

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 September 15, 2014. Mayor Dehen called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m. asking that everyone join in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following were present for the meeting: Mayor Dehen, Council Members Norland, Freyberg, Spears, Steiner; City Administrator Harrenstein, Finance Director Thorne, Attorney Kennedy, City Clerk Van Genderen, Planner Fischer, and Public Works Director Swanson.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to approve the minutes of the Council Budget Workshop of August 25, 2014. Vote on the motion: Norland, Spears, Steiner, and Dehen, aye; Freyberg, abstained; no nays. Motion carried.

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the minutes of the Council Budget Workshop of September 2, 2014. Vote on the motion: Norland, Freyberg, Spears, Steiner, and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of September 2, 2014. Vote on the motion: Norland, Freyberg, Spears, Steiner, and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Public Hearing, 7 p.m. – Tax Increment Financing District No. IDD 1-23

The Mayor opened the public hearing to consider Tax Increment Financing District No. IDD 1-23 which was recommended by the North Mankato Port Authority at their meeting earlier in the evening. With no one appearing before the Council, the Mayor closed this portion of the meeting.

Consent Agenda

Council Member Freyberg moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 56-14 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Set Public Hearing for 7 p.m. on Monday, October 6, 2014 to Consider Electric Franchise Ordinances.
- D. Set Public Hearing for 7 p.m. on Monday, October 6, 2014 to Consider Vacation of Utility Easements in Presidential Estates.
- E. Application for 2014 Taxi Cab License for WS Transportation, LLC

Vote on the motion: Norland, Freyberg, Spears, Steiner and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried. Council Member Spears stated he would like the Electric Franchise Ordinance to include aesthetic concerns when the electric company trims trees. Mayor Dehen thanked Mankato United Soccer Club for their generous donation to the Caswell Park North Soccer Complex concession building.

Public Comments

Bradley Peterson with the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities (CGMC), appeared before the Council and presented a PowerPoint presentation on the work of the Coalition on behalf of Greater Minnesota. He stated CGMC lobbied for Local Government Aid and reported a \$7.8 million increase in 2015, and \$2.5 million increase in 2016. Rural Broadband received significant attention and received \$20 million in Supplemental Budget. CGMC joined Move MN Coalition to push for funding for transportation in 2015. CGMC also fought rushed regulations by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for new nutrient standards for rivers and streams. Council Member Spears questioned the feasibility of installing Broadband when technology moves so quickly. Administrator Harrenstein commented that the water regulations were inconsistent and hard to justify. Bradley appreciated the comments and wanted specific examples to help fight the water legislation. Council Member Freyberg commented that one of the City's focus was transportation and more money should be focused on roads and bridges.

Brian Mechler, 303 Belgrade, appeared before the Council and reported that the Mini-Maze kickoff would be Wednesday, September 17, 2014 or Thursday, September 18, 2014.

Phil Henry, 1300 Noretta Drive, appeared before the Council and stated that the donations list should indicate if the donation was money or an in-kind donation.

Business Items**Res. No. 57-14 Approving Tax Increment Financing District IDD No. 1-23**

Administrator Harrenstein stated the public hearing was held earlier in the evening and the resolution was recommended by the Port Authority Commission. **Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to adopt Res. No. 57-14 Approving Tax Increment Financing District IDD No. 1-23. Vote on the Resolution: Norland, Freyberg, Spears, Steiner, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Res. No. 58-14 Ordering and Accepting Feasibility Report, Ordering Improvements and Authorizing Preparation of Plans and Specifications for Project No. 14-03DEF, Lookout Drive Reconstruction and Roundabout

