

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 7, 2014. 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 the meeting, Mayor Dehen, Council Members Freyberg, Spears, Steiner and Norland, City Administrator Harrenstein, Finance Director Thorne, Attorney Kennedy, City Clerk Gehrke, Planner Fischer and Public Works Director Swanson.

### **Approval of Agenda**

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

### **Approval of Minutes**

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Freyberg, to approve the minutes of the Council Workshop of March 17, 2014 and the Council meeting of March 17, 2014. Vote on the motion: **Freyberg, Spears, Steiner, Norland and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

### **Public Hearing, 7 p.m. – Improvement Hearing for Project No. 13-02AC Roe Crest-Noretta-Belgrade Ravine and Belgrade Avenue Improvements**

The Mayor opened the improvement hearing for Project No. 13-02AC Roe Crest-Noretta-Belgrade Ravine and Belgrade Avenue Improvements. A notice of public hearing was published in the official newspaper. City Engineer Dan Sarff gave a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed improvements which include in the ravine: trunk sanitary sewer, trunk storm sewer, watermain and access road/trail; and for Belgrade Avenue: sanitary sewer, storm sewer, watermain, street and surface improvements. He presented two options for the proposed street improvements; Option 1 which included a 6' wide sidewalk on one side and Option 2 with no sidewalk. Engineer Sarff reviewed the estimated project costs and the assessments for street improvements for properties abutting Belgrade Avenue. He reported the City Council has approved a \$7,000 maximum assessment which does not include the driveway assessments for a total estimated assessment range of \$7,500 to \$8,500. Engineer Sarff reviewed the proposed schedule for the project noting construction would begin in June/July 2014 and residents affected by the project would be provided updates of the project on the City website and/or project website and newsletters. Completion of the project is scheduled for October/November 2014 with the exception of the bituminous wearing course which will be completed in June 2015. An Assessment Hearing will be scheduled for November 3, 2014. Tom Maus, 1014 Belgrade Avenue, appeared before for the Council and stated his objection to placing a sidewalk in this area stating he did not want a retaining wall or to lose his oak trees. Corrie Vihstadt, 1025 Belgrade Avenue, appeared before the Council also supporting Option 2 with no sidewalk and stating her opposition to a retaining wall and losing trees. Phil Henry, 1300 Noretta Drive, appeared before the Council and stated his opposition to the cost of the trail in the ravine. Tom Sullivan, 2022 Roe Crest Drive, appeared before the Council to ask about the ravine property behind his home and the City Engineer will speak with him about the project. With no one else appearing before the Council, the Mayor closed this portion of the meeting. **Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Spears, to exclude the sidewalk from the Belgrade Avenue portion of the project. Vote on the motion: Freyberg, Spears, Steiner, Norland and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

**Res. No. 18-14 Ordering Improvement and Authorizing Preparation of Plans and Specifications for Project No. 13-02AC Roe Crest-Noretta-Belgrade Ravine and Belgrade Avenue Improvements**

**Council Member Freyberg moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to adopt Resolution No. 18-14 Ordering Improvement and Authorizing Preparation of Plans and Specifications for Project No. 13-02AC Roe Crest-Noretta-Belgrade Ravine and Belgrade Avenue Improvements. Vote on the Resolution: Freyberg, Spears, Steiner, Norland and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

**Consent Agenda**

Council Member Freyberg requested Item E. Consider Approving Quote for Municipal Building Roof Replacement and HVAC Units be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion and action. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the Consent Agenda Items A-D which includes:**

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 19-14 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Parade Permit for A.B.A.T.E Awareness Parade, Saturday, May 3, 2014, from 1-1:30 p.m.
- D. Set Public Hearing for Tax Abatement for 7 p.m. on Monday, May 19, 2014.

**Vote on the motion: Freyberg, Spears, Steiner, Norland and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.** The Mayor thanked Bill Altnow for the donation to the Police Department and the Taylor Corporation for their donation to the summer reading program.

**Consider Approving Quote for Municipal Building Roof Replacement and HVAC Units**

Administrator Harrenstein reported the funding source for the Municipal Building roof replacement and HVAC units would come from the General Fund and the Utility Fund. Three quotes were received for the roof replacement as follows: Laraway Roofing - \$77,153, Kato Roofing, Inc. - \$87,916; and Schwickert's - \$91,840. Two quotes were received for the HVAC replacement: Countryside Refrigeration and Heating, Inc. - \$18,793.33, and Schwickert's - \$26,638.97. **Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to award the quote for the Municipal Building roof replacement to Laraway Roofing in the amount of \$77,153 and award the quote for the HVAC replacement to Countryside Refrigeration and Heating, Inc. in the amount of \$18,793.33. Vote on the motion: Freyberg, Spears, Steiner, Norland and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

**Public Comments**

**Denny Savick, 810 Belgrade Avenue**

Denny Savick, 810 Belgrade Avenue, appeared before the Council and spoke in favor of the change of refuse and recycling haulers.

**Merlyn Plotz, 1609 Clare Court**

Merlyn Plotz, 1609 Clare Court, appeared before the Council and stated that in his 35-year history with Hansen Sanitation, he has never had a problem. He stated that his garage was small and asked where he was going to store the two large containers.

