

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 April 4, 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 Whitlock, Steiner, Peterson, City Administrator McCann, Finance Director Ryan, Community Development Director Fischer, Public Works Director Arnold, and City Clerk Van Genderen. Absent: Council Member Oachs.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Council Minutes from March 20, 2023, Council Meeting.

Council Member Whitlock moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2023. Vote on the motion Whitlock, Steiner, Peterson, and Carlson, aye, no nays. Motion carried.

Approval of Council Work Session Minutes from March 20, 2023, Council Work Session.

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock, to approve the Council Work Session Minutes of March 20, 2023. Vote on the motion Whitlock, Steiner, Peterson, and Carlson, aye, no nays. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

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

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 27-23 Accepting Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Approved Audio and Block Party Permit for Mission 22 Event on June 24, 2023, from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm.
- D. Approved Audio Permits for Spinners Bar and Grill, 301 Belgrade Avenue, for May 20, June 10, 24, July 28, August 12, 26, September 9, and 23 from 6 pm to 10 pm.
- E. Approved Audio Permit and Block Party Permit for Spinners Bar and Grill, 301 Belgrade Avenue, for July 8, 2023, from noon to 11 pm.

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

Public Comments Concerning Business Items on the Agenda.

None.

Business Items

Res. No. 28-23 Authorizing Entering into an Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation for Federal Participation in Force Account.

City Engineer Sarff appeared before Council and stated the agreement would allow the City to purchase the desired light poles in advance of the construction of the Howard Drive/Lor Ray Drive roundabout. There are supply chain issues, so ordering in advance may allow the poles to arrive in an adequate amount of time.

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock to Adopt Res. No. 28-23 Authorizing Entering into an Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation for Federal Participation in Force Account. Vote on the motion Whitlock, Steiner, Peterson, and Carlson, aye, no nays. Motion carried.

Res. No. 29-23 Approving Plans and Specifications and Ordering Advertisement for Bids Lor Ray Drive/Howard Drive Roundabout Construction Project SP 150-117-007 & SP 150-255-001 City Project No. 22-03 DEF.

City Engineer Sarff appeared before Council and stated the resolution would approve the plans and specifications for the Lor Ray Drive/Howard Drive Roundabout Construction Project. The plans are currently being reviewed by the Minnesota Department of Transportation. The project would include the complete reconstruction of the Lor Ray Drive/Howard Drive intersection with the construction of a new roundabout. The project would include the replacement of the existing sanitary sewer and watermain on Howard Drive within the project limits, construction of new concrete sidewalks, a new storm sewer system and improvements to the existing stormwater management pond, striping signage, and new street lights. The project will also include the relocation of two driveway accesses from Lor Ray Drive for the BENCO substation and the closure of one driveway for RDO on Howard Drive.

City Engineer Sarff reviewed the timeline with a scheduled bid opening of May 2nd, and construction beginning on June 12th following the end of the MSHSL State Softball tournament. Completion is scheduled for September 1st before the start of school.

City Engineer Sarff stated that the project is staged to maintain access to the areas surrounding the project. The total estimated cost is \$2,209,000, with \$1,673,000 in Federal Funds, \$884,000 in Municipal State Aid Funds, and City Funds of \$352,000, which are mainly comprised of the sanitary sewer and watermain reconstruction.

Council Member Peterson moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to Adopt Res. No. 29-23 Approving Plans and Specifications and Ordering Advertisement for Bids Lor Ray Drive/Howard Drive Roundabout Construction Project SP 150-117-007 & SP 150-255-001 City Project No. 22-03 DEF. Vote on the motion Whitlock, Steiner, Peterson, and Carlson, aye, no nays. Motion carried.

Open Forum

Tom Hagen, 927 Lake Street, appeared before Council and stated he believed a Council Member should provide a public retraction for comments that were made in the past.

Dan Engelhorn, 905 Sherman Avenue, appeared before Council and thanked the City for their support of Troop 29 and mentioned that several scouts would be working toward Eagle Scout and would be looking for service projects. He mentioned that if the City was interested in a sister city in Mexico, he could help facilitate. Mr. Engelhorn requested City Council consider providing chemicals for residents who would like to save their ash trees. He noted he preferred to read his own water meter and would prefer not to have the City require automatic water meters.

City Administrator and Staff Comments

Finance Director Ryan thanked the troop for visiting and was glad they came.

Public Works Director Arnold stated that the brush yard opened on Sunday, April 2nd, with restricted hours of 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, which are the recycling department's hours. He emphasized that the City will be enforcing the current no commercial contractors. Public Works Director Arnold noted that with emerald ash borer, there is reduced space for brush dumping.

City Administrator McCann reported that the City had begun water main flushing, which will run from April 3 through April 28th.

City Administrator McCann reported the ash trees that were removed would have their stumps ground.

City Administrator McCann stated the Police are looking for reserve officers.

City Administrator McCann invited everyone to mark their calendars for the opening of the Farmer's Market on June 5th.

Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Peterson noted that the Fire Department is also looking for volunteers. He noted the City Council is engaging in strategic planning.

Council Member Whitlock asked how many of the scouts were looking to complete an Eagle Scout. It was noted that there were five pursuing their Eagle Scout.

Council Member Steiner thanked the donors.

Mayor Carlson thanked the scouts for their service in the City and looked forward to working with them.

Mayor Carlson stated he was looking forward to producing his first public education short to advertise and advise residents on upcoming events and services.

At 7:28 pm, on a motion by Council Member Steiner, seconded by Council Member Whitlock, the Council Meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

City Clerk