

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting-7:30pm Tuesday,  
March 9, 2021  
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 Rasmussen. Council Member Donnelly, absent. City Attorney, Tom Loonan, City Clerk, Kathy Krotter. Captain Wegener. Engineer Lucas Jones. Building official, Mike Andrejka.
4. Agenda: Motion to approve agenda by Council member Golias and seconded by Council member Perron. Approved 4-0.
5. Approval of February 9, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve last month's minutes. Approved by Council member Golias and seconded by Council member Perron. Approved 4-0.
6. Treasurer's Report: Motion to move to pay the bills by Council member Golias and seconded by Council member Rasmussen. Approved 4-0
7. Building Official report Mike Andrejka: Mike issued one permit.
8. Presentation from Will from St Paul Regional Water: Will is the project manager, in charge of the McCarrons water project. This site serves about half a million people. The project started in 1916 and was finished in 1925. There were add ons in the 1930's and 1950's. The McCarrons water plant has won the presidential award for their water treatments. A proactive approach to infrastructure is important, it improves drinking water, the capacity to handle contaminants and improves reliability. To reduce our footprint so we can expand, they are going to add 2/3 to the treatment plant. Public relations would help with water quality improvements, and taste changes are unlikely to be very noticeable. Mailers were sent out with people's water bills and also with media

coverage to let people know that this project is being done. Financial impacts would start with a \$6.50 a month increase and then go up for 4 years then return to normal costs in rates. They have hired one firm to build and construct the facility which is guaranteed by Jacobs Engineering. Over the next year they will be doing some tests, like a science fair. This is where they make small versions of the test site and take water from the river to test how the facility will work. The tests will be done over the next year with the University of Minnesota and the Department of Health. They sequence the construction with the old facility until the new facility is ready to go, then they can flip a switch but if the new facility does not work like the old plant, they can switch it back to the old plant that has been working for us for over 100 years.

9. Mendota point project: Mr. Crosby from Mendota Point stopped by to drop off the final proposal for the project and wanted to know if he could get an application to fill out to start the process of the project. He did get a list of the fees. He sees two options for the height for the project which are a variance and a re-zone. He does not know what direction he should go with that. Mr. Loonan stated that tonight we were going to put in a moratorium on developments while we update our zoning codes. But tonight we are going to approve the CUP Application form that we put together. There are certain realities about the project that need to be hammered out on the cities side. We are setting a public hearing in April. Mr. Crosby stated that they are serious about this project and he wants to move forward. So the city needs to get everything in line before the project starts.

The entire cities code needs to be updated. So the moratorium could be for six months or nine months. Tom suggested that we have a special public hearing meeting. The situation for a special public hearing was discussed. If we think that too many people would be present, to be safe we could make it a zoom meeting. Maria asked if the person wanted to join the meeting via zoom but did not have internet how could they join and Tom said there is a number they can call and listen in. The moratorium is not just for Mendota Point but for other projects that might come up. Lucas says that the county has hot spots where people can go and use their devices, like at libraries. Council decided to have a special public hearing meeting March 25<sup>th</sup>. Tom Loonan suggested that we keep working with Swanson, Haskamp because they will really help us with these new developments. Lucas suggested that the new development have a sprinkler system. And not rely on the water system because of the water pressure.

10. CUP Application Form: Tom introduced the CUP application that seems to take care of the cities requirements. Mayor Mielke made a motion to use this Application as our new CUP application form, seconded by Council Member Golias. Council member Golias wants to make sure that the statement on the storm water issue is covered by this CUP application. But the plan will not continue until the storm water plan is approved by Lucas. Approved 4-0

11. Public Comments: 8:19 pm. Maria had no comments. Bob Reynolds asked if the moratorium would include the whole city or just downtown. Just downtown, explained as Main Street, from Berg Plumbing to Benson Metals. Closed public comment at 8:21 pm

12. Council Comments: 8:21 pm Council member Rasmussen, nothing. Council member Golias, nothing. Council member Perron, nothing. Mayor Mielke stated that Jay Ducksons son had passed away and that maybe we should pass around a card. Also, we took a moment of silence for Berkley Duckson who passed away on February 20<sup>th</sup> at 18 years old. Condolences to Jay. Closed council comments at 8:23 pm

13. Staff Comments: 8:23 pm Captain Wegener stated that since it is getting warmer out, people are stealing things. In the past two days three catalytic converters have been stolen and some incidents ended up in high speed chases. If you see something say something. People can steal these in less than a minute. The chemicals in the converters is worth more than gold. Council member Golias said they have devices to help with thieves from taking these converters, but unfortunately they don't work on all vehicles. It used to be in the middle of the night, now they do it in the middle of the day.

Lucas stated that it has been a busy month. We did talk about the planning commission meeting before the meeting tonight and Lucas has been working on that. MS4 storm water permit application is due in April. The application is a thirty two page document. We need to break down the water sheds and determine where the water is going and how it is being treated along with how much sediment it is leaving. Annual report for the MS4 is due in June, and they want to know what kind of action items the city did for the year. Lucas stated

that the city had a public hearing, the culvert inspection for the MPCA and other things for the storm water.

During workshop Lucas brought up another form of funding that the city can use for the water main project. There is some up front work that the city would need to do. One is an income survey, which asks how many people live in the residence and where the target is. The survey would be something that Kathy would mail or drop off. We would then put the survey in a format that they would want. The information would be due in November and then in January the distribution of money would start. This would be around 239 thousand dollars. Also Lucas did get a hold of the county and they were going to send out flyers for well testing, well sealing funding and problem wells. This would help with PFA grant and the PPL application and it would be a nutrient testing. This would not start until we turned on our water spicket's, like the end of May. This would help with our scoring.

City clerk Krotter busy doing paperwork. Letter was sent to 1200 Sibley Memorial Hwy.

Mr. Loonan stated that most of his work was covered during the Mendota Point presentation. Planning Commission meeting that was attended by myself, Lucas, Kathy and Steve. Maria asked Tom Loonan about the trail being closed and if he was still attorney for Lilydale. Tom stated that he no longer was with Lilydale. Maria stated that the townhouse is hanging and part of the back porch is not being supported by anything. Closed staff comment at 8:42pm

14. Adjourn: 8:43 pm Motion to adjourn the meeting by Mayor Mielke. Seconded by Council member Perron. Approved 4-0