

CITY OF MENDOTA HEIGHTS
DAKOTA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Held Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regular meeting of the City Council, City of Mendota Heights, Minnesota was held at 7:30 o'clock p.m. at City Hall, 1101 Victoria Curve, Mendota Heights, Minnesota.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Huber called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The following members were present: Councilmembers Duggan, Krebsbach, Schneeman and Vitelli.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council, the audience and staff recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Councilmember Duggan moved adoption of the agenda as presented. Councilmember Krebsbach seconded the motion.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Duggan moved to approve the minutes of May 6, 2008 as corrected. Commissioner Krebsbach seconded the motion.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Krebsbach moved approval of the consent calendar as presented, and authorization for execution of any necessary documents contained therein.

- a. Acknowledgement of May 13, 2008 Parks and Recreation Meeting.
- b. Acknowledgement of NDC4 Meeting Agenda.
- c. Acknowledgement of Fire Department April 2008 Monthly Report.
- d. Acknowledgement of April 2008 Treasurers Report.
- e. Acknowledgement of the 2008 Spring Clean Up Report.

- f. Authorization for Issuance of Temporary Liquor Permit for Fire Relief Association.
- g. Authorization for Purchase Order for Microsoft Office Licensing.
- h. Authorization for Mayor to sign NDC4 Web Streaming Agreement.
- i. Authorization for Mayor to sign Eagle Scout Awards.
- j. Acceptance for Purchase Order for Industrial Park Street Light Painting.
- k. Approval of New City Personnel Policies.
- l. Approval of Internal Control Policy.
- m. Approval for Sign Permit for Teresa's Mexican Restaurant at 750 Highway 110.
- n. Approval of Building Permit for an addition at ARRT, 1255 Northland Drive.
- o. Approval of Request by Len Kanitz.
- p. Adoption of Resolution No. 08-31: "A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BIDS AND AWARDING CONTRACT FOR 2008 SANITARY SEWER REHABILITATION (PROJECT NO. 200806)."
- q. Adoption of Resolution No. 08-32: "A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PROJECTS FOR INCLUSION IN DAKOTA COUNTY'S 2009-2013 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM."
- r. Approval of the List of Contractors, dated May 15, 2008.
- s. Approval of the List of Claims, dated May 20, 2008, totaling \$262,857.37.

Councilmember Vitelli seconded the motion.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Dan Saltzman, a resident of Mendota Heights, and a pediatric trauma surgeon at the University of Minnesota Children's Hospital, said he sees a potential for danger for the children of Mendota Heights. Dr. Saltzman said he believes an over pass at the corner of Highway 110 and Dodd Road should be considered. It is very possible children can get hit by a car by running across the intersection to get from one corner to the other. Dr. Saltzman said this would be a big benefit to the city.

Councilmember Schneeman said she has been trying to get one for 8 years.

Mayor Huber said this has been a concern since about 1987. This is a very challenging intersection. Mayor Huber said there are two limiting factors –

1. Cost: for above ground or below ground. People may not feel comfortable with going underground for that length of pathway.
2. Site lines: above ground brings a challenge with MnDOT with the site lines as cars coming down the hill can not see the intersection and the signal lights.

Councilmember Krebsbach said she had a conversation a few weeks ago with Rep. Rick Hansen and talked about this same issue. She found out that there is funding for safety purposes on the state highways. Rep. Hansen suggested that the first step the council take is to make a resolution formally asking the Minnesota Legislature to consider a bike/pedestrian over pass over Highway 110 because of safety reasons. Councilmember Krebsbach said the location of the over pass could be determined and suggested something to tie in the proposed Dunn Bros. coffee shop at Mendota Plaza and the Caribou coffee shop at The Village. Councilmember Krebsbach said she believes the Council is in agreement that a cyclone fence cage is not desirable, and suggested looking into other options, making sure it is secure from people throwing things down to the highway. Councilmember Krebsbach used the over pass over Hiawatha Avenue as an example.

Councilmember Krebsbach thanked Dr. Saltzman for speaking on this.

Councilmember Duggan moved to adopt a resolution asking the State of Minnesota to consider placing an over pass over Highway 110 in Mendota Heights at the intersection of Dodd Road. Commissioner Krebsbach seconded the motion.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0

Councilmember Duggan suggested that should this not happen, the Council should request that an island be placed between the east bound and west bound lanes to allow safer crossing.

Councilmember Vitelli said he believes that this resolution should be triggered by the development at The Village and Mendota Plaza. It is now time to fix this as more traffic will be coming into the area.

Mayor Huber asked Staff to draft up a resolution, sending a copy to Rep. Hansen and any one else that Staff feels should get a copy.

CITY EVENTS

Assistant to the City Administrator Jake Sedlacek reviewed some of the events coming up during the first week in June for the Mendota Heights Park Celebration:

- June 6th
 - Skateboard Contest at Rogers Lake Park
 - Music and Movie at The Village – Market Square Park. There will be blues music provided by Swamp Kings and the movie “Shriek” will be shown
- June 7th –
 - 5K Run/Walk
 - Bike Rodeo – Mendakota Park
 - BBQ and Street Dance, hosted by the Mendota Heights Fire Department.

ROGERS LAKE WATER QUALITY

Mayor Huber introduced Mr. Tony Kinzley, St. Thomas Academy Environmental Studies Instructor, to present the findings of the water quality tests at various sites around Rogers Lake.

Mr. Kinzley said this group is very thankful to be presenting again this year, and introduced four students who have put a lot of work into this project. Those students then presented specific findings: Matt Miley (Class of 2008), William Sullivan (Class of 2009), Kevin McMullen (Class of 2009) and Tim Wolfgram (Class of 2009).

The Rogers Lake Water Quality Report for 2007/2008 contained findings and results for the following chemical tests that were performed:

- Dissolved Oxygen - the amount of oxygen dissolved in the water. (Fall, 7.75ppm; Spring, 7.97 ppm).
- Fecal Coliform – levels of bacteria associated with pathogenic bacteria and viruses in the water. (Fall: 25.87 col./100 ml; Spring: NA).
- pH – acidity or basicity of the water. (Fall: 7:61 units; Spring: 7.60 units).
- Biochemical Oxygen Demand – how much oxygen is being used by bacteria in the lake that decompose organic waste put in to the water. (Fall: 2.79 ppm; Spring 4.69 ppm).
- Temperature – difference in temperature between two testing sites on the lake. (Fall: 1.05° C; Spring: .87° C).
- Nitrate – measure of the amount of nitrates in the water. (Fall: 0.27 ppm; Spring: 0.43 ppm).
- Total Phosphates – measure of the amount of various phosphates in the water. (Fall: 0.6 ppm; Spring: 0.52 ppm).
- Turbidity –amount of suspended solids in the water, measure of water clarity. (Fall: 9.03 JTU's; Spring 12.41 JTU's).
- Total Solids – amount of suspended and dissolved solids in water. (Fall: 477.2mg/L; Spring: 321.2mg/L).
- Overall Rating – a composite score of all nine chemical tests. (Fall: 76.7 Good; Spring: 73.4 Good).

Rogers Lake historical data from 1993 to 2008 shows a general upward trend in the water quality of the lake which shows the residents are doing a good job in managing and continuing what they are doing to keep Rogers Lake healthy.

The students reported that some solutions to keep the water quality in check include water buffer zones which most residents are using. Another solution is to reduce fertilizer use, and using phosphate free fertilizers.

In conclusion, Rogers Lake data shows a high quality water base. The students wish to continue monitoring Rogers Lake in the future and handing out pamphlets to all the residents around Rogers Lake that show what they can do to help keep Rogers Lake in good condition.

Mayor Huber said he would encourage the students to continue their studies as it keeps residents aware of how the community's lakes are doing.

Councilmember Schneeman asked if there have been any problems with geese. Mr. Wolfgram said they have been monitoring the fecal coliform last fall which indicated there have been geese in the area, but have not been able to do so this spring.

