

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 August 6, 2018. Mayor Dehen called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. asking that everyone join in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following were present for the meeting: Council Members Norland, Freyberg and Whitlock, Mayor Dehen, City Administrator Harrenstein, Finance Director McCann, Attorney Kennedy, City Engineer Sarff, Public Works Director Host and City Clerk Van Genderen. Absent: Council Member Steiner and Community Development Director Fischer.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Workshop Minutes

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock, to approve the minutes of the Council Workshop meeting of July 16, 2018. Vote on the motion: Norland, Freyberg, Whitlock, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Whitlock moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of July 16, 2018. Vote on the motion: Norland, Freyberg, Whitlock and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Certificate of Recognition

WHEREAS, Victor Paradis will be honored on July 29th by friends and relatives on the occasion of his 100th birthday; and

WHEREAS, he married Lucille on November 4, 1946, and this marriage was blessed with children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Victor served in the Navy during World War II and was present during the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941; and

WHEREAS, he served as a mechanic on the U.S.S. Northampton when it was struck by a Japanese torpedo and during the fiery aftermath helped launch life rafts before leaving the ship; and

WHEREAS, Victor continued to serve in the Navy through December of 1945; and

WHEREAS, during a long and productive lifetime, he has demonstrated in countless ways his dedication to his country and his community; and

WHEREAS, he has lived during the most eventful century of this world's history, and in his way has been a force for good and a stabilizing influence on those around him.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of North Mankato, I do hereby deem it an honor and pleasure to extend this Certificate of Recognition to Victor Paradis on the occasion of his 100th birthday, with sincere congratulations and best wishes for many more happy, productive years in the future.

Dated this 29th day of July 2018.

Public Hearing, 7 p.m.- Regarding Proposed Property Tax Abatements for the Spring Lake Park Improvement Project.

Finance Director McCann reported the proposed abatement would pay for the \$3.2 million swim facility remodel and \$600,000 would pay for the warming house and additional administrative fees the abatement is set for not to exceed \$4.2 million.

Tammy Omdal, Northland Securities, serving as Advisor, appeared before Council and stated the Council would be considering approving a property tax abatement not to exceed \$4.2 million. The Council would be approving the ability to issue bonds to finance the project for up to \$4.2 million and levy a special tax. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to take Public Comment on the proposed abatement.

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

Consent Agenda

Council Member Freyberg moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to approve the Consent Agenda which included:

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 63-18 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Set Water Main Flushing for October 1-19, 2018.
- D. Approved Business on Belgrade On-Sale Intoxicating License for Bier on Belgrade on September 22, 2018.
- E. Approved Park and Audio Permit for Elks Minnesota Car and Bike Show at Wheeler Park on September 15, 2018, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with Audio from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- F. Approved Audio Permit for the Circle Inn's Carruth Golf Tourney After-Party on August 11, 2018, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
- G. Approved Large Group and Audio Permit for Lora McCollum at 2138 LorRay Drive on August 25, 2018, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- H. Approved Audio Permit for Danbury Court Neighborhood Block Party on August 11, 2018, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- I. Res. No. 64-18 Waiving Waiting Period for Exemption from Lawful Gambling License for Holy Rosary Church on November 11, 2018.
- J. Approved Developer Agreement for Privately Financed Improvements the Landing North Phase 2 Part 2.

Vote on the motion: Norland, Freyberg, Whitlock and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Public Comments Concerning Business Items on the Agenda

None.

Business Items

Res. No. 65-18 Approving Property Tax Abatements.

Tammy Omdal, Northland Securities appeared before Council and stated the abatement must occur before calling for the sale of bonds. The Resolution identifies specific properties that would be included in the tax abatement, but the properties tax statements would appear the same as properties not included in the tax abatement. The tax abatement levy will be spread across the general tax levy. The Abatement Resolution is necessary to call for the sale of bonds. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Freyberg to adopt Res. No. 65-18 Approving Property Tax**

Abatement. Vote on the motion: Norland, Freyberg, Whitlock and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Res. No. 66-18 Providing for the Competitive Negotiated Sale of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2018A.

