

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 January 21, 2020. 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 roll call: Council Members Oachs, Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, and Mayor Dehen, City Administrator Harrenstein, City Attorney Kennedy, Finance Director McCann, Community Development Director Fischer, Public Works Director Host, and City Clerk Van Genderen.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes January 6, 2020.

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of January 6, 2020. Vote on the motion: Oachs, Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Approval of Council Work Session Minutes January 13, 2020.

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to approve the minutes of the Council Work Session of January 13, 2020. Vote on the motion: Oachs, Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Proclamation

WHEREAS, all children in North Mankato should have access to the highest-quality education possible; and

WHEREAS, North Mankato recognizes the important role that an effective education plays in preparing all students in North Mankato to be successful adults; and

WHEREAS, quality education is crucial to the economic vitality of North Mankato; and

WHEREAS, North Mankato is home to a variety of high-quality public and nonpublic schools from which parents can choose for their children, in addition to families who educate their children in the home; and

WHEREAS, educational variety not only helps to diversify our economy but also enhances the vibrancy of our community; and

WHEREAS, North Mankato has many high-quality teaching professionals in all types of school settings who are committed to educating our children; and

WHEREAS, School Choice Week is celebrated across the country by millions of students, parents, educators, schools, and organizations to raise awareness of the need for effective educational options;

NOW THEREFORE I, Mark Dehen, Mayor of North Mankato, proclaim January 26-February 1, 2020 as:

NORTH MANKATO SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

And I call this observance to the attention of all of our citizens.

Public Hearing, 7 pm-Ordinance No. 125 Amending City Code Chapter 156.035 (FF) Generally Concerning Off-Street Parking Regulations.

Community Development Director Fischer reported the Planning Commission had discussed potential changes to the City Code off-street parking regulations in residential zoning districts. Community Development Director Fischer reviewed the proposed Planning Commission changes along with additional staff recommendations. The recommendations included clarification of off-street parking in the front, side and rear yard. Surfaces that would be allowed for parking include concrete, asphalt or permanently installed paver bricks. Off-street parking abutting an alley may be constructed of gravel. Additional changes included limiting the number of vehicles, trailers, campers, boats or recreational vehicles to no more than two. The ordinance would limit the length of vehicles stored outside to 45 feet and prohibited the parking of any inoperable or unlicensed vehicle.

Rich Peterson, 1518 Nottingham Drive, appeared before Council and requested clarification on the purpose of the ordinance. Mayor Dehen reported it is to provide residents with additional opportunities to park vehicles on their property without being in violation of City Code. Mr. Peterson reported he would have difficulties with the ordinance because of where he currently parks his recreational vehicle. He requested a more resident-friendly ordinance.

City Council Member Steiner requested information on if a variance could be issued for Mr. Peterson. City Administrator Harrenstein reported the request would not qualify for a variance. A discussion was held concerning the use of neighborhood input concerning the parking of vehicles.

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

Public Hearing, 7 pm-Improvement Hearing on 300 Block Harrison Avenue, 300 and 400 Block Monroe Avenue and Dakota Meadows Safe Routes to School Project.

City Engineer Sarff reviewed the current conditions and proposed improvements for the 300 Block of Harrison Avenue and the 300 and 400 Block of Monroe Avenue. Harrison and Monroe were both constructed approximately 70 years ago and require improvement. Improvements would include anew sanitary sewer, new watermain, installation of a new storm sewer, reconstruction of existing street, curb and gutter, replacement of all sidewalks, and installation of street lights. City Engineer Sarff reported the estimated cost for Harrison Avenue is \$600,500 with the City paying for the entire cost. Monroe Avenue is estimated to cost \$1,213,100 with Municipal State Aid Funds covering \$150,000 and the City covering the remaining cost of \$1,063,100. City Engineer Sarff reviewed the assessment policy and the estimated projected residential assessment of between \$10,825 and \$24,459 and the calculated school and church assessment of between \$116,117 to \$147,247. He noted the City Council in the past had applied a cap to assessments. The estimated residential assessment with the cap is between \$6,500 and \$7,500 and the church and school would also have a cap equivalent to the residential cap. City Engineer Sarff reviewed the assessment process and reported residents would receive proposed assessments in the mail, and a public hearing will be held concerning the proposed assessments.

City Engineer Sarff reviewed the Dakota Meadows Safe Routes to School Improvement (SRTS), which includes the construction of additional trails, new lighting and a mid-block crossing. In

addition to the SRTS improvements the City is considering additional Howard Drive improvements including widening Howard Drive, installation of speed indicator signs in the school zone which would be coordinated with a Howard Drive mill and overlay in the summer of 2020. Estimated total costs: Safe Routes to School \$601,300 with estimated Federal Funding of \$352,360, State Aid Funding of \$98,000 with the total estimated local cost for SRTS is \$150,940, Howard Drive Widening \$90,600 and the Howard Drive Mill & Overlay \$378,000 with estimated State Aid Funding of \$378,000. The total estimated local cost for all projects associated with Dakota Meadows and Howard Drive improvements is estimated at \$241,540.

