**Minutes of the Regular Meeting-7:30 Tuesday May 8, 2018**

**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, Brian Mielke, Council members Joan Perron, Steve Golias, Melody Rasmussen, and Kathy Krotter. City Attorney, Tom Lehmann, City Clerk Kathy Krotter, Police Chief Kelly McCarthy and building official Mike Andrejka.

4. Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda by Council Member Golias, Seconded by Council Member Rasmussen. Motion passed 5-0

5. Approval of April 9, 2018 City Council Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes by Council member Rasmussen and seconded by Council member Perron. Changes: #3 change developer that they.” Motion passed 5-0.

6. Treasurer’s Report: Motion to pay the bills. So moved by Council Member Golias, Seconded by Council Member Perron. Motion passed 5-0

7. Building Official-Mike Andrejka. No zoning activity this month. Council member Perron asked if there was any permits issued for the apartment buildings. There have been pick-up trucks there going in and out of the two story building at 360 E Street. Lawyer Lehmann chimed in and said he sent an e mail with regards to Windy Ridge 2. The fire Marshall from Mendota Heights had shared concern over the development and whether or not the fire department could get access to the homes. Mr. Ray Miller knows that we would not approve any future building permits until the issue had been resolved. Mr. Lehmann forwarded an e-mail from Jim Lee the Fire Marshall and he had met with Mr. Ray Miller and they had come up with a resolution however, Mr. Ray Millers engineer would have to get it to Mr. Jim Lee. Hopefully the engineer will do that very soon and this issue will be taken care of. Lucas said now the only issue Mr. Lehmann has is the trees and the storm water management plan and when will you be following up on that. Lucas drove by on his way to town today and it looks like there might be a depression but there is just dirt in there. So Mr. Lehmann asked when you think we would start putting pressure on Mr. Miller to get that started. Lucas said it should be sufficiently applied just because he can’t get an occupancy until it is done. Lucas said it looks like they are closing in. Mr. Lehmann asked if we would know if something was done. Lucas said yes, there would be grass growing or sod or it would look like a constructed feature. Then Mr. Lehmann asked if he or Lucas should write a letter to Mr. Ray Miller and tell him that we would like to see some movement on the storm water plan that you agreed to. Yes, Lucas said we should do that. So Lucas and Mr. Lehmann will be sending e-mails to Mr. Ray Miller. Then Mr. Lehmann told Mayor Mielke that he was aware of the costs that we have passed on to Mr. Ray Miller from MSA and so we will be meeting with him and discussing them with him. Mr. Lehmann stated that Mr. Miller only has the one house, asked the building inspector Mike where Mr. Miller is on those, and Mike said he was fine on those, he is sheet rocking inside now. Then Mr. Lehmann asked Mr. Andrejka when he thought Mr. Ray Miller would be ready for the certificate of occupancy. Mr. Andrejka stated in one to two months. Mike asked Mr. Miller when he was going to start another house and he stated soon. But Tom Lehmann said that Mr. Miller could not start another home until he got signed off from Mr. Lee the fire marshall.

8. Comp Plan 2040: Mayor Mielke stated that we discussed the Comp Plan prior to the regular meeting and went over everything. Asked if anyone had any questions at this time. No response.

 9. Taxes: Mayor Mielke passed the topic over to Mr. Lehmann. Tom stated that someone had brought up why there taxes had gone up more than what we had expected and Tom talked to the Dakota County tax person, and it looks like everything was done correctly in regards to why it was higher than our expected numbers, she had no idea. Some of our expenses went up and some had gone down, so it remains a mystery. The nice thing is, is that we are going to have more expenses this year and they were not in the budget. The city will have expenses with the new development and the comp plan that we are now paying for, the bottom line is that you cannot change the tax levy until next year and if there is an issue as to why we collected more taxes this year we can under levy next year to compensate for this year. Like the woman at the county said, there is no real science to the procedure, you just try to put in the numbers that you have at the time of your budget. Next year we just have to be sure that the budget number that we come up with is the number we report on the tax levy. The mayor stated that now that we are coming into the budget season here at the end of summer, we take a strong look at where we are at financially. Knowing that we over levied and we can’t undo that, our bond payment will go away this year. So we need to really reduce the city portion of the taxes for the year 2019.