Tammy Omdal, Northland Securities appeared before Council and stated the Resolution approves a maximum bond sale of \$4.67 million which includes the \$4.2 million for the Spring Lake Park projects and \$470,000 for the Jefferson Avenue reconstruction that Council has already approved and will be paid for by special assessment. The bond sale is set for Monday, December 3, 2018; the interest rate is expected to be at or below 3.02%. Northland Securities recommends obtaining a bond rating from Standard and Poor's. Attorney Kennedy requested clarification on the interest rate. Ms. Omdal reported the rate would not be confirmed until December. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock to adopt Res. No. 66-18 Providing for the Competitive Negotiated Sale of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2018A. Vote on the motion: Norland, Freyberg, Whitlock and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Res. No. 67-18 Establishing the State of Minnesota Department of Transportation and City of North Mankato Cooperative Construction Agreement for a Collaborative Storm Water Management Facility.

City Engineer Sarff stated staff presented information on the proposed collaborative stormwater management facility at the July 2, 2018, Council Meeting. He reported the City negotiated an agreement with MnDOT to use existing MnDOT ponds and expand them to regional ponds. When the ponds become regional ponds, the City will assume maintenance. Mayor Dehen requested clarification on changing the ponds from dry to wet. City Engineer Sarff reported the wet pond was necessary for the area. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock to adopt Res. No. 67-18 Establishing the State of Minnesota Department of Transportation and City of North Mankato Cooperative Construction Agreement for a Collaborative Storm Water Management Facility. Vote on the motion: Norland, Freyberg, Whitlock and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Set Public Hearing for August 20, 2018, 7:00 p.m., to Consider Ordinance No. 105, Amending Chapter 156, Zoning Code.

City Administrator Harrenstein reported redlined City Code and a draft Ordinance were included in the packet. The City received a request from a citizen requesting the option to use an ASTM F 1346 certified pool cover or a 6-foot tall fence surrounding an in-ground pool. City Council reviewed the proposal on July 16, 2018, and requested staff provide language that limited the use of the pool cover to single-family homes. City Administrator Harrenstein reported the Ordinance allows the use of an ASTM F 1346 pool cover on single-family residences but requires a 6-foot tall fence around in-ground pools servicing a multi-family home. Attorney Kennedy stated responsibility for closing a pool cover would rest on the homeowner; it would be more difficult to ensure the pool was covered in a multi-family residence. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock to Set a Public Hearing for August 20, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., to Consider Ordinance No. 105, Amending Chapter 156, Zoning Code. Vote on the motion: Norland, Whitlock, and Dehen aye; Freyberg nay. Motion carried.**

Set Public Hearing for August 20, 2018, 7:00 p.m., to Consider Ordinance No. 106, Amending Chapter 71.05, Other Parking Restrictions.

City Administrator Harrenstein reported there had been resident complaints about vehicles being parked on streets and not being moved. He stated the proposed language states that if a vehicle,

including cars, trailers, boats, and campers, are parked in a spot more than 24 hours the vehicle must relocate a minimum of 100 feet from the current location. Mayor Dehen noted the language is consistent with Mankato's City Code language. Attorney Kennedy noted the new language adds to the list of vehicles to include trailers, boats, and campers. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock to set the Public Hearing for August 20, 2018, 7:00 p.m., to Consider Ordinance No. 106, Amending Chapter 71.05, Other Parking Restrictions. Vote on the motion: Norland, Freyberg, Whitlock and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Authorized the City Administrator to Reimburse Costs Associated with the 169 Levee.