Gregg Wildfeuer, 332 Harrison Avenue, appeared before Council and requested information on creating a backyard drain to help manage water. City Administrator Harrenstein indicated backyard drains have been installed on similar projects and indicated Mr. Wildfeuer could speak with the City Engineer to discuss options and feasibility.

Nathan Voss, 304 Monroe Avenue, a Pastor at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church requested assistance from the City on maintaining access for their parishioners and those that attend their preschool and daycare. City Engineer Sarff reported they work hard to ensure access and would work with the Church and preschool/daycare to maintain access.

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

Consent Agenda

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock, to approve the Consent Agenda.

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 08-20 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Approved Parade, Audio, and Park Permit for ALS Associations Walk to Defeat ALS event at Spring Lake Park on April 25, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- D. Approved Parade and Audio Permit for Mankato Beer Run 5K & .05K on September 19, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- E. Approved Audio and Park Permit for the Anthony Ford Pond Hockey Tournament on January 24-26, 2020, at Spring Lake Park.
- F. Res. No. 9-20 Approving Consent Assessment Agreement-1620 Pleasant View Drive Unit B.
- G. Res. No. 10-20 Approving Consent Assessment Agreement-2204 W Dream Drive.

Vote on the motion: Oachs, Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, and Dehen aye; no nays.

Motion carried.

Public Comments Concerning Business Items on the Agenda

None.

Business Items

Res. No. 11-20 Ordering Improvement and Preparation of Plans Project No. 19-05 ABCDEF 300 Block Harrison Avenue, Project No. 19-06 ABCDEF 300 and 400 Block Monroe Avenue, and Project No. 19-07 DEF Dakota Meadows Safe Routes to School.

Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to Adopt Res. No. 11-20 Ordering Improvement and Preparation of Plans Project No. 19-05 ABCDEF 300 Block Harrison Avenue, Project No. 19-06 ABCDEF 300 and 400 Block Monroe Avenue, and

Project No. 19-07 DEF Dakota Meadows Safe Routes to School. Vote on the motion: Oachs, Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Res. No. 12-20 Providing for the Competitive Negotiated Sale of the North Mankato Port Authority Commission's \$2,485,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A.

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to Adopt Res. No. 12-20 Providing for the Competitive Negotiated Sale of the North Mankato Port Authority Commission's \$2,485,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A. Vote on the motion: Oachs, Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 126 An Ordinance Authorizing the North Mankato Port Authority Commission to Pledge the Full Faith, Credit, and Resources of the City of North Mankato for the Security and Payment of General Obligation Refunding Bonds in a Principal Amount no to Exceed \$2,500,000.

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to Adopt Ordinance No. 126 An Ordinance Authorizing the North Mankato Port Authority Commission to Pledge the Full Faith, Credit and Resources of the City of North Mankato for the Security and Payment of General Obligation Refunding Bonds in a Principal Amount not to Exceed \$2,500,000. Vote on the motion: Oachs, Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Mayor Dehen requested to consider Ordinance 125 Amending City Code Chapter 156.035 (FF) Generally Concerning Off-street Parking Regulations. City Administrator Harrenstein reported the consideration of the Ordinance was not included on the agenda because, with the addition of the City staff proposed amendments, it was the intent to take the discussion to a Work Session. Discussion was held concerning enforcement of the current ordinance, proposed changes and management of those that do not comply with the ordinance. City Administrator Harrenstein reported the topic would be reviewed at a Work Session and Council would have the option to send it back to the Planning Commission for further review or proceed with an ordinance.

Open Forum

Tom Hagen, 927 Lake Street, appeared before Council and indicated City Staff does not have the knowledge or ability to research information to include on a deer management flyer.

City Administrator and Staff Comments

City Administrator Harrenstein invited everyone to Anthony Ford on Saturday, January 25 and 26, 2020.

City Administrator Harrenstein thanked City crews for cleaning the streets and maintaining the safety of the roads.

City Administrator Harrenstein reported the Caswell Fieldhouse was included in Governor Walz's bonding bill.

Public Works Director Host reported if people still need to recycle Christmas Trees, they can call to have the compost site opened.

City Clerk Van Genderen encouraged residents to become election judges.

Community Development Director Fischer reported if you are interested in becoming a Census Worker, please visit the City's website.

Mayor and Council Comments

Council Member Oachs invited everyone to the Anthony Ford Pond Hockey Tournament.

Council Member Oachs congratulated Minnesota State University, Mankato for being chosen to host Hockey Day Minnesota.

Council Member Whitlock encouraged attendance to the Anthony Ford Pond Hockey Tournament.

Council Member Whitlock stated it was exciting to be included in the Governor's bonding bill, but now the real work begins.

Mayor Dehen reported the City received thank you's from LEEP, Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota, Girl Scouts, and BENCHs for charitable gambling donations to their organizations.

At 8:05 p.m. on a motion by Council Member Steiner, seconded by Council Member Norland, the Council Meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

City Clerk