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

**August 8, 2023**

**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 Member Golias, Perron, and Rasmussen. Attorney Tom Loonan and Christina Benson, Engineer Lucas Jones, Captain Wegener and City Clerk Kathy Krotter. Absent Council Member Donnelly. No Building Official.

4. Agenda: Mayor Mielke asked if there were any last minute changes to the Agenda. No changes needed. Motion to approve by Mayor Mielke and seconded by Council Member Perron. Approved 4-0.

5. Approval of July 11, 2023 City Council Meeting minutes. Motion to approve July 11, 2023 minutes with one correction. Motioned by Council Member Golias and seconded by Council Member Rasmussen. Approved 4-0.

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

7. Stonebridge World School Bond: Lawyer explained the school bond, along with the process. Taft Stettinius and Hollister LLP is working with the city of Mendota for the bond. There is no cost to the city to be involved in this, along with no risk. The city should receive around $5000.00 for this process. So moved by Mayor Mielke and seconded by Council Member Golias. Approved 4-0.

8. Public Comments: Open public comment at 7:35 pm. Resident asked if there were any updates on the new project at 265 E Street. Lucas stated that after last month’s meeting we provided them with further comments and a list of items to check off. They will be pursuing the process for a lot combination which triggered storm water problems for them. They took care of the impervious calculations, they identified where the well is, but are connecting to the city water, and to the sewer. They asked if they could keep the well, and Lucas directed them to the county for that question. Tom talked to Mark about the permit. Resident asked are they still looking to put up an 8 foot fence. But Lucas stated that they are just asking for the minimum height for their fence. Closed public comment at 7:40 pm

10. Council Comments: Open council comments at 7:40 pm.

Council Member Rasmussen: Nothing.

Council Member Golias: Congratulations to Tom for being the best lawyer in St. Croix Valley. Thanks to Christina for all the information on the cannabis research.

Mayor Mielke: Mayor stated that there was no Beyond the Yellow Ribbon meeting this month. Mail if anyone wants to see it.

Council Member Donnelly: Absent.

Council Member Perron: Nothing.

Closed council comments at 7:42 pm.

11. Staff Comments: Open Staff Comments at 7:42 pm.

Captain Wegener: In July, Mendota had 21 calls, with one case but it was actually dismissed. Captain talked about the public safety aid that the Mayor had brought up earlier. The league has information about their 2023 omnibus tax bill of $210 million to be distributed December 26, 2023. According to the link Mendota is estimated to get $9146.00. There is a list of various criteria that can and cannot be used for. The city can go to the leagues site to answer any questions they may have.

Lucas Jones: We talked earlier about the 265 E Street project. Lucas has been working on a letter of intent to MNDot for the TED Program (Transportation Economic Development Program) Such as improvements to improve traffic calming, slowing speeds on Highway 13, more lighting for safety and pedestrian crossings. The grant is a 70/30 cost share. We also have an opportunity to work with Deed to get some of the cost share. Lucas and Tom have been working together to get the planning commission together to get our MS4 project done. We need to update our ordinances for pet waste and salt storage.

\* The Mayor added to his council comments that he talked to Ryan Wilson from MNDot about street racing on Highway 13. Captain said to place a call, even though we might not catch them but it will register a complaint with a time and date.

Lawyer Tom Loonan: Working on the Robinette Property (265 E Street). Working on to coordinate with Jennifer about the planning commission meeting. Plus working on the application for the lot consolidation, the Judd Fenlon property and the Taft school bond deal working with Dan Burns who was a former employee of Eckberg Lammers. Christine is full board with the marijuana moratorium and the public hearing for the cannabis issue. Christina stated that on Reservations they can sell cannabis products with no license. There have been a lot of inquiries with questions about, if my neighbor is smoking and now my yard smells like weed, is there anything I can do. There is nothing the city can do about it. The moratorium will be set up for September in a public hearing session.

City Clerk: Went to the bank for Tom after the last meeting to get the cashier’s check for MNDot. Mailed it to MNDot, the next day, and they have processed the sale. Tom did get the originals for the sale and deed for Bridget’s house. Alan Bebel fixed the street drain up on Windy Ridge. Xcel energy is installing three new telephone poles at 1338 Second Street, 1293 Second Street and 1340 Third Street. Also a new meter will be put in at the park when the pole is replaced. Sent a thank you to the VFW for Mendota Days and electrical wiring at the jail. Patty at Berg Plumbing finally got Reid from Historic Oak to clean up the area where he was renting from her. Reid told her either I clean up the area or work and pay rent, I can’t do both. She stated to him, to clean up the area first and we will work on the rent when that is done.

Ordered the new signs for no parking. Jim and Willard installed the no parking signs at Lucky’s. One more needs to be put up at D Street and Victoria Curve.

Clerk needs to have a public hearing for the MRCCA ordinance. (This will be in September.

Closed staff comment at 8:07pm.

12. Adjourn: 8:08 pm. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Mayor Mielke and seconded by Council Member Golias. Approved 4-0.