**Barb Church, 102 E. Wheeler Avenue**

Barb Church, 102 E. Wheeler Avenue, appeared before the Council and asked if garbage would still be picked up in the alleys in lower North Mankato and asked if the City would consider re-instituting the brush pickup.

**Bob Klesath, 1430 Parkside Lane**

Bob Klesath, 1430 Parkside Lane, appeared before the Council and noted that Hansen Sanitation only missed one day of trash pickup after the fire that destroyed their trucks.

**Phil Henry, 1300 Noretta Drive**

Phil Henry, 1300 Noretta Drive, appeared before the Council and asked about the payment of the concession stand at Caswell North Soccer Complex.

**Business Items****Res. No. 20-14 Authorizing City Administrator to Execute a Contract with West Central Sanitation, Inc. for the Collection and Disposal of Residential Solid Waste and Recyclable Material**

The City Administrator reported he had received several questions from citizens regarding the refuse and recycling bids. He reported a unique opportunity occurred since both the City of Mankato and the City of North Mankato refuse and recycling contracts currently in place end December 31, 2014. This allowed for a joint Request for Proposals with the City of Mankato and created greater savings. Some of the concerns from citizens included alley pickup and he reported that some alley pickups will change to street; however, Belgrade Avenue will remain an alley pickup. He reported Spring Cleanup will continue, the City will purchase the carts and those using Hansen carts will be able to keep them. Dan Krevit, Senior Project Manager for Foth Infrastructure & Environment appeared before the Council, reviewing the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. He reported the City of Mankato received three proposals and the City of North Mankato received four proposals. Hansen Sanitation presented a proposal for the City of North Mankato only. He reported the only variable in the RFP was city-owned or contractor-owned. Mr. Krevit reported a Joint Committee of the two Cities reviewed the proposals and determined West Central Sanitation, Inc. was the most cost-effective contractor and also that it would be advantageous for the Cities to own the carts. The next step in the process is for the City Council to authorize staff to execute the contract with West Central Sanitation, Inc., for the collection of solid waste and recyclable materials and authorize City staff to solicit price quotes for carts and coordinate with the City of Mankato for the purchase of carts. Administrator Harrenstein stated that with the change in contractors, the City will remain true to its values; recycling will now be a single source and the trucks will be powered with compressed natural gas. Council Member Freyberg stated he believes this was a good process. Council Member Norland stated the City cannot overlook this type of savings. Council Member Steiner reported Hansen Sanitation has provided the City with 35 years of loyal service and his constituents wish to stay with Hansen Sanitation. **Council Member Freyberg moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to adopt Resolution No. 20-14 Authorizing City Administrator to Execute a Contract with West Central Sanitation, Inc. for the Collection and Disposal of Residential Solid Waste and Recyclable Material. Vote on the Resolution: Freyberg, Spears, Norland and Dehen, aye; Steiner nay. Motion carried.** Mayor Dehen thanked Hansen Sanitation for their many years of service to the City of North Mankato. Don Williamson and Ray Sweetman from West Central Sanitation, Inc. were introduced to the Council.

**Consider Approving Construction of Field Accessories and Concession Building at Caswell North Soccer Complex**

Council Member Spears stated he believes this is a tier 3 type activity and a concession stand is not needed to play soccer. The Mayor reported that with the type of traffic we expect, we will need to provide restrooms which are part of this project. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the construction of the field accessories and concession building at Caswell North Soccer Complex. Vote on the motion: Freyberg, Steiner, Norland and Dehen, aye; Spears nay. Motion carried.**

**North Mankato Police Department 2013 Year-End Report**

Chief Boyer presented the 2013 Year-End Report for the North Mankato Police Department. He reported that burglaries and thefts from unlocked vehicles and homes are increasing, the City had no fatalities, vehicle crashes were up due to the long winter and the City has very few problems with teens. The Chief reported the report is available on the City's website at [www.northmankato.com](http://www.northmankato.com). The Mayor reported a grant has been received for the Safe to School Program and will be used for safer walkways.

**City Administrator and Staff Comments****Rack & Roll Initiative**

Administrator Harrenstein reported the Rack & Roll Initiative is seeking sponsors to substantially increase the quantity, quality and visibility of bike parking in the Greater Mankato area. Staff from the two Cities will install the bike racks.

**Mayor and Council Comments:****Mayor**

The Mayor reported Bike Week will be held May 10-17, 2014. The Mayors' bike ride will be held on May 15, 2014 starting at Jackson Park.

The Mayor reported a Regional Economic Development Alliance (REDA) meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 9, 2014.

"Coffee with the Council" will be held on Saturday, April 12, 2014, from 10-11 a.m. at Midwest Knifemaker Supply, 1350 Lake Street.

**Public Comments****Barb Church, 102 E. Wheeler Avenue**

Barb Church, 102 E. Wheeler Avenue, appeared before the Council and requested that at least one Council Member be present when meetings are held to discuss the individual sections of the Comprehensive Plan.

There being no further business, on a motion by Council Member Norland, seconded by Council Member Steiner, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Mayor

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City Clerk