

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 May 7, 2007. Mayor Zellmer 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 Zellmer, Council Members Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Steiner, City Administrator Sande, Finance Director Mork, City Clerk Gehrke, Engineer Rippe, Attorney Kennedy and Planner Fischer.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of April 16, 2007. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; Steiner abstained, no nays. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Thank-You Letter from 100 Best Communities

Mayor Zellmer presented a letter from the 100 Best Communities Team thanking the City for its commitment to invest \$2,000 toward the Out-of-School Enrichment Grants for 2007 and requesting a continuation of that commitment for 2008. This request will be considered during the 2008 Budget process.

Thank-You Letter from Garfield School

Mayor Zellmer read a thank-you letter from Garfield School for providing barricades and allowing the street to be closed for the Garfield School Triathlon.

Donation from Mankato Umpire Advisory Association

Mayor Zellmer reported the Mankato Umpire Advisory Association presented the City with a donation of \$2,000 to be used for break away bases at SCC and also to upgrade bases at Caswell Park. The Mayor thanked the Mankato Umpire Advisory Association for this donation and a written thank-you was also sent.

Open the Meeting to the Public for the First Time

Paul Brown, 1104 Quincy Street

Paul Brown, 1104 Quincy Street, appeared before the Council and voiced his concerns about the Recycling Center. Specifically, he stated the traffic to the brush site at times makes it difficult for him to back out of his driveway, the odor of the garbage and the noise from dumping of glass prevent him from opening his windows and shredded paper ends up in the neighborhood yards.

LaVerne Hoffman, 518 Webster Avenue

LaVerne Hoffman, 518 Webster Avenue, appeared before the Council and voiced her concerns about the Recycling Center. Specifically, the lights from the office portion of the Recycling Center shine directly into her bedroom window, the noise from the dumping of glass prevent her from having her windows open and her electric bill has increased because of the need to run the air conditioning.

The Council discussed options to correct the concerns outlined by the two residents and asked staff to review the operation of the Recycling Center and report back with recommendations.

Nicollet County Board Actions

Administrator Sande reported he received a letter from the Nicollet County Administrator that the Bookmobile Services contract will be forwarded to the City in the near future.

Staff Reports**City Planner****Res. No. 48-07 Releasing Utility Easement**

Planner Fischer reported in conjunction with the extension of municipal underground utilities to service North Links in 1991, the City obtained a 30-foot wide easement from Ruth Olson along T.H. 14. Due to area residential development, the underground utilities within the easement were abandoned and relocated with Pleasant View Drive. Since the City obtained additional easements in this area as part of residential platting, the 30-foot wide easement obtained in 1991 is unnecessary. The City will continue to maintain a 10-foot wide utility easement in this area. **Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member DeWitte, to adopt Resolution No. 48-07 Releasing Utility Easement. Vote on the Resolution: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

City Administrator**2007 Library Purchase for Services Contract**

Administrator Sande presented the Traverse des Sioux 2007 Library Purchase for Services Contract along with the recommendation from the North Mankato Taylor Library Board that the Council not sign the Purchase for Services Contract. The North Mankato Taylor Library will still be a member of the Traverse des Sioux Regional Library System allowing access to the electronic library databases. Attorney Kennedy reiterated that the North Mankato Taylor Library is still a full member of TdS and does not need to contract for any services, we will continue to receive funds from Nicollet County and TdS continues to receive \$31,000 as our pro rata share of support from the State. Administrator Sande reported circulation at the North Mankato Taylor Library is at an all-time high. **Council Member Schindle moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to decline signing the 2007 Library Purchase for Services Contract. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.** The Mayor will send a letter to TdS informing them of the Council decision not to participate in the purchase for services.

Award Bid for Boulevard Trees

Administrator Sande reported we received one bid from Drummer Landscaping for the boulevard trees in the amount of \$8,370 for 45 Autumn Blaze Maple and 45 Frontyard Lindens. **Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to accept the bid from Drummer Landscaping in the amount of \$8,370 for 2007 boulevard trees. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Res. No. 49-07 Awarding Bid for Project No. 07-01ABCDEF, The Landing North – Phase I

Administrator Sande reported bids were accepted at 11 a.m. on May 3, 2007 for Project No. 07-01ABCDEF, The Landing North – Phase I, and six bids were received. The engineer's estimate for this project was \$2,378,206. Holtmeier Construction was the low bidder in the amount of \$1,952,073.10. Their alternate bid for berming and trees requested by the developer was in the amount of \$29,907.51. **Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to adopt Resolution No. 49-07 Awarding Bid for Project No. 07-01ABCDEF, The Landing North – Phase I Improvements to Holtmeier Construction. Vote on the Resolution: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Authorize Purchase of Equipment – Air Truck Body, Compressor and Related Equipment

Administrator Sande presented a request for purchase of a truck body for the air truck project from Crysteel Truck Equipment for the purchase price of \$14,065.08. Additional contributions to the

project have been made from Subway in the amount of \$3,000 and a check was received from MICO for \$2,000 fulfilling their verbal commitment. The 2007 Budget includes a total of \$26,208 for SCBA, however, a new design of the SCBA will be coming out in January 2008. For this reason, the Fire Chief is recommending using the 2007 Budget for SCBA upgrades and bottle replacements to upgrade the compressor equipment from 4,500 psi to the new 6,000 psi standard. Alex Air Apparatus has quoted \$25,288 for the compressor, fill equipment and storage bottles. The Fire Chief is asking other Fire Departments in Nicollet County to donate to the project. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Schindle, to authorize the purchase of a truck body from Crysteel Truck Equipment for the purchase price of \$14,065.08 and the compressor, fill equipment and storage bottles from Alex Air Apparatus in the amount of \$24,288. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Street Closure for American Heart Association Benefit

