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

**June 13, 2023**

**Mendota VFW 1323 Sibley Memorial Hwy,**

**Mendota, Minnesota**

1. Call to order: Deputy Mayor Golias called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Present: Council Members Golias, Perron, Rasmussen and Donnelly. Attorney Tom Loonan, Engineer Lucas Jones, Captain Wegener and City Clerk Kathy Krotter. Absent Mayor Mielke. No Building Official.

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

5. Approval of May 9, 2023 City Council Meeting minutes. Motion to table last month’s minutes. Need some clarification about Mayors Comments. Motioned by Deputy Mayor Golias and seconded by Council Member Rasmussen. Approved 3-0.

6. Treasurer’s Report: Motion to pay the bills by Deputy Mayor Golias and seconded by Council Member Perron. Approved 3-0.

7. Public Hearing: SWPPP: Lucas Jones gave some background for the MS4 SWPPP permit. Deputy Mayor Golias opened public hearing at 7:34pm. A resident asked if there was a map available. Lucas stated there should be one online. Deputy Mayor Golias asked if anything has changed. Lucas stated that the newest change was with Windy Ridge Two, which has a holding pond. There are two that the city owns, they surround or are on the corners of the park. There is a dry pond that is across from the pump station on the Southeast corner of the park and on the Northwest corner there is the actual pond, for ice skating in the winter. There is also one DOT facility within city limits. Closed public hearing at 7:37pm. Lucas quickly summarized what the city is preparing to do to approve the permit application since late 2021. Some new items that are required of the city are a drafted ordinance for pet waste and salt storage. Illicit discharge elimination plan and emergency response plan. Training documentation form, site plan review checklist, construction site inspections checklist, public works design manual and a total phosphorous, total suspended solid effectiveness procedure. A need to be adopted or included into the ordinance. All of this is a requirement by the MPC, and orders from the EPA. This is for any city with a population over 10,000, or considered in the metropolitan area.

8. Authorization to purchase MNDot property. Lawyer Loonan stated that this parcel is to the south of the bike path. The city has been provided notice and a map that MNDot owns that whole parcel which is currently occupied by Bridget Perron and Amy Anderson. Legally speaking MNDot says that they are the owners of this property. MNDot can only transfer that parcel to the city for the amount agreed upon and in turn the city can sell it to Bridget and Amy. A motion to approve Resolution 23-05, Motioned by Council Member Rasmussen and seconded by Council Member Perron. Voted 3-0. So the city will have to authorize the $15,000 expenditure and then the city will have a purchase agreement with Bridget and Amy for the property.

Council member Perron brought up the fact that Bridget has been paying taxes on the property for years and the lawyer stated that he told MNDot that they claimed they owned the property but what about the property taxes. MNDot told the Lawyer that really isn’t their issue and Bridget and Amy need to take that up with the county. The Lawyer will relay that to Bridget and Amy. (If Amy and Bridget never really owned this property why did they pay property taxes on it?).

9. Resolution of Support for 2024 Bonding Bill Application: Resolution 23-06 was explained by Lucas. The city was not included in the 2023 bonding bill. This resolution is for our water project for the water looping, water main bill and pressure reducing valves, throughout the city. The city needs a Resolution of support and needs to be identified as priority number one. The Resolution identifies the three project areas and asks for permission to be included in the 2024 bonding bill. It is due Friday June 16th. Motioned to approve Resolution 23-06 by Deputy Mayor Golias and Seconded by Council Member Rasmussen. It is the same application as 2023 but with some changes. Biggest change is the schedule, inflation is slightly higher due to a chart we had to use from the state. The city is asking for 5.9 million dollars minus the $650,000 from the 2020 bonding bill. The forms will go to the Minnesota State Budget Office. Approved 3-0.

10. Jack Nord-Sibley House update: Talked about the Fete event on June 24th. Jack talked about the golf carts and that he reached out to the Department of Transportation that sent them to the Department of Public Safety which in turn sent them to the State Highway Patrol. There are certain rules that need to be followed, you can’t drive over 30 mph, must drive on the shoulder, can’t drive at night and the person driving must have a driver’s license. Jack said that he also reached out to the Mendota Heights Police and they are ok with the arrangements that the State Highway Patrol gave him. Jack also reached out to the owners at the end of the road via mail about the event that was going on. Jack stated that he sent out VIP invitations to all the Council via the PO Box. Everyone has gotten them. Deputy Mayor Golias asked about the schedule of the event on Saturday. Jack stated that from noon to three would be the VIP event. First hour is speeches from different people, second hour will be special tours on site, and the last hour will be singing and dancing from the time period. The public event will be from three to eight and every half hour will be some kind of entertainment. People will be dressed in period uniforms. Deputy Mayor Golias asked about parking. Jack stated that St Peters gave them a section of the parking lot to use and they will be using MNDot’s parking lot below the church. There will be refreshments sold. Not traditional French food, but it will be a mixture of the new with the old. The Nan Baily in Hastings has donated all the wine for the event. There will be a licensed bartender. Drinking only on the property. Deputy Mayor Golias thanked Jack for all the updates and keeping us informed.

