

City of Mountain Lake
Regular City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall – 930 Third Ave
Monday, January 5, 2026
5:45 p.m.

Members Present: Andrew Ysker, Bryan Bargen, Mike Nelson, Jeff Jack

Members Absent: Darla Kruser

City Staff Present: Michael Mueller City Administrator, Ben McHenry Police Officer

Others Present: Deanna Anderson, Doug Regehr, Rachel Yoder, Sofia Flores, Kirsten Nickel, Addie Thompson

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nelson at 5:45 p.m.

Approval of Agenda & Consent Agenda

Motion by Bargen, seconded by Jack to approve the agenda and consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried 4 – 0.

Bills: Checks #29681-29737, 1639E-1669E

Payroll: Checks #69254-69277

Approve November 18 Library Minutes, Report, & Expenditures

Approve December 11 Utilities Commission Minutes

Approve December 15 City Council Minutes

Approve December Street Department Report

Hire Victoria Gonzalez, Ice Rink & Warming House Attendant, effective 12/17/25

Approve Surplus - 2006 Chevy Silverado – Street Department

Accept Bruno Retirement 12/31/2025 & Sale to Louis Norell

Public

No comment

2026 Organizational Items

Discussion/Action – Approve 2026 Designations and Appointments

Discussion/Action – Approve Resolution #1-26 Minimum General Fund Balance and Assignment of General Funds

Discussion/Action – Adopt Investment Policy

Discussion/Action – Ordinance #1-26 – Establishing Rates, Fees, and Administrative Fines

Discussion/Action – Approve Data Request Policies

Review – 2025 Building Permit Summary

Review – Seniority List as of 1/1/26

Mayor Nelson provided an update at the council meeting for new appointments and commissions, but it is not complete yet. The item was tabled.

Resolution #1-26 was reviewed and explained by the City Administrator. The City of Mountain Lake requires adequate liquidity and working capital to operate, as its primary sources of revenue are not received until the fifth month of a six-month cycle. Therefore, the City designates 50% of its current-year General Fund expenditure budget as the minimum fund balance for working capital. Motion by Ysker, seconded by Jack to approve Resolution #1-26 Minimum General Fund Balance and Assignment of General Funds. Motion carried 4 – 0.

The Mountain Lake investment policy was reviewed. No changes were made from 2025. Motion by Jack, seconded by Ysker to adopt the Investment Policy. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Rates, fees, and administrative fines were discussed and reviewed. The 2026 water, sewer, and electric rates have already been approved. New changes for 2026 were in red and the old rates were strikethrough. Motion by Bargen, seconded by Jack, to approve Ordinance #1-26 – Establishing Rates, Fees, and Administrative Fines. Motion carried 4 – 0.

The Data Request Policies were reviewed. No changes were made from 2025. Motion by Jack, seconded by Bargen to approve the Data Request Policies. Motion carried 4 – 0.

The 2025 building permit summary and seniority list were reviewed.

City Administrator

The City Administrator requested clarification for payroll purposes on whether non-union employees would mirror the union's updated maximum vacation accumulation under this year's contract or retain the current accumulation limits. Motion by Bargen, seconded by Ysker to update the non-union personnel policy to reflect the union policy's maximum vacation accumulation. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Roundtable

An update was given to the council regarding board and commission meetings.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michael Mueller, Administrator/Clerk