Councilmember Duggan said he appreciates what the students have been doing, and congratulated them on a job well done.

HEARINGS: LIQUOR LICENSES

City Clerk Kathleen Swanson introduced the applications for renewals of on-sale wine and 3.2 malt liquor licenses for Village Market and Deli, LLC for the Sage Market and Wine Bar; on-sale 3.2 malt liquor for the Par Golf Course, and off-sale 3.2 malt liquor licenses for the two SuperAmerica stores.

Ms. Swanson and Police Chief Aschenbrener both found that there are no concerns for these licenses and recommend approval.

Ms. Swanson said only one public hearing is necessary for all three at the same time.

Mayor Huber opened the public hearing. Seeing no one coming forward wishing to speak,

Councilmember Schneeman moved to close the public hearing.

Councilmember Krebsbach seconded the motion.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Councilmember Duggan moved to approve the issuance of on-sale wine and 3.2 malt liquor license for Village Market and Deli, LLC for the Sage Market and Wine Bar; off-sale 3.2 malt liquor licenses from the two SuperAmerica stores; and an on-sale 3.2 malt liquor license for Par 3 Golf Course as presented.

Councilmember Vitelli seconded the motion.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Public Works Director Sue McDermott said the Traffic Safety Committee was formed last year, and is made up of Councilmember Vitelli, Planning Commissioner Povolny, the Police Chief, the Fire Chief, the Public Works Superintendent, and herself.

This committee was formed as the City had been receiving complaints and received a petition from people in the Friendly Hills neighborhood, specifically about Decorah Lane and the speed on that street. These residents have requested that traffic be slowed down and safety measures are installed.

In November, a speed count was done which showed the 85% of drivers are comfortable with driving 35 mph, which is 5 mph over the legal speed limit.

Ms. McDermott said she was invited to mentor a senior project at the University of Minnesota and proposed a traffic study project for the students to look at Decorah Lane and make a recommendation for traffic calming. The students were also charged with developing a traffic calming policy. The results of this study found that one third of the traffic on Decorah Lane was local, one third was cut through traffic from Copperfield and one third was traffic from outside the area, and that speeds were slightly about the 30 mph. This all seems normal for that type of street.

A neighborhood survey was sent and 113 responses were received, along with many phone calls. Of

those 113 responses, 66 want signs, speed bumps, stop signs or other traffic implementation, 39 want no further traffic calming implementation, and 8 had no opinion. The remaining responses did not have an opinion or wanted additional enforcement by the police department. Thirty responses indicated that they would be willing to pay for traffic calming measures.

The students came to the first Traffic Committee meeting that was held on April 28th and presented their report along with some proposed solutions. They felt that speed limit signs should be posted as cars are coming off Dodd Road at 40 mph.

They also suggested that the City use speed trailers that help the cars and their recommendation was to educate the neighborhood. The committee decided to post the signs which have already been done, the trailer was too large of a financial commitment. The Police Chief agreed that they would continue enforcing the speed limit and log their efforts. The committee will look at the situation again in about 6 months.

Ms. McDermott said she would send out a letter to the neighborhood giving them the results of these efforts and reminding them about the 30 mph speed limit.

Councilmember Vitelli said this is a good summary.

Councilmember Schneeman said it had a good conclusion and having them come back in 6 months will give the summer to get a good feeling for it.

Mayor Huber asked if there was anyone in the audience that wished to speak to this. No one came forward.

Ms. McDermott said there is an ongoing concern regarding Wagon Wheel Trail in the area where culverts were put in a few years ago where people like to fish. Ms. McDermott said there have been complaints regarding children in the street that aren't been carefully watched by their parents. Ms.

McDermott said that area is on a curve which is also a concern.

There is a lot of vegetation and initially it was thought to be good to trim this, but now Staff feels that keeping this vegetation adds to the calming on that roadway.

Ms. McDermott said she visited the site with the Public Works Superintendent and choose a spot for east bound traffic with a pedestrian crossing sign. They did not feel that would that the crosswalk should be painted because they don't want to encourage people to cross. They want to warn drivers that there are pedestrians on that stretch of road.

Councilmember Krebsbach asked for feedback on prohibiting the fishing as it seems dangerous. Ms. McDermott said she does not know how the city can prohibit fishing as the funding that was received for those culverts required this to be a fishing area.

Councilmember Schneeman said the city wants people to fish there. The heavy traffic will be in the spring, then diminishes. Many of the residents on that lake fish a lot and bring their grandchildren, it's really a wonderful spot. There has always been a few that don't watch their kids.

Ms. McDermott said a few years ago, there was talk about fences and signage for no fishing, or fishing only one side versus the other. Ms. McDermott said the conclusion what that this would be difficult to enforce and fences could create more of a problem if people climb over them.

Ms. Sue Kirk, 840 Wagon Wheel Trail, spoke on the traffic concerns. Ms. Kirk said she has lived there for along time, and over the years, there have been issues with kids running around the roadway.

Ms. Kirk said people use excessive speed on that road, while people are cutting across the road. The fishing has increased every year and noticed that a lot of these people are not local residents.

Ms. Kirk said she almost hit a little girl just recently while she was going only 10 mph. People use this area as a public park, and there is that free for all mentality. Ms. Kirk said it's only a matter of time before a child gets hit.

Councilmember Duggan asked if there is a specific time where there is more activity. Ms. Kirk said mostly weekends and early evenings during the week.

Councilmember Duggan proposed a sign with different languages as some of the people may be of Hmong/Vietnamese descent and may not know the English language.

Ms. Kirk said that was a good point, and there is also a dock in the park, but there are still people up on the road.

Ms. McDermott said there are plans in the five-year plan to reconstruct Wagon Wheel Trail, and this may be a good time to look at a permanent solution. There are a few measures that can be done such as putting medians in the center of the road, and some signage, that will channelize the traffic. Once curb and gutter is installed, that creates a traffic calming as well.

Police Chief Aschenbrener said the reconstruction will help by creating a boulevard.

Councilmember Vitelli said the Traffic Safety Committee has spent a lot of time on this and the Council should accept the recommendations that have been made. Councilmember Vitelli said he would not support "no fishing".

Mayor Huber said he believes signage would be good and encouraged Staff to put out some public information. Ms. McDermott said information can also be included in the website and the city's newsletter. Perhaps putting something in the local newspaper would be possible.

Councilmember Krebsbach asked if anyone has gone to the site and officially talked to people.

Councilmember Schneeman said a lot of the neighbors go there to fish.

Ms. Kirk said it is not fair to have the local residents have this liability put in their way.

Mayor Huber instructed Staff to get some information out to the community, and asked Chief Aschenbrener to talk to Ms. Kirk on their efforts.

Councilmember Duggan asked for an estimate to be drafted on the cost of the median.

COMP PLAN WORKSHOP

Planner Steve Grittman said the purpose of this discussion is to run through the comprehensive plan and see how this version differs from the current comprehensive plan. There are a few items that have been identified and Mr. Grittman spent some time recently reviewing the zoning ordinances.

It is noted that the following members of the Planning Commission was in attendance: Hennes, Lally, McManus, Norton, Povolny.

There will be a public hearing on Tuesday, May 27th at the Planning Commission meeting. This is a draft version of the plan, and following that public hearing, it will come back to the Council for conditional adoptions. Afterwards, the document will go out for review comments from the neighboring communities including water shed districts, schools districts, and counties, providing comment back to the city. Technically, those communities have up to six months to comment, and Staff will encourage their responses to be back a bit sooner. The document will then come back to Council for their final consideration. After Council has made their comments, the document will go to the Met Council for their formal response. In the meantime, Staff is also sending a draft packet to Met Council for their preliminary review.

Mr. Grittman asked for some feedback on the following items:

1. Consideration of changing the land use designation on the St. Thomas Academy and Visitation property from LB-PUD to PS – Private School, reflecting its use and ownership.

Council comments:

Councilmember Krebsbach said she will support this, and asked to have bigger maps.

Councilmember Krebsbach asked why the Condon Court/Mendota Heights Road area is designated commercial. Mr. Grittman said the properties are currently guided for the LB-PUD class, which is the same as what the current designation is for the Visitation property.

Councilmember Krebsbach said Council previously turned down Holiday Gas Station and would rather see this guided as residential. Mr. Grittman said there are two residential properties there now to the north, and to the south is a group home facility and the City actually amended its business district to allow for that group home.

Staff met with the owner of some of that property and they are looking for a larger commercial development; Staff indicated they would need more property than those small parcels, and they would also have access issues.

Councilmember Duggan asked if this property would have been accessed from Dodd Road. Mr. Grittman said based on his experience with this owner in the past couple of weeks, he believes that they will try to gain access from Mendota Heights Road. Councilmember Duggan said he believes there will be increased traffic from Visitation and St. Thomas coming to that site, and he does not believe that a proposed right of way in another area will alleviate that. Because it is a main artery to I-

494, people will be inconvenienced by crossing over for a gas station, and this is a totally inappropriate use of the land. Mr. Grittmann said the current designation would not accommodate a gas station.

Councilmember Schneeman said she believes everyone else feels the same way.

Mayor Huber asked Mr. Grittmann if he has spoken to the academy or the convent. Mr. Grittmann said he has not. Mayor Huber suggested that this be done.

Councilmember Duggan said this property is being held by St. Thomas for future growth and development and would not be used for anything other than education or sports.

Mayor Huber asked the members of the Planning Commission if they had any thoughts/comments.

Planning Commission Chair Joe Lally said he is on the Board of the Visitation and the sisters own a portion of the property east of Lake Drive and south of Mendota Heights Road. This property currently is not used for athletic facilities, but it is used as a community farm. Mr. Lally asked what would the change mean for the two institutions, would it change the property value should the nuns want to sell. Mr. Grittmann said he is not sure of the affect on the value; the real affect would be to sell the property for some other use, they would need to come back to the city to re-amend that land use to the appropriate zone.

Mayor Huber said he believes that Staff should engage in conversations with the academy and convent to give them opportunity to comment.

2. Consideration of the land use designation for the Old Fire Hall site, currently designated for B, Business and zoned B-2.

Council comments:

Councilmember Duggan said according to the last comprehensive plan, the whole area, from Sign Art down should be designated as residential as an underlying zoning, or keeping it as a PUD as it sits next to Friendly Hills as an appropriate use, with no further expansion of businesses in the area.

Mayor Huber said the property is currently on the market for residential, and he would prefer to wait to see how this plays out. There is no pressing need to go any other route for the time being.

Mr. Grittmann said the map shows this property as business, but the Council can show on the map for residential.

Councilmember Vitelli said he thinks this should be left as is.

3. Consideration of the land use designation for property south of Mendota Heights Road on Condon Court, currently guided LB-PUD, zoned B-1. The owner has asked about a designation and zoning that would accommodate hotel and/or gas station uses.

Council comments:

Mr. Grittmann said there does not seem to be much interest in changing this one.

Councilmember Krebsbach said that would be the direction to go.

Councilmember Duggan said he does not see anything that has changed much here, except there is an increase in traffic. A gas station would be totally inappropriate; however an office use may be acceptable.

Mr. Grittmann said the limited business guide would not allow a gas station or motel and is more of an office designation site.

Councilmember Duggan suggested changing this to residential.

4. Consideration of the City's position on the impacts of a proposed interchange at Delaware and I-494 (proposed by Inver Grove Heights).

Council comments:

Councilmember Duggan said based on the information that Ms. McDermott provided was that this was not in the national federal plan, and it was \$100+ million to do this. Ms. McDermott indicated at the time that there was no funding available for this. Since then, Trinity has built a new school in the area. There is a huge wetland in that area.

Planning Commissioner Mike Povolny said he has some property down there, and said that Inver Grove Heights thinks the other cities will jump on the bandwagon.

Councilmember Duggan said both Sunfish Lake and Mendota Heights have sent letters in opposition. Commissioner Povolny said talks indicate that the interchange may be moved further east to avoid the wetland.

Ms. McDermott said she sits on the Technical Advisory Panel that was looking at a new north/south collector street for the Inver Grove Heights / Eagan area, and also did some modeling for this interchange. While there was no final recommendation on the exact location of the interchange, the reports said the best location is at Delaware and I-494, giving the least environmental impacts. If it is moved somewhere between Highway 3 and Delaware Avenue, they would have to put frontage roads on both sides which would create a huge amount of impact to the wetlands and the nearby lake.

Inver Grove Heights and Eagan are very much aware that Mendota Heights and Sunfish Lake

are not supportive of this interchange and both cities were represented on the committee.

They are going to move forward with further studies and recommendations, which is quite a process as they need to work with federal highway and MnDOT. Ultimately if the interchange affects Mendota Heights, they will be looking to the Council for municipal consent.

Letters were sent stating the city's position when the Inver Grove Heights comprehensive plan amendment was reviewed. Their traffic study shows that adding an interchange will reduce traffic on Highway 110 and Dodd Road going north. Ms. McDermott said it will ultimately affect the property owners as well.

Councilmember Schneeman said she was on the Robert Street Corridor Steering Committee and noted that thousands of acres of land will be developed in Inver Grove Heights and Eagan.

Councilmember Vitelli asked who comprised of this Technical Advisory Panel. Ms. McDermott said Inver Grove Heights and Eagan got together with Dakota County to study the northwest corner of Inver Grove Heights, which is slated for a lot of development, and the northeast corner of Eagan, which has plans for more industrial / business growth in that area so they were looking for a north/south arterial street alignment. Mendota Heights and Sunfish Lake were asked to sit on this committee.

Ms. McDermott said Dakota County formed this committee, which was driven by the development in Eagan and Inver Grove Heights. The County is looking at Argenta Trail as it goes north and turns into Delaware.

Councilmember Vitelli said this committee can be made up of all kinds of people with different agendas. In the end, what impact or authority can this committee have and who do they report their findings to, who makes the decision on

where this interchange will be placed. Ms. McDermott said that is yet to be seen, the initial study was to model seven scenarios, which Ms. McDermott will email to the Council. These scenarios were studied by a set of consultants hired by Dakota County, looking at different impacts and criteria in rating each scenario based on a set of guidelines. Ms. McDermott said she believes Eagan and Inver Grove Heights participated in the cost of these studies.

They will move forward with more detailed analysis as this moves forward with their plan because Inver Grove Heights feels that with their new development, they should be imposing impact fees to the developer to help pay for this interchange or any future road improvements.

Councilmember Vitelli asked who the consultants report to. Ms. McDermott said they report to Dakota County Planning and Transportation staff.

Councilmember Vitelli asked if there is any connection between this committee and the Robert Street Corridor Team. Ms. McDermott said they are two separate studies and at some point, they will have to look at this comprehensively as both committees are looking at Highway 3 south of I-494.

Councilmember Vitelli said if they are so warm on spending billions of dollars on this corridor, why are they also anxiously spending money to look at this interchange. It would seem to be that the Robert Street Corridor will never solve the problem. Ms. McDermott said the north/south corridor focuses primarily on the roadway south of I-494, where the Robert St. Corridor focused more on north of I-494, and connection to the central corridor project.

Councilmember Vitelli suggested that the Council be engaged with Dakota County, making sure that there is someone with Mendota Heights' interest in mind.

Mayor Huber said he believes that the Council as a whole is in agreement.

Councilmember Krebsbach said she would like to have a copy of the letter that was sent. Ms. McDermott will resend that letter, along with the north/south corridor study final report to the Council. Ms. McDermott said she believes in the future, Mendota Heights will have more time to comment as there will be another Technical Advisory Panel meeting where they will want to try to persuade the city that this is a good idea.

Councilmember Krebsbach said you either have the right to a minority opinion or you don't get involved.

Councilmember Duggan asked to have a copy of the Inver Grove Heights comprehensive plan sent to the Council members, as it will detail what they want to do in the future. Ms. McDermott said this document can also be viewed on the web.

Other comments:

Councilmember Krebsbach asked to add a bullet looking at the possibility of conservation easements on the river bluff. There are property owners on Hunter, Culligan and Orchard who would like to voluntarily put part of their property into a conservation easement, giving them some tax benefits.

Mr. Grittmann talked about the layout of the comprehensive plan. Mr. Grittmann noted that comments were received by Councilmember Duggan. Councilmember Duggan said there were some minor mistakes and some more serious. With these corrections, he is comfortable with the next draft.

Councilmember Krebsbach commented on some of the language:

Page 6 – would like to have this written as comprehensively as possible as this impacts Mendota Plaza, giving future councils and planning commissions the ability to be able to have a say in what that is going to be.

Page 13 – the first full paragraph is about the city taking out a whole neighborhood, and in fact, a corridor was created for the airport noise. There needs to be a sentence that says this corridor was created.

Page 45 – wants to make sure that the underlying zoning is R-1-A.

Page 97 – needs to implement the need for an over pass over Highway 110, not being a chain link cage, but something that looks nice.

Councilmember Krebsbach said Mendota Heights is a premier suburb and people look to the Council as willing to take a stand.

Councilmember Krebsbach said she was interviewed by the Star Tribune asking how it is that Mendota Heights is maintaining property values in all categories. Councilmember Krebsbach said she believes that this is because the developments that have been built are not adversely affecting others and now the city can see the benefit.

Councilmember Krebsbach referred to Page 69 – Solar Access Protection, and asked if there are other things in here that the Council may not have been paying attention to and in the next ten years, could be more of an issue. Mr. Grittman said solar access protection is a requirement of Met Council to have, that clause basically in every comment of the plan. The solar access has become less of an issue over the last 20 years from the time that this originally was first pushed when there was more residential solar.

Councilmember Duggan asked about natural light in the homes. Mr. Grittman said the intention of this comment was about 20-30 years ago when there would be more solar energy and on the residential level, weighing in popularity over the years for being cost effective.

Councilmember Duggan said Met Council is not pushing this is the metro area. Mr. Grittman said that was correct.

Councilmember Krebsbach referred to Page 49 regarding infill and said she wants to make sure the plan is to protect the neighborhood, understanding that the minimum lot is 15,000 sq. ft. and that issues such as multifamily and teardowns are being considered.

Councilmember Krebsbach said she does not know what she wants to see in there, but it is something to think about. Councilmember Krebsbach said she is not against teardowns, but the City should not be taken by surprise on a house being demolished.

Councilmember Duggan said he believes the city should give itself protection, and referred to Page 42 that contain densities, and is comfortable with the 8.54. Mr. Grittman said the 8.54 comes from the theoretical maximum that somebody can develop in the R-3 zoning.

Councilmember Krebsbach asked to make sure that this whole section is in sync with where the Council wants to go as described on the first page.

Mr. Grittman said this discussion was addressed on Page 58 – Infill Sites and will pay more attention to this.

Councilmember Vitelli asked if Mr. Grittman does the analysis so that the Council has a glaring contradiction between this plan and the zoning. Mr. Grittman said he will look for any conflicts.

Mayor Huber asked for additional comments from the Planning Commission members. Mr. Lally said the Planning Commissioners are all in agreement with the issue of the interchange.

Councilmember Vitelli asked the Planning Commission members for any suggestions on how the Council can take the defensive rather than just sitting in meetings and having representation, and not agreeing with what is being done.

Mr. Povolny said Inver Grove Heights has to do something with that corner as there are some traffic issues. They are also running sewer and water in that whole area south of I-494.

Councilmember Krebsbach said she believes the industrial park should be addressed in the future for upgrades but determining how that should look in the next twenty years, and how it should be addressed in the comprehensive plan to maximize the proximity to the airport.

Councilmember Duggan said he would like to have some discussions with the Planning Commission on the infill areas, having the Planning Commission provide some recommendations on the land use.

Mayor Huber thanked Mr. Grittmann for all his work on this.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Duggan said volunteers are still needed for the Celebrate Mendota Heights Parks.

Councilmember Duggan acknowledged two authors from Mendota Heights: Karri Persons and Tamara Will.

Councilmember Duggan complimented the Council members and the Planning Commission members for all their great work and patience with the presentations on Mendota Plaza and quoted from the St. Paul Pioneer Press, "Mendota Plaza redevelopment will exceed \$40 million." The

potential is exciting. The physical location is premier. The opportunity to build a pedestrian friendly country club feeling development that will win awards and stand the test of time being memorable in 50 to 70 years or longer and also be successful will require many drafts and dearest to all that makes Mendota Heights the great city that it is, only by being visionary and creative will this substantiate all that we council members and commissioners, present and past, have done to make this city what we are all so proud of today. It's the city that is the pride of Minnesota and I think that we continue to work to make this development another aspect of that pride of Minnesota.

Councilmember Duggan said he agrees with Councilmember Vitelli's comments that Paster Enterprises did not work to incorporate the city's ideas and not seeing any progress.

Councilmember Krebsbach asked about her request for a Letter of Commendation for Catherine Connelly, and said this needs to be ready for the next meeting. City Administrator Jim Danielson said a certificate was mailed to Ms. Connelly.

Councilmember Krebsbach said she was at the tower with the Airport Relations Commission for a tour, and said they have summer programs for high school kids to learn how to be an air traffic controller. People that are interested in learning more can call Mr. Danielson at City Hall.

Mayor Huber said he will be not in attendance at the next City Council meeting, which will be chaired by Councilmember Duggan.

Councilmember Schneeman said the bird watching in Mendota Heights is wonderful this year.

Councilmember Vitelli said he feels that Buildings A, B, and C at The Village are taking way too long, and lately has not been seeing a lot of activity there. Councilmember Vitelli asked the Council to join him in asking to have regular updates from Ross Fefercorn.

Councilmember Vitelli asked Staff to give Paster Enterprises a specific list of all the items that were brought up at the last meeting, and communicate to the Pastors that the Council wants these items addressed specifically. Councilmember Vitelli said he objects to Mr. Paster calling the creek a ditch.

Councilmember Duggan said it's well known that all the Friendly Hills area, as well as the Friendly Hills Marsh and Dodge Nature Center, drains through this creek, and this creek has been around for a very long time.

Councilmember Vitelli asked Mr. Danielson for an update about the replacement of Ms. McDermott's position. Mr. Danielson said Staff is currently advertising for a Public Works Director / City Engineer with a closing date of May 30. When applicants have been narrowed down to the top 5, a subcommittee from the City Council will be formed to help Staff interview those top five.

Councilmember Vitelli expressed his concerns that the city should only be advertising for a City Engineer.

Councilmember Krebsbach said there should be a time that the Council can look over the job description.

Councilmember Vitelli said the City went to a Public Works Director as a growth opportunity for Ms. McDermott, as she was very qualified to take that next step. Councilmember Vitelli said he does not believe the City needs the cost and level of a Public Works Director, which can be \$15,000 to \$20,000 more than the City needs.

Mayor Huber said he does not recall discussing this as a group, and it is hard to know what the City's needs are and how high of a level should candidates be applying for.

Ms. McDermott said when they advertised for this position, they only received three applications. If it is advertised as Mr. Danielson has done, more

applications would come in as the pool is broadened out.

Councilmember Vitelli said the City needs to step back and assess what is needed, and not what the market is looking for.

Mr. Danielson said Staff can delay the closing of the position, and change the title as well.

Mayor Huber asked to give the Council the opportunity to discuss this position more.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council, Councilmember Schneeman moved to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor Huber seconded the motion.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Time of Adjournment 9:30 p.m.

Rebecca Shaffer
Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

John J. Huber
Mayor

Time of Adjournment 9:00 p.m.
November 20, 2007
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Rebecca Shaffer
ATTEST: Recording Secretary

John J. Huber
Mayor1