

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 January 6, 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 Steiner, Norland, Freyberg and Spears, City Administrator Harrenstein, City Clerk Gehrke, Attorney Kennedy, Engineer Sarff, Planner Fischer and Public Works Director Swanson. Absent: Finance Director Thorne.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Council Member Freyberg asked that Item 7.H. Application for Tobacco and Soft Drink Licenses for Freyberg Management d/b/a Shell on LorRay be removed from the Consent Agenda to be voted on as a separate item. Mayor Dehen asked that Item 9.D. Attorney Client Privileged Closed Session to discuss Chester litigation and Church litigation be moved to the end of the agenda. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the agenda with these two changes. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, Freyberg, Spears and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

### **Approval of Minutes**

Administrator Harrenstein asked that one sentence of Council Member Spear's remarks regarding amendments to the zoning districts be removed from the minutes. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the minutes of the Council Workshop of December 16, 2013 and the minutes of the Council meeting of December 16, 2013, as amended. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, Freyberg, Spears and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

### **Consent Agenda**

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

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 01-14 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Res. No. 02-14 Designating Official Newspaper.
- D. Res. No. 03-14 Designating Depositories for City.
- E. Res. No. 04-14 Setting Fees and Charges.
- F. Res. No. 05-14 Setting Mileage Rate Fee for 2014.
- G. Res. No. 06-14 Approving Consent Assessment ó 630 Lyndale Street.

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

### **Application for Tobacco and Soft Drink Licenses for Freyberg Management d/b/a Shell on LorRay**

Tyler Freyberg appeared before the Council and reported he is in the process of completing the paperwork to open the business to be known as Shell on LorRay at 1711 LorRay Drive. He stated he is hopeful the business will be open by February 1, 2014. **Council Member Spears moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to approve the application for tobacco and soft drink licenses for 2014 for Shell on LorRay, 1711 LorRay Drive. Vote on**

**the motion: Steiner, Norland, Spears and Dehen, aye; Freyberg abstained; no nays. Motion carried.**

### **Public Comments**

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

### **Business Items**

#### **Purchase of New Bookmobile**

Library Director Lowry appeared before the Council and reported that several months ago the Council renewed its commitment service and gave its approval for the Library Director to seek grant funds to purchase a used bookmobile to replace the existing vehicle. She reported that thanks to the generosity of several area foundations and business which include the Carl and Verna Schmidt Foundation - \$15,000, Taylor Corporation - \$10,000, Mankato Area Foundation - \$1,600 for a public access computer, and the Otto Bremer Foundation - \$30,500. The City Administrator thanked the Library Director for her efforts in obtaining funding through grants for the new bookmobile.

#### **Discuss Proposed Vision Statement for Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

Planner Fischer reported the Planning Commission reviewed the Vision Statement for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan on December 11, 2013 and recommended its approval. Council Member Spears inquired if the policies that expand the tax base were initiated by City staff. Administrator Harrenstein reported this policy recommendation came out of the economic development stakeholder meetings; however, staff does concur with their recommendation. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Freyberg, to approve the Vision Statement for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, Freyberg, Spears and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

#### **Consider Approving the Purchase of Property at 410 Range Street**

Administrator Harrenstein presented a Purchase Agreement for the property known as 410 Range Street. He reported this property would be used to further enhance the ability to solve parking needs in the downtown area and stated it is a prudent use of City resources. Council Member Steiner asked if the house on this property would be relocated. Planner Fischer reported the Building Inspectors have inspected the home and believes the layout is not conducive to moving the house. Administrator Harrenstein reported that all salvageable items will be auctioned off. The Mayor suggested the home may be used for firefighter training prior to demolition.

#### **Res. No. 07-14 Authorizing the Purchase of Real Estate**

**Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to adopt Resolution No. 07-14 Authoring the Purchase of Real Estate – 410 Range Street. Vote on the Resolution: Steiner, Norland, Freyberg, Spears and Dehen; aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

**City Administrator and Staff Comments**

**Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2012**

Administrator Harrenstein presented the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2012. Notification of this Certificate of Achievement appeared in the *Free Press* on January 6, 2014.

**Mayor and Council Members**

**Appointment to Boards, Commissions and Other Positions**

The Mayor presented the list of appointments to be made for 2014 as follows: Reappoint Rick Haman to the Planning Commission for a 4-year term through 2017; Appoint Aaron Roush to the Planning Commission for a 4-year term through 2017; Reappoint Bill Borchardt to the Traffic and Safety Committee for a 1-year term; Reappoint John Stoffel to the Board of Appeal and Equalization for a 3-year term through 2016; Appoint Alyssa Brekke to the Board of Appeal and Equalization for a 3-year term through 2016; Reappoint Dave Arnold to the North Mankato Port Authority Commission for a 6-year term through 2019; Reappoint Kelly McDonough to the North Mankato Taylor Library Board for a 3-year term through 2016; Reappoint John Andersen and Tom Schwinghammer to the North Mankato Bicycle Commission for 2-year terms through 2015; Reappoint Billy Steiner to the Housing and Redevelopment Authority for a 5-year term through 2018; Appoint Billy Steiner as Acting Mayor; Appoint Kennedy & Kennedy as City Attorney; Appoint Bolton & Menk as Consulting Civil Engineer; Appoint Northland Securities, Inc. as Bond Consultant; Appoint Abdo, Eick & Meyers as Auditor; Appoint Todd Mettler as Weed Inspector; Appoint Bruce Royer as Plumbing Inspector; and Appoint Derek Tostenson as Construction Inspector. **Council member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Spears, to approve the above listed appointments to Boards, Commissions and other positions. Vote on the motion: Norland, Freyberg, Spears and Dehen, aye; Steiner nay. Motion carried.**

**Res. No. 08-14 Approving City Council Committee Assignments**

Mayor Dehen presented Resolution No. 08-14 Approving City Council Committee Assignments for 2014 as follows:

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|------------------------|--|
| Mayor Mark Dehen       | Nicollet County/City of North Mankato Liaison Committee<br>Port Authority Commission<br>Personnel Committee<br>Intergovernmental Cooperation Advisory Committee<br>Cities/Colleges/Universities Advisory Council<br>Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities<br>North Mankato Fire Relief Association<br>Highway 14 Partnership |
| Council Member Steiner | North Mankato Taylor Library Board<br>Port Authority Commission<br>Intergovernmental Youth Assets<br>Envision 2020   |

Council Member Norland	Region Nine Development Commission Envision 2020 Mankato Area Community Services Council North Mankato Park and Green Spaces Committee Port Authority Commission
Council Member Freyberg	All Seasons Arena Board Intergovernmental Cooperation Advisory Committee Nicollet County Recycling Task Force North Mankato Planning Commission Port Authority Commission Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Council Member Spears	Region Nine Development Commission (Alternate) Personnel Committee Nicollet County/City of North Mankato Liaison Committee Community Center Task Force Port Authority Commission Traffic & Safety Committee Passenger Rail Group

**Council Member Freyberg moved, seconded by Council Member Spears to adopt Resolution No. 08-14 Approving City Council Committee Assignments. Vote on the Resolution: Norland, Freyberg, Spears and Dehen, aye; Steiner nay. Motion carried.**

**Council Member Steiner**

Council Member Steiner expressed his disappointment that he was taken off the Personnel Committee.

**Council Member Norland**

Council Member Norland reported the Region 9 Development Commission has information regarding: Made in Minnesota Solar Incentive Programs whereby residents and businesses can apply for the incentive to help defray the cost to install a solar electric system. Applications are online at the Minnesota Solar Incentive Program webpage, Minnesota Department of Commerce. She also reported the Minnesota Department of Agriculture has information regarding the NextGen Grant RFP to create facilities that produce or will produce bioenergy, biobased content or bioformulated products. This information may be located at <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/en/renewable/nextgen/~media/Files/renewable/ag0353bioenergy.ashx>.

Council Member Norland congratulated the Library Director for her success at gathering donations for a new bookmobile.

Council Member Norland thanked the Public Works Director for the work that is beginning in Benson Park.

**Council Member Steiner**

Council Member Steiner expressed kudos to the Street Department on the outstanding job plowing the streets during the Christmas and New Year holidays. The Public Works Director gave an update regarding snow emergencies reporting the City seldom calls a snow emergency; however, when a snow emergency is called, there is no parking on any street until the street has been plowed curb-to-curb.

**Mayor**

The Mayor reported that "Coffee with the Council" will be held from 10-11 a.m. on Saturday, January 11, 2014 at the Circle Inn, 232 Belgrade Avenue.

The Mayor reported a Bike Commission meeting will be held January 15, 2014 to discuss volunteer help for the Safe to Schools Program for the hilltop area.

**City Attorney**

The City Attorney reported the Council would convene to a closed meeting to discuss developments in the Chester litigation and the appeal by Barbara Church on the Marigold property.

There being no further business, on a motion by Council Member Freyberg, seconded by Council Member Norland, the meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

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Mayor

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City Clerk