

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 December 1, 2014. 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 Spears, Steiner, and Norland, City Administrator Harrenstein, Finance Director Thorne, Attorney Kennedy, City Clerk Van Genderen, Planner Fischer, and Public Works Director Swanson. Absent: Council Member Freyberg.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the minutes of the Council workshop and Council meeting of November 17, 2014. Vote on the motion: Spears, Steiner, Norland and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Public Hearing, 7 p.m.-2015 Budget and Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, 2015-2019

The Mayor opened the public hearing to consider the 2015 Budget and Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, 2015-2019. Administrator Harrenstein stated Finance Director Thorne would present a PowerPoint on the 2015 Budget and Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, 2015-2019. Finance Director Thorne reported the overall expenditures increased \$25,890 from the Preliminary 2015 Budget to a total of \$18,892,166. The overall revenues increased \$226,058 from the Preliminary 2015 Budget to a total of \$18,349,053. She noted the General Fund increase of \$70,120 is from \$25,000 in franchise tax and \$8,000 in transfers from Community Development and \$37,120 from the Wastewater Fund. Administrator Harrenstein reported \$25,000 of the \$70,000 increase in General Fund Revenue would be raised by an increase in Franchise Taxes similar to the raise adopted by Mankato. The Franchise Tax increase would be from 3% to 5% and the Council would be presented the opportunity to adopt the increase after the 2015 Budget was set. Finance Director Thorne reported the Capital Facilities and Equipment Replacement Fund will receive transfers from the Water, Wastewater, Storm Water and Sanitation Funds each year. Finance Director Thorne stated the 2015 property tax levy will remain at \$5,596,414 as set in September; with the General Fund levy at \$3,991,414, the Port Authority Levy at \$75,000 and the Debt Service Levy at \$1,530,000. The City expected to maintain a tax rate of 54%, as in the past two years, but due to an estimated 4.8% increase in market values the tax rate will decrease to 53.620%. With no one else appearing before the Council the Mayor closed the public hearing.

Consent Agenda

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

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 85-14 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. License Renewals for 2015.
- D. Set January 5, 2015 for bid opening on Materials and Rental Equipment for 2015.
- E. Set Public Hearing for 7 p.m. on Monday, January 5, 2015 for Revision of Code of Ordinances.
- F. Res. No. 86-14 Delinquent Utility Assessment Certification.

Vote on the motion: Spears, Steiner, Norland and Dehen aye; no nays. Council Member Norland thanked Delta-Kappa Gamma for their generous donation to the Library.

Public Comments

Barb Church, 102 East Wheeler noted Section 91.02C of the City Code concerning license fees for pets references an incorrect section for setting license fees. She indicated she would like more information concerning the new garbage and recycling carts.

Ellen Koenig, 145 Pebble Creek Drive, Mankato reported Bells on Belgrade would be held on Saturday, December 6, 2014 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. She stated a variety of events and activities are planned for the inaugural event, including trolley rides, a medallion hunt, and a visit from Santa and his elves.

Business Items

None.

City Administrator and Staff Comments

None.

Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Steiner thanked Public Works Director Swanson and staff for decorating the City for Christmas.

Mayor Dehen reported there would be no formal Coffee with the Council but he would be at Bells on Belgrade on Saturday, December 6, 2014 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Public Comments

With no one appearing before the Council the Mayor closed this portion of the meeting.

There being no further business, on a motion by Council Member Norland, seconded by Council Member Steiner, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk