

**City of Mountain Lake
Regular City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall – 930 Third Ave
Monday, May 6, 2024
5:45 p.m.**

Members Present: Andrew Ysker, Dean Janzen, Bryan Bargaen, Mike Nelson

Members Absent: Darla Kruser

City Staff Present: Michael Mueller City Administrator; Maryellen Suhrhoff City Attorney;
Louis Norell Assistant Police Chief; Ben McHenry Police Officer; Daron
Friesen Street Superintendent

Others Present: Joel Alvstad, Tim Coners, Danica Dick

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 Bargaen to add union contract and roundtable discussion to the agenda. Motion carried 4 – 0. Motion by Bargaen, seconded by Ysker to approve the agenda and consent agenda as amended. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Bills: Checks #28255 – 28315, 1065E – 1074E

Payroll: Checks #68031 - 68062

Approve April 11& 17 Utilities Commission Minutes

Approve April 15 City Council Minutes

Approve April 23 Board of Appeal & Equalization Minutes

Approve April Street Department Report – *Daron Friesen, Street Superintendent*

Approve Resolution #7-24 Arbor Day

Approve \$300 Donation to Pow Wow Road Race and Fitness Walk

Approve Mental Health Month Proclamation

Public

No comment

Fire Department

Fire Chief Tim Coners requested an increase in wages for the department, as well as permission to purchase equipment. The current pay is \$10 per meeting/practice, \$10 per responding to a call, and \$20 per call that covers the first 2 hours, after 2 hours it is an additional \$10 per hour. The request was to double the pay for the department. The Council tabled the request until the Fire

Chief researched what other fire departments in the surrounding area are paying their personnel. Coners requested for the unpaid training officer for the fire department to be paid \$600 per year. Motion by Janzen, seconded by Bargaen to approve the training officer pay of \$600 per year. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Coners requested to purchase a Pentheon iCutter and Spreader for \$37,740.48. Motion by Bargaen, seconded by Ysker to approve the purchase. Motion carried 4 – 0. Motion by Janzen, seconded by Bargaen to approve up to \$30,000 for the purchase of a used side by side vehicle. If the department needed to purchase it new, they would need to come back to Council. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Chamber of Commerce

Danica Dick, Chamber Director provided a bid from Mountain Lake FFA for replacing the concrete edging and install new edging in Memorial Park. Motion by Bargaen, seconded by Janzen to approve the FFA bid as long as the FFA uses stone paver edging, it's able to mow over, Daron has oversight on the project, and if not to come back to City Council. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Street Department

Street Superintendent Daron Friesen discussed the poor condition of the pathway/trails in City Park and provided three bids to update them. Motion by Janzen, seconded by Bargaen to approve Kulseth's bid of \$28,247.40 to replace the asphalt trail with concrete. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Friesen discussed mills and overlays on our streets. Many of the streets in our city are 35 to 40 years old, and an overlay could extend our roads to another 20 years of life without a full street reconstruction. The question the Council had was whether or not the project could be assessed and bonded, and wanted further clarification before any decisions were made. The item was tabled.

Police

Assistant Police Chief Louis Norell is requesting to get ahead of the upcoming vacancies by adding a new officer as early as July. Motion by Janzen, seconded by Ysker to post an opening for a full time police officer. Motion carried 4 – 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 Mountain Lake School District asked for a \$4,000 increase in the City's donation to the summer program. The City currently donates \$5,000 a year to the summer program. City Council requested from the School Board the summer program budget, showing all revenues and expenditures, which has not been provided. The item was tabled until a budget is provided.

Michael Mueller, City Administrator, requested a Certified Tree Inspector licensure to be added to the union contract, adding 50 cents per hour to the Appointed City Tree Inspector, discussion ensued and no motion was made.

Roundtable

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

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michael Mueller, Administrator/Clerk