City Of Mendota

Dakota County

State Of Minnesota

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Held Tuesday May 14, 2013

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

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

Present: Mayor: Brian Mielke

Council Members: Josh Lee, Joan Perron, Erick Lehet, Alan Ralston

Also Present: Police Chief: Mike Aschenbrener, Building Official: David Neameyer, City Attorney: Tom Lehmann City Clerk: Kim West

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

Minutes: It was moved by (Lee/Lehet) to approve the April 9, 2013 minutes as presented. Passed 5-0.

Agenda: The agenda was approved with the following addition. Motioned by Lehet, seconded by Lee to add the discussion of Mendota Day. Passed 5-0

Treasure’s Report: Motioned by Lee, second by Perron to approve the disbursement as presented, with the addition of the Xcel Energy-Street Lights-bill $380.81 and PERA contribution $sbursement as presented, with the additon 11111111111111111111111111111111111116.00. Passed 5-0.

**General Fund Disbursements:**

Met Council-Monthly Water charge for May $ 1,268.12

Eckberg & Lammers-Monthly Attorney fee $ 2,000.00

Kim Perron-Snow removal $ 832.50

Kim Perron-Extra Snow Removal $ 85.00

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

State of Minnesota-Rent for Benson Metals $ 158.00

Xcel Energy-Jail Lights $ 11.22

Xcel Energy-Street Lights $ 380.81

PERA-May contribution $ 116.00

Dakota County-Property Taxation Fee 2013 $ 19.50

LMC-Berkley Risk Admin.-Workers Comp. Insurance $ 113.00

Jennifer Bruestle-Clerk Training $ 129.29

KimberLee West-Clerk’s Salary for May $ 706.41

KimberLee West-Clerk Expenses-Phone, Stamps, LMC-

Clerks Orientation Conference $ 338.19

**Enterprise Fund:**

Xcel Energy-Park Lights $ 11.19

**Total Disbursements: $14,083.43**

It was moved (Lee/Lehet) to approve the transfer of $1,268.12 from the Sewer Fund for the monthly wastewater charge to pay Metropolitan Council, and $20,000 from Money Market Fund to the General Fund to maintain the General Fund balance. Passed 5-0.

**Public Hearing:**  An annual Public Hearing was held on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program.

**Approval for Axel’s to serve wine to a charity bike event:**

Axel’s River Grille asked approval from the council to give out a glass of wine to Lifetime Fitness bike riders. The 3.2 mile charity event will take place on the Dakota Co. trail behind Axel’s on August 8, 2013. Louise O’Hara, General Manager of Axel’s stated that a fence would be placed around the area where the wine will be served. Mayor Brian Mielke voiced concern about parking. Louise O’Hara said the non-profit partner is busing the riders and bikes in from Eagan. Council Member Alan Ralston ask how the amount of alcohol will be controlled, can tickets be used? Louise O’Hara agreed and said she would do one ticket per-person. Council Member Alan Ralston also said it was a safety concern of his that someone stand where the trail crosses highway 13 so that motorists see the bikers. Louise O’Hara will e-mail Lifetime Fitness and take care of the safety issue. It was motioned by Council Member Josh Lee and seconded by Council Member Alan Ralston to allow Axel’s to serve wine for the Lifetime Fitness charity bike ride. Passed 5-0

Axel’s General Manager Louise O’Hara also stated she wanted to place a sign on the Dakota Co. trail saying that “Axel’s patio is open”. The council advised her to put the sign on Axel’s property next to the trail.

**Mendota Day Rejuvenated:**

The council asked Axel’s General Manager Louise O’Hara if Axel’s would be willing to make a donation for a food eating contest. Council Member Erick Lehet asked about lettuce wedges or bullbites. Louise O’Hara said she would talk to her chief about the food. The council asked if she had any input about promoting Axel’s for Mendota Day. Louise O’Hara would like to attend the planning meeting. She wants the festival to continue.

Saturday July 13, 2013 is the date set for Mendota day. Council Member Erick Lehet stated it will be smaller than previous years. Applications are being accepted for the parade participation. The parade will begin at noon. Starting from St. Peter’s Church and ending just after the VFW. Lehet has many plans for Mendota day. They include: food booths, The Patience Band playing at the VFW, Fire & Police rides and a bike rodeo. Council Member Erick Lehet asked for suggestions on different types of food. Council Member Joan Perron says get mini donut guy that’s here every year. Council Member Joan Perron will also speak with the Legion about helping out. A committee meeting will be scheduled to talk more about Mendota Day. A sign should be posted ten days prior at post office to let the public know about the committee meeting.

Shirts will be made to promote the event along with articles in the Patch, Star Tribune, Southwest Review, facebook and posted at the post office.

Council Member Erick Lehet has a $1000.00 donation from an anonymous person for Mendota Day. Council Member Erick Lehet would like to ask for financial donations from local businesses to help with Mendota Day. A $250.00 amount was mentioned. Council Member Josh Lee would like to see a new fund made for supporting Mendota day where money could grow in interest.

Council Member Erick Lehet asked Police Chief Aschenbrener about borrowing a stage. Police Chief Aschenbrener said they used Saint Paul Parks, MN’s stage. The platform next to the jail was suggested by Council Member Lehet asking if the railing could come off. Building Official David Neameyer said it cannot be more that 30 inches off the ground. Council Member Lehet says it is only about 18 inches. The railing can come off for that day. Council Member Lehet wondered if a noise ordinance was need for the band playing Saturday evening until 10 pm. Council Member Perron stated that 11pm is the cut off time for noise. Council Member Lehet mentioned the Sibley House is holding a Free Family Art Day on Saturday July 13th from 11am-3pm.

