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

**November 9, 2021**

**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, Captain Wegener, Engineer Lucas Jones, and Building official Mike Andrejka.

4. Agenda: Motion to approve agenda by Council Member Golias and seconded by Council Member Perron. Approved 5-0.

5. Approval of October 12, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve last month’s minutes, with corrections by Council member Golias and seconded by Council member Perron. Approved 5-0.

6. Treasurer’s Report: Motion to pay the bills by Council Member Donnelly and seconded by Council member Golias. Approved 5-0.

7. Building Official Report Mike Andrejka: Mike issued one permit and closed three. Council member Golias asked about the patio permit at Axels and Mike stated he had not been contacted. Lawyer Loonan stated that he had been contacted and he reviewed the zoning code and spoke to Kathy, and then to the engineer. They are not removing any handicap spaces and there are no restrictions that the city has, so Mr. Loonan gave permission to them to go ahead. The zoning code does not mention patio restrictions.

8. Michele Walsh Garage: Ms. Walsh owns a property on G Street and they would like to rebuild their garage as a pool house/garage. She stated that she knows that it is not code. (The secondary dwelling on the same lot is not allowed) Council member Golias is also interested in ADU’s (Accessory Dwelling Units) since St. Paul and Minneapolis has started to allow these and Council Member Golias was wondering if it was time for us to get on board. Mr. Loonan stated that the idea has been brought up to the planning commission and that there is a planning commission meeting coming up on Monday, if Ms. Walsh would like to come and express her feeling about the ADU’s. But even if the ADU’s were allowed before it was official it would have to be voted on by the city council and approved. If it is not approved, Ms. Walsh could apply for a variance under city code. Plus right where they want to put the garage is right on the property line. The slab that the garage is on now, the garage was just set on the slab and it is falling apart. Setbacks and property lines were discussed.

Mr. Benson was on the agenda, but he spoke to council before the meeting. Mr. Loonan will get a hold of Mr. Benson and his attorney to see what he wants the council to do about the property he wants to split. The council did make a commitment back in 1993 or 1994 with Mr. Benson about the property and Council will stand by the commitment made back then. The commitment was at cost to the city.

 9. Public Comments: 7:57pm. No Comments. Closed public comment at 7:58 pm.

10. Council Comments: 7:58pm. Council member Rasmussen, nothing.

Council Member Golias: Thank you to Kathy, Lucas and Brian for this morning.

Mayor Mielke: The mayor thanked everyone and had some photos from the bus tour meeting from Representative Hanson. Mayor asked Representative Hanson if there was any feedback from the people on the tour bus and he stated that it was positive and that about half the people on the bus had never been to Mendota before. Mayor talked about the tree problem again.

Council Member Donnelly: Asked if the meeting was successful and the mayor stated that it was. Also stated that it was a very successful Halloween this year and Carl was missed.

Council Member Perron had nothing.

Closed council comments at 8:01 pm.

 11. Staff Comments: 8:01 pm. Captain Wegener stated that they had 12 incidents within Mendota and 1 open case. So for the year we have 181 incidents and 26 open cases. Any questions.

Lucas Jones: Thanked the council for letting him be a part of the presentation this morning. Everything went well. Lucas checked with the bonding bill and it was 3.8 million dollars that we updated and submitted to them. If Mr. Hanson needs to know.

Lucas received a letter from the merit and we do have the Mississippi river critical area portion of our plan done for the Comp plan and we just need it reviewed from council. We also need to submit the local water management plan and have it reviewed by Lucas.

Mr. Ray Miller gave Lucas a call today (11-9-21) and he wanted to know about the escrow money. Mr. Miller explained that he did finish all the things on Lucas’s list, but it was too dark for Lucas to check it out today. Lucas suggested that we make a motion that pending any final review of the required list that the council could consider any thing the council thought was fair for disbursement of the escrow.

Council discussed the escrow monies and so a motion was made, that Lucas after another visit to the site and if he is happy with what Mr. Miller has completed and that everything is completed, that the escrow monies be returned to Mr. Miller. Motioned by Council member Golias and seconded by Council member Perron. Approved 5-0.

Right now the city is in two water shed districts and one water management organization, so three entities for the storm water. Lucas feels, we should petition to have only one and see if anyone is open to that. He does not know who should start this conversation. Mr. Loonan will reach out and see what they are looking for to do this.

Lawyer Tom Loonan: Worked with Axels on the lot. The city has no requirements of parking so we should look into that. Spoke to the engineer that is doing the sign for the VFW, which goes into the right of way of the sidewalk. Tom is working with Mr. Benson regarding his property. Monday night at 5:30 pm we will be having the planning commission meeting.

City Clerk Krotter: Meeting with the CDBG on November 18th. After the meeting Lucas and Kathy with be talking to Maggie privately about if we can use any of the money available since we do not qualify as a low income city anymore. Then on November 19th the league of Minnesota is coming out to inspect the properties that the city owns, which is the jail and the gazebo at the park. Kathy said she will need the key to the jail. Missy Barslow sent the paperwork to Kathy and Kathy gave the paperwork to Mr. Tom Loonan.

12. Adjourn: 8:24 pm. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Council member Donnelly and seconded by Council Member Perron. Approved 5-0.