

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a special meeting of the North Mankato City Council was held in the Municipal Building Council Chambers on March 9, 2020. Mayor Dehen called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm, asking that everyone join in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following were present for roll call: Council Members Steiner, Norland, Whitlock, and Mayor Dehen, City Administrator Harrenstein, City Attorney Kennedy, Community Development Director Fischer, Public Works Director Host, and City Clerk Van Genderen. Absent: Council Member Oachs and Finance Director McCann.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes February 18, 2020.

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Whitlock, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of February 18, 2020. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

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

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 25-20 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Approved Audio Permit for October 3, 2020, from 12 pm to 7 pm Party on the Prairie at Benson Park.
- D. Approved Audio Permit for Art Splash on June 20, 2020, from 11 am to 3 pm at South Central College.
- E. Approved Audio Permit for Movies in the Park on June 12, 2020, from 8 pm to 11 pm at Spring Lake Park.
- F. Approved Audio Permit for Music in the Park on July 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2020, from 5 pm to 7 pm at Storybook Park.
- G. Approved Audio Permit for Movies in the Park on August 7, 2020, from 8 pm to 11 pm at Benson Park.
- H. Approved Audio Permit for Blues on Belgrade on July 25, 2020, from 12 pm to 11 pm on the 200 Block of Belgrade Avenue.
- I. Approved Audio Permit for Bier on Belgrade on September 19, 2020, from 2 pm to 8 pm on the 200 Block of Belgrade.
- J. Approved Parade Permit for Bookin' on Belgrade on May 16, 2020, from 9 am to 10:30 am.
- K. Approved Parade Permit for A.B.A.T.E. Motorcycle Ride on May 2, 2020, from 1 pm to 1:45 pm.
- L. Res. No. 26-20 Waiving Waiting Period for Exemption from Lawful Gambling Licensing for Feeding Our Communities Partners.

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

Public Comments Concerning Business Items on the Agenda

None.

Business Items

Res. No. 27-20 Approving Plans and Specifications and Ordering Advertisement for Bids Project No. 19-06 ABCDEF Monroe Avenue Improvement.

City Engineer Sarff appeared before Council and reported the plans and specifications for the Monroe Avenue Improvement Project had been completed. He reviewed a summary of the project. The project includes Monroe Avenue between Center Street and Range Street. The project consists of improvements to the Sanitary Sewer, Watermain, and Storm Sewer, including replacing existing sanitary sewer, replacing existing water mains, installing new auto-reading water meters and construction of new storm sewer to meet State Aid standards. The street and surface reconstruction includes a reconstruction of the existing 44 feet wide street, sidewalks, and new concrete driveway aprons. Five additional streetlights are included in the project. The estimated cost for the project is \$1,254,000, with \$250,000 to \$450,000 in Municipal State Aid Funds and between \$804,000 to \$1,004,000 in City Funds/Special Assessments.

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to Adopt Res. No. 27-20 Approving Plans and Specifications and Ordering Advertisement for Bids Project No. 19-06 ABCDEF Monroe Avenue Improvement. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.

Open Forum

City Administrator Harrenstein invited Eric Weller from the South Central Health Care Coalition and Police Chief Ross Gullickson to the podium to discuss COVID-19. Mr. Weller reported the coalition has met and continues to meet regularly to prepare for the illness. He noted the goal is to be ready and not to panic. Local hospitals, police departments, schools, and other agencies are preparing for the illness and have plans in place. Citizens can practice good health habits such as washing their hands, staying home when sick, and not touching your face. For additional information, he directed everyone to the CDC. Chief Gullickson reiterated Mr. Weller's comments about preparedness. Mayor Dehen asked about a comparison between COVID-19 and the flu. Mr. Weller noted COVID-19 is a novel strain, and there is no accurate data to make a comparison. City Attorney Kennedy commented the League of Minnesota Cities was discussing best practices concerning meetings, and additional information would be forthcoming.

City Administrator and Staff Comments

City Administrator Harrenstein reported registrations for swim lessons are open.

Community Development Director Fischer reported the first Northwest Development meeting would be held in Fire Station #2 on Monday, March 9th at 5:00 pm and the second would be held on March 10th at 5:00 pm.

City Clerk Van Genderen commented that the Presidential Nomination Primary turnout for North Mankato was approximately 24%.

Mayor and Council Comments

None.

At 12:20 pm on a motion by Council Member Steiner, seconded by Council Member Norland, the Council Meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

City Clerk