

**Regular City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall
Monday, March 2, 2020
6:30 p.m.**

Members Present: David Savage, Dana Kass, Andrew Ysker

Members Absent: Darla Kruser, Mike Nelson

City Staff Present: Michael Schulte, City Administrator/Clerk; Maryellen Suhrhoff, City Attorney; Daron Friesen, Street Superintendent

Others Present: Deanna Anderson, Observer/Advocate; Doug Regehr, Rachel Yoder, Owen Todd, Bolton & Menk

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tempore David Savage at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Agenda & Consent Agenda

Motion by Kass, seconded by Ysker, to add 2.E – Approve Source Water Protection Plan Implementation Grant Application to the Minnesota Department of Health for \$3,000 to the consent agenda and 6.A – Response from Kuechle Underground to the agenda. Motion carried 3 – 0. Motion by Ysker, seconded by Kass to approve the agenda and consent agenda as amended. Motion carried 3 – 0.

Bills: Checks #23403-23443

Payroll: Checks #65198-65213

Approve February 6 Utilities Commission Minutes

Approve February 18 City Council Minutes

Approve Source Water Protection Plan Implementation Grant Application to the Minnesota Department of Health for \$3,000

Public

No one spoke during this portion of the meeting.

Street Department

Daron Friesen, Street Superintendent, provided a report of items completed in February. Snow removal, cleaning sidewalks, hauling snow, and maintenance and repairs on equipment were some of the main items completed in February.

Street Superintendent Position

Daron Friesen desires to stay in the Street Superintendent position. The Council, according to the AFSCME Union agreement, has the option to approve to continue Friesen in the position or move him back to his former position. Motion by Kass, seconded by Ysker, to approve to continue Daron Friesen in the Street Superintendent position. Motion carried 3 – 0.

Street Worker / Public Works II Position

With the approval of Friesen to continue in the Street Superintendent position, there is now a vacancy in the Street Department for the Street Worker / Public Works II position. The job description was reviewed by the City Administrator and the Street Superintendent. Motion by Ysker, seconded by Kass, to approve the Street Worker / Public Works II job description and approve to fulfill the procedures of filling the vacancy. Motion carried 3 – 0. The position will be posted internally for 10 days and posted externally if needed afterwards.

City Attorney

An agreement was signed between a property owner along 10th Street and the attorney on behalf of the city which states that only 4 registered vehicles on a gravel or paved driveway can reside on the property, that all garbage and construction materials must be cleaned up by March 7th, and that no cars can sit on the front yard. If any violation of the agreement occurs within the next year the city has the right to enter the property and remove the vehicles or materials. The agreement was approved by the district judge. A public nuisance citation was given to a property owner on 3rd Ave. Option-to-buy letters were sent to the two property owners for the wastewater ponds project. A good legal description was given for the property owned by the city to be sold to Shirley Riihl. The greenhouse property remains in the appeal process. The city attorney has contacted the property owner's attorney to request if various city officials can meet with the property owners to walk through the property to go over what must be fixed to become in compliance with the building official. No response has been made. A response from Kuechle Underground regarding 2nd Avenue and the other punch list items was sent to the city attorney. Owen Todd, Bolton & Menk, was in attendance to state that Bolton & Menk's attorney will work with the city's attorney on addressing a statement back and stated if any legal costs should be made by the city that Bolton & Menk would cover the costs.

Utilities Easement Agreement – Leonard Penner

Staff and the attorney met with Leonard Penner last week. A utilities easement agreement was signed by Leonard Penner and is being brought forward to the City Council. Penner owns a small triangular section near the current lift station that is needed to install underground pipes from the current infrastructure up to the new wastewater ponds. In addition, a new electric pole will be installed to attach a guidewire to keep the current poles in line. The agreement states the city will attempt to better grade the manholes on Penner's property and allow him to hook up to the sewer

main if desired in the future. Motion by Ysker, seconded by Kass, to approve the utilities easement agreement with Leonard Penner. Motion carried 3 – 0.

American Public Power Association Legislative Rally

The administrator recently attended the American Public Power Association Legislative Rally in Washington D.C. Last Wednesday, a group of around 50 individuals from Minnesota utilities, in partnership with Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association, met with seven Minnesota U.S. Representatives and Minnesota's two U.S. Senators, whether the Senator/Representative or their staff, to discuss the most pressing issues and trends regarding federal legislation pertaining to public power. The administrator spoke to Representative Pete Stauber and a staff member from Tom Emmer's office.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Approved March 16, 2020

ATTEST:

Michael Schulte, Administrator/Clerk