

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 October 5, 2015. 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 roll call: Mayor Dehen, Council Members Freyberg, Spears and Norland, City Administrator Harrenstein, Finance Director Thorne, Attorney Kennedy, City Clerk Van Genderen, City Planner Fischer and Public Works Director Swanson. Absent: Council Member Steiner.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Council Workshop Minutes

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Freyberg to approve the minutes of the Council Workshop meeting of September 21, 2015. Vote on the motion: Freyberg, Spears, Norland and Dehen aye. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Freyberg to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of September 21, 2015. Vote on the motion: Freyberg, Spears, Norland and Dehen aye. Motion carried.

Public Hearing-Proposed Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan Figure 3-2: Future Land Use.

City Planner Fischer reviewed the request from Commerce Drive Dental. The request was initiated by Commerce Drive Dental who owns 2.7 acres of vacant land currently zoned General Commercial and guided in the Comprehensive Plan as General Commercial. The property has been for sale for approximately six years and Commerce Drive Dental is requesting a change to the Comprehensive Plan to guide the property as either General Commercial or Industrial which reflects the zoning of the lots to the east of the property allowing for broader marketing.

Consent Agenda

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

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 77-15 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Res. No. 78-15 Approving Waiving Waiting Period for Exemption from Lawful Gambling License for Holy Rosary Church.
- D. Approve Parade Permit for Dance Conservatory of Southern Minnesota's Tutu & Turkey Run 5K at Benson Park on Saturday, November 14, 2015 from 10 am to 11 am.
- E. Res. No. 79-15 Approving the Proposed Transfer of the Cable Franchise Currently Held by CC VIII Operating, LLC d/b/a Charter Communications.
- F. Res. No. 80-15 Approving Limited Use Permit Agreement with the Commissioner of Transportation of the State of Minnesota.
- G. Approval of State Aid for Local Transportation Supplemental Agreement.
- H. Approval of Grant Administration Contract between the City of North Mankato and Minnesota Valley Action Council, Inc.

Vote on the motion: Freyberg, Spears, Norland and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried. Council Member Spears requested clarification on the State Aid for Local Transportation Supplemental

Agreement. City Engineer Dan Sarff appeared before Council and stated this was a change order. He indicated the right turn lane and the subsequent drainage work will be beneficial to the area. Currently the project is under budget and the change order should not increase the cost of the project. City Engineer Dan Sarff reported the project should be completed close to schedule at the end of October 2015.

Public Comments

Barb Church, 102 Wheeler Avenue, appeared before Council and requested clarification on the criteria the Council uses to determine if an organization is eligible for charitable gambling contributions. Ms. Church requested reinstating the brush pick-up. Ms. Church indicated the proposed addendum to the Parks Plan should not be adopted until the community had a chance to respond to the proposed Caswell Park Expansion.

Bess Tsaouse, 136 Mary Circle, appeared before Council and indicated the addendum to the Parks Plan should not be adopted because the expansion of Caswell Park would only be used by a select part of the population. Ms. Tsaouse stated she had copied a portion of the Parks Plan, a survey completed in 2008, which indicated at that time that most citizens wanted improved pedestrian and biking trails.

John Hurd, 732 Garfield Avenue, appeared before Council and stated he wanted the City to purchase the property located at 1610 Lor Ray Drive for a park.

Business Items

Res. No. 81-15 Ordering Preparation of Report on Improvement for Project No. 15-02ABCDE Roe Crest Drive Improvement Project.

City Engineer Dan Sarff appeared before Council and indicated the Roe Crest Drive Improvement Project is included in the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan and is currently scheduled for 2016. The City is currently conducting investigations to determine the condition of the existing street surface, subgrade conditions, and underground utility systems. It is anticipated that improvement alternatives may include: rehabilitation of the existing street surface only; partial reconstruction of the street and/or utilities; and complete reconstruction of the street and/or utilities. As indicated by the proposed schedule included in the packet a public information meeting would also be held early in the process to provide information and gather input from the property owners within the proposed project area. The feasibility study would consider the cost of the various improvement alternatives and evaluate available funding sources, including Municipal State Aid funds and special assessments. Council Member Spears requested clarification on what would be involved in the study. City Engineer Sarff indicated the Public Works department has been working on the investigation including taking core samples and televising the sewers. Administrator Harrenstein indicated the schedule was preliminary and the study would provide more information about the road. Council Member Spears requested clarification on the cost of the feasibility report. City Engineer Sarff reported the cost would be approximately \$5,000. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Freyberg to adopt Res. No. 81-15 Ordering Preparation of Report on Improvement for Project No. 15-02ABCDE Roe Crest Drive Improvement Project. Vote on the motion: Freyberg, Spears, Norland and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Res. No. 82-15 Amending Comprehensive Plan Figure 3-2: Future Land Use. Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Freyberg to adopt Res. No. 82-15

Amending Comprehensive Plan Figure 3-2: Future Land Use. Vote on the motion: Freyberg, Spears, Norland and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Consider Draft Addendum to North Mankato Parks Plan-Caswell Indoor Recreation.

