

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 February 3, 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 Freyberg, Spears and Steiner, City Administrator Harrenstein, Finance Director Thorne, City Clerk Gehrke, Attorney Kennedy, Planner Fischer and Public Works Director Swanson. Absent: Council Member Norland.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Freyberg moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of January 21, 2014. Vote on the motion: Freyberg, Spears, Steiner and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

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

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 10-14 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Audio and Large Group Permit for True Value Picnic, Spring Lake Park, Saturday, August 2, 2014 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- D. Parade Permit for March of Dimes March for Babies Annual Walk on Sunday, April 13, 2014, noon to 4 p.m.
- E. Audio and Large Group Permit for March of Dimes, Wheeler Park, Sunday, April 13, 2014, 1-4 p.m. (Audio 1-2 p.m. and 3-4 p.m. only).
- F. Audio and Large Group Permit for "Movies in the Park," Spring Lake Park, June 13, 2014 from 7-10 p.m. and August 15, 2014 from 7-10 p.m.
- G. Res. No. 11-14 Authorizing Temporary Extension to Electrical and Cable Communication Franchises.
- H. Set Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting for Thursday, April 24, 2014 at 9 a.m. in the Police Annex Community Room.
- I. Add Signatories to Frandsen Bank and Wells Fargo Bank Accounts.

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

Public Comments

John Hurd, 732 Garfield Avenue

John Hurd, 732 Garfield Avenue, appeared before the Council to speak about the property known as 1610 LorRay Drive noting the farmstead has very old oak trees. He asked the City Council to consider options for buying and preserving the property.

Erin Simmons, 52698 Valley View Circle, North Mankato

Erin Simmons, 52698 Valley View Circle, North Mankato, appeared before the Council to speak on behalf of the American Lung Association voicing their opposition to e-cigarettes

Rhonda Geving, 506 Ivanhoe Court

Rhonda Geving, 506 Ivanhoe Court, appeared before the Council and asked their consideration to keep the property known as 1610 LorRay Drive as residential. Administrator Harrenstein reported the Planning Commission will be discussing the Land Use Map in the next month. Council Member Steiner asked if application for Heritage Funds or some other source could be a possibility to secure this property. Administrator Harrenstein stated staff will review options and email the Council.

Bess Tsaouse, 136 Mary Circle

Bess Tsaouse, 136 Mary Circle, appeared before the Council and asked if the City had a tree ordinance prohibiting cutting down large trees. Planner Fischer reported the City did not have a tree ordinance. Ms. Tsaouse also asked if funds may be obtained through the Audubon Society for purchase of the property at 1610 LorRay Drive.

Barb Church, 102 E. Wheeler Avenue

Barb Church, 102 E. Wheeler Avenue, appeared before the Council and stated Envision 2020 talks about a Historic Preservation group who would inventory the community for historical sites and provide suggestions of how to preserve them. Council Member Spears noted there is nothing preventing citizens from forming their own Historic Preservation group.

Business Items**Set Public Hearing for 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 to Consider E-Cigarette Ordinances**

Attorney Kennedy reported he met with Planner Fischer and Chief Boyer regarding e-cigarettes. He drafted two e-cigarette ordinances; the first for the sale of products and consumption on premises and the second relating to the use of e-cigarettes. He reported the ordinance relating to the use of e-cigarettes primarily prohibits the same locations as the Indoor Clean Air Act. The Attorney reported the City of Mankato has adopted ordinances similar to the ones he presented, which are based on the League of Minnesota Cities model ordinances. He stated the item before the Council tonight is to set a public hearing to consider the E-Cigarette Ordinances. If the Council sets a public hearing, the Attorney stated those citizens wishing to provide information regarding these ordinances should forward their comments to the City Clerk prior to the public hearing or appear at the public hearing. **Council Member Spears moved not to set a public hearing. This motion died for lack of a second. Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Freyberg, to set a public hearing for 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 to Consider E-Cigarette Ordinances. Vote on the motion: Freyberg, Steiner and Dehen, aye; Spears, nay. Motion carried.**

City Administrator and Staff Comments**Discuss Old Belgrade Hill Neighborhood Meeting**

Administrator Harrenstein requested a meeting be held at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 with the residents affected by the Old Belgrade Hill Project.

Public Works Director Swanson

The Public Works Director reported removal of snow from the boulevards is underway. He also reported that he spoke with Greg Hansen, Hansen Sanitation, and they are on schedule and conducting business as usual after the fire at their warehouse which destroyed seven trucks.

Mayor and Council Members

Council Member Steiner

Council Member Steiner reported he has received complaints about residents not shoveling their sidewalks. Administrator Harrenstein reported a notice will go out in the next e-newsletter regarding the City Code regulation which requires residents to shovel their sidewalks no later than 48 hours after the snow has stopped.

Council Member Steiner reported he was contacted by a resident who stated appreciation for the roadside assistance received from Officer Jeremy Swenson during a snowstorm.

Mayor

Coffee with the Council

The Mayor reported Coffee with the Council will be held at Belgrade Business Center, 422 Belgrade Avenue, Suite 103, on Saturday, February 8, 2014 from 10-11 a.m.

The Mayor invited Council and staff to join the "Mayor's Maniacs" team to raise funds in the Pedal Past Poverty event which will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2014 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Mankato YMCA.

Public Comments

Jim Whitlock, 332 Belgrade Avenue

Jim Whitlock, 332 Belgrade Avenue, appeared before the Council and reported that Boogie on Belgrade will take place Friday, February 7, 2014 with 5 bars/restaurants having bands starting at 8 p.m. He reported that Business on Belgrade will hold a total of four events this year.

There being no further business, on a motion by Council Member Steiner, seconded by Council Member Freyberg, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk