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

**July 9, 2019**

**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. Absent Clark Donnelly. City Attorney, Tom Loonan, City Clerk, Kathy Krotter. Engineer, Lucas Jones. Captain Wegener. Building official, Mike Andrejka.

4. Agenda: No changes to the agenda. Motioned by Council Member Golias and seconded by Council Member Perron. Motioned passed 4-0.

5. Approval of June 11, 2019 City Council Meeting Minutes: No changes on the Minutes. Motioned by Council member Golias and seconded by Council member Perron to approve the minutes. Motion passed 4-0.

6. Treasurer’s Report: Motion to pay the bills. So moved by Council Member Golias, Seconded by Council Member Rasmussen. Motion passed 4-0. Mayor Mielke added one bill to Fast Signs for $154.78 for the Mendota parade.

7. Building Official-Mike Andrejka: Mike reported to Mayor Mielke that he would be a little late to the meeting, so we skipped him and went to the update of RJ Daughters. Mike issued one permit in June. Of the three homes up on Windy Ridge 2, Mike has issued 2 CO’s. Mr. Mike Miller asked about the pile of dirt on the property where house number 5 is going up, and he stated it has been there for a week. Lucas stated it can sit still for 14 days but then has to be moved around. If that is the case then there should be a silk fence or the little logs to stabilize the area so the dirt does not move from its position. They can even put plastic over the top of the dirt.

8. R J Daughters update: Lucas spoke about his update with Mr. Miller about the last letter that he sent at the end of May and Lucas also talked to Mr. Miller on June 20th.  Mr. Miller had understood everything in the letter, but when Lucas went up there tonight before the meeting it seemed that nothing had been done. Lucas has not reached out to him again yet. Mike told Lucas that he did issue a permit for Lot 5 to start digging. Mayor Mielke noticed on his walk that there was a car parked between home #2 and home #3. Talked about the fire department being able to drive down the street. Beth Miller stated that there were a lot of cars parked on the street lately. Mayor Mielke stated probably because of the construction. Mayor Mielke also asked about the tree plan and when should the tree plan be done. Lawyer Loonan said that the tree plan should already be in place according to the development plan. Mr. Loonan also stated that the Fire Marshall, the Fire Chief and he have been involved with lot 5. Surrounding neighbors have complained about the mowing and the Mayor has talked to Ray about it. Mr. Miller stated that part of it is owned by him and the other part is owned by MNDOT. The Mayor asked the clerk to check into this and see who should be mowing the grass up by the bike path and the road. The clerk stated that she has e-mailed MNDOT about the situation. If the grass gets to be more than eight inches tall then you can send them a letter.

9. Mendota Point; Open public meeting at 7:45 pm. Mr. Michael Margulies

spoke on behalf of Mendota Point LLC. Mr. Margulies requested that the council

wait for a vote on the street vacate until the full council member are wait for a

vote on the street vacate until the full council member are present. So Mr.

Loonan suggest we open up public comment, then close public comment, and the

city has 60 days to respond to the request. Mayor asked if there was anything

more they would like to show the city on what their request is for. The property

in question is the Mendota Point property Lots 1 thru 5. Lot 4 and the property

to be vacated is G Street and the old First Street. This property has been asked to

be vacated before, but no action was ever taken from the city. With the road

vacated then Mendota Point will submit a development plan to the city when

they know exactly how much land they have. Mr. Margulies stated that even if

the city only approves the vacate of the roads and not the development, the city

is still not out anything on their decision. This is just the preliminary step before

anything else is done. But without it no plan could go through. The people who

will benefit from this are Mendota Point, the present. So Mr. Loonan suggest

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from this are Mendota Point, the Pacific Union RR, and the State of Minnesota.

Mr. Benson would not benefit from this property at this time. Mr. DeCourcy

spoke on behalf of the planning commission and stated that at this time since no

development plan has been submitted, the vacate of the street would not be a

planning commission decision. Council member Golias stated that Lot 5 belongs

to the railroad, and Mr. Margulies stated that yes that is what the title company

has found out. The property was checked out by two title companies. Mr.

Loonan stated that this public hearing is only for the vacate of the streets and

there will be several meetings for the development of this project in which more

people will be involved. Council member Golias stated that he has been on the

council for many years and the only time the city did not approve a vacate was

when there were utilities on the street. Mr. Loonan stated that all parties

involved in this development were sent letters on the vacate and those

letters included Mr. Benson, the railroad, the State of Minnesota and Kayla

Proctor. They could come to the meeting or e-mail their concerns to the council.

Mr. Benson called Mr. Loonan but no one else responded. Public hearing closed

at 8:04pm. Mendota Point asked that the city council not vote on this tonight

and that we vote on it at the next Council meeting set for August 13th.

10: Public Comments: 8:05 pm. Fred Rupp from Fun Jumps commented that he wanted to make sure things were going good for Mendota Days. Also Fred brought up the fence. He noticed that he was in the minutes from last month and wanted to make sure everyone is on the same page. Fred wants to know if he should put a fence up in the front, but it is only needed if he is parking his trucks there. As for the containers, they are not visible from the street. Fred asked Mary Reynolds what she wanted him to do. She said take the existing fence and move it off their property and that would be great. If Fred decides to keep his trucks parked on the property, he will need to put in a six foot fence. Public comment closed at 8:12pm.

12. Council Comments 8:12 pm Council member Rasmussen had nothing. Council member Golias had nothing. Mayor Mielke stated that he had some mail and that he received something from the census and filled it out. The Mayor also attended another Yellow Ribbon program meeting with Mendota Heights, Lilydale and West St Paul. This all still has to be approved by the yellow ribbon program. We will be getting a yellow ribbon for the Mendota Signs. The yellow ribbon program will be looking for volunteers to be put on a call list, so if Dakota County can’t help someone, for example shovel snow, they would have a list to go from to get someone to help them out. Mayor Mielke worked with the State of Minnesota to fill out some paperwork for grant money that might be available. One was for the water being hooked up, another was for reimbursement for the landslide three years ago and the other was for the pressure reducing valve that St Paul Water needs to install. Council member Perron brought up the slide, and Mary Reynolds husband has agreed to put in the slide. Mary said that her husband Bob would like the city to write up something that states if a kid should fall off and bonk his head, Bob Reynolds would not be liable because he installed it properly. Mr. Loonan said he could put together a contract with a waver for them. Also Mary said that someone needs to show Bob where the city would like the slide. Most importantly it needs to face north. Council member Perron also stated that there was a sink hole in the VFW parking lot this week. It was two feet deep. Council Member Golias stated that in 1982 they started digging a tunnel from the river to the pond, cause all the water from 110 came down into town and flooded terribly every year. So the solution was to dig a tunnel to release the excess water from the pond. They were using a big machine to drill and the machine kept breaking down because they were hitting too much rock. Then the company went bankrupt so they closed off the tunnel. Closed Council comments 8:20 pm

13. Staff Comments: 8:20 pm. Captain Wegener stated that in May and June there was reports of speeding on G Street. Shortly after the June meeting the police deployed a traffic counter for approximately a week. It was installed on a Thursday or Friday and brought back on Tuesday or Wednesday. All the results can be found on the Mendota Heights website. There was a total of 980 vehicles and 84% were under the speed limit with an average speed of 21 mph. The average speed overall was 14.2 mph and for the cars that went over the speed limit was 25.6 mph. So they were 5.6 miles over the speed limit. There were a couple 76-78 mph, this has happened on other streets and it usually is someone throwing a baseball by the sign. Sometimes it could be a squad car going by. But that is pretty fast even for a squad car.

Lucas had an update from MNDot and Molly asked about the bump outs by

Luckys and that there would be a problem with two buses in that area, and are

we concerned about that. Lucas stated that it was only residential traffic that

goes there. The plan is to put additional sidewalk from Luckys to the historical

marker on the South side of the road. If they put in the sidewalk, the city would

have to take care of the maintenance of it. Such as shoveling the sidewalk. The

Mayor suggested that the sidewalk only go to the end of Berg Plumbing. Council

member Golias wondered if they would put a cross walk in then. Mayor

suggested we keep the sidewalk the way it is. The Mayor then talked to Fred

about his trucks being parked on the sidewalk. Residents have made comments

about parking there and then the employees stating that it is not their problem.

Fred says that those employees no longer work at Fun Jumps. Then Lucas asked

if there were any more questions on the traffic calming project. Mayor asked if

they had an ETA. Lucas stated that they had funding, but have not set a date to

start. Then Lucas stated that MNDot will still be working on the 494 project. It

goes from the Mendota Bridge to Hwy 52. They are putting in storm sewers

adding and reconditioning some roads and doing bridge repairs. Then Lucas

stated that he had the MS4 report and wanted to know if the city had filled it out.

Mayor gave the go ahead to Lucas to fill out the survey. Then Lucas talked about

the drainage problem at 1346 D Street. Melody had brought up the problem

Kayla Proctor was having with water drainage at her home from the street overlay

that was done in 2014. Lucas will talk to her and give her some ideas. Last

item Lucas had was the Comp Plan. They are waiting for a few last minute

responses then they will be done. Mr. Loonan stated that he has been working

on the public hearing and getting ready for the meeting tomorrow with the

League of Cities Lawyer. Mr. Loonan also has been talking to Beth and Mr.

DeCourcy and working on getting the planning commission up and running.

Judge Lehman told Mr. Loonan that the city has not had a planning commission

since the 90’s. There is no record of the planning commission and is only in the

ordinance, so we will be building this up from scratch. Mr. Loonan got them in

touch with the woman who was here last month to help get them started. If the

planning commission has a meeting they need to have the meeting published as a

public meeting and the clerk would need three days’ notice. Mayor stated that it

was great that these people have volunteered and that the city has a big

opportunity for a lot of redevelopment. City Clerk Krotter stated that trees are

starting to fall down. One came down in the park by the slide and Willard took

care of it and there is one across from Kayla’s house at 1346 D Street that is

completely dead. So since it was on City property she was wondering if we could

take care of it. Mayor Mielke and Danny Dahlberg made a map of all the trees

that needed to come down. The Clerk has someone who will take them down

but needs the list. Council Member Golias and Mr. Dahlberg took down some

trees that fell on wires and were in the way. Council Member Perron stated that

one big tree came down by her garage and it is not on her property.

Staff Comments closed at 9:00 pm

14. Adjourn: 8:44 pm Motion to adjourn the meeting by Council Member Golias, seconded by Mayor Mielke.