

**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**Mountain Lake City Hall**  
**Monday, March 4, 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 Agenda and Consent Agenda
  - a. Bills: Checks #28075-28124, 1036E-1041E (1-11)
  - b. Payroll: Checks #67929 – 67944
  - c. Approve February 8 Utilities Commission Minutes (12-13)
  - d. Approve February 20 City Council Minutes (14-15)
  - e. Approve February Street Department Report (16)
  - f. Accept Jason Kruser Resignation, Fire Department, effective 1/29/2024
  
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. City Attorney
  - a. Discussion/Action – Greenhouse Update
  
5. City Administrator
  
6. Roundtable
  - a. Discussion – Commissions/Boards Update
  
7. Adjourn

**Mountain Lake Utilities Commission Meeting  
Mountain Lake City Hall  
Thursday, February 8, 2024  
7 AM**

Members Present: Todd Johnson; Sue Garloff; Mark Langland

Members Absent: David Savage; Brian Janzen; City Council Liaison Dean Janzen

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

Others Present: Dean Sawatzky

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7 AM.

**Approval of Minutes and Bills**

Motion by Johnson seconded by Garloff to approve the January 25<sup>th</sup> Minutes and Check Numbers 23174-23207 (528E-533E). Motion carried.

Sawatzky was present to discuss the progress of the long-distance shooting range that will run along Pond #2. The council has approved the Sportsman Club to begin moving dirt and working on the berm at the end of the range. They will provide an updated copy of the liability insurance, in the amount requested by the League of Minnesota. Langland had some concerns regarding safety and the lead in the pond. With the downward slope of the land and the berm at least ten feet tall, Sawatzky felt that there should not be any safety issues. Langland discussed a contract being written up for the cleaning of the range and then presenting it to the club.

**Electric Department**

Watkins mentioned that the specs for the new Switchgear and Sub are in the final review stage and will be ready to open bids soon. Farabee has been working on engine #2 which had previously failed testing. After some minor adjustments, the problem should be resolved. The next stack testing has been scheduled for May 30<sup>th</sup>. Watkins also shared that the internet at the Wind Tower is working again, however, it is still the Frontier internet connection. CMPAS is still working to get the second internet connection working for Midwest Power Partners so that Frontier can be canceled.

**Water/Wastewater Department**

Nesmoe stated that the RO cleaning will begin next week. He has been working with Hawkins to evaluate chemical levels. There are probes on the RO that have extended past their life expectancy and will need to be replaced. The probes and the chemicals needed for them will most likely cost over \$3,000. He did mention that he is still waiting to hear back regarding the air valve that needed to be repaired. Electric Pump was here working on the lift station. An alarm

was set off due to a bad sealant. Electric Pump is still waiting for the part, but they do not want to do any repairs yet, as it should still be covered under warranty. Pankratz mentioned that the new truck is still in the shop. They are trying to find the issue so that it can be repaired.

**City Administrator**

Mueller said that Bolton & Menk will begin the Lead Inventory review to ensure that there are no traces of lead in any of the lines up to the meters. The cost of \$75,000 will be billed directly to the state. When discussing lead, Langland pointed out that the pond by the gun range does contain lead. A past discussion mentioned only cleaning the east half of the pond and leaving the west half, due to the high cost to have it removed. Bolton & Menk should have the original quote, however, since the quote was five years ago the amount will significantly increase. This is an item that needs to be discussed with the Sportsman club as well before a contract agreement is written.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 a.m.

ATTEST:

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Jill Falk, Utilities Office Manager

**City of Mountain Lake  
Regular City Council Meeting  
Mountain Lake City Hall – 930 Third Ave  
Tuesday, February 20, 2024  
5:45 p.m.**

Members Present: Andrew Ysker, Dean Janzen, Darla Kruser, Mike Nelson (virtual)

Members Absent: Bryan Bargen

City Staff Present: Michael Mueller City Administrator; Maryellen Suhrhoff City Attorney,  
Louis Norell Assistant Police Chief

Others Present: Doug Regehr, 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 Kruser, seconded by Janzen to add Resolution # 3-24 & Resolution # 4-24 to the agenda. Motion carried 4– 0. Motion by Kruser, seconded by Janzen to approve the agenda and consent agenda as amended. Motion carried 4– 0.

Bills: Checks #28043 – 28074, 1029E – 1035E (#28042 void)

Payroll: Checks #67888 – 67928

Approve January 8 Lake Commission Minutes

Approve January 9 Library Board Minutes, January Report, & January Expenditures

Approve January 16 EDA Board Minutes

Approve January 25 Utilities Commission Minutes

Approve February 5 City Council Minutes

Approve Resolution #2-24 Appointing Election Judges

**Public**

No comment

**Rifle Range**

Dean Sawatzky from the Mountain Lake Sportsman’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. The Council approved the request at their previous meeting on February 5, 2024. After Council approval, some homeowners reached out to the City and said that they were not notified of any changes in the rifle range. The Sportsman’s Club responded that they were only legally required

to notify any property owners within 2600 ft of the range, 2 owners, which those owners provided consent. Once the Sportsman's Club finishes construction of the berm, the City will review it before the club starts to use it. The berm must meet or exceed the design standards listed in the 1999 NRA Range Designs for an outdoor high-power rifle. The berm must be a minimum of 20 ft high. No further action was taken.

#### **City Attorney**

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

Motion by Janzen, seconded by Kruser to approve Resolution # 3-24 Public Nuisance. Motion carried 4-0.

#### **City Administrator**

The Mountain Lake Economic Development Authority (EDA) has requested the City to approve an interfund transfer of up to \$600,000 from the City's General Fund to be transferred to the EDA's Operating Fund. The use of the transfer funds will be used for Economic Development in the City of Mountain Lake to be used to build a hotel in Mountain Lake. The transfer of funds will be used for a loan, gap financing, to finalize the hotel project. The interfund loan will be paid back to the City in 10 years.

Motion by Janzen, seconded by Nelson to approve Resolution # 4-24 EDA Transfer. Motion carried 4-0.

#### **Roundtable**

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

#### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Michael Mueller, Administrator/Clerk

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

## FEBRUARY / STREET DEPT / REPORT

- CUT DOWN 53 TREES LOCAL PARK
- CLEAN UP LOGS, BRUSH LOCAL PARK
- BURN, MAINTAIN TREE DUMP
- SWEEP STREETS
- BLADE GRAVEL ROADS
- MOUNT SHELVES LIBRARY
- DIG @ CLOSE 1 GRAVE
- WASH, GREASE, CHANGE BLADES 672 GP (MOTORGRATER)
- 1 SNOW, PLOW, HAUL SNOW, CLEAN SIDEWALKS
- FIX STOP SIGN 4<sup>TH</sup> AVE / 12<sup>TH</sup> ST N
- DEMO COMMUNITY CENTER BATH ROOMS
- WASH EQ, TRUCKS, CLEAN SHOP
- TRIM TREES ON BLVD'S
- DIG STUMPS OUT LOCAL PARK
- ORDER MULCH FOR CITY PARKS PLAYGROUNDS