

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Council Work Session of the North Mankato City Council was held in the Council Chambers on March 9, 2020. Mayor Dehen called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m. The following were present for roll call: Mayor Dehen, Council Members Whitlock, Steiner, and Norland, and City Administrator Harrenstein, Community Development Director Fischer, Public Works Director Host, Caswell Sports Director Tostenson, and City Clerk Van Genderen. Absent: Council Member Oachs and Finance Director McCann.

Discuss Caswell Naming Rights

City Administrator Harrenstein invited Caswell Sports Director Tostenson to the podium to discuss the proposed Caswell Park Request for Proposals for Naming Rights.

City Administrator Harrenstein reported there had been discussion about naming rights for the park. The park would maintain Caswell, but it would be referred to as, for example, “Brick House Graphic Fields at Caswell Park.” City Administrator Harrenstein requested feedback from the Council concerning their interest in selling the naming rights. Council Member Whitlock asked for clarification on if the fields would be sold separately or if their naming rights would be for the entire complex. City Administrator Harrenstein reported the proposal is currently established for the naming rights of the whole complex. Still, if after the proposal has been released, the market speaks differently, the Council can discuss that option. Mayor Dehen requested clarification on the current sales of advertising and if there would be a conflict of interest with the current advertisement sales. Caswell Sports Director Tostenson reported there are four different advertisement packages, and the sales have been good in 2020. He noted the request for a proposal addresses the current advertisement packages. Mayor Dehen requested clarification on if the new fieldhouse is funded would the naming rights include the fieldhouse. City Administrator Harrenstein reported the fieldhouse would not be included in the naming rights. Mayor Dehen requested information on comparable locations that have sold naming rights. Caswell Sports Director Tostenson said the new dome at MSU sold their naming rights for \$50,000, and the Civic Center sold theirs for \$120,000. City Administrator Harrenstein noted it could be within that area. City Administrator Harrenstein reported the RFP would be released, and results would be brought before the Council.

Caswell Sports Director Tostenson reviewed the Caswell Park 2020 schedule highlighting the 26th year for the Minnesota State High School Girls’ Softball Tournament, Peppers Classic with over 90 teams signed up, and reported only one open weekend for the season. Caswell Sports Director Tostenson said sign-up for adult softball and adult volleyball leagues are ongoing.

Mayor Dehen closed the Council Workshop at 12:43 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk