**Minutes of the Regular Meeting-7:30pm Wednesday**

**November 9, 2022**

**Mendota VFW 1323 Sibley Memorial Hwy,**

**Mendota Minnesota**

1. Call to order: Mayor Mielke called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Present: Mayor Mielke. Council Members Golias, Perron, and Donnelly. Attorney Tom Loonan, Engineer Lucas Jones, City Clerk Kathy Krotter, Captain Wegener and Building official Mike Andrejka. Council Member Rasmussen absent.

4. Agenda: Mayor Mielke asked if there were any last minute changes to the Agenda. No changes needed. Motioned by Mayor Mielke and Seconded by Council Member Golias.

5. Approval October 11, 2022 City Council Meeting minutes. Motion to approve last month’s minutes with corrections made, by Mayor Mielke and seconded by Council Member Golias. Approved 4-0.

6. Treasurer’s Report: Motion to pay the bills by Mayor Mielke and seconded by Council Member Donnelly. Approved 4-0.

7. Building Official Report Mike Andrejka: Mike had no permit activity.

8. Dakota County Recycling contract: - Community Waste Abatement 2023 Grant Agreement. Clerk explained the agreement with Dakota County and the City of Mendota. Approved and signed by Mayor Mielke.

9. Mary (Samoszuk) Reynolds: Creation of a policy/protocol for timely posting of upcoming Council meeting agendas, meeting time changes and approved minutes. Mary explained why this is so important to residents and to Bob and her. They rely on the website to see what is going on in the upcoming meetings.

The agenda is not posted in a timely manner. The minutes and agendas are posted wrong so Mary has nothing to go by. Mary would like the council to vote on the agenda to be posted in a timely matter. If it’s not timely and accurate then it is not very valuable. Planning commission meeting minutes are not posted. Mary stated that she put a lot of time into the minutes and planning commission meetings for two years. It would keep the city informed about projects that are going on in the city. Council and clerk discussed the procedure of what should happen with the agenda and minutes. Council made a motion to have the minutes and agendas sent out at end of the day Friday before the council meeting. Beau Heidelberg stated that the meeting could be videoed and then it could be posted to the site. It could also be videoed and downloaded to YouTube. The lawyer stated that we would have to store the files ourselves. The lawyer could check into legality of recording our meetings. And suggested that Council Member Donnelly could talk to the cable company. Formal motion from Mayor Mielke to have the agenda and minutes by close of the business day the Friday before the meeting. Seconded by Council Member Donnelly. Three yes, one opposed.

Website: We should work on cleaning it up and maybe updating it. Maybe look for technology grants for updating the website.

Mary suggested that we initiate a feasibility study of main streets infrastructure. Mayor Mielke explained that we are looking for people to help us with this and who would be responsible for the cost of the study.

10. Public Comments: Opened at 8:09 pm. Beau Heidelberg stated that he recently purchased the home that he grew up in, here in Mendota. It was brought to his attention about the Benson Metals property that was purchased. He was interested in how far down the road that is, two, 4, 6, or 8 council meetings away. He already knew about the survey that was sent out and how the residents felt about it. Tom Loonan stated that the Benson Metals property is for sale again and that the original developer had backed out of the original deal with Mr. Benson. Closed public comment at 8:12 pm.

11. Council Comments: Open council comments at 8:12 pm.

Council Member Rasmussen: Absent

Council Member Golias: Nothing.

Mayor Mielke: The Mayor said he had some mail, just the normal monthly stuff. Mayor stated that he did get a hold of Kaposia tree and they are going to try and squeeze us in. City Clerk stated that they told her they would be out to take the fallen tree out of the park for sure in the coming week.

Council Member Donnelly: Thanked everyone who voted for him. His kids liked seeing his name on the ballot at the election. Halloween was awesome, and that is one of the things he loves that about our town.

Council Member Perron: Someone called Joan and told her that a man and woman were measuring the deck at the jail. Did anyone know anything about that? No one heard anything.

Closed council comments at 8:15 pm.

12. Staff Comments: Open Staff Comments at 8:15 pm.

Captain Wegener: For October there were 19 calls, and opened up 3 cases. So far making our total number of cases 33 for the year. The new Officer Dan Iverson is from Mendota Heights and he is on his second phase of training. Any questions for the Captain. None.

Lucas Jones: Stated that he had nothing too formal tonight. Sent some documents to Tom, Mayor and city clerk. The clerk will send them to the rest of the council. Lucas is wrapping this up and hoping that we can push through that and get things figured and it will be very beneficial as we see potential developing happen. A check list to make sure we are all procedurally checking all that boxes as we go through.

He received some phone calls and emails for requirements in town, for new developers that are interested in developing in town. Passed most of it off to Tom Loonan. Any questions: Council member Golias asked about the feasibility study that we want to do, we know it will be spearheaded by Jennifer Haskamp, but would Lucas be involved with the engineering data and does he have the original TKDA details on the sewer lines. Lucas stated that yes he does have the sewer line maps and information. Lucas does not know if he has all the water lines information. But that is less necessary since it is more elevation based and that is something that is easily accessible from the surface. And Lucas stated that he would help with facilitate for the sewer and water. Access for all these would be off of Highway 13 and MN Dot does not get involved until an application is filled out. We could reach out and see if they have any policies out there that we could make people aware of. Council could talk to MN dot and that council should talk to the planner who took over for Jon. City owns the sewer and the watermain. But Met Council services the sewer. The sewer was put in 1983 and was rated at 6.6 million. Is the age of the system a factor? Does the 6.6 million still hold true, does the force main and pumps, still be able to handle 6.6 million that was originally believed. Pipes do not change unless they are metal, in that case they could deteriorate and cause less water to flow through it. Pumps could have been replaced since 1983. In theory the capacity should be able to be achieved. Council Member Donnelly asked that since the elections are over, will we be able to get some money for the water again. Might hear something in May.

Lawyer Tom Loonan: Tom handled some property requests for data. Mostly about setbacks, and zoning items. Mostly general questions. The Schumacher’s request to vacate F Street, Tom took a look at it, viewed the information, talked to them and Kathy and they have submitted an application.

Tom received a call from a woman who tripped on the sidewalk by Landmark fence.

Who maintains the sidewalks and maybe we should do some repairs.

City Clerk: Busy month with the elections. We had 134 registered voters, 7 registered that day at the elections. We had 108 people come to vote. City clerk read the results. Historic Oak gave his notice to his landlord to move out. Said he was leaving November 15 and would have everything cleaned up. Talked about the classes she has taken for the MS4 permit, salt and pet waste, illicit discharge and storm water solutions. Molly Park called about the water main being broke on Highway 13 last Thursday and had asked the city clerk if St Paul Water had called to tell me about closing the street. No one called.

Closed staff comment at 8:31 pm.

13. Adjourn: 8:31 pm. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Council Member Donnelly and seconded by Mayor Mielke. Approved 4-0.