

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Council Workshop of the North Mankato City Council was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on July 2, 2012. Mayor Dehen called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. The following were present for the meeting: Mayor Dehen, Council Members Steiner, Schindle and Freyberg, Interim Administrator Fischer, and City Clerk Gehrke. Absent: Council Member Norland and Finance Director Thorne.

Introduction of Bonnie Bennett, Turning Point/Training of Expanded Personnel Committee Members

The Mayor introduced Bonnie Bennett, Turning Point, and asked her to give a presentation of the proposed City Administrator hiring process and reviewed the City Administrator Profile. Ms. Bennett reviewed the Candidate Profile and summarized the six key items listed as a target for candidate consideration for the City Administrator position: 1) Administrative Ability; 2) Leadership and Vision; 3) Community Relations; 4) Council Relations; 5) Intergovernmental Relations; and 6) Budget and Finance. Mayor Dehen asked the Council to review the key items and Council Member Freyberg reported he believes it is consistent with what the Council is looking for in a City Administrator. Mayor Dehen introduced members of the Expanded Personnel Committee reporting this committee met prior to the Council Workshop. The two citizen committee members are Trudy Gustafson and Keith Hamm and the staff member is Deputy City Clerk Lynette Peterson. The Hiring Process and Timeline was reviewed noting the Expanded Personnel Committee will meet on July 12 and identify a maximum of 12 candidates, the City staff will conduct tours of the City for the candidates during the period of July 16-August 3, the top three candidates will be certified as finalists to the City Council on August 6 and the Council will interview the finalists during the period of August 7-17. Background checks will be conducted on the finalists the week of August 27-31 and the top choice will be identified and the job offer solidified at the Council meeting of September 4. Employment negotiations will take place during the period of September 5-14 with the announcement of the new City Administrator on September 17.

Discuss Park/Biking Advisory Boards

Mayor Dehen presented a proposal for the creation of a North Mankato Bicycle Commission for consideration and discussion by the City Council. He is recommending a five-member panel of North Mankato citizen volunteers, one of which is an acting Council Member. This voluntary advisory panel would be charged with: 1) Promoting bicycling tourism/community opportunities with the City of North Mankato and surrounding jurisdictions; 2) Improving bicycling safety and awareness; 3) Coordinating bicycling routes with new and existing trails, schools and parks; 4) Cooperating with the Greater Mankato Bike & Walk Advocates, Greater Mankato Multisport Club and other interested and invested community groups; 5) Coordinating new and existing bicycling events for the benefit of citizens and guests; and 6) Coordinating with the City of Mankato to enhance our Bicycle Friendly Community status. Any recommendations generated by this advisory panel would need to be considered and approved by the North Mankato City Council for enactment. Mayor Dehen reported that since Council Member Norland is absent at this meeting, discussion of the Park & Green Spaces Committee should be tabled. Council Member Freyberg stated he was in favor of the North Mankato Bicycle Commission with a 24-month sunset on committee members. Mayor Dehen reported the Greater Mankato Bike & Walk Advocates would be helping with applying for grants for bike trails. Council Member Freyberg suggested putting the original Park & Green Spaces Committee in place with a 24-month sunset for committee members. Council Member Schindle suggested restructuring the committee to include members from sports groups, Council representative, staff representative and neighborhood park representatives. Mayor Dehen reiterated these would be advisory committees. Council Member Schindle reported that groups could set up subcommittees. Mayor Dehen stated that

interested persons should apply to the City stating their interest. Kim Spears, 916 South Avenue, appeared before the Council and suggested that these committees need not be formally established but individuals can bring items before the Council. However, he believes the Park & Green Spaces Committee serves the entire population and if one committee was to be formed, it should be the Park & Green Spaces Committee. Bess Tsaouse, 136 Mary Circle, appeared before the Council and gave background information regarding the Park & Green Spaces Committee and details of the sub-committees. Rob Johnston, 2009 Valley View Drive, appeared before the Council and voiced his support for the Park & Green Spaces Committee and stated they are just here to advise the Council and to offer suggestions.

There being no further business, the Council workshop was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk