

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, 2020. 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: Council Members Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs, and Mayor Dehen, City Administrator Harrenstein, City Attorney Kennedy, Finance Director McCann, Community Development Director Fischer, Public Works Director Host, and City Clerk Van Genderen.

Approval of Agenda

Council Member Oachs requested Item 9I be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion in the Business Items. Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the amended agenda. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes January 21, 2020.

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of January 21, 2020. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Approval of Council Work Session Minutes January 27, 2020.

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to approve the minutes of the Council Work Session of January 27, 2020. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Proclamation

*Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week
February 7-14, 2020*

WHEREAS, the health and well-being of our children is of paramount importance; and

WHEREAS, each year in the United States, more than 40,000 babies are born with a congenital heart defect; and

WHEREAS, the medical community has identified congenital heart defects as the leading cause of birth defect-related deaths; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial that parents, pediatricians, and all those in the health profession have a greater awareness of the potential for congenital heart defects among newborns and children; and

WHEREAS, Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week provides the opportunity for families and patients affected by these conditions to share their experiences and knowledge with the public, so that we all may be made more aware of how this defect affects all our lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Dehen, Mayor of the City of North Mankato, Minnesota, do hereby proclaim February 7-14, 2020, to be

Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week

in the City of North Mankato and encourage all North Mankato residents to join me in this special observance.

Consent Agenda

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

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 13-20 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Approved Parade and Audio Permit for South Central College 5K Fun Run on April 25, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- D. Approved Renewal of Caswell Sports On-Sale Liquor License from April 30, 2020, to April 30, 2021.
- E. Set Spring Clean-up for April 20-24 for the Valley and April 27-May 1 for the Hilltop.
- F. Set Public Hearing for 7 pm on February 18, 2020, for Revision of Code of Ordinances.
- G. Set Spring Water Main Flushing for April 13 through May 1, 2020.
- H. Res. No. 14-20 Appointing Election Judges.
- I. Res. No. 15-20 Approving Consent Assessment.

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. 16-20 Accepting Bid Project No. 20-01 DE 2020 Street and Miscellaneous Paving Improvement Project.

Public Works Director Host reviewed the proposed project, which included Street and Alley Mill & Overlays including:

- Nottingham Drive from Lor Ray Drive to the curve between Nottingham Court and Sherwood Drive
- Lor Ray from Lee Boulevard to Noretta Drive
- Peregrine Lane
- Commerce Lane from Commerce Drive to Lookout Drive
- Hodgson Road
- Clare Drive from Roe Crest Drive to Clare Court
- Alley between South Avenue and Nicollet Avenue from Sherman Street to Cross Street
- Benson Park Parking Lot Wearing Course

He reported three bids were submitted and the low bid was from W.W. Blacktopping, Inc. at \$418,160.70, which was approximately 7% below the engineer's estimate of \$447,300. Director Host did note an error in the resolution stating the third bid was listed incorrectly in the resolution. City Clerk Van Genderen noted the error would be corrected. Director Host noted additional projects were out to bid, but those were separate because they would utilize Municipal State Aid Funds. City Administrator Harrenstein noted an update on the pavement management plan would be presented to Council at a Council Work Session. Staff recommended approval of the resolution. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner to adopt Res. No. 16-20 Accepting Bid Project No. 20-01 DE 2020 Street and Miscellaneous Paving Improvement Project. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Res. No. 17-20 Adopting the Caswell Fieldhouse Financial Feasibility Study.

City Administrator Harrenstein reported Council Members had received the document titled Caswell Fieldhouse Financial Feasibility Study and a presentation concerning the document was provided at a Council Work Session. The document is available online for review on the website. Council Member Oachs stated she wanted to make sure all Council Members were aware that by approving the resolution, Council is accepting that the fieldhouse may operate with a deficit. Council Member Steiner noted the proposal did make it into Governor Walz's bonding bill. Mayor Dehen commented there is a lot to complete but the inclusion in the bill is the first step. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock to Adopt Res. No. 17-20 Adopting the Caswell Fieldhouse Financial Feasibility Study. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Oachs, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Open Forum

Michelle Holmgren, 125 Monroe Avenue, appeared before Council and reported concerns about traffic parking on both sides of the street near the corner of Lyndale and Wheeler, especially when the streets have not been plowed curb to curb. Lieutenant Morgan reported he had noted the same difficulty while on patrol. City Administrator Harrenstein noted plows would be going through the area to plow curb to curb and the issue would be brought before the Traffic and Safety Committee to determine if changes need to be made to the parking.

Barb Church, 102 Wheeler Avenue, appeared before Council and reported she attended the Pollinator Garden meetings and requested that the meetings be conducted on different days of the week. Ms. Church reported concerns about the Indoor Sports Facility, including requesting the Council Work Sessions be recorded. She also expressed concern that the indoor facility was the only voter approved project that she recalls the sales tax funds being discussed for use on. Ms. Church requested the continuation of notice of meetings.

Tom Hagen, 927 Lake Street, appeared before Council and indicated City Staff does not have the knowledge or ability to research information to include on a deer management flyer.

City Administrator and Staff Comments

City Administrator Harrenstein reported staff have made an effort to conduct public engagement meetings on different dates and will continue to make that a priority.

City Administrator Harrenstein noted that Council had discussed other Sales Tax spending options. He noted that the fieldhouse requires matching funds and the City was pledging 6 million of the 9 million approved by the State or 6 million of the 15 million approved by the voters. Leaving sales tax dollars for additional voter approved projects.

City Administrator Harrenstein reported City Council Work Session Minutes are available online.

City Administrator Harrenstein invited everyone to upcoming library events and invited Library Director Katie Heintz to the podium to report on the successful Adult Spelling Bee. Library Director Heintz reported the event was held at the Mankato Brewery, and there were 31 teams, 113 participants and \$2,000 was donated to the library.

Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Oachs thanked residents who cleared out drains and cleaned out around Fire Hydrants and Mail Boxes.

Council Member Oachs thanked all those who participated and attended Anthony Ford Pond Hockey Tournament.

Council Member Oachs commented that a higher-level view of City budgeting and projects would be considered for preparation and presentation.

Council Member Norland reported the Green Spaces committee was meeting and working to provide education and support to community members to develop environmentally friendly spaces. She reported they had begun with the pollinator garden meetings and would continue with additional community workshops, education sessions and discussion concerning the potential ordinance that would allow the development of pollinator gardens. The committee would rely on experts including Randy Schindle from the DNR, Master Gardeners, the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources, and Seth Yokum with Aqualogic rain gardens. Mayor Dehen suggested adding the information to the City website.

Council Member Whitlock thanked everyone who attended Anthony Ford.

Council Member Steiner reported a Library Board Meeting was held, and events and activities have brought a record number of people into the library. Library Director Heintz has done a great job.

Mayor Dehen reported he had received thank-yous from the Boy Scouts, ISD 77 School District, and BENCHs for the contributions.

At 7:35 p.m. on a motion by Council Member Steiner, seconded by Council Member Norland, the Council Meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

City Clerk