Administrator Sande presented a request from Shawn Ange, the owner of Spinner's Bar, for a street closure on Range Street on June 30, 2007 from 4-9 p.m. for a benefit for the American Heart Association in memory of Mr. Clancy Pieper. Although Mr. Ange is requesting only a partial closure of the street, staff is recommending the Council consider closure of the whole street from Belgrade to the north line of the alley. The Street Department will provide barricades as necessary. The Council requested a double barricade buffer for better liquor control. **Council Member Schindle moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the street closure on Range Street from Belgrade Avenue to the alley, contingent on a double barricade buffer. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Schools and Conferences

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to approve actual and necessary expenses for the following schools and conferences:

1. 2007 Construction Code & Licensing Division Spring Seminar, North Mankato, May 15, for Street Superintendent.
2. International Chiefs of Police Conference, New Orleans, October 13-17, for Police Chief.

Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Finance Director

Res. No. 50-07 Declaring Costs to be Assessed for Municipal Charges – 203 Lake Street

Finance Director Mork presented Resolution No. 50-07 for costs to be assessed in the amount of \$950.00 for curb box repair at 203 Lake Street. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to adopt Resolution No. 50-07 Declaring Costs to be Assessed for Municipal Charges. Vote on the Resolution: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Report from Council Members

Council Member Norland

Donation of Trees

Council Member Norland reported the City of North Mankato received a donation from Paulsen Architects to be used for trees. Four Autumn Blaze Maple trees were planted in Benson Park on Arbor Day with this donation. The Modern Woodmen of America gave a donation to be used for a

tree to be planted in a City park on Arbor Day. A tree was planted near the swinging bench in Pleasant View Park. Bill and Sharon Schindle donated a tree to be planted in Pleasant View Park on Arbor Day along the trail near the playground equipment. As the Parks and Green Spaces Committee Chair, Council Member Norland thanked Paulsen Architects, Modern Woodmen of America and Bill and Sharon Schindle for their donations which allowed for six trees to be planted in North Mankato parks on Arbor Day.

North Mankato Parks and Green Spaces Committee

Council Member Norland reported the first meeting of the North Mankato Parks and Green Spaces Committee would be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 15, 2007, in the Police Annex Community Room.

Council Retreat

In response to a request from Council Member Norland, a Council Retreat will be scheduled after the Legislative session is completed and prior to the start of the 2008 Budget Workshop sessions.

Report from Council Member Schindle

Traffic & Safety Minutes from April 27, 2007 Meeting

Council Member Schindle reported the Traffic & Safety Committee met on April 27, 2007 to consider two items of business. The first was a request made by Taylor Corporation to install a crosswalk across James Drive for the purpose of employees who park their vehicles in an existing parking lot on the north side of James Drive and work in a building on the south side of James Drive. Because the proposed crosswalk is located on a public street, proper curb ramps should be provided. The Traffic & Safety Committee recommended the installation of a painted crosswalk across James Drive including appropriate crosswalk signs and curb ramps. **Council Member Schindle moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to authorize the installation of a painted crosswalk across James Drive including appropriate crosswalk signs and curb ramps. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

The second item of business was in response to visibility concerns from Belvista Drive residents. City staff is requesting restricted parking at the intersection of Belvista Drive and Lake Street recommending a 50-foot long, "No Parking" area near the intersection. After review of the area, the Traffic & Safety Committee is recommending an 80-foot long "No Parking" area be designated on the west side of Lake Street near the Belvista Drive intersection. **Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to authorize an 80-foot long "No Parking" area be designated on the west side of the Belvista Drive intersection. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Meeting with Nicollet County

Council Member Schindle requested a joint meeting with the North Mankato City Council and the Nicollet County Board of Commissioners to discuss the library issue and other items of interest. **Council Member Schindle moved, seconded by Council Member DeWitte, to authorize staff to schedule a joint meeting with the North Mankato City Council and the Nicollet County Board of Commissioners. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Report from Mayor

Appointments to Community Center Task Force

The Mayor reported a Community Center Task Force is being established and asked for volunteers from the Council to serve on this committee. Council Members DeWitte and Schindle volunteered to serve on the Community Center Task Force. **Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to appoint Council Members DeWitte and Schindle to serve on the Community Center Task Force. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Administrative Tickets

The Minnesota Legislature recently passed a bill allowing municipalities to issue administrative tickets for speeding, stop sign violations and other minor traffic violations. The Mayor asked citizens to please observe the speed limits and be especially careful to stop for pedestrians in the crosswalks.

Disabled Veterans Convention

The Mayor spoke at the Disabled Veterans Convention held in North Mankato on Friday, May 4, 2007.

Open the Meeting to the Public for the Second Time

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

Bills and Appropriations

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland to approve all bills and appropriations in the amounts of \$69,285.54 and \$533,442.38. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m. on a motion by Council Member Norland, seconded by Council Member Steiner. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, DeWitte, Schindle and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Mayor

City Clerk