

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the North Mankato City Council was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on October 18, 2010. 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, Administrator Sande, Finance Director Mork, Engineer Malm, Attorney Kennedy, Planner Fischer and City Clerk Gehrke.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Schindle moved, seconded by Council Member DeWitte, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of October 4, 2010 and the Council Workshop of October 4, 2010. Vote on the motion: DeWitte, Schindle, Steiner and Zellmer, aye; Norland abstained; no nays. Motion carried.

Correspondence

ATP 7 Enhancement Program – Funding Analysis

Mayor Zellmer reviewed the Minnesota Department of Transportation enhancement projects for District 7 from 1994 through 2009. These projects are funded from federal highway transportation dollars to be used specifically for trails, prairie restoration, restoration of historical buildings and other enhancement projects. The targeted amount for projects during this time period was \$11,770,000 of which \$9,157,000 was spent.

Open the Meeting to the Public for the First Time

Twin Rivers Council for the Arts

Shannon Robinson and Tami Paulsen, Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, appeared before the Council and reviewed the current activities for 2010 and 2011 and thanked the Council for their past support of TRCA. Shannon presented a summary of the area Legacy grant recipients from the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council. Tami Paulsen presented information on the proposed CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour planned for the downtown core of Mankato and North Mankato. She reported the mission of CityArt is to create a professional, year-round outdoor sculpture program. TRCA is working with the Sioux Falls, South Dakota SculptureWalk Director, Jim Clark, as a consultant to ensure the success of this project. CityArt is planning for 20 sculptures the first year, approximately 15 in the core blocks of Mankato and 5 sculptures along Belgrade Avenue in North Mankato. Shannon presented the draft budget for the CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour with a request of \$3,000 from the City of North Mankato. **Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to authorize \$3,000 from the Community Development Fund for the CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour. Vote on the motion: Norland, DeWitte, Schindle, Steiner and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Nicollet County Board Actions

The Council requested Finance Director Mork inquire about the abatements and changes in property value for those applications for abatement or reduction in valuation approved at the October 12, 2010 Nicollet County Board meeting.

Staff Reports

City Planner

Minutes of October 14, 2010 Planning Commission Meeting

The Council accepted the minutes of the October 14, 2010 Planning Commission meeting.

CU-3-10, Conditional Use Permit Request to Expand Automotive Service Repair at 502 Belgrade Avenue (Wheels Unlimited)

Planner Fischer presented a request from Chad Pasbrig for a conditional use permit to expand automotive service repair at Wheels Unlimited. The applicant was in attendance at the meeting. The Planner reported the business has unintentionally operated without a conditional use permit since opening in 2007. As the owner is proposing a building addition, it is necessary to apply for a conditional use permit for the existing business including the proposed addition which will primarily be used to display motorcycles. The Planning Commission recommended approval of CU-3-10 subject to the following conditions: 1) All service repair shall be done within a building; 2) There shall be no outdoor storage of equipment or parts unless located within a screened area; 3) Building addition shall match the exterior of the main building; and 4) There shall be no parking of vehicles, boats, campers or motorcycles in the boulevard area. **Council Member Schindle moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve CU-3-10 subject to the above four conditions. Vote on the motion: Norland, DeWitte, Schindle, Steiner and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

**City Administrator
Report on Envision 2020 Implementation**

Administrator Sande presented a list of the top six priorities of Envision 2020 and gave an update for each priority. He reported that under Item 1 Downtown Revitalization, Beautification and Historic Preservation, the City has a Central Business District Grant and Loan Program in place, the Marigold Project is nearly completed and an infill project for Belgrade Avenue will be brought to the Port Authority Commission at their next meeting. Under Item 2 Sustainability, the City of North Mankato has been recycling concrete and asphalt, composting yard waste, chipping brush and making those materials available to residents. Under Item 3 Creation of Arts Center/Arts District, the City has supported the Twin Rivers Council for the Arts and is a member of the City Center Partnership. Item 4 Community Center(s) is pending at this time. Under Item 5 Green Space/Urban Villages, Livable, Walkable Communities, Administrator Sande listed trail projects, apartments and condominiums in the Central Business District and mixed-use development. He added the Marigold Project and the infill project for Belgrade Avenue will be re-introducing housing in the downtown area. Council Member Norland reported the Park & Green Spaces Committee has been working to reduce chemicals on green spaces and plant more trees. Under Item 6 Region as Center for Renewable Energy Resources Development, Administrator Sande reported MSU-Mankato and the utility companies have been working on renewable energy resources development.