**Public Comment:** No comment

**Council Comment:**

**Council Member Erick Lehet:** Council MemberLehet **a**ttended the Dakota County Preparedness Meeting. Council Member Lehet asked if there is an emergency plan for the city of Mendota and who is in charge? Police Chief Aschenbrener stated that Mayor Brian Mielke would be the one to lead the city. Council Member Lehet asked Police Chief Aschenbrener where Mendota lies as far as what city gets help first. Police Chief Aschenbrener stated that emergency response is based on the most serious incident then follow through. Police Chief Aschenbrener stated all cities covered by Mendota Heights Police Department are all the same. There are no lines drawn. Police Chief Aschenbrener says we all work together.

Council Member Lehet asked where they would meet in an emergency. VFW has a basement was mention as a safe place. In an emergency the city leader Mayor Brian Mielke would coordinate with the Fire Chief, Police Chief and Don Carlson with Dakota County Emergency Preparedness within 24-36 hours. Council Member Lehet wants the public to know that when the sirens sound it’s an outdoor warning signal to get indoors and seek shelter. Kim will put it in the June news letter.

Council Member Lehet was approached by a woman from Mendota Heights asking if something can be done about the trees on Windy Ridge. It was suggested she fill out a formal complaint.

**Council Member Josh Lee**: Council Member Leechecked into pothole repair. Alan Bebel’s quote and Bituminous were discussed. Council Member Lee thought it would be best to check each pothole. Council Member Lee mentioned that seal coating is not a good idea. Chip & Seal may be a better way to go. The city could do a road a year. Police Chief Aschenbrener suggested that Council Member Lee check with Dakota County Roads about ongoing repairs in cities where we could combine the road repairs. Council Member Lehet asked if the chipped up areas and spider cracks will also be repaired. D street is a big concern because it is in bad shape. A suggestion was made that the potholes be marked and that a maximum amount be agreed on to keep cost under control. The U of M could be helpful with the road repairs says Council Member Lee. The council decided to table the decision until more information is gathered on the subject. Passed 5-0

**Council Member Alan Ralston: no comment**

**Council Member Mayor Brian Mielke:** MayorBrianMielke asked how many garbage companies service the City of Mendota on a given week. Council Member Joan Perron commented that there are five, they each come twice a week, once for garbage then again for recycling. Mayor Brian Mielke asked if the city would benefit from one hauler. This would cut down on the amount of traffic and save roads. The city could get bids and select one contracted hauler. Council Member Alan Ralston’s concern is the limiting of free enterprise. Council Member Alan Ralston wants a public hearing held to hear what the conscientious public has to say on the subject. Maplewood, MN instituted a contracted city hauler against the wishes of many citizens. It nearly tore the city of Maplewood apart says Council Member Alan Ralston.

**Council Member Joan Perron**: Council Member Joan Perron stated Paul Oster passed away from a massive heart attack on May 13th 2013. Visitation is Thursday evening May 16th from 5p.m. to 7p.m. The funeral is Friday May 17th 10:30 a.m. with visitation one hour prior to Mass. Council Member Joan Perron mentioned that David Olin has started mowing.

**Staff Comment:**

**Building Official David Neameyer**: Building Official Neaymeyer issued three building permits in April.

**City Attorney Tom Lehmann:** City Attorney Lehmann announced he has been appointed the City of Mendota Heights Civil Attorney.

**Police Chief Mike Aschenbrener:** It’s National Police Week. Come meet the Mendota Heights Police Officer’s that work the night shift at 10 p.m. food will be served. A summer intern will be starting and will be assigned to research new tobacco products available in stores. An ordinance will be drafted: the goal is to regulate smoke shops, tobacco retailers and hookah clubs. Community News: Mendota Heights 5K. The run will take place on Saturday June 1st at 9a.m. from Hwy 110 and Dodd to Henry Sibley High school. $5 to preregister. There are prizes and Tommy Chicago will be handing out pizza. The run benefits the Special Olympics.

A radar machine will be placed on Highway 13 in Mendota where the speed limit goes from 35 to 30. DNR announces fire bans right now we are Red Flag which means no fires. Campfires are not allowed on red flag days.

**City Clerk Kim West:** Clerk West informed the council that she emailed Lisa Henning from the CDA about the shed but that Lisa did not email her back. Clerk West will call Henning tomorrow morning. Building Official Neameyer says no building permit is need for the 10x12 shed. Clerk West informed the council that city streets will be swept on Monday May 20th. West will post a note at the post office and that garbage cans as well as a porta potty has been delivered to Veterans Park for the summer. Council Member Lee asked about the cost of the web site and having it updated. Clerk West will look into the price. Council Member Lee stated he may have a digital copy of the city code that can be put on line. Clerk West told the council about a woman who had a run into a curb on her bike, falling off her bike and breaking her arm. The woman would like to have the curbs painted to make them more visible. Clerk West has contacted MNDOT.

There being no further business, it was moved (Lee/Lehet) to adjourn the council meeting at 8:50 p.m. Passed 5-0.

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

KimberLee West, City Clerk