

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 September 6, 2022. Mayor Dehen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, asking everyone to join the Pledge of Allegiance. The following were present for roll call: Council Members Oachs, Steiner, Whitlock, Norland, City Administrator McCann, Interim Finance Director Ryan, Community Development Director Fischer, and City Clerk Van Genderen.

Approval of Agenda

Council Member Oachs moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to approve the agenda as presented. Vote on the motion Steiner, Norland, Oachs, Whitlock and Dehen aye, no nays. Motion carried.

Approval of Council Work Session Minutes from August 8, 2022, Council Work Session.

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the Council Work Session Meeting Minutes of August 8, 2022. Vote on the motion Steiner, Norland, Oachs, and Dehen aye, Whitlock abstain, no nays. Motion carried.

Approval of Council Minutes from August 15, 2022, Council Meeting.

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Oachs, to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2022. Vote on the motion Steiner, Norland, Oachs, Whitlock and Dehen aye, no nays. Motion carried.

Approval of Council Work Session Minutes from August 29, 2022, Council Work Session.

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Oachs, to approve the Council Work Session Meeting Minutes of August 29, 2022. Vote on the motion Steiner, Norland, Oachs, Whitlock and Dehen aye, no nays. Motion carried.

Public Hearing, 7 pm Consider Ordinance Repealing and Replacing City Code Chapter 153: Flood Plain Regulation.

Community Development Director Fischer reported that the City was contacted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), indicating that the Flood Insurance Rate Maps and Nicollet County Flood Insurance Study were complete and would become effective on October 13, 2022. FEMA indicated that the City must amend or adopt a new flood plain ordinance to continue participating in the National Flood Insurance Program. City staff has been working with the DNR to create a new flood plain ordinance that meets both state and federal standards. The proposed ordinance meets those requirements.

With no one appearing, Mayor Dehen closed the Public Hearing.

Consent Agenda

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

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 76-22 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Res. No. 77-22 Declaring Surplus Vehicles and Equipment.
- D. Approved Audio Permit for Spinners Bar on August 27, 2022, from 7 pm to 10 pm
- E. Approved Audio Permit for Spinners Bar on September 3, 2022, from 7 pm to 10 pm
- F. Approved Audio Permit for Spinners Bar on September 16, 2022, from 7 pm to 10 pm.

G. Approved Parade Permit for the Charger Challenge on September 30, 2022, from 7:30 am to 2:00 pm at Spring Lake Park.

Vote on the motion Steiner, Norland, Whitlock and Dehen aye, Oachs abstain, no nays. Motion carried.

Public Comments Concerning Business Items on the Agenda.

None.

Business Items

Ordinance No. 151 Fourth Series an Ordinance of the City of North Mankato, Minnesota Repealing and Replacing City Code Chapter 153: Flood Plain Regulation.

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to Adopt Ordinance No. 151 Fourth Series, an Ordinance of the City of North Mankato, Minnesota, Repealing and Replacing City Code Chapter 153: Flood Plain Regulation. Vote on the motion Steiner, Norland, Oachs, Whitlock and Dehen aye, no nays. Motion carried.

Res. No. 78-22 Calling for a Public Hearing on Proposed Property Tax Abatements.

City Administrator McCann reported the resolution would set a public hearing on a proposed property tax abatement for the property located at 230 Nicollet Avenue. 230 Nicollet Avenue LLC proposes to tear down the current building and construct a 9-unit apartment building. The business also owns the 235 Belgrade infill project and is interested in similar tax incentives as that project. City Administrator McCann reported that the City's bond counsel suggested using tax abatements rather than a TIF due to the smaller nature of the project. The abatement would only abate the City taxes, not the County or the school levy. The total abatement would be \$200,000 over 12 years.

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to Adopt Resolution No. 78-22, Calling for a Public Hearing on a Proposed Property Tax Abatement. Vote on the motion Steiner, Norland, Oachs, Whitlock and Dehen aye, no nays. Motion carried.

Receive an Update from MAPO on the Lookout Drive Corridor Study.

Ross Tillman from Bolton & Menk reviewed the study and the proposed alternatives. The study aims to identify multimodal improvements and develop a reasonable implementation plan and timetable. The study focused on maintaining acceptable traffic operations, aligning the speed with the roadway, and improving pedestrian and bicycle connections. Public input was sought through engagement at the Farmers' Market and online.

The study addresses access management, traffic calming, enhanced bike/pedestrian facilities, and traffic control. The study team created a ranking system to address and evaluate the proposed alternatives.

The first segment reviewed was from Howard Drive to 512th Street. The proposed improvements included a three-lane road with a middle left turn lane, a trail on one side, and a sidewalk on the other side.

The second segment was from Commerce Drive to Marie Lane. Alternative 1 for this segment includes three lanes with a center turn lane, existing sidewalk maintenance, and access points consolidation. Alternative 2 for this segment created one lane each way with no center turn, a landscaped median, maintenance of existing sidewalks and trails, and access consolidation. Alternative 3 included maintenance of a road structure similar to the current structure with closure and

consolidation of access points. Public and study rankings of the alternatives were the same, with Alternative 2 ranking the highest and Alternative 1 ranking the second highest.

The third segment was from Marie Lane to Highway 169. The first alternative included the reduction of lanes from three to two with a 10-foot trail next to the cliff. The second alternative maintained the current three lanes and a five-foot sidewalk next to the cliff. Alternative one was ranked the highest by both the public and the study. The Council held a discussion concerning the maintenance of the third lane considering that trucks use the route. Mr. Tillman noted that the peak hour trucks recorded 20 trucks. Mayor Dehen commented that the number of trucks would probably decrease with improvements to the 169 and Highway 14 intersections.

Mr. Tillman noted that the study would continue to create phased improvement options once the study was completed and recommendations clarified.

City Council Member Oachs requested clarification on the middle section and if the study took in the intersection at Northridge Drive and Pleasantview. Mr. Tillman noted it is not included in the study, but the queue could and would be considered.

Council Member Norland requested the study address the intersection at Marie and Lookout Drive to make it a safer place for pedestrians and children. Mr. Tillman noted that the proposed alternatives would address the issue.

Open Forum

None.

City Administrator and Staff Comments

City Administrator McCann reported that Music in the Park would be at Wheeler Park on Thursdays in September from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

City Administrator McCann invited everyone to Benson Park on Saturday, September 10, 2022, from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm for Symphony on the Prairie.

City Administrator McCann invited everyone to Bier on Belgrade of September 17, 2022, from 2 pm to 10 pm. Attendees must be 21 years of age.

City Administrator McCann noted that Caswell Youth Sports would host a fall tennis camp for grades 1-7 from September 8th to October 13th.

Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Norland noted McKinley is nearing completion.

Council Member Oachs requested clarification on when the splash pad would be closed. City Administrator McCann reported it would remain open while weather permitted.

Mayor Dehen invited everyone to Symphony on the Prairie and Bier on Belgrade. He requested clarification on how the Caswell project is going. City Administrator McCann reported it was on schedule.

At 7:34 pm, on a motion by Council Member Norland, seconded by Council Member Steiner, the Council Meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

City Clerk