Minutes for Regular City Council Meeting held on January 8, 2013

Present: Mayor: Brian Mielke

Council Members: Josh Lee, Alan Ralston, Joan Perron

Absent: Police Chief Mike Aschenbrenner

Also Present: Building Official David Neameyer, City Attorney Tom Lehmann, City Clerk Jennifer Bruestle

Mayor Brian Mielke opened the City Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: It was moved (Ralston/Lee) to approve the December 11, 2012 minutes as presented. Passed

4-0.

Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented, with the approval of business licenses for EZ Lift

Systems, Lee Educational Center and Lucky’s 13 Pub moved to 4.b, and approval of Cattery License for

Alan and Maria Ralston moved to 5b.

Treasurer’s Report: Motioned by Perron, seconded by Lee to approve the disbursements as presented

with the conditional approval of the Xcel Energy bill for street lights not to exceed $375.00. Passed 4-0.

General Fund Disbursements:

Met Council – monthly wastewater charge for January $ 1,268.12

Lehmann & Lutter – Attorney Fees $ 2,000.00

Kim Perron – Snow Removal $ 832.50

City of Mendota Heights – Police & Fire $ 7,938.61

State of MN – Rent for Benson Metals $ 140.00

Xcel Energy – Jail Lights $ 9.94

Xcel Energy – Street Lights $ 360.19

Aggregate Industries – Inv. 703967028 $ 643.79

Wells Fargo – GO Bond Payment 9 of 9 $14,278.60

Dakota County – ballot printing cost allocation $ 3.58

Dakota County – 2012 Truth in Taxation $ 24.46

PERA – December $ 135.00

Withholding Taxes – 4th Quarter 2012 $ 468.54

Jennifer Bruestle – phone service, copies $ 74.72

Jennifer Bruestle – clerk salary for December $ 1,000.00

Enterprise Fund Disbursements:

Xcel Energy – Park Lights $ 26.38

It was moved (Ralston/Perron) to approve the transfer of $35,000.00 from the General Fund to the

Money Market Fund, and the transfer of $1,268.12 from the Sewer fund to the General Fund for the

monthly wastewater charge to Metropolitan Council. Passed 4-0.

City Attorney Tom Lehmann administered the Oath of Office to Brian Mielke as Mayor of Mendota, as

well as Joan Perron and Alan Ralston as Mendota City Council Members.

Approve the following 2013 Business Licenses: Motioned by Ralston, seconded by Lee to approve the

following 2013 Business Licenses:

Benson Metals Greg’s Barbershop Bard Flowers

Bonfire Restaurant Co. VFW Post 6690 Berg Plumbing

Fun Jumps Entertainment Landmark Fence & Deck Myron Anderson

Sibley House Historical Site

Passed 4-0.

Motioned by Ralston, seconded by Perron to approve the following 2013 Business Licenses:

EZ Lift Systems Lucky’s 13 Pub Lee Educational Services

Passed 3-0-1, Lee Abstained

Approve 2013 Cattery/Kennel Licenses: Motioned by Lee, seconded by Ralston to approve the 2013

Kennel License to Pat & Larry Jung. Passed 4-0.

Motioned by Perron, seconded by Lee to approve the 2013 Cattery License to Alan & Maria Ralston.

Passed 3-0-1, Ralston abstained.

2013 Appointments:

Motioned by Ralston, seconded by Lee to approve the following 2013 City of Mendota appointments:

City Depository: Home Federal Savings Bank

City Newspaper: Southwest Review

Deputy Mayor: Alan Ralston

Sewer Commissioner: Jennifer Bruestle

Recycling Commissioner: Jennifer Bruestle

Planning Commissioner: Open

Cable Commissioner: To be determined newly appointment council member

Government Data Practices: Jennifer Bruestle

Public Relations: Brian Mielke

Road Commissioner: Danny Dahlberg

Park Commissioner: Josh Lee

City Attorney: Tom Lehmann

City Engineer: Brian Miller

Building Official: David Neameyer

Noxious Weed Inspector: Gunner Bruestle

Passed 4-0.

Motioned by Perron, seconded by Ralston to declare a vacancy on the City of Mendota City Council. The

City Council unanimously agreed to direct Clerk Bruestle to post a notice of vacancy for the Council

Member position indicating interested parties should submit a letter of interest to the City Clerk by

February 5, 2013 to the City Clerk. Interested candidates will need to be at least 21 years of age, a U.S.

Citizen and a resident of the City of Mendota. Council will exchange email correspondence to develop a

master list of questions for interested candidates. Passed 4-0.

Public Comment: Public Comment opened at 7:43 p.m.

No Comment

Public Comment closed at 7:44 p.m.

Council Comment: opened at 7:44 p.m.

**Council Member Josh Lee:** No Comment.

**Council Member Alan Ralston:** No Comment.

**Mayor Brian Mielke:** Mayor Mielke stated the city mail is available for review during the council

meeting. Mayor Mielke would like to invite all interested parties to apply for the open council position.

Mayor Mielke informed council he is trying to secure a meeting with Representative Rick Hansen to

determine if there are any matching grants available for road repairs. If the City of Mendota receives

funds from Visitation School for the conduit bond, then Mayor Mielke would like to divert the money for

road repairs. Mayor Mielke also informed council the U.S. Postal Service will not close any post offices

within the next two years. Also, the Postal Union indicated the Mendota Post Office will be effectively

off the closure list.

**Council Member Joan Perron:** No Comment.

Staff Comment: opened at 7:48 p.m.

**Building Official David Neameyer:** Building Official Neameyer stated there was no permit activity for

the month of December; however he had the opportunity to close permits.

**City Attorney Tom Lehmann:** City Attorney Tom Lehmann informed council he merged his practice with

Eckberg & Lammers, and will be working out of Stillwater, MN. Attorney Lehmann is looking into

opening another practice in Dakota County. Attorney Lehmann stated he merged with another practice

to relieve the case load from his practice, as well as utilize the knowledge base of Eckberg and Lammers

as it relates to municipal representation, municipal bonds and financing.

Mayor Brian Mielke asked Attorney Lehmann how the City of Mendota could spread the word the City

would consider conduit bonds to private businesses. Attorney Lehmann stated his practice would

contact 501c(3) organizations and non-profits to spread this message.

**City Clerk Jennifer Bruestle:** Clerk Bruestle contacted Xcel Energy to determine if vegetation could be

removed from nearby power lines. Xcel Energy informed Clerk Bruestle Mendota is on a 4-year

vegetation removal cycle and would contact Clerk Bruestle to determine where Mendota is on this cycle.

Also, Xcel Energy informed Clerk Bruestle it is the responsibility of the homeowner to trim/remove trees

off of service lines leading into the home. The homeowner can contact Xcel Energy for a free line drop,

then the homeowner can safely remove any limbs or trees. Then, Xcel Energy will come back and make

a final line connection. Clerk Bruestle will provide this information in the next quarterly newsletter.

Motioned by Ralston, seconded by Perron to close the open meeting at 7:54 p.m., to discuss a

settlement agreement. Passed 4-0.

Motioned by Lee, seconded by Perron to adjourn the closed meeting at 8:08 p.m. Passed 4-0.

Motioned by Lee, seconded by Perron to adjourn the regular council meeting at 8:08 p.m. Passed 4-0.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Jennifer Bruestle, City Clerk