

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 May 2, 2016. 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 the meeting: Mayor Dehen, Council Members Steiner, Norland, Freyberg and Spears, City Administrator Harrenstein, Attorney Kennedy, City Planner Fischer and Deputy City Clerk Anderson. Absent: Public Works Director Swanson.

Approval of Agenda

Council Member Spears requested that Agenda Item #D Consider Setting Public Hearing on Abatement of Public Nuisance at 831 Nicollet Avenue be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration. **Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to approve the agenda as presented with Item #D Consider Setting Public Hearing on Abatement of Public Nuisance at 831 Nicollet Avenue removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, Freyberg, Spears and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Norland moved, seconded by Council Member Freyberg, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of April 18, 2016. Vote on the motion: Steiner, abstain; Norland, Spears and Dehen, aye; Freyberg nay. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

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

- A. Bills and Appropriations.
- B. Res. No. 42-16 Approving Donations/Contributions/Grants.
- C. Consider Approving Audio and Large Group Permit for the Talamantez/Hed Wedding on September 2, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Spring Lake Park Shelter #2.

Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, Spears and Dehen, aye; Freyberg, nay. Motion carried.

Public Comments

Tom Hagen, 927 Lake Street, appeared before Council and stated he has had no contact from the City to set up a test for the noise issue with speakers in the park and asked for testing prior to the City creating a new audio permit. Mr. Hagen also questioned why the Tschohl property was not listed as an item to choose from on the resident questionnaire. Mayor Dehen stated no one has been able to raise the money to purchase the property and the land owner has made it clear they will not sell the property to the City or to the Friends of North Mankato.

Barb Church, 102 Wheeler Avenue, appeared before Council asking them to create a list of criteria to guide internal decisions and procedures. Ms. Church asked about Administrator Harrenstein's review.

Phil Henry, 1300 Noretta Drive, appeared before the Council and asked about items on the claims list. Mr. Henry stated he would like the list to give more detail.

Consider Setting Public Hearing on Abatement of Public Nuisance at 831 Nicollet Avenue

Attorney Kennedy stated the City has adopted a new code enforcement policy which includes a process for the abatement of nuisances. Attorney Kennedy noted the process begins at the City Staff level and if there is no resolution; cases are forwarded to the City Attorney's office for review.

Attorney Kennedy stated that at this time the Council needs only to set the Public Hearing with notice given that would allow a full hearing on the matter. Attorney Kennedy stated over the next two weeks information will be provided to the Council on the public nuisance at 831 Nicollet Avenue with a proposed resolution that would authorize the City Attorney’s office to move forward with the District Court if the Council deems it necessary. Attorney Kennedy noted the property owner will be notified by letter of the Public Hearing. Council Member Spears asked if letters sent to the property owner are sent certified requiring a signature. Planner Fischer noted the letters are sent registered. Administrator Harrenstein stated that moving forward, staff will be instructed to send these types of letters certified.

Council Member Freyberg moved, seconded by Council Member Steiner, to set a Public Hearing for May 16, 2016 on Abatement of Public Nuisance at 831 Nicollet Avenue. Vote on the motion: Steiner, Norland, Freyberg, Spears and Dehen, aye; no nays. Motion carried.

City Administrator and Staff Comments

Administrator Harrenstein reported valuable feedback has been received from both the Brewing Ideas and Belgrade Avenue Planning meetings. Administrator Harrenstein noted the next Brewing Ideas meeting will be held on May 10, 2016 at Fire Station #2 on Howard Drive. Council Member Spears inquired if any residents had mentioned the Tschohl property on the write-in portion of the resident questionnaire. Mr. Harrenstein reported it was mentioned and a full report will be provided on the comments received from the meetings and the questionnaire.

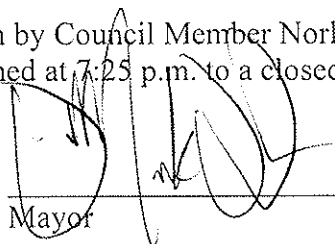
Mayor and Council Comments

Mayor Dehen reported Coffee with the Council will be held Saturday, May 7, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at Culver’s. An initial draft of the City’s Complete Streets map will be available at the meeting for public review and comment.


Public Comments

Mark Haack, 713 Bennett Street and co-owner of 831 Nicollet Avenue, appeared before Council and stated he has never seen any letters the City has sent to him regarding 831 Nicollet Avenue. Mr. Haack stated he has spoken with City Planner Fischer about the issues and has removed some items from the property. Mr. Haack invited staff to meet him at the property to show him the items that need to be resolved. Administrator Harrenstein noted the City will continue to move forward with the abatement policy process; however, staff is willing to meet with the homeowner.

There being no further business, on a motion by Council Member Norland, seconded by Council Member Freyberg, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. to a closed session.



 Mayor



 Deputy City Clerk