

Regular City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall
Tuesday, February 20, 2024
5:45 p.m.
AGENDA

1. Meeting Called to Order *Additional information on agenda item is attached or at City Hall

2. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a. Bills: Checks #28043 – 28074, 1029E – 1035E (#28042 void) (1-6)
 - b. Payroll: Checks #67888 – 67928
 - c. Approve January 8 Lake Commission Minutes (7-8)
 - d. Approve January 9 Library Board Minutes, January Report, & January Expenditures (9-11)
 - e. Approve January 16 EDA Board Minutes (12-13)
 - f. Approve January 25 Utilities Commission Minutes (14-15)
 - g. Approve February 5 City Council Minutes (16-17)
 - h. Approve Resolution #2-24 Appointing Election Judges (18)

3. Public – A total of ten (10) minutes is allotted for individuals to briefly discuss a topic of concern or provide comments to the Council.

4. Mountain Lake Sportsman Club
 - a. Discussion/Action – Shooting Range

5. City Attorney
 - a. Discussion/Action – Greenhouse Update
 - b. Discussion/Action – National Propane Building

6. City Administrator

7. Roundtable
 - a. Discussion – Commissions/Boards Update

8. Adjourn

Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting – Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 5:30PM

Lake Commission Meeting**Monday, January 8, 2024, 6:30 p.m.****Members Present:** Dave Bucklin, Janell Bargaen, Jon Beyer, Stan Bennett, Nathan Harder, Jean Haberman**Member Absent:** Randy Loewen**Guests Present:** Mike Nelson, Mayor; Rachel Yoder, Abby Beyer

Chair Bucklin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. M/S/P Bennett/Bargaen to approve agenda and minutes of the Dec. 11, 2023 meeting.

Treasurer's Report (1/4/24)**Weed Harvester Income/Expense:**

Beginning Balance:	\$20,386.93
Property/Casualty Dividend	11.39
Board Walk Wood Sale – Beyer	<u>100.00</u>
Ending Balance	\$20,498.32

Trail Income/Expense:

Beginning Balance:	\$1,844.19
Property/Casualty Dividend	29.79
2 nd half 2023 Property Taxes	3,000.00
Interest Income – 11/2023	76.10
Brass Nate Plate for Bench – Eric John	(94.97)
Citizen Publishing – Digital Upload	(20.00)
Citizen Publishing – Thin Ice Ad	(80.10)
Citizen Publishing – Thin Ice Ad	(80.10)
Ending Balance	\$4,674.91

M/S/P Bargaen/Bennett to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Bills:

M/S/P Bucklin/Bennett to approve paying the DNR Watercraft Registration in the amount of \$52.60 and to Jay Schied for Round-up to kill Buckthorn in the amount of \$112.50.

Lake Projects:

- **Thin Ice Signs:** The thin ice signs will be put out as soon as the ice is safe.
- **Weed Harvester:** Michael Mueller will apply for the weed harvesting permit.

Trail:

- The City employees have restored two benches – one at the bottom corner of the hill on 560th Ave. and one on the First Island. The plaques in memory of Eric-John Niss de Jesus and Charles Harder have been placed on the benches.
- The trail spur leading up to the bench on the north side of the trail was discussed. Brian Nyberg from the DNR will be contacted to determine if it is feasible.

Nathan Harder submitted his resignation from the Lake Commission.

Next Lake Commission meeting is February 12, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Haberman,
Secretary/Treasurer

MOUNTAIN LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES
January 9th, 2023

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Members Present: Carol L., Rochelle M., Rachel S.

Members Absent: Rachel Bucklin, Rick Herrig

Staff Present: Daniel Mick

Others Present: Michael Mueller

Others Absent: Andy Ysker

The meeting was called to order at 4:36 PM by Chairperson Rachel S.

Additions:

Reports: Rochelle M. /Rachel S. approved minutes for December 12th, 2023 meeting minutes.

Daniel M. presented the December Monthly reports indicating 2295 total circulation. The expenses for December was \$3346.12. M/S Rachel S. / Rochelle M. to accept the December reports as given and to approve the December expenditures, Motion carried.

Unfinished Business: Daniel M. has placed a hold on the upcoming creation of a Credit Policy until after the Plum Creek Library Advisory Board and see if that discussion adds or restricts anything to the policy. Daniel M. also reminded the board of the upcoming programs: Dennis Warner & the D's & Paint Party with SammyJo Miller.

In New Business: Daniel M. brought forward the chance for any members to move into the Chair, Vice-Chair or other positions. Nominations will be presented at the next board meeting, February 13th, 2024. With the start of the New Year, planning for the SRP (summer reading program) has started; Daniel M. presented the Great Space Race theme and his idea for the summer. The SRP will go from June 3rd – July 31st for events and reading logs will be accepted until August 31st.

Daniel M. also requested that the April board meeting be moved to the 16th due to his vacation. The change was approved.

Director Check In: Daniel M. reported that the Santa Story Time went very well. The library saw 36 patrons attend. The library purchased a thank you card & gift card for Santa's service. Another task that started with the New Year is the weeding of the collection. Daniel M. hopes to complete the weeding by the end of March.

Materials Suggested: NONE

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Mick

Mountain Lake
Public Library
January 2024

Children	
Audio	17
Books	960
DVDs	108
Non Print	4
Multi Media	4
Periodicals	8
ADULT	
Audio	12
Books	619
DVDs	619
Non Print	4
Multi Media	0
Periodicals	16
Other Physical Media	0
SUBTOTAL:	2371
Ebooks	55
Downloadable Audio	100
TOTAL CIRCULATION:	3075
ILLN/(MNLlink)	26
Interlibrary Loan Sent	317
Interlibrary Loan Received	206

REVENUE	
Cash Income	\$ -
County Revenue	\$ 13,445.25
Donations (Monetary)	\$ -
Fines	\$ -
Misc. Revenue	\$ -
Meeting Room Rental	\$ -
Sale of supplies	\$ 10.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 13,455.25

EXPENDITURES	
Books	\$ 813.46
Periodicals	\$ 57.00
Audio/Visual	\$ 45.90
Gas Utilities	\$ 299.44
Janitorial Supplies	\$ 60.90
Office Supplies	\$ 31.99
Library Supplies	\$ 115.50
Postage	\$ -
Project Expense	\$ 362.83
Repairs & Maintenance Building	\$ -
Repairs & Maint-Materials	\$ -
Tech/Automation Expense	\$ 6,040.00
Telephone	\$ -
Training & Instruction	\$ -
MISC.	\$ 317.41
PCLS Delivery	\$ 2,100.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 10,244.43

Economic Development Authority
Tuesday, January 16, 2024
Mt. Lake City Hall
Council Chambers

PRESENT: Jerry Haberman, Eileen Augustin, Phil Skow, Darla Kruser, Mike Nelson (via phone), and Vern Peterson, Advisor.

ABSENT: Steve Syverson, Mitch Schroeder, and Clara Johnson.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: Michael Mueller

STAFF: Rod Hamilton and Tabitha Garloff

1. CALL TO ORDER: President Haberman called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.
2. Motion to Approve Consent Agenda
Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approval of December 11th, 2023, Meeting Minutes.
 - b. Approval of Financial Reports and Bills. Motion made by Phil to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Eileen. Motion carried.
3. Krienke Foods International, Inc. Rod stated he had a conversation with Caleb in December and discussed timely payments. Also discussed was Caleb's inquiry on purchasing the building before the end of the lease agreement. Rod invited Caleb to meet with him and discuss purchasing the building. Payments were current at the end of December, however; January payment has not been received and Maryellen has sent a notice of default and intent to evict. Tabitha has set up a monthly reminder in outlook to ensure notices are sent on a timely basis.
4. 2023 Year Review. Rod reviewed the list of 2023 EDA accomplishments.
5. 2024 Work Plan – Planning. The board stated for 2024 they would like to continue focusing on housing, daycare, and the hotel. The discussion also included Watonwan Enterprises and its future as Paul Nibbe would like to retire, along with Balzer Inc. and transition as Randy McMahon will be retiring.
6. Hotel Update/Discussion. Rod gave a brief update stating that investors are still welcome. Rod met with AVA last week and toured their facility. AVA will be providing additional information soon on how they may be able to help with the construction of the hotel.
7. Commercial Park. Update if time allows
8. Business Leads. Update if time allows

9. GENERAL DISCUSSION:

- a. Next Regular Board Meeting is February 20th, 2024
- b. Other Business. Rod wanted to reiterate that MNDOT has made no decision on the highway 60 intersections.

10. ADJOURN. President Haberman adjourned the meeting at 12:58 p.m.

**Mountain Lake Utilities Commission Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall
Thursday, January 25, 2024
7 AM**

Members Present: Todd Johnson; Sue Garloff; Brian Janzen; David Savage; Mark Langland

Members Absent: City Council Liaison Dean Janzen

Staff Present: Michael Mueller; Clerk/Administrator; Jill Falk; Utilities Office Manager; Dave Watkins; Electric Superintendent; Steve Peters; Lineman; Taylor Nesmoe; Water/Wastewater Superintendent; Scott Pankratz; Water/Wastewater

Others Present:

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7 AM.

Approval of Minutes and Bills

Motion by Johnson seconded by Brian Janzen to approve the January 11th Minutes and Check Numbers 23139-23173 (525E-527E). Motion carried.

Electric Department

Langland requested an update on the progress of the Wind Turbine. With the communications down, the Wind Turbine is not functioning at its full capacity. When the turbine is not running, we are forced to purchase power to cover the loss. Watkins stated that there are currently two internet lines provided by CMPAS. One line is for WAPA and CMPAS to communicate, and the other is used by Midwest Power Partners. There is an issue with the firewall and CMPAS is working to get it repaired, however, the associate for Midwest Power is located in Denmark, so there have been some scheduling conflicts to get the problem resolved.

Watkins provided a few updates regarding the Power Plant. Mike Thielen advised that he should be ready for bids in approximately six weeks. This bid would be for the sub-transformer and the switchgear. It was also decided that the building would be concrete precast instead of steel. Even though the steel building would cost less, the precast building will cost less for soundproofing and fireproofing, less construction is required, and it is more up-to-code and energy efficient, which also makes it more reliable.

Water/Wastewater Department

The public school reached out to Mueller regarding the sewer charges at the greenhouse. They wanted to know why they were charged when no sewer services were being used. They have tapped into a line coming from the school for water services and then water is going into the field instead of the sewer. A motion was made by Langland to remove the charges for the sewer line at the Greenhouse going forward. The sewer infrastructure fee will continue to be charged. The motion was then seconded by Brian Janzen, and the motion passed.

Nesmoe mentioned that they have been repairing a few leaks that have been noticed. The first was on Twelfth Street underneath the railroad tracks. Instead of digging under the tracks, they dug on each side and capped it off. The other was on Ninth Street where the line got disconnected from the main. Nickel was called out to assist. Nesmoe also wanted to state that the new truck is having issues and is not operational. It was taken to Mt Lake Auto but will need further repair and they will reach out for warranty information. However, Crysteel will be sending new parts for the utility boxes on both trucks.

City Administrator

Mueller had nothing to add at this time.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 a.m.

ATTEST:

Jill Falk, Utilities Office Manager

**City of Mountain Lake
Regular City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall – 930 Third Ave
Monday, February 5, 2024
5:45 p.m.**

Members Present: Andrew Ysker, Dean Janzen, Darla Kruser, Bryan Bargaen

Members Absent: Mike Nelson

City Staff Present: Michael Mueller City Administrator; Maryellen Suhrhoff City Attorney,
Doug Bristol Police Chief

Others Present: Doug Regehr, Joel Alvstad, Dean Sawatzky

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Councilmember Ysker at 5:45 p.m.

Approval of Agenda & Consent Agenda

Motion by Janzen, seconded by Bargaen to add the rifle range on the agenda. Motion carried 4–0. Motion by Janzen, seconded by Bargaen to approve the agenda and consent agenda as amended. Motion carried 4–0.

Bills: Checks # 27998-28041, 1018E-1028E

Payroll: Checks #67872-67887

Approve January 11 Utilities Commission Minutes

Approve January 16 City Council Minutes

Approve January Street Department Report

Accept Mark Warner Resignation, Ambulance, effective 1-8-2024

Public

No comment

Rifle Range

Dean Sawatzky from the Mountain Lake Sportsmen’s Club requested to install a backstop on the rifle range. The club would need to temporarily remove the fencing around the city’s wastewater ponds to access the location, and would put the fence back once the project was completed.

Motion by Janzen, seconded by Kruser to approve the request. Motion carried 4–0.

Police- Public Hearing to Discuss Body Cameras

No comments or questions from the public. No action was taken.

Fire & Ambulance Hall

The city administrator is still working to get specs and costs for EPS, Bulter Steel, and Lester Buildings for the Fire & Ambulance Hall. Lester Buildings sent a quote of \$1,634,000. Council would like to bring these estimates and options back to the building committee for further discussion.

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 City received the \$10,000 check today for the grant to update the community center bathrooms. The city administrator is checking into the costs, but a preliminary cost is between \$15,000 to \$20,000 to update the bathrooms. Motion by Janzen, seconded by Barga to approve the City to spend up to \$10,000 of their funds to update the community center bathrooms.

Motion carried 4- 0.

Roundtable

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

City Attorney – Continued

The meeting was closed due to threatened litigation, attorney-client privilege. The meeting reopened. No action was taken.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michael Mueller, Administrator/Clerk

**Resolution #2-24
City of Mountain Lake, Minnesota
Appointing Election Judges**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN LAKE, MINNESOTA that pursuant to MN Statute 204B.21 the following individuals are hereby appointed as election judges for the presidential primary, general primary, and general elections to be held on March 5, August 13 and November 5, 2024.

- Karen Borgen
- Barbara Crawford
- Jean Haberman
- Heidi Jahnke
- Mary Jefferson
- Bertha Klassen
- Lois Korns
- Jill Pankratz
- Pam Radtke
- Sharon Reynolds
- Gene Van DeWalker
- Alyssa Nesmoe
- Jill Falk
- Dawn Fast
- Michael Mueller
- Miranda Stoesz

Adopted this 20th day of February 2024.

Mike Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Mueller, Administrator/Clerk