

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 April 20, 2020. City Administrator Harrenstein on March 31, 2020, under MN Statute Section 13D.021, declared the use of electronic meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mayor Dehen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, asking that everyone join in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following were present remotely through Zoom for roll call: Council Members Oachs, Whitlock, Steiner, City Attorney Kennedy, Finance Director McCann, Community Development Director Fischer, and Public Works Director Host, present in the Council Chambers for roll call: Council Member Norland, Mayor Dehen, City Administrator Harrenstein, and City Clerk Van Genderen. Citizen participation was available through teleconference and live stream of the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes April 6, 2020.

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of April 6, 2020. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the Consent Agenda.

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 36-20 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.

Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Public Comments Concerning Business Items on the Agenda

None.

Business Items

Res. No. 37-20 Resolution Approving MN/DOT Contract No. 1036826 Appointing Mn/DOT as the City's Agent in Accepting Federal Aid Funds in Conjunction with the Dakota Meadows Safe Routes to School Project.

City Engineer Sarff, joined the meeting through the Zoom application, reported the federal funding of Dakota Meadows Safe Routes to School Project has been programmed in the state Transportation Improvement Program for years 2020 and 2021. The City of North Mankato plans to construct the Dakota Meadows Safe Routes to School Project in 2020. The City must designate the State of Minnesota, through its Commissioner of Transportation as an agent of the City to accept the federal funds on behalf of the City to secure the federal funds in advance of the years that the funds are designated.

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to Adopt Res. No. 37-20 Approving MN/DOT Contract No. 1036826 Appointing Mn/DOT as the City's Agent in Accepting Federal Aid Funds in Conjunction with the Dakota Meadows Safe Routes to School

Project. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Res. No. 38-20 Approving Plans and Specifications and Ordering Advertisement for Bids Project No. 19-07 DEF Dakota Meadows Middle School Safe Routes to School Improvement Project.

City Engineer Sarff reported plans and specifications had been prepared for the Dakota Meadows Middle School SRTS Improvement Project. The project includes replacement of the existing, 4-foot wide sidewalk along the south side of Howard Drive from Lookout Drive to Lor Ray Drive with an 8-foot wide multi-use concrete trail. Construction of a new 8-foot wide multi-use trail from Howard Drive to Carlson Drive. New lighting on the multi-use trail extending from Howard Drive to Carlson Drive. Construction of mid-block crossings with Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons on Howard Drive and Carlson Drive to provide safer crossings for pedestrians and bicyclists. The estimated project cost is \$946,500, with Federal Funds paying \$352,300, and City funds and special assessments paying \$594,200.

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock, to Adopt Res. No. 38-20 Approving Plans and Specifications and Ordering Advertisement for Bids Project No. 19-07 DEF Dakota Meadows Middle School Safe Routes to School Improvement Project. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Open Forum

None.

City Administrator and Staff Comments

City Administrator Harrenstein reported Governor Walz had expanded the recreation opportunities, but the City currently plans to continue to close playgrounds until the stay at home order is lifted.

City Administrator Harrenstein reported Spring pickup has been postponed and will become a spring drop-off. Still, it is recommended to wait until after the stay at home order has been lifted by the governor.

City Administrator Harrenstein said a global view of the budget is not ready, but staff will likely be able to provide an overview during the budget process.

Public Works Director Host reported staff was not prepared to set tentative dates for the spring drop-off until more information is received from the governor's office.

Finance Director McCann said the Port Authority had received 14 COVID-19 loan applications for a total request of \$153,850. Of those applications, only ten were eligible and a total of \$111,350, eligible funds with \$79,500 already disbursed.

Council Member Norland commented that if there were childcare centers interested in grant money to visit the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation website for more information.

Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Norland thanked all those who donated to swim-pass funds. She hoped the swim facility would be opened.

Council Member Oachs thanked the Port Authority for the COVID-19 loan program, commenting that it was providing necessary funds to help keep businesses operating.

Council Member Whitlock said that the Godzilla statue was wearing a mask and social distancing. He wished Mayor Dehen a happy birthday.

Mayor Dehen encouraged residents to stay at home to help slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Council Member Norland encouraged anyone struggling with everything going on to contact the Nicollet County Public Health agency and get help.

At 7:23 pm on a motion by Council Member Steiner, seconded by Council Member Norland, the Council Meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

City Clerk