

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 March 5, 2012. Mayor Dehen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. asking that everyone join in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following were present for the meeting, Mayor Dehen, Council Members Norland, Schindle and Freyberg, City Administrator Sande, Finance Director Thorne, City Clerk Gehrke, Attorney Kennedy and Planner Fischer. Absent: Council Member Steiner and Engineer Malm.

Approval of Agenda

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Schindle, to approve the agenda as presented. Vote on the motion: Norland, Schindle, Freyberg and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Freyberg moved, seconded by Council Member Schindle, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of February 21, 2012. Vote on the motion: Schindle, Freyberg and Dehen, aye; Norland abstained; no nays. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Greater Mankato Growth, Inc. Thank-You

Mayor Dehen read a thank-you letter from Sara Buchholz of Greater Mankato Growth, Inc. and the Leadership Institute expressing appreciation for the Mayor's participation in the elected officials' presentation on Thursday, February 16, 2012.

Open the Meeting to the Public for the First Time

The Mayor opened the meeting to the public for the first time with no one appearing.

Nicollet County Board Actions

Council Member Norland asked about the status of ARMER. Administrator Sande reported the Nicollet County Commissioners approved the agreement to proceed with the purchase of a new ARMER dispatch console. He also reported the grant submitted for ARMER by Nicollet County Fire Departments was approved. Additional information should be available after the next Nicollet County Commissioner Board meeting.

Council Member Freyberg noted the 2012 LELS union contract with the Correctional Officers and 911 Dispatchers included a 1-1/2 percent Cost-of-Living Adjustment for 2012.

Consent Agenda

Council Member Schindle moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes:

- A. Application for Lasting Imprint "Our Community has Heart" 5K Run/Walk, Spring Lake Park, Saturday, May 5, 2012 from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Vote on the motion: Norland, Schindle, Freyberg and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Staff Reports**City Administrator****Application for Final Stretch, Inc. to hold North Mankato Triathlon, Sunday, July 1, 2012 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

Administrator Sande presented an application from Final Stretch, Inc. to hold the North Mankato Triathlon on Sunday, July 1, 2012 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. The Administrator reported that he along with the Mayor and Police Chief met with representatives of Final Stretch on February 27, 2012 to discuss requirements for a proposed triathlon. This would be a for-profit event, increased in size from the previous North Mankato Fun Days Triathlon and would be a closed course. At that meeting, it was agreed Final Stretch would comply with the following items in order to hold a triathlon in North Mankato:

1. Apply for a permit for the event.
2. Request Council approval of road closures from 8 a.m. to approximately 10 a.m. on Sunday, July 1, 2012.
3. Provide liability insurance for the event with the City as a named insured.
4. Reimburse the City of North Mankato for all personnel costs for public safety and public works personnel. That amount is estimated to be \$2,000. It was also agreed that should the event be postponed or cancelled without at least 24 hours prior notice, the required personnel costs would still be paid.
5. Reimburse the City of Mankato and Nicollet County for any personnel costs incurred.

Mayor Dehen stated that Mark Bongers of Final Stretch, Inc. is experienced and runs several triathlons each year. He believes future North Mankato Triathlons will be moved back a week so the event is not so close to the 4th of July. Council Member Freyberg raised the question of receiving a deposit from Final Stretch, Inc. with the application to hold the triathlon. Council Member Schindle expressed his concern about the closure of two main intersections. Mayor Dehen stated the intersections should be closed for approximately one hour for the bike portion of the event. **Council Member Freyberg moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to approve the application for Final Stretch, Inc. to hold the North Mankato Triathlon on Sunday, July 1, 2012 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. subject to the conditions as outline above. Vote on the motion: Norland, Schindle, Freyberg and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Res. No. 16-12 Authorizing the City of North Mankato to Act as the Fiscal Agent for the Minnesota River Valley Drug Task Force

Administrator Sande presented a resolution authorizing the City of North Mankato to act as fiscal agent for the Minnesota River Valley Drug Task Force for the period of January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2014. This is a joint venture with the Counties of Blue Earth, Martin, Nicollet and Watonwan, and the Cities of Mankato, Madelia, North Mankato, St. James and St. Peter. The Minnesota River Valley Drug Task Force investigates and prosecutes drug cases in member jurisdictions. **Council Member Schindle moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to adopt Resolution No. 16-12 Authorizing the City of North Mankato to act as the Fiscal Agent for the Minnesota River Valley Drug Task Force for the period of January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2014. Vote on the Resolution: Norland, Schindle, Freyberg and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Set Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting for 9 a.m. on Thursday, April 19, 2012 at Police Annex Community Room

Administrator Sande presented a letter from the Nicollet County Assessor setting the Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting for 9 a.m. on Thursday, April 19, 2012 in the North Mankato Police Annex Community Room. This is an opportunity for property owners to discuss the assessed market value of their property with County personnel and members of the Board of Appeal and Equalization. **Council Member Freyberg moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to set the Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting for 9 a.m. on Thursday, April 19, 2012 in the Police Annex Community Room. Vote on the motion: Norland, Schindle, Freyberg and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Set Spring Drop-off for April 20-21-22, 2012

Administrator Sande requested the spring drop-off be set for April 20, 21 and 22, 2012 reporting staff received positive comments on the drop-off that was held last fall. He reported the drop-off will be located at the Public Works compound at the corner of Sherman Street and Webster Avenue and Public Works personnel will be present to assist residents with the drop-off. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Schindle, to set spring drop-off for April 20-21-22, 2012 at the Public Works compound located at the corner of Sherman Street and Webster Avenue. Vote on the motion: Norland, Schindle, Freyberg and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Set Opening of Compost Site for April 2, 2012

Council Member Schindle moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to set the opening of the compost site for April 2, 2012. Vote on the motion: Norland, Schindle, Freyberg and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Set Water Main Flushing for April 23-May 4, 2012

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Freyberg, to set water main flushing for April 23-May 4, 2012. Vote on the motion: Norland, Schindle, Freyberg and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Schools and Conferences

Council Member Schindle moved, seconded by Council Member Freyberg, to approve actual and necessary expenses for the following schools and conferences:

1. Mass Fatality Workshop, Camp Ripley, May 1-3, for Police Chief.
2. Debris Management, St. Paul, April 10-11, for Police Chief.

Vote on the motion: Norland, Schindle, Freyberg and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

City Clerk**Voting Precincts and Polling Places**

Clerk Gehrke reported staff has met with Nicollet County and reviewed the precincts for the City of North Mankato based on population, Commissioner Districts and census blocks. She presented a preliminary precinct map outlining the boundaries for seven precincts. Precincts 1-3 will be in one Nicollet County Commissioner District and Precincts 4-6 will be in a second Nicollet County Commissioner District. Precinct 7 is in the growth area of the City and will be in a portion of a third

Nicollet County Commissioner District. The Clerk reported she has contacted potential polling locations and has received approval to hold elections at their facilities. All polling locations comply with Minnesota Statutes and are handicapped accessible. She reported a resolution establishing precincts and designating polling locations for the 2012 Primary and General Elections will be brought before the Council at the March 19, 2012 Council meeting.

City Engineer

Administer Sande reported the Minnesota Department of Transportation will be holding a public informational meeting for the T.H. 14/CSAH 41 Interchange and the T.H. 14 four-lane expansion project for all North Mankato businesses and interested residents. The meeting will be held on Thursday, March 15, 2012 from 4-7 p.m. in the North Mankato Municipal Building, 1001 Belgrade Avenue. He reported that T.H. 14 traffic will be detoured to county roads and city streets for the majority of Phase 1 construction. Information on detour routes, potential traffic impacts, and the anticipated project schedule will be presented at this meeting. Council Member Schindle requested property owners along County Road 6 be notified of the meeting. In response to a question, he reported that at the conclusion of the project County Road 6 will be severed at T.H. 14.

City Attorney

Attorney Kennedy reported back to the Council regarding the actions taken by the Stillwater City Council regarding their annual Lumberjack Days celebration. He reported the Stillwater Council adopted a resolution canceling the contract with the Lumberjack Days Festival Association, Inc., because among other things, the Lumberjack Days Association had not paid for goods and services rendered and delivered to the Association for the event, RES Specialty Pyrotechnics had not been paid for fireworks for the 4th of July and Lumberjack Days for the years 2008 and 2009 in the amount of \$104,620 even though the City of Stillwater had contributed \$40,000 toward the cost of fireworks in each of those years, vendors had not been paid in 2010 and 2011 and the City had not received verification of gate receipts for 2010. A copy of the City Attorney's full report on the Stillwater Lumberjack Days will be forwarded to the Council.

Report from Council Members

Council Member Norland

Council Member Norland thanked the Library Director for setting up the Foundation Center Grant Collection. Information is available at the North Mankato Taylor Library or on the North Mankato Taylor Library website.

Report from Mayor

Res. No. 17-12 Making Appointment to the Board of Appeal and Equalization

Mayor Dehen reported he has selected John Stoffel, who is an auditor with Eide Bailley, LLP, to fill an opening on the Board of Appeal and Equalization. **Council Member Schindle moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to adopt Resolution No. 17-12 appointing John Stoffel to the Board of Appeal and Equalization for the period of March 5, 2012 to December 31, 2013. Vote on the Resolution: Norland, Schindle, Freyberg and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

The Mayor reported "Coffee with the Council" will be held from 10-11 a.m. on Saturday, March 10, 2012 at a location yet to be determined.

Open the Meeting to the Public for the Second Time

Phil Henry, 1300 Noretta Drive

Phil Henry, 1300 Noretta Drive, appeared before the Council and asked if the expansion of the South Central Service Coop parking lot was a City project. Administrator Sande reported he is on the Board of the South Central Service Coop, that SCSC is expanding their parking lot and the City is not involved in the project.

Mr. Henry also inquired about the payment to the Minnesota Department of Health in the amount of \$7,466. Administrator Sande reported the City is mandated to collect \$.44 per month from each residence connected to City water and remit it to the Minnesota Department of Health.

Bills and Appropriations

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Freyberg, to approve all bills and appropriations in the amounts of \$78,090.87 and \$599,961.15. Vote on the motion: Norland, Schindle, Freyberg and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk