mowing his property. He stated that due to the precedent of previous years where staff called him to remind him to mow, he would pay for half of the mowing bill, and the City would forgive the other half. City Administrator McCann reported that moving forward, he will not be receiving phone calls, and it is his obligation to maintain the properties.

### **Mayor and Council Comments**

Council Member Peterson thanked the City staff in advance for the work they would be doing to remove the potential snow. He encouraged residents to check on their neighbors and remove snow around fire hydrants during the upcoming snowstorm.

Council Member Oachs thanked donors for their support of the library programs. She reminded residents that the City has a paver program where citizens can purchase a paver to memorialize a loved one.

Mayor Carlson encouraged everyone to stay safe during the upcoming snowstorm and to help the volunteer firefighters by clearing out around fire hydrants.

Mayor Carlson commented that he was excited to participate in creating the vision for North Mankato.

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

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Mayor

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City Clerk