Set Public Hearing for 2011 Budget for 7 p.m. on Monday, December 6, 2010

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Schindle, to set a public hearing for the 2011 Budget for 7 p.m. on Monday, December 6, 2010. Vote on the motion: Norland, DeWitte, Schindle, Steiner and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Set Public Hearing for Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, 2011-2015 for 7 p.m. on Monday, December 20, 2010

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member DeWitte, to set a public hearing for the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, 2011-2015 for 7 p.m. on Monday, December 20, 2010. Vote on the motion: Norland, DeWitte, Schindle, Steiner and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

City Clerk**Parade Permit for Arthritis Foundation Walk, Spring Lake Park, 8 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday, April 30, 2011**

Clerk Gehrke presented the application for a parade permit to hold the Arthritis Foundation Walk at Spring Lake Park from 8 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday, April 30, 2011. **Council Member Schindle moved, seconded by Council Member DeWitte, to approve the parade permit for the Arthritis Foundation Walk at Spring Lake Park from 8 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday, April 30, 2011. Vote on the motion: Norland, DeWitte, Schindle, Steiner and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Audio and Large Group Permit for Christianson Wedding Ceremony, Spring Lake Park (Ceremony on Thompson Fishing Pier), 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, October 1, 2011

Clerk Gehrke presented a request from Nick Christianson for a large group and use of an audio device in Spring Lake Park on Saturday, October 1, 2011 for the Christianson Wedding with the wedding ceremony held on the Thompson Fishing Pier. **Council Member DeWitte moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to approve the audio and large group permit for the Christianson Wedding Ceremony at Spring Lake Park on Saturday, October 1, 2011. Vote on the motion: Norland, DeWitte, Schindle, Steiner and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Report from Council Members**Council Member Norland**

Council Member Norland reported she attended a Community Education & Recreation meeting and visited the new Rosa Parks Elementary School in Mankato. She complimented the School District for the modern and energy efficient design of the school.

Council Member DeWitte

Council Member DeWitte reported he observed the Forsberg Field airport being used noting this is an excellent addition to North Mankato.

Council Member Schindle**Minutes of October 12, 2010 Traffic & Safety Committee Meeting**

Council Member Schindle reported the Traffic & Safety Committee met on October 12, 2010 and considered a request to replace existing "Yield" signs with "STOP" signs at the intersection of Range Street and Nicollet Avenue. After reviewing existing traffic speeds, on-street parking, traffic patterns and the lack of traffic accidents at this intersection, the Traffic & Safety Committee recommended no changes be made to the existing traffic signs.

The Traffic & Safety Committee reviewed the traffic speed results on North Ridge Drive from September 9, 2010 to September 19, 2010. Over a 10-day period, the speed trailer recorded the traffic speeds of 5,229 vehicles having an average speed of 21.97 mph. The speed limit in this area is 30 mph.

Report from Mayor**Programmable Thermostat Rebate Program**

Mayor Zellmer presented information on the rebate program for Honeywell programmable thermostats.

Mayor Zellmer reported a resident inquired if the extra building permit money could be used for a fall special services week pick up in 2011.

The Mayor noted that *Free Press* reporter Mark Fischenich wrote another article about the Minnesota Department of Transportation purchasing land for the Highway 14 project. He thanked Senator Kathy Sheran and Representative Terry Morrow for their efforts in moving this project forward.

**Open the Meeting to the Public for the Second Time
Kim Spears, 916 South Avenue**

Kim Spears, 916 South Avenue, appeared before the Council and inquired if a copy of the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan is available at the North Mankato Taylor Library. Finance Director Mork will ensure that a copy is available at the library.

Bills and Appropriations

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve all bills and appropriations in the amount of \$311,895.46. Vote on the motion: Norland, DeWitte, Schindle, Steiner and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m. on a motion by Council Member Steiner, seconded by Council Member Norland. Vote on the motion: Norland, DeWitte, Schindle, Steiner and Zellmer, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Mayor

City Clerk