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

**April 12, 2022**

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

4. Agenda: Motion to add the resolution for a polling place to number 7 for the city of Mendota. Motion to approve by Mayor Mielke and seconded by Council Member Golias. Approved 5-0.

5. Approval March 8, 2022 City Council Meeting minutes. Motion to approve last month’s meeting minutes by Mayor Mielke and seconded by Council member Golias. Approved 5-0.

6. Treasurer’s Report: Motion to pay the bills by Mayor Mielke and seconded by Council member Perron. Approved 5-0.

7. Building Official Report Mike Andrejka: Mike closed one permit for Axels.

8. Polling place: Clerk explained that we needed a resolution for the polling place for voting. We had done this in December but needed to do it again, since some cities had to redistrict the polling places. Clerk read resolution and asked everyone for a yes or no answer. Resolution signed by Mayor and clerk.

9. Public Comments: 7:35 pm. M J Crosby who represents Mendota Point spoke. Mr. Crosby said that his question was quite simple, he has read the new Comp plan and was wondering if the 20 unit per acre limitation is restricted to one level. With a 35 foot height restriction, they could do 60 units. Mr. Crosby stated that the language for this was in 4-13 of the comp plan. Lucas and Tom looked up the Comp plan and zoning for this question. Tom stated that this was only a suggestion or guide line. Lucas stated that new high density residential development will accrue in downtown Mendota along Highway 13 at a minimum density of 10 units per acre. The city has not established a maximum density for mixed use re-development, however setbacks and height restrictions will be major factors that will establish the maximum density appropriate for each site along Highway 13. So Mr. Crosby stated that they will make a proposal for the units, they need to make their project work financially. Then the city will decide if it’s ok.

Tracy spoke about buying the cities lot up on the hill. Tracy gave his offer to the city. The original offer of $15,000 was declined by the city. So Tracy offered more. Tom suggested that Tracy put his proposal in writing, and also suggested that we discuss it in a closed meeting. Tom will follow up with Tracy after the closed meeting.

Marie had nothing.

Closed public comment at 7:50 pm.

10. Council Comments: 7:50 pm.

Council Member Rasmussen, nothing.

Council Member Golias, stated he would help with Mendota Days on July 9th. There will be a table set up over by the jail, hours 12-4pm. People interested can rotate hours with others who would like to talk about the history of Mendota.

Mayor Mielke: Had some mail, if anyone is interested in reading it. Mayor asked about the street sweeping, and maybe shoot for the 19th. Mayor stated that he did talk to St Paul Regional Water about the check for the pressure valve and that he knows that we are responsible for 80%. The mayor tried to get the amount reduced but the amount cannot be changed. They said we could divide it into 5 installments. The mayor also mentioned we should re-evaluate the tree situation once they start to bud and the culverts should be fixed. We will fix the ones worse off.

Council Member Donnelly: Nothing, but he will help out with Mendota Days and mentioned that he is up for re-election this year. August is the deadline to file.

Council Member Perron: Mentioned that the Christmas tree is still up.

Closed council comments at 8:00 pm.

11. Staff Comments: 8:00 pm Captain Wegener apologized for missing last month’s meeting. For March they had 33 calls and opened 2 cases. Nothing out of the ordinary has been going on. An increase of vehicles fleeing from the police and catalytic converters are still on the rise. Mayor Mielke asked about the no knock warrant and how Mendota Heights handles it. Captain says he has never done one in his almost twenty years as a police officer. He envisions that the Mendota Heights police would never use one, and cannot think of any situation where they would need one. The police department has other tools at their disposal. There is also a program that the Police department has programed with the Department of Commerce and with the BP Station on Dodd Road and Highway 62 for a catalytic converter marking program. If you go to the Mendota Heights website and their Friday news you can read about it. They will engrave a specific serial number into each catalytic converter and all of the numbers are linked to a person. It is a pilot program and they are only doing them on the most sought out cars right now. They let the car cool down and etch the number in with acid and when the car is started again the heat activates the acid and the number becomes permanent. You can etch them off, just like the serial number on a fire arm but they would be able to tell you did that, because it will be in a certain spot. Then this would be considered stolen property. Captain asked if there were any questions. Council member Perron asked if anything serious was going on at the apartments on E Street. Captain said it was mostly welfare checks. No cases were opened.

Lucas Jones: Update on Comp Plan, just after the last meeting MSA submitted response to Councils comments. MSA has a verbal acceptance from Met Council, but do not have anything in writing. So Met Council wants it documented in a letter so they can see the specific items they are looking for. Upon approval, MSA would put them into the document. The items had to deal with sanitary sewer. MSA received comments today from the DNR about the MRCCA section and only had one comment, if we wanted to add any drainage ways to be specially identified. So Lucas will be reaching out to them. Lastly the watershed districts have a week or two left to provide comment for local water management plan that was required. Lucas is hoping that by next meeting we can wrap this all up. Then we could approve the comp plan and the zoning at the same time.

MS4 reporting is coming up in June. Lucas will bring in a list of areas that need to be done and ask how we want to take care of them. Most of them are pretty minor, similar to the culvert inspections that MSA did. Others would be more in depth, like an illicit discharge detection policy. An example of this would be if someone stated that there is an oil sheen going into a water drainage pipe. Who would get notified, what steps would be taken and the timeline for this. Then there is a site plan review list which is similar to the storm water.

Lastly, Lucas has been in contact with Michele and her law firm about the Windy Ridge dispute. There is a court date in August.

Mayor asked about the bonding money for the city water and if we could do any part of the project that we wanted to do. Lucas said yes we could pick and choose what we wanted to have done first and with the bonding money there is no match.

Lawyer Tom Loonan: Fielded some calls for the city property up by Tracy’s property and nothing ground breaking there. And had not heard from Tracy until he showed up today at the meeting. Reached out to the League about closing down Highway 13, for Mayor Mielke, and what our insurance would think about that. He is waiting for a response.

City Clerk Krotter: Clerk stated that the check for St Paul water was for $32,253.82, check 5983. Council member Donnelly asked if we received the Cable commission check, and yes we have. Closed staff comment at 8:17 pm.

Brief recess for 5 minutes so everyone except council could leave before the closed session.

12. Closed Session Meeting: 8:20 pm The City of Mendota Council will be going into a closed session pursuing to Minnesota Statue 13 D05 Subdivision 3C 1 to consider value and negotiation and offer for the sale of Mendota property having the legal description of Lot 6 Block 19. So moved by Council member Perron and seconded by Mayor Mielke. Approved 5-0

8:44pm Motion to close session by Mayor Mielke and seconded by Council Member Donnelly. Approved 5-0. Tom Loonan stated that the city has come out of closed session pursuing Minnesota Statue 13 D05 Subdivision 3C1 considering the informal offer of $30,000 that Tracy Wilcziek offered. At this time the council needs more due diligence with certain direction by next Thursday April 21, 2022. In the closed session were Mayor Mielke, Clerk Kathy Krotter, and City Attorney Tom Loonan, Council members Rasmussen, Golias, Donnelly and Perron.

No formal action was taken.

13. Adjourn: 8:46pm. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Council member Donnelly and seconded by Council member Perron. Approved 5-0.