

**City of Mountain Lake
Regular City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall – 930 Third Ave
Monday, June 1, 2026
5:45 p.m.**

Members Present: Andrew Ysker, Jeff Jack, Mike Nelson, Bryan Bargaen,
Darla Kruser (remote)

Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Michael Mueller City Administrator

Others Present: Doug Regehr, Deanna Anderson, Tom Appel, Luke Ewald, Kathy Harder,
Alyssa Nesmoe

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nelson at 5:45 p.m.

Approval of Agenda & Consent Agenda

Motion by Bargaen, seconded by Ysker to add 12 unit apartment complex and public concerns 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 #29990 – 30014, 1839E – 1854E

Payroll: Checks #69543 – 69561

Approve May 15 Utilities Commission Minutes

Approve May 18 City Council Minutes

Public

No comment

2025 City Audit

Sara Oberloh of Oberloh & Oberloh, Ltd. presented the City's 2025 audit to the Council. Oberloh reviewed and explained various components of the audit, including revenues, expenditures, and budgeted amounts across multiple departments and funds. Oberloh also presented and discussed several graphs and detailed revenue and expenditure line items, providing an overview of the City's financial position and audit findings.. Motion by Ysker, seconded by Jack to approve the 2025 City Audit. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Active Living Plan

Luke Ewald provided an overview of the history of the Active Living Plan and explained the purpose of the demonstration project at the intersection of 3rd Avenue and 12th Street North, which includes the installation of curb extensions (bump-outs).

Motion by Ysker, seconded by Bargaen, to approve the installation of bump-outs on the east side of the intersection only, with no roadway paint included in the project. The demonstration project will begin in June, following the Pow Wow Celebration, and conclude in October. Approval by the County Board is also required. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Pow Wow

The Den requested permission to close 2nd Avenue between 9th Street and 10th Street on June 19, 20, and 22, 2026, after 3pm each day, to accommodate an anticipated overflow of patrons during Pow Wow. Motion by Jack, seconded by Bargaen to approve the street closure request. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Library

Plum Creek Library System is requesting that member cities re-sign the Agency Agreement to incorporate several administrative updates resulting from state statute changes and routine review. The revisions include removing the School District of Pipestone as a member following its withdrawal, reducing the notice requirement for special Board meetings from two weeks to five days, changing the preliminary budget timeline from March to April, and updating trustee appointment language to provide greater flexibility in selection methods. These changes are administrative in nature and do not alter the intent, governance, or structure of the agreement. Motion by Ysker, seconded by Bargaen to approve the updated Plum Creek Library System Agency Agreement. Motion carried 4 – 0.

City Administrator

There was a first reading for Ordinance #6-26 Public Events Serving or Selling Alcohol. No action was taken.

West Shore Services technician inspected the siren system by the water tower and found that the motor starter overload heaters are repeatedly tripping due to excessive current draw from the siren head. Normal operating current should be between 20–28 amps; however, the siren is currently drawing 35–37 amps.

When the motor starter overheats, the overload relay trips and removes power to the starter coil, causing the siren to shut down. In some cases, resetting the overload relay does not immediately clear the fault. The technician believes the siren head is nearing the end of its service life and that the overload heaters and motor starter are the only components currently keeping the system operational. Continued operation will likely result in failure of these components.

The technician also noted that this siren's coverage area overlaps with the 2001 SRN siren located on 11th Street North, approximately 1/4 to 1/3 mile away.

The siren was operational when the technician left the site; however, its reliability is uncertain, and additional overload trips are expected. If needed, the overload relay can be reset by opening the lower section of the cabinet where the motor starter is located. No action was taken.

The developer of the 12-unit apartment complex has requested the closure of 4th Avenue between 10th Street and the alley to allow for the storage of framing materials, roofing supplies, and other construction materials, as there is insufficient space available on the project site.

Motion by Barger, seconded by Ysker to approve the street closure request upon the start of framing. The closure must end no later than October 31, prior to snowfall. Any damage to the roadway resulting from the closure or construction activities shall be repaired at the developer's expense. Motion carried 4 – 0. The existing sidewalk will need to be removed during construction. The Council was adamant that the developer is responsible for reinstalling the sidewalk upon completion of the project. If necessary to accommodate the development, the sidewalk may be relocated closer to the street, subject to applicable requirements.

Council discussed public concerns raised through Facebook comments regarding water quality issues and the presence of debris throughout the community.

Roundtable

No update was given.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michael Mueller, Administrator/Clerk