11. Benson Property Presentation: Transfer the lease from Benson Metals to Mendota Bend LLC. Motioned by Deputy Mayor Golias and Seconded by Council Member Rasmussen. Approved 3-0.

12. Planning Commission-two new applicants: Dana Schumacher and Erick Lehet. Motion to appoint Dana to the Planning commission by Council member Rasmussen and Seconded by Deputy Mayor Golias. Approved 3-0.

Motion to appoint Erick to the Planning Commission by Council Member Rasmussen and Seconded by Deputy Mayor Golias. Approved 3-0.

13. Public Comments: Opened at 8:13 pm. Dan Schumacher mentioned that he went to the cable commission meeting last week, we have 102 residents that could utilize cable but only 22 of them are actually using it in the city of Mendota. Internet is kind of the back bone since most families use it. And right now internet service is not part of the franchise. It is only the cable television. So NDC4 is working on making people who have cable/internet to be a part of the franchise. If this happened, part of the fees that you pay for the internet would go back to the city and more things could be broadcasted on cable for you to see. Closed public comment at 8:17 pm.

14. Council Comments: Open council comments at 8:17 pm.

Council Member Rasmussen: Nothing.

Deputy Mayor Golias: Thanked the City Clerk for working with the tree company and saving us a ton of money. And for the street sweeping.

Mayor Mielke: City Clerk updated everyone on what the mayor has been working on. Mendota days is prepped and in full swing. There are 27 entries in the parade so far. There is going to be another car show. Elvis is going to be here. The VFW, Axels and Luckys will have music. The Mayor had a request to add a curb at the corner of Fourth Street and E Street. There is a resident concerned about water getting into his yard. The Mayor took care of a fallen tree that fell across Windy Ridge, after the city clerk received a 911 call from Dakota County about the tree laying across the road on Windy Ridge. Willard went up there to take a look at it, but before he got up there, a lawn service stopped by and cut it into smaller pieces, and moved the tree to the side of the road. Miller Tree Service will be down to pick up the tree off the side of the road. Mendota Days is July 7th and 8th.

Council Member Donnelly: Arrived late. After staff comments, Council member Donnelly asked if he could ask something. Did we get the bonding bill? Nope. Have to reapply by Friday.

Council Member Perron: Nothing.

Closed council comments at 8:21 pm.

 15. Staff Comments: Open Staff Comments at 8:21 pm.

Captain Wegener: The police department had 18 calls to Mendota in the month of May, five have open cases on them. There is going to be a little change in staffing. There are three people that are in field training, two of the three are on their own, and the third training officer is on his last shift with a trainer and will be done in 8 minutes. So tomorrow morning at 6am he will be on his own. Sergeant Peyton Fleming has resigned from the police department. He has taken a position with a civilian police department down in Texas and will be assistant chief. They will be filling his position internally and then backfill the open position.

Lucas Jones: Talked about most of the items that he has been working on earlier. We still have some work to do to clean up what we are supposed to do for the MS4 permit update. Is this something we want to do at a council meeting or a planning commission meeting? Some of the site plan review stuff and design manuals could be done by the planning commission. Deputy Mayor Golias said that we should have a planning commission meeting. Attorney Loonan stated that we are likely to get an application on the Benson Metal building. That will necessitate a planning commission meeting. It would be a good idea for them to go over what Jennifer Haskamp has put together in the feasibility study along with the MS4 permit information. City Clerk needs to reach out to the planning commission. Deadline for MS4 permit has past.

Lawyer Tom Loonan: Has been working with MNDot, Amy Anderson and Bridget Kreitz on the property. Tom has been working with the owners of the Benson Metals Property and the process that they need to go through. What they are looking to do and to look at the zoning codes. We don’t have an application form. Tom would get together with Lucas about putting together an application form.

Tom is also working with MNSpect and working on their process of permit applications.

City Clerk: Talked about MNSpect being involved with the property at 265 E Street. The clerk called Wendy at MNSpect and told her that the home at 265 E Street was being torn down, and Wendy said the developers haven’t paid for the permit to tear it down yet. They stopped the demolition process at the property because the permit was not filled out properly and the permit was not paid for. He finished the application and sent it in and personally delivered the check to the clerk.

City clerk is working on the Liquor license for Axels, for the new owners.

Worked with Miller Tree Service for the removal of all the trees in the park, and then the tree at Windy Ridge. Wood chips have been dropped off at the park.

Also worked on Permits for food truck events at the VFW.

Closed staff comment at 8:36 pm.

 16. Adjourn: 8:36pm. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Council Member Donnelly and seconded by Council Member Rasmussen. Approved 4-0.