**City Of Mendota**

**Dakota County Minutes of the Regular Meeting**

**Held Tuesday November 12, 2013**

**Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regular meeting of the City Council, City of Mendota, Minnesota**

**held at 7:30 pm at the Mendota VFW 1323 Sibley Memorial Hwy Mendota, Minnesota**

**Present:** Mayor; Brian Mielke, Council Members; Joan Perron, Erick Lehet and Alan Ralston, Building Official; David Neameyer, Chief of Police, Mike Aschenbrener, City Attorney; Tom Lehmann and Clerk; KimberLee West.

**Absent:**  Council Member Josh Lee

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

**Minutes:** **Moved by Councilmember Ralston, seconded by Councilmember Lehet to approve the October 8, 2013 minutes with the deletion of “also present”. Passed 4-0.**

**Agenda:** **The agenda was approved with the deletion of item #4 and #5, and the addition of item 10.5 Resolution 13-07 Accepting the Resignation of Councilmember Josh Lee, to change the word “Second” to “First” in item #7. Moved by Councilmember Perron, seconded by Councilmember Ralston. Passed 4-0.**

**2. Treasurer’s Report:** **Motion** **by Councilmember Lehet, seconded by Councilmember Perron to pay the October 2013 disbursements as presented. Passed 4-0.**

**3. General Disbursements - October:**



Transfer from Sewer Fund $1,268.12 to General Fund for monthly wastewater bill.

# Motion by Mayor Mielke, seconded by Councilmember Perron to approve the above transfers. Passed 4-0.

The Council paused for Clerk West to contact Axel’s regarding their attendance to tonight’s City Council meeting. General Manager O’Hara was not able to come to the phone, Clerk West left a message for her.

**4. Patricia Nauman from the Association of Metropolitan Municipalities** informed the council on the services they provide. The organization represents member cities at the State Capital, lobbying for their members. Metro Cities says Mendota can benefit from becoming a member and has offered to cut the dues in half for the first year, 2014 dues will be $84. Metro Cities is a part of the League of Minnesota Cities. Nauman will send newsletters for the council to review. Mayor Mielke thanked Nauman for the information and said the council will decide at the next council meeting whether or not to join.

General Manager of Axel’s, Louise O’Hara, called Clerk West and says she got busy at work and is unable to attend. O’Hara says the trees died was because they weren’t planted deep enough, she says it is her plan to replant them in the spring of 2014. Councilmember Ralston would like to see that in writing in a good faith letter along with a bond for the proposed work. The council would also like to hold the renewal of their liquor license until these two items are received. Clerk West will send a letter to Axel’s asking that they provide these two items by the December 2013 Council Meeting.

**5. Vote on the Vacation of First Street** - Mayor Mielke asked if the council would like to hold the vote until a new councilmember was appointed. The Council took a vote, 3-1. They will vote tonight. A discussion was held on why or why not to vacate. Councilmember Ralston says there are two separate things, one is the sale of the property, and the other is what is being built on the property. Councilmember Ralston feels the vacation should be granted. Attorney Lehmann says the law shows it’s in the public’s best interest to put the property back on the tax rolls. **Councilmember Lehet called for a vote, seconded by Councilmember Ralston. Passed 3-1 to vacate First Street.** Attorney Lehmann will prepare a resolution for the December 10, 2013 council meeting.

**6. Joint Powers Agreement between Dakota County and the City of Mendota** – Clerk West explained this is a pre-agreement for the recycling grant the city receives. The grant in the amount of $1,100.00 is used for recycling cost at city hosted events.

**7. Resolution 13-06 Approving Joint Powers Agreement between Dakota County and the City of Mendota for 2014 Waste Abatement Community Funding - Motion by Councilmember Ralston, seconded by Councilmember Lehet to approve the recycling agreement. Passed 4-0.**

**8. 2014 Budget** – A 9% increase in liquor licensing was discussed to help pay for the increase in police expenses as well as adding $200 expense to the Enterprise Fund for Santa and beverages. A budget for road overlay was also discussed and how to pay for the roads. Councilmember Ralston says roads are our top priority.

**9. Resolution 13-07 Accepting the Resignation of Councilmember Josh Lee** – The City Council accepted the resignation of Councilmember Josh Lee. Lee wrote to the council that his involvement in the city has been slim lately due to an overwhelming work load. Lee says it’s not fair to the City of Mendota to continue as a councilmember. The Council accepted Lee’s resignation and declared that a vacancy exists on the council effective November 12, 2013. Clerk West will post the council position at the post office. A new councilperson will be interviewed and chosen at the December 10, 2013 City Council Meeting. **Motion by Councilmember Lehet, seconded by Councilmember Ralston to accept the** **resignation of Councilmember Josh Lee. Passed 4-0.**

**10. Public Comment opened at 9:00 p.m.**

Resident Carl Robinette voiced his concern on the repaving of city streets and the cost to residents living on a corner lot. He also says that a charge for amusement devices can bring income to the city.

**Public Comment closed at 9:05 p.m.**

**11. Council Comment opened at 9:05 p.m.**

Councilmember Lehet thanked Councilmember Perron for the booya and bake sale held at the VFW. He also says that there is a pothole on Second Street that needs filling. Councilmember Lehet asked Building Official Neameyer if a permit was pulled for windows and a sliding glass door at 1345 3rd Street. Neameyer says a permit for a furnace was issued for that property but nothing else. Councilmember Lehet says Halloween turned out nicely for the city. Lehet asked if a new computer has been purchased for the city yet. Clerk West is waiting for approval from the Council.

Councilmember Ralston says he also saw the pothole on Second Street. And that the boarding house looks as though it’s been cleaned up a little. Councilmember Ralston says the tree trimming looks good. But that there are a lot of dead tree still.

Mayor Mielke met with Representative Rick Hanson about funding for an overlay on city streets. Mayor Mielke says a computer should be purchased for the city. Clerk West will purchase one.

Councilmember Perron says the booya went very well and they sold out by 6 p.m. Councilmember Perron also says that the porta potty is still in Veterans Park.

**Council Comment closed at 9:15 p.m.**

**12. Staff Comment opened at 9:15 p.m.**

Building Official Neameyer says there is nothing new or unusual to report with building permits.

Chief of Police Aschenbrener says the Tobacco Ordinance will be ready for approval at the December 2013 City Council Meeting.

Attorney Lehmann – No Comment

Clerk West will have a resolution to assess past due sewer charges at the next meeting. Clerk West also drew the council’s attention to the police and fire calls report. Letters will be sent to those addresses with more than two calls.

**Staff Comment closed at 9:17 p.m.**

**13. There being no further business, Motion by Councilmember Lehet, seconded by Councilmember Perron to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 9:17 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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KimberLee West, City Clerk