10. Public comments: 7:54 pm. John LeClaire, who is the vice chair of the Mdewakanton Dakota Tribe, his ancestors goes back to the 1860’s in Mendota, we would like to keep this place historical and they actually have tried to purchase property to make a community center and all the land is speculation. The land from here to highway 13 they wanted thirty thousand and then they went up to eighty thousand and the accessors were twenty thousand. Then you have the garage here, (which is where the Mendota Café was at) and he won’t sell and he told John personally that he bought for speculation. There is no land in Mendota on the main street for sale. Lucky 13’s parking is so bad that they bought the fence company for parking, so they are going to tear down that building for parking. The town is being destroyed by commercialization. Mendota used to have nine bars on Main Street. This used to be the Bourbon Street of the Twin Cities. The DuPius house where his ancestors were born belongs to the State of Minnesota, here is an issue that we have to look at, and the seven casino tribes have formed a committee. They call it the Dakota County Community. They are advising the historical society on what can and can’t be done in Dakota County. The Casino’s want the Mdewakanton out of there and they are the only ones that can verify belonging to this land. Mr. LeClaire would like a letter of support from Mendota that we are good citizens and that we have been here for 20 years and have no issues. And second we like an application for a business that we will be working out of our office down here. Let’s keep Mendota Historical like it should be. Carl said there was a big hole by Lucky’s parking lot going down by the Sibley House that needs to be repaired. Carl also stated that we should have the streets swept before it gets to be August. The Slide in the park will be put up this year finally. Also the Klondike Kates were talking to Carl and they have July 11th down for the date of Mendota Days. Mr. LeClaire asked for flyers. City Clerk Krotter mentioned that she had contacted the Street sweeper and that he had raised his price from $1400 to $1800.00. She also put out for more bids and called people. No one else responded. Mayor Mielke responded that people are probably not interested in an area so small, so just have Mike Edge do the sweeping again. Mayor Mielke asked Danny Dahlberg if he had Allen Bebels number and if he could call him and see if he had any time to look at the street and see if it could be fixed. New owners moved into the house that Willard and Joan lived in and they are interested in putting in new windows and were there any restrictions. Also down the road could they add another building to the property, yes, as long as they keep the setbacks and other stuff like height and regulations. Would be good to have it surveyed if you’re planning on building another house. Public comment closed at 8:05PM

 11. Council Comments 8:06PM. Council member Rasmussen nothing, Council member Golias nothing, Mayor Mielke, had no mail to share. The mayor met with MN dot with the Chief and the Captain. There were four members from MN dot, Jon Soderberg, Brandon, Eric and can’t remember the other gentleman’s name. They discussed the speed limit, why they changed it and what to do going forward because they are not changing it back to thirty much less going to 25. They have three proposals, A- they would have shared turns, and street parking, B- bike lanes, street parking, two lanes for cars and C- built in median. Option A seemed to be the best option for the Chief and Mayor. MN Dot is coming back with a plan and they asked for more crosswalks and stop for pedestrian signs in the middle of road, they would be by the VFW, landmark fence and Lucky’s. They will restudy the speed to see if people slowed down after these were put in place. So the painting of the streets would make the lanes smaller and since they will be smaller, people drive the way they feel not what is actually posted. There will be bump outs so people can pull out and not get hit by by passing cars. Then investing in solar lights that show peoples speeds, hoping that people will slow down. There might be some grants available for these signs, and figure it would be around seven thousand dollars. The city would pay for it and they would have to issue us a permit. They also talked about flashing lights. We would get the ones where the person would have to push the button, cause the theory is if the light is always flashing, pretty soon people tend to ignore it where as if they had to push the button more people would be aware that someone was crossing the street. Also talked about Second Street and where it T bones down at the bottom of 13 and they are looking into redesigning that and build the guard rail. The Mayor talked about giving the road back to the city so the city could control that. Also the flashing yellow on Hwy 62 and Hwy 13 and they took notes. Mendota days, is still on. The VFW is doing a band Friday and Saturday night. Council member Perron brought up the slide. City clerk talked to Duane at CDA about the grant and Duane is working on the signs and the new sand for the volley ball court. Two new benches, one by the volley ball court and one in the park, then the flag pole with the light by the Gazebo. There should be enough money to put in the slide. Council member Krotter, nothing. Council comments closed at 8:18 pm.

 12. Staff Comments 8:19 pm. Chief introduced the new Captain Wayne Wegener. He lives in Blaine. Tom Lehmann stated that on Wednesday he was appointed by Governor Dayton to fill a retiring vacancy for a Judgeship in Anoka County and would be leaving after being with the city of Mendota for 28 years. Tom was with the O’Neil law firm in St Paul and Mike O’Brian who did Lilydale asked if Tom was interested in Municipal and he asked Tom to go to the Mendota Council Meeting and the Mayor was Jim Toye and the meeting is at the Parker House and you’re in the back room. Jim ordered appetizers for the meeting but no alcohol. It is bitter sweet to leave this community, and to leave a customer that we have had for 28 years, but this is something Tom has always dreamed of. His assessor would be Mr. Dan Burns. Tom has not decided when his last day will be and he has enjoyed working with us. Dan was excited and looking forward to being part of the city. He lives on West Seventh Street so he is only ten minutes away. There will be a formal swearing in and we will all be invited. The 2% gambling will be refunded. Tom also asked about the Linda Young resolution. The resolution was passed but it is not written up and send it to Kathy to sign. City clerk Krotter brought up the street sweeping with Mike Phillips and that Axels has new owners, there are three gentlemen that will take over. The sewer cleaning and that McDonough’s would be coming out to do that. Staff Comments closed at 8:32PM

13. Adjourn: 8:33pm Motion to adjourn the meeting by Council Member Golias, seconded by Council Member Perron. Motioned passed 5-0