City Administrator Harrenstein reported the City determined the most appropriate way to participate in the levee fix would be to pay for the engineering costs incurred from HR Green. HR Green will certify the levee is compliant with federal regulations and no flood insurance would be required for residents in lower North Mankato. City Administrator Harrenstein noted the motion would authorize the reimbursement of costs up to \$85,000. The funds would be allocated from the Construction Fund. **Council Member Freyberg moved, seconded by Council Member Norland to Authorize the City Administrator to Reimburse Costs Associated with the 169 Levee. Vote on the motion: Norland, Freyberg, Whitlock and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Open Forum

Scott Squires, 826 Center Street, appeared before Council and reported he was affected by the sewer main break and requested clarification on the continual water in his basement. He indicated he believed the pumps were not working efficiently and that was the cause of the water in his basement. He requested information on the maintenance of the pumps. Mayor Dehen stated staff was not currently present to answer the question, but the issue would be looked into and requested Mr. Squires contact information.

City Administrator and Staff Comments

Finance Director McCann reported the draft budget would be presented to Council on September 4, 2018, at a Council Work Session.

City Clerk Van Genderen reported if someone was interested in running for Mayor or Council they could file at the City offices until August 14, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.

City Clerk Van Genderen encouraged residents to vote at the Primary Election that would be held on August 14, 2018, with voting from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Public Works Director Host noted a groundbreaking ceremony for the Spring Lake Swim Facility and warming house was held on August 6th, and the last swim and Barks and Books event were held on August 5th with a great turnout and a lot of excitement.

Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Norland invited Alana Osborne to the podium to read her response on social media to the recent racist posters that were posted on the hill in North Mankato.

Alana Osborne appeared before Council and read a response she wrote "I don't live in upper north but I do reside in lower north. Moving to this neighborhood when I was 22, I have to say that my neighbors have been nothing but kind and generous. What I want to say is I appreciate seeing the outpouring of love, support, and respect from all. Whoever posted these signs is probably reading this feed as we live in a digital media age. By now they have probably checked Facebook, Snapchat, the

news sites, and more. All I have to say to that person, or persons, is that I'm sorry. I'm sorry you were raised with the idea that the world is black vs. white. I'm sorry your upbringing didn't show you that each "crayon in the box is there for a reason" because white doesn't show up on white. I'm sorry that you feel unheard or misunderstood by those with a different color of skin, an accent from another world or because they haven't mastered the American slang we use in the USA. I can't and won't force you to change your ways nor your beliefs, because that is something we each have a right to hold. However, if you saw me across the street, you would see my color, and that's all. You wouldn't know that I was adopted and raised in southern MN since I was 1, on the family farm. You wouldn't know that my parents, two hard-working farm laborers, are Caucasian with three adopted kids, two of which are from India and the third a local adoption which, by the way, is Caucasian as well. You would probably have your judgment and form the hatred that you were raised or surrounded with as a youth growing up. I hope that the public uproar of respect and hatred for the signs you displayed shows you are outnumbered and that it WILL NOT be tolerated."

Mayor Dehen reported in response to the racist signs that "North Mankato is a community of inclusion. We are proud of our diversity and are better due to the backgrounds, cultures, and experience of ALL our residents. Racism and other discriminatory behavior are not welcome in North Mankato. We are cooperating with law enforcement as they investigate this serious matter."

Council Member Whitlock thanked Alana for sharing her response.

Council Member Whitlock stated Blues on Belgrade was a success with over 5,000 people going through the event.

Mayor Dehen stated he received a thank you from United Way for the City's provision of sandbags to their human foosball tournament. He stated the City received a thank you from the Lacrosse Association for the City's contribution. Mayor Dehen noted a thank you note was received from the Coalition of Greater Minnesota for the City's co-hosting of the Coalition Conference.

Mayor Dehen thanked Paul Gaspar for his years with the United Soccer Association. Mr. Gaspar retired.

Mayor Dehen announced the City's participation in the United Way tug-of-war kick-off on August 8th.

Mayor Dehen announced Coffee with the Council would be held on Saturday, August 10th from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Arizona Olive Oil Company at 237 Belgrade Avenue.

There being no further business, on a motion by Council Member Norland, seconded by Council Member Whitlock, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk