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 September 2, 2025. Mayor Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., asking everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following were present for roll call: Council Members Steiner, Oachs, Peterson, Whitlock, City Administrator McCann, City Planner Lassonde, Finance Director Ryan, Community Development Director Fischer, Public Works Director Arnold, Attorney Kennedy, and Administrative Services Manager-City Clerk Van Genderen.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Council Minutes from the August 18, 2025, Council Meeting.

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Oachs, to approve the August 18, 2025, Council Meeting Minutes. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Oachs, Peterson, and Carlson aye, no nays. Motion carried.

Approval of Council Work Session Minutes from August 18, 2025, Council Work Session.

Council Member Oachs moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the August 18, 2025, Council Work Session Minutes. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Oachs, Peterson, and Carlson aye, no nays. Motion carried.

Public Comments

Lucy Lowry, 2263 Northridge Drive, appeared before Council and apologized for comments she made at the August 18, 2025, Council Meeting. She apologized to Community Director Fischer for the accusations made and, upon further research, no longer believes that a data center is planned.

Barb Church, 102 Wheeler Avenue, appeared before Council and stated the City should consider planning for a smaller Public Works Building with the ability to expand.

Tom Hagen, 927 Lake Street, appeared before Council and stated that the Public Works bond interest payment would cover all the budget cuts discussed at the Council Work Session.

Consent Agenda

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

A. Bills and Appropriations.
B. Res. No. 79-25 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
C. Res. No 80-25 Approving Temporary Gambling Permit.
D. Approved CenterPoint Energy Mankato Section 408 Project.
E. Authorized the City Administrator to Sign a Concurrence Letter on Assessment of Effects to Property at Riverview Park due to the Trunk Highway 169 Project.

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

Business Items

Res. No. 81-25 Authorizing Deer Removal in Partnership with USDA-APHIS.

City Planner Lassonde reported that following the adoption of the Deer Management Plan and Policy in 2024, the City worked with USDA-APHIS to remove 15 deer within the City limits. Part of the plan is for staff to monitor collisions, sightings, and damage. There have been seven deer vehicle collisions within the City since the removal in 2024. There have been resident sightings reported and citizen reports of damage to vegetation. The City has contacted the DNR, which has stated that it would approve the removal of up to 20 deer. Mayor Carlson requested clarification on what happens to the deer. City Planner Lassonde reported that the deer are removed from two locations, one in Upper North Mankato and one in Lower North Mankato. They are then taken to Fort Snelling for processing and testing and are distributed to people in need.

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Peterson to Adopt Res. No. 81-25 Authorizing Deer Removal in Partnership with USDA-APHIS. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Oachs, Peterson, and Carlson aye, no nays. Motion carried.

Res. No. 82-25 Accepting Bid 2025 Sanitary Sewer Lining Project, Project No. 25-04 A.

City Engineer Sarff appeared before Council and stated that bids were opened on Wednesday, August 27th at 10:00 am. He noted the project includes cured-in-place (CIPP) lining of the existing 21" trunk sanitary sewer from the east end of Pierce Avenue, across Highway 169, and terminating at a manhole near the Main Lift Complex. The sanitary sewer was constructed in the 1950s and carries wastewater from all of lower North Mankato and approximately one-half of the upper North Mankato area. Due to its age, there have been several problems with this sanitary sewer over the years that have required repairs. The CIPP lining basically creates a new pipe inside the old pipe with no excavation required. The bidding documents provided a Base Bid and an Alternate Bid. The scope of work is the same for both, but the Base Bid substantial completion date would be June 30, 2026, and the Alternate Bid substantial completion date would be December 31, 2025. Three bids were received with the results:

Bidder	**Base Bid**	**Alternate Bid**
Hydro-Klean, LLC	$220,205.29	$163,509.13
Visu-Sewer, Inc	$245,250.00	No Bid
Insituform Technologies USA, LLC	$292,977.00	$332,223.00
Engineer's Estimate	$200,000	$150,000

The City Engineer recommended Council accept the bid from Hydro-Klean for $220,205.29.

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock to Adopt Res. No. 82-25 Accepting Bid 2025 Sanitary Sewer Lining Project, Project No. 25-04A. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Oachs, and Carlson aye, Peterson nay. Motion carried.

Open Forum

Tom Hagen, 927 Lake Street, requested that the Council create committees. He was concerned about the bridge being installed in Spring Lake Park and thought the coating on the bridge was creosote, which can cause cancer.

Public Works Director Arnold reported that the coating is not creosote; it is actually copper naphthenate, which is environmentally friendly.

City Administrator and Staff Comments

City Administrator McCann congratulated Duane Rader on his service to the City. He retired on Friday, August 22nd after 30 years of service.

City Administrator McCann stated North Mankato is working on an Active Transportation Plan.

City Administrator McCann invited everyone out to Symphony on the Prairie on Saturday, September 6th from 6-7 pm.

Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Whitlock acknowledged the sponsors of Symphony on the Prairie: Lindsey Windows, Mankato Motors, Minnesota Valley Federal Credit Union, and Monarch Health Care.

Council Member Oachs reminded everyone to watch for kids as school has started.

Mayor Carlson thanked everyone who donated. He also reminded everyone to watch for kids since school has begun.

Mayor Carlson stated that Council appreciates comments but the Council supports the staff and will continue to do fact checking.

At 7:33 p.m., on a motion by Council Member Steiner, seconded by Council Member Oachs, the Council Meeting was adjourned.

_____
Mayor

_____
City Clerk