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

**May 9, 2023**

**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. Attorney’s Tom Loonan and Christina Benson, Engineer Lucas Jones, Captain Wegener and City Clerk Kathy Krotter. No Building Official.

4. Agenda: Mayor Mielke asked if there were any last minute changes to the Agenda. No changes needed.

5. Approval of April 11, 2023 City Council Meeting minutes. Motion to approve last month’s minutes. Motioned 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 Donnelly. Approved 5-0.

7. Jack Nord- Sibley House update: Sibley House is open to the public starting Memorial Day May 27th until Labor Day. They have set up to have the new sign go in the 22nd and the 23rd. Jack has contacted 811 so they are ready to dig when the sign people get here. The Sibley house is having a load of mulch dropped off Friday the 12th and should have it all taken care of by the following week.

8. Resolution for Road Closure for the Sibley House Event. Lawyer Benson summarized the resolution stating where the road closure would be and the dates and times that the closure would happen. Someone will be at the barricades to let people in to their residences or emergency vehicles if they need to get there. Council Member Golias motioned to approve the resolution seconded by Council Member Perron. Council voted and Resolution 23-04 was passed 5-0. Jack talked about how many invitations were sent out to VIP’s and what would be going on. Mayor Mielke will be speaking at the VIP event.

9. Public Comments: Opened at 7:44 pm. A resident spoke about a dog in the neighborhood that bit his son and dog last week. Apparently this is not the first time the dog has bit someone. He has also bit another dog and some people playing whiffle ball at the apartments. He is usually tied up. Now he roams the streets. Captain stated that if this happened they should call the police. The incident should be noted that the dog has bitten someone even if the dog does not break skin. Lawyer also stated that the dog does not have to break the skin, a bite should be reported.

Closed public comment at 7:49 pm.

10. Council Comments: Open council comments at 7:49 pm.

Council Member Rasmussen: Nothing.

Council Member Golias: Nothing.

Mayor Mielke: The Mayor attended the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon meeting, today and the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon program received a nice donation from the AM Vets. Mayor had mail if anyone wanted to review the mail. D Street was paved by Steve Hesse the owner of Lucky’s. Mayor asked if Steve Hesse wanted to split the cost of the repairs, but it was at his expense for now. Mayor talked to the owner of Pine Bend about fixing the street from 13 to the end of Lucky’s building going down towards the Sibley House. Pine Bend quoted about $32,000. Talked about the trees. Kaposia said they could pick up the trees and grind it all up but it would be the same price $6000.00. City Clerk stated that she had Miller Tree service come out and look at the park, since Jim, Willard, Tracy, Gunnar and Jerry Perron moved all the branches to the park. Rob from Miller Tree service quoted that he would do it all for $950.00. Clerk was instructed to ask Rob if he could mulch some of the branches and if it is under x amount of dollars, she is authorized to have him mulch some of the branches also. Motion to accept bid for tree pick up and to have some of the branches turned into mulch. Motioned by Council Member Golias and seconded by Council Member Donnelly. Passed 5-0. Talked about when the street sweeping would be done. Mayor stated that the City Clerk wanted to get Council approval because it was higher than last year’s price.

Council Member Donnelly: Council member Donnelly asked if anyone else got a notice about a variance for a development in Mendota Heights for a road being built and if anyone happened to go to the meeting. Council Member Golias went to the hearing. They wanted to build a road with a cul-de-sac, and it started with nine homes, then went down to seven and ended up being only two homes. One will be off of Glenhill road and the other one will go down by the old barn off of Glenhill road. The planning commission stated that the road only had to be another 4 feet wider and Council Member Golias stated that it would have to be wider than that, so that emergency vehicles could get down the road. The Mendota Heights planning commission voted to approve it.

Council Member Perron: Nothing.

Closed council comments at 8:04 pm.

11. Staff Comments: Open Staff Comments at 8:04 pm.

Captain Wegener: Captain apologized for missing last month’s meeting, he was out of town. April’s calls had 24 incidents and 2 cases.

Before the meeting started we talked about the no parking signs. Captain recommended that the signs be no parking between signs. Put the posts at the end of the barriers and put the signs on both ends. Captain asked if there were any questions. Council asked how about across from the barriers, should there be signs. Mayor asked about D Street and Victoria Curve. People wait there in their cars, could we put a no parking/no stopping sign there. A resident noticed that on the police report there was an incident that stated there was an active burglary caught in progress. The report did not give an address. Captain said that is how the police mask them for data privacy. Captain could not give any information about the incident. They only give the date, time, location and the response. Right now the case is still open and no information is available. When it is closed, then the report is available upon request. Resident asked if the police department has a social worker on staff. Captain stated that they have a working relationship with Dakota County Crisis Unit.

Lucas Jones: Talked about updating the cost for the watermain bonding project and getting that submitted to the department of health. The street restoration cost and paving portion of the streets was largely unchanged. That is because oil costs are down a little bit. The largest cost increase is the water facilities, largely the pipes. Without changing any quantities it went up almost 60%. So that went up $700,000 for the piping and installing the pipes. Those were 2021 costs projected to 2025 costs. We also did increase property acquisition, because properties have gone up. Bottom line the beginning ask was just shy of 4.5 million dollars and the new ask is just over 5.5 million dollars. And we would move the project to next year 2024. Most of it would be done in 2025 with some cleanup in the summer of 2026. Mayor wanted to know what we already had been allocated and Lucas stated it was $650,000. Mayor asked if there was a five year time limit to use the money. Lucas said you have five years to say you’re going to use the money and another 5 years to actually use it. Mayor asked would the $650,000 complete the loop. Lucas stated that we had to change the wording, so we can’t complete the loop. By changing the wording though, it made the asking for the bond more helpful. The bond is an expansion and not improving request. A resident asked if we could bury the power lines, but xcel would have to be compensated for it. This could not be included in the city’s funding requests. Council member Donnelly asked about a zoning bill, but Lucas did not know the answer.

Lawyer Christina Benson: Christina looked up Council Member Donnelly’s question and it is part of the Zoning Prevention Bill. It is still just introduced and has not been amended yet. The Zoning Prevention Bill is for single family zoned areas. She did not have any updates on the conciliation court. Road Closure resolution is complete and the only thing left is the property that MN Dot owns.

City Clerk: Stated that she did reach out to Dakota County for any tree removal grants that they might have that the Mayor asked about. She stated she reached out to Ms. Dykes from the CDA and she looked everywhere for anything, but unfortunately there was nothing Ms. Dykes could find, due to the fact it was not a disaster.

Clerk gave Council an E mail from Jennifer for the feasibility study.

There have been lots of phone calls on property that has become available in Mendota.

Mayor stated he would be out of town on June 13th.

Mayor stated that the home that is going up at Carl’s property at 265 E Street, is labeled as a single family home, and the new building inspectors are all over this. There will not be a fourplex, a duplex or a group home going up there, it will be a very large single family home. Resident asked about the 8 foot fence. They can put a six foot fence up but with the 8 foot fence they will need a permit. If they are complying with the ordinance we cannot do anything with it.

Closed staff comment at 8:32 pm.

12. Adjourn: 8:32 pm. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Council Member Donnelly and seconded by Council Member Golias. Approved 5-0.