City Engineer Sarff appeared before the Council and presented a PowerPoint about the Lookout Drive Reconstruction and Roundabout. He stated the project was included in the City's Capital Improvement Plan for 2015 and significant federal funds were secured for the project. He provided an overview of the existing conditions stating the concrete pavement was in poor condition, the TH 14/WB ramp has poor sight conditions, the bridge deck was deteriorating, bridge railings do not meet current standards, and the bridge joints need rehabilitation. Sarff also stated that in 2011 Mn/DOT completed an Intersection Control Evaluation and recommended a roundabout for the TH 14/WB ramp. He provided the advantages and disadvantages of two design options, Design Option 1 had one roundabout while Design Option 2 had two roundabouts. Sarff stated they were recommending Design Option 2 with an estimated cost of \$4,528,000. Sarff provided the estimated project funding which included Federal Funds of \$3,084,000, other MnDOT State Funds of \$709,000, and the City (Municipal State Aid Fund Advance) \$735,000. Mayor Dehen asked if the interchanges would impact truck movement. Sarff stated Design 1 would have a tighter radius and trucks may encroach on the roadway, he said in Design 2 there should not be any problem. Administrator Harrenstein asked Sarff how far ahead would the City access State Aid. Sarff said the City would tap out Minnesota State Aid Funds for five years based on this project and current obligations. Council Member Spears asked if a conventional intersection would be more cost effective. Mayor Dehen responded that the cost would be

roughly the same but MnDOT's funding was predicated on a roundabout. Council Member Freyberg questioned how they suggested detouring traffic for the project. Public Works Director Swanson said they were recommending the use of Highway 41 keeping traffic away from residential areas. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner to approve Res. No. 58-14 Ordering and Accepting Feasibility Report, Ordering Improvements and Authorizing Preparation of Plans and Specifications for Project No. 14-03DEF, Lookout Drive Reconstruction and Roundabout with Design Option 2. Vote on the Resolution: Norland, Freyberg, Spears, and Steiner aye; Dehen abstained; no nays. Motion carried.**

Res. No. 59-14 Authorizing Advertisement for Bids and Setting Bid Opening Date for Well No. 6 Rehabilitation

City Engineer Sarff stated Well No. 6 is located in the Lower North Mankato water plant and underwent rehabilitation in 2007-2008. He reported that it is recommended that well rehabilitation occur every 6-8 years. Sarff reported that the well has a steel casing but it is missing part of that casing. He said the estimate for rehabilitating the well using a steel well casing is \$124,150.00. Administrator Harrenstein stated the cost was included in the Water Fund. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Spears to approve Res. No. 59-14 Authorizing Advertisement for Bids and Setting Bid Opening Date for Well No. 6 Rehabilitation. Vote on the Resolution: Norland, Freyberg, Spears, Steiner and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

City Administrator and Staff Comments

Public Works Director Swanson reported crews were working on the sidewalks at the Caswell North Soccer Fields, he was glad to report they were able to use the mill from the LorRay Drive project for the base of the sidewalk. He stated the Belgrade Hill project was focusing on utility and will begin asphalt work the week of September 22, 2014 with planned completion within 30 days.

Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Freyberg reported he attended the Intergovernmental Meeting and MPO Meeting.

Mayor Dehen stated the packet included a letter from the U.S. Hwy 14 Partnership.

Mayor Dehen reported the Intergovernmental Meeting discussed Riverfront Park noise with more discussion to be held in the future. He stated they planned to have CCTV operational at Bethany College by November 2014. They also discussed the Local Option Sales Tax.

Mayor Dehen asked if a Council Member would be available on September 27, 2014 to attend the Arf Walk in Land of Memories Park. Council Member Steiner said he would attend to represent the City of North Mankato.

Mayor Dehen stated that "Boogie on Belgrade" would occur on Friday, September 26, 2014 and Bier on Belgrade would be held Saturday, September 27, 2014. He requested Jim Whitlock from Business on Belgrade speak. Jim stated Bier on Belgrade would be from 12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. and would feature two bands, a Polka band and a rock and roll band. He also stated they would like the Council Members to sign-up for Vegetable Justice. Jim announced Business on Belgrade was granted 501(c)3 status and now held the same status as a Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Dehen reported 2014 Pack the Stands Soccer between Mankato East and Mankato West would be held at the Caswell North Soccer Fields on September 27, 2014.

Public Comments

Barb Church, 102 East Wheeler, appeared before the Council and asked when citizens could provide their input prior to the 2015 Budget Public Hearing. Mayor Dehen responded that comments were always welcome at Council Meetings during Public Comments and written comments submitted to himself, Council Members, or City Staff were also a good way to make recommendations. Barb also asked if there would be an opportunity for citizen input on the City's Comprehensive Plan. Administrator Harrenstein stated the Planning Commission would hear comments.

There being no further business, on a motion by Council Member Norland, seconded by Council Member Steiner, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk