

City of Mountain Lake
Regular City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall – 930 Third Ave
Tuesday, December 5, 2023
5:45 p.m. – Regular City Council Meeting
6:30 p.m. – Truth In Taxation Meeting

Members Present: Andrew Ysker, Dean Janzen, Darla Kruser, Bryan Bargen, Mike Nelson

Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Michael Mueller City Administrator; Maryellen Suhrhoff City Attorney

Others Present: Doug Regehr, Joel Alvstad

Call to Order

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

Approval of Agenda & Consent Agenda

Motion by Janzen, seconded by Kruser to approve the agenda and consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried 5 – 0.

Bills: Checks #27792-27839, 987E-992E

Payroll: Checks #67744 – 67760

Approve November 9 Utilities Commission Minutes

Approve November 20 City Council Minutes

Approve November Street Department Report

Approve Resolution #31-23 – Unpaid Public Nuisance Abatement Charges (Sidewalk Repair)

Approve Resolution #32-23 – Unpaid Utility Bills

Approve Resolution #33-23 – Unpaid Public Nuisance Abatement Charges (Lawn Mowing)

Hire Ken Classen, Jean Haberman & Nathan Fast, Cheryl Hiebert, Ice Rink & Warming House Attendant, effective 12/5/23

Public

A letter was presented to the council from Michele Griffith regarding the sidewalk repair assessment.

Fire & Ambulance Hall

The city administrator has been waiting to hear back from EPS, Bulter Steel, and Lester Buildings on estimated costs and specs for the Fire & Ambulance Hall. There were no additional

updates. The city administrator will continue to research building materials, costs and financing options.

2024 Items

Motion by Janzen, second by Bargaen to approve 2024 wages, salaries, and step changes accordingly for each employee. Motion carried 5 – 0.

City Attorney

An update was given to the council regarding civil processes on various properties, public nuisances, current processes, court procedures, agreements, and plans.

City Administrator

The council reviewed a list of meeting dates for 2024.

Roundtable

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

A list of expiring and vacancies for the various city boards and commissions were briefly discussed. Mayor Nelson is still working on the list and contacting those whose term expires at the end of this year and finding vacancies.

Truth In Taxation Public Hearing To Discuss 2024 Budget & Levy

Review – Preliminary 2024 Summary Budget and Tax Levy

Review – Local Government Aid

Review – 2024 Capital Improvement Plan

Review – 2024 Budget Packet

The administrator reviewed and explained the preliminary 2024 summary budget and tax levy, Local Government Aid, levy information, the 2024 Capital Improvement Plan, and the 2024 budget packet as approved in September. The preliminary levy was set at a 4.9% increase. The total levy is \$1,023,779.56, a \$48,252.87 increase from last year. No public questions regarding the budget and levy increase. A large amount of the levy increase, \$35,000.00, will be budgeted towards a new building for the Fire & Ambulance Hall. No changes were made to the levy or budget.

Resolution #34-23 - 2024 Final Levy & 2024 Budget

Motion by Ysker, seconded by Kruser, to approve Resolution #34-23 – 2024 Final Levy & 2024 Budget. Motion carried 5– 0.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michael Mueller, Administrator/Clerk