Administrator Harrenstein stated he agreed with citizens Barb Church and Bess Tsaouse that the plan needs public comment and support before it is included in the Parks Plan. Administrator Harrenstein stated that in May Council recognized the regional and national asset of Caswell Park and directed staff to explore options for the site. Administrator Harrenstein reported the draft plan, which was discussed with interested groups, meets a need in the community for additional ice. He stated staff is requesting the Council approve bringing the plan to regional partners and the public for discussion.

Administrator Harrenstein introduced Amanda Prosser and Bryan Paulsen from I&S Group, an architectural firm, to review the proposed plan. Ms. Prosser reviewed the landscape design which included improved pedestrian access, improved public gathering, enhanced bicycling, consolidation of parking and the implementation of signage to improve flow and brand Caswell Park. Mr. Paulsen reviewed the proposed three phases of development. Phase 1 includes an indoor Hockey Arena composed of a single sheet of ice and would cost between \$6.8 and 8.2 million. Phase 2 includes construction of an aquatic facility and/or a second sheet of ice and would cost between \$5.0 and \$9.0 million. Phase 3 includes construction of either a second or third sheet of ice and would cost between \$5.0 and \$6.0 million dollars.

Mayor Dehen stated staff would like Council approval to send the draft plan out to regional partners, user groups and the general public for comments. Council Member Freyberg reported he spoke with the All Seasons Arena board members who expressed concern that the plan did not go through proper channels and was brought to the public. He also indicated the first Technical Advisory Team meeting would be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 and releasing a plan before the first meeting was concerning. Council Member Spears indicated he did not approve of presenting the draft plan and the City should wait for others to propose a plan. Administrator Harrenstein indicated City Staff responded to Council direction and prepared a plan for discussion and staff wanted to obtain permission from Council to bring the plan before the regional partners for further discussion. Council Member Freyberg requested Administrator Harrenstein submit the information to the All Seasons Arena Board for review. Mayor Dehen directed staff to put a copy of the proposed plan online for public comment.

City Administrator and Staff Comments

Public Works Director Swanson reminded citizens that fall drop-off at the Public Works Department located at 610 Webster Avenue would be held October 9-11, 2015.

Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Spears stated the City Council has not been supportive of grass roots organizations and would like the Council to support the Friends of North Mankato's efforts to purchase the property located at 1610 LorRay Drive. **Council Member Spears moved to pass a Resolution including the purchase of the property located at 1610 LorRay Drive in the Capital Improvement Plan.** With no one seconding the motion Mayor Dehen dismissed the motion.

Council Member Freyberg invited the Council and the public to the Mankato/North Mankato Area Planning Organization open house on October 15, 2015 from 5-7 pm in the Mankato Room at the Intergovernmental Center located at 10 Civic Center Plaza.

Council Member Norland commented that garbage can lids should be shut on residents' carts when they are brought out for pick-up.

Mayor Dehen indicated citizens can exchange their garbage or recycling cart one time free of charge.

Mayor Dehen reported he attended the D & K Powder Coating open house and appreciated the opportunity to tour the facility. He also congratulated D & K Powder Coating on already beginning expansion of the facility.

Mayor Dehen read a memorial tribute for former Planning Commissioner Mark Weinstein.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission and the Community of North Mankato lost a valued member and leader on August 30, 2015, with the passing of Planning Commissioner Mark Weinstein; and

WHEREAS, Mark Weinstein was a tireless advocate for the North Mankato community by his involvement in the Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, Mark was a respected businessman in Mankato for over 35 years; and

WHEREAS, Mark was a tireless advocate for those in need and never wanted anyone to go hungry;

NOW THEREFORE, I Mark Dehen, Mayor of the City of North Mankato, Minnesota, on behalf of the Planning Commission and the City of North Mankato honor Mark Weinstein and remember his service to the community and extend our sincerest condolences to his friends and family.

Public Comments

Bess Tsaouse, 136 Mary Circle, appeared before Council and reiterated that the Caswell Park expansion does not belong in the Parks Plan and the public is not interested in ice sheets.

John Hurd, 732 Garfield Avenue, appeared before Council and thanked Council Member Spears for his support and stated he would not give up on the purchase of the property located at 1610 LorRay Drive.

James Dimock, 1948 Howard Drive, appeared before Council and asked Council Members if they would support the purchase of the property located at 1610 LorRay Drive if the owner of the property would sell to the City of North Mankato or the Friends of North Mankato.

There being no further business, on a motion by Council Member Norland, seconded by Council Member Freyberg, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk