

Regular City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall – 930 Third Avenue
Monday, May 1, 2023
6:30 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 #27134 – 27183, 888E – 892E (1-9)
 - b. Payroll: Checks #37322 - 67337
 - c. Approve April 13 Utilities Commission Minutes (10-11)
 - d. Approve April 17 City Council Minutes (12-13)
 - e. Approve April Street Department Report – *Daron Friesen, Street Superintendent* (14)
 - f. Approve Resolution #12-23 \$10,000 Fire Relief Donation (15)
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
5. City Administrator
 - a. Discussion/Action – Ordinance #2-23 City Park Hours (1st Reading) (16)
 - b. Discussion/Action – Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Position
6. Adjourn

**Mountain Lake Utilities Commission Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall
Thursday, April 13, 2023
7 AM**

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

Members Absent: City Council Liaison Dean Janzen

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

Others Present:

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7 AM.

Approval of Minutes and Bills

Motion by Janzen seconded by Savage to approve the March 23rd Minutes, and Check Numbers 22440-22487 (459E-462E). Motion carried.

Electric Department

Watkins wanted to discuss the underground policy that is currently in place. As of 2009, the policy states that any new build would be responsible for the cost to place the underground wire. There have been several new homes in recent years that were not charged this fee. For Residential and Single-Phase builds, the wire is dug and installed up to the meter. For Commercial, it is connected to their individual transformer and not the meter socket. It was decided that the utilities will cover the costs up to the meter socket for the Residential and Single Phase. If they choose to expand or change the service at a later time, then all costs will be charged to the customer. Since Commercial accounts have their own transformers, all charges will go directly to that customer. However, if they choose to expand, the utilities will then cover those costs. Watkins will update the policy and bring it back for review.

Watkins also mentioned that Generator #1 had an exhaust leak, and we are currently waiting for the part. Once it arrives, DGR will repair it and while they are here, they will then do the Stack Emissions testing as well. It was also noted that Nickel Construction will not be able to replace the pavers around the streetlights on Third Avenue this summer. Watkins did state that he called CemStone in Windom, and they will be coming out for a quote. Langland has recommended that Watkins reach out to Milk Specialties before the generator project begins. It is imperative to keep a good relationship with them and they should be notified of any potential outages. On another note, with MSG, Falk stated that they are currently two months behind in

their SIU agreement. They have recently switched to Engie as a third-party bill pay agency. Even though the utility bills and the SIU/BOD invoice are sent at the same time, Engie struggles to get the payment for the SIU sent out in a timely manner. Mueller will review the SIU agreement to see if there is anything regarding a late or penalty fee for non-payment. A due date will be added to the SIU invoices to reflect the same date as the utility bill.

Water/Wastewater Department

The sand filters have been replaced, and both filters as well as the RO should be back online by the end of the week. At this time, it looks like the replacement of the membranes for the RO will take place in July. Nesmoe, Pankratz, and Watkins will be going to the cities to take a tour of the plant to see how the new membranes are made. Nesmoe mentioned that the generator at the pond had a leak in the primary fuel tank. The Electric department had already planned to have a visit from CAT and will fix the water generator while they are here.

City Administrator

The quarterly revenue and expenditure update was provided. As a reminder, the expenditure totals are true to date. However, only about two months of revenue is counted, as not all incoming revenue for March has been received or entered in. The amount spent on sewer Capital Improvements was questioned, so Falk will look into those charges and update any account numbers that may need to be adjusted. It was also mentioned that the council has approved an overlay project for the one-way street. The cost of the overlay will be around \$27,000 which will be the responsibility of the city. However, it was mentioned that just an overlay may not even fix the drainage problem and the infrastructure needs to be replaced. At this time, the council and the businesses on that street do not want to spend the funds on the infrastructure.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 a.m.

ATTEST:

**City of Mountain Lake
Regular City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall – 930 Third Ave
Monday, April 17, 2023
6:30 p.m.**

Members Present: Andrew Ysker, Bryan Bargaen, Mike Nelson

Members Absent: Dean Janzen, Darla Kruser

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

Others Present: Tom Appel, Joel Alvstad, Doug Regehr, Sue Garloff, Cheryl Hiebert, Joyce Bucklin

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nelson at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Agenda & Consent Agenda

Motion by Bargaen, seconded by Ysker to add Pow Wow Gambling Permit and EDA Resolution #2-23 to the consent agenda. Motion carried 3 – 0. Motion by Ysker, seconded by Bargaen to approve the agenda and consent agenda as amended. Motion carried 3 – 0.

Bills: Checks #27094 – 27133, 885E – 887E

Payroll: Checks #67290 – 67321

Approve March 13 Lake Commission Minutes

Approve March 14 Library Board Minutes, March Library Report, & March Expenditures

Approve March 20 & April 3 EDA Board Minutes

Approve March 23 Utilities Commission Minutes

Approve April 3 City Council Minutes

Approve Resolution #9-22 Arbor Day

Approve Ambulance Contracts

Approve Ambulance & Fire Contract Rates

Hire Devyn Rempel for Weed Harvester Operator

Hire Jonathan Mullen, Custodian, effective 4/18/23, \$16 per hour

Accept Resignation of Kim Syverson, Lake Commission, effective 4/12/2023

Approve Pow Wow Gambling Permit

Approve EDA Resolution # 2-23 EDA Bylaws, Revised Resolution # 7-89

Public

No comments

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

Discussion/Action – City Park & Band Shell
 Discussion/Action – Resolution #10-23 Sunflower
 Discussion/Action – City Council Meeting Dates

City park hours were discussed, due to vandalism. An ordinance will be brought back to the Council at the next meeting, closing the city park to all individuals at 11pm and reopening to either sunrise or 6am. Salonek will no longer be able to repair the bandshell, they downsized due to lack of workforce. Mayor Nelson has a lead and will see if they are interested in repairing the bandshell.

A request for the continuation of repainting the sunflower on County State-Aid Highway No.27 within the limits of the City was presented to the City. Cottonwood County is requesting the City make a determination on the outcome of the sunflower, whether it will be painted again and maintained, or left to wear off and fade away. Motion by Bargaen, seconded by Nelson to approve Resolution #10-23, allowing to repaint only the sunflower. Motion carried 2 – 1. Ysker opposed. The Resolution will be reviewed by the County Engineer, they will provide a recommendation to the County Board, and the County Board will decide whether to approve or deny repainting the sunflower.

Michael Mueller, City Administrator requested to attend the MMUA conference, August 21-23, and asked if Council could cancel the City Council meeting on August 21. Motion by Bargaen, seconded by Ysker to cancel the August 21 meeting and allow the Mayor to sign the checks. Motion carried 3 – 0.

Roundtable

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

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michael Mueller, Administrator/Clerk

APRIL Report - STREET DEPT

- Remove Plows, WINGS, Sander
- SWEEP STREETS
- COID Patch POT HOLES
- Broom Trail
- Pick up Branches City Propertyys
- OPEN Park Bath Rooms
- Repair storm Sewer 1st Ave @ 10th St N
- BLADE, DRAG Gravel Rds @ Allys
- OPEN TREE Dump, Install Camera
- Moss Control Workstop, Mankato
- Clean Various Storm Sewers with Vector Truck
- Pull STAKES at Cemetery, Pack @ Seed Graves
- New library handicap Sign & Post to Regulation Height.
- Dig & Graves for the month of April

RESOLUTION #12-23

CITY OF MOUNTAIN LAKE, MINNESOTA

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT A \$10,000 GIFT FROM
THE MOUNTAIN LAKE FIRE RELIEF ASSOCIATION**

Whereas, the Mountain Lake Fire Relief Association has a valid license to conduct lawful gambling at “The Den” located in the City of Mountain Lake; and

Whereas, money raised from lawful gambling can be used for ‘lawful purposes’; and

Whereas, a contribution to the City of Mountain Lake is a ‘lawful purpose’ in accordance with MN Statute 349.12, Subd. 25; and

Whereas the Mountain Lake Fire Relief Association has stated its intent to assist the City of Mountain Lake by gifting funds for Mountain Lake’s Fire Hall Building Fund.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Mountain Lake City Council accept the gift of \$10,000 from the Mountain Lake Fire Relief Association; and

Be it further resolved that said funds be reserved for future development of Mountain Lake’s Fire Hall Building; and

Be it further resolved that the Mountain Lake City Council thanks the Mountain Lake Fire Relief Association for their gift.

Adopted this 1st day of May, 2023.

Mike Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Mueller, Administrator/Clerk

Ordinance #2-23
An Ordinance of the City of Mt. Lake
Amending Chapter 8 of the City Code

The City Council of City of Mt. Lake ordains that Section 8.18 be amended as follows :

Adopt a new regulation 1; renumber paragraphs 1-13 to 2-14

SECTION 8.18 PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS

Subdivision 2. Regulations.

- 1. Parks are open from 5:00 A.M to 11:00 P.M., and shall be considered closed after 11:00 P.M.. No person should be in any park between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 5:00 A.M unless they have written permission from the City Administrator.

Passed by the Council this 5th day of June 2023.

Mike Nelson, Mayor

Attest: _____
Michael Mueller, City Administrator/Clerk