

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 4, 2018. 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: Mayor Dehen, Council Members Whitlock, Steiner, Norland and Freyberg, City Administrator Harrenstein, Finance Director McCann, Attorney Kennedy, Community Development Director Fischer, Public Works Director Host, and City Clerk Van Genderen.

**Approval of Agenda**

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

**Approval of Council Meeting Minutes**

**Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of August 20, 2018. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Freyberg, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

**Public Hearing, 7 p.m.-Consider Ordinance No. 107, Amending Chapter 51 Refuse Collection**

City Administrator Harrenstein reported the amendment requires that the refuse and recycling containers not be stored in any front yard building setback except the day of scheduled pick-up and the day previous. He indicated this was in response to citizen concerns.

Barb Church, 102 Wheeler Avenue, appeared before Council and requested clarification on if a resident was gone a few days if there would be some leniency. Attorney Kennedy reported someone would need to report the concern to the City, and the City would respond to the complaint, and officers that responded to the call would have discretion.

**Public Hearing, 7 p.m.-Consider Ordinance No. 108, Amending Chapter 33.07, Contracts with the City**

City Engineer Dan Sarff appeared before Council and reported the proposed amendment would increase the City Code bidding threshold to keep it up to date with the Minnesota State Statutes. The change would allow the City Administrator to directly enter a contract through direct negotiations for contracts under \$25,000. Contracts between \$25,000 and \$175,000 would require the solicitation of at least two sealed bids or direct negotiation. Contracts above \$175,000 would require an advertisement to solicit bids. City Engineer Sarff indicated the information concerning projects with assessments was removed because City Code has a section specifically addressing special assessments.

Barb Church, 102 Wheeler Avenue, appeared before Council and stated that just because the City can change the Ordinance, it does not mean it should. Ms. Church indicated she believed the City's budget was small enough that it does not warrant the change.

**Consent Agenda**

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

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 70-18 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Approved Audio Permit for Caswell parking lot on September 15, 2018, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

- D. Approved Large Group and Audio Permit for Southpoint Financial Credit union Member Event at 1800 Commerce Drive on September 13, 2018, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- E. Accepted and Implemented the Traffic and Safety Committee Recommendations for their August 21, 2018, Meeting.

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

**Motion carried.**

### **Public Comments Concerning Business Items on the Agenda**

Lucy Lowry, 2263 Northridge Drive, appeared before Council requesting clarification on Business Agenda Item #11C Consider Approving the Memorandum of Understanding between the Twin Rivers Council for the Arts and the City of North Mankato. Noelle Lawton, Executive Director of the Twin Rivers Council for the Arts, clarified that the \$5,000 in the memorandum goes to the artists whose projects are selected and an additional \$500.00 will go to Twin Rivers Council for the Arts as a consulting fee for working with the artists and helping select the projects. City Administrator Harrenstein indicated that if less than \$5,000 were awarded to the artists, the consulting fee would be less as it is based on a percentage.

### **Business Items**

**Ordinance No. 107, Amending Chapter 51 Refuse Collection. Council Member Freyberg moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner to adopt Ordinance No. 107, Amending Chapter 51 Refuse Collection. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Freyberg, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

**Ordinance No. 108, Amending Chapter 33.07, Contracts with the City. Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Freyberg to Adopt Ordinance No. 108, Amending Chapter 33.07, Contracts with the City. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Freyberg, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

### **Memorandum of Understanding between the Twin Rivers Council for the Arts and the City of North Mankato.**

City Administrator Harrenstein reported the City Council passed the Public Arts plan in 2017. The Memorandum retains the Twin Rivers Council for the Arts on a per project basis to help the City implement parts of the plan. Mayor Dehen thanked Executive Director Lawton for her work in developing the Public Arts Plan and continuing to work with the City to implement the plan. **Council Member Steiner moved, seconded by Council Member Norland to Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Twin Rivers Council for the Arts and the City of North Mankato. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Freyberg, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

### **Set Public Hearing, for September 17, 2018, at 7 p.m. for Ordinance No. 109, Amending Chapter 154.05 Prohibited Signs.**

City Administrator Harrenstein reported the Ordinance would allow public murals approved by the City. One of the public art grant proposals includes a public art mural. Currently City Code does not allow public art murals. The City has used this portion of City Code to deny public art murals; the proposed code would require an agreement between the artist, the City and the business and allows the City to resolve issues if changes need to be made to the mural. The City Council can decide if they

want to open the way for public art murals or continue to deny the murals. Attorney Kennedy indicated the proposed code would allow the City to maintain control over murals and approve them on a per case basis. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner to Set a Public Hearing for September 17, 2018, at 7 p.m. to Consider Ordinance No. 109, Amending Chapter 154.05 Prohibited Signs. Vote on the motion: Whitlock, Steiner, Norland, Freyberg, and Dehen aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

### **Open Forum**

Harry Chromey, 2233 Snowbird Lane, appeared before Council and requested Council review the intersection of North Ridge Drive & Quail Roost Drive, encouraging the elimination of on-street parking on a part of North Ridge Drive to increase visibility as he viewed the intersection as dangerous when there is parking allowed at the corner. City Administrator Harrenstein indicated he would be willing to meet to discuss the request and go to the intersection for viewing. He requested Community Development Director Fischer review the Traffic and Safety Committee's report and recommendations concerning the request. Community Development Director Fischer reported the committee met to discuss the speed limit, past accidents at the intersection, which are non-existent, and considered the precedent it could set. He stated the Committee recommended the continued monitoring of the intersection. Mr. Chromey indicated that when there are no vehicles parked in the corner, there are no issues with visibility.

### **City Administrator and Staff Comments**

Finance Director McCann thanked the Council for their input into the budget at the Budget Work Session and reported additional work sessions would be scheduled.

### **Mayor and Council Comments**

Council Member Whitlock reported Bier on Belgrade would occur on Saturday, September 22, 2018, from 12 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Council Member Steiner reported with the heavy rain he had received calls from constituents requesting improved bus shelters and indicated Mankato might have some that North Mankato could acquire. City Administrator Harrenstein indicated the City would look into the shelters, and reported that updated bus shelters were included in the transportation grant.

Mayor Dehen reported Coffee with the Council would be held on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at 304 Belgrade Avenue out on the new Spinner's patio.

Mayor Dehen reported Fallenstein playground had been well received by the community and concerns about one of the structures is being addressed by City staff.

There being no further business, on a motion by Council Member Norland, seconded by Council Member Steiner, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

---

Mayor

City Clerk