

**Regular Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall
Monday, June 3, 2019
6:30 p.m.**

Members Present: Darla Kruser, Mike Nelson, David Savage, Andrew Ysker

Members Absent: Dana Kass

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

Others Present: Gloria McKissick, Doug Regehr, Betty Lou Ratzloff

Call to Order

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

Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda

Motion by Kruser, seconded by Ysker, to add 6.E – Resignation of Emily Mathiowetz, Police Officer, effective June 20, 2019 to the agenda. Motion carried. Motion by Savage, seconded by Kruser, to approve the agenda and consent agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Bills: Checks #22450 – 22490, 605E

Payroll: Checks #64614 – 64630

Approve April 15 EDA Board Minutes

Approve April 23 Police Commission Minutes

Approve May 10 Utilities Commission Minutes

Approve May 14 Special City Council Minutes

Approve May 21 City Council Minutes

Approve Street Closing Request – The Den

Hire Jay Schied, Seasonal Trail Maintenance, effective April 16, 2019

Hire Zach Spinks, Seasonal Street/Parks/Cemetery Worker, effective May 28, 2019

Hire Calvin Rempel, Seasonal Street/Parks/Cemetery Worker, effective May 28, 2019

Public

Gloria McKissick stated concerns regarding traffic speeds on 3rd Ave.

Street Department Report

Rick Oeltjenbruns, Street Superintendent, provided a list of tasks completed from the previous council meeting. Seasonal summer help recently started. Concerns of RVs on public streets and grass being mowed onto public streets were discussed by Oeltjenbruns. Direction was given to the administrator to write a letter to a property owner who recently mowed long grass onto the street and to have the Police Department investigate RVs on public streets. Wages for seasonal workers were discussed. The rate has recently been \$10/hour with a \$0.50 raise if the seasonal worker returns the next year. The trail position, wages, and the budget were discussed. Motion by Savage, seconded by Ysker, to raise the seasonal street/parks/cemetery worker wage from \$10.00/hour to \$11.00/hour. Motion carried.

1986 Chevy Fire Truck

The administrator spoke to the fire chief and stated that there were a few calls of interest but no official offers for the 1986 Chevy Fire Truck that has been advertised for sale. As discussed at the previous council meeting, the Street Department is interested in purchasing the fire truck from the Fire Department to convert it into a hauler. The approximate cost to refurbish the truck would be near \$12,000. The oldest two haulers were made in 1958 and 1962. Both trucks still run but only for limited use and once they are decommissioned, they will be brought to the salvage yard as they will not have any value. The council asked questions about costs, use, costs of a new hauler vs an old hauler, and the older trucks. The council agreed that buying used, especially knowing the miles and the history of the truck, makes sense for this piece of equipment. Motion by Ysker, seconded by Savage, to approve to purchase the 1986 Chevy Fire Truck for \$3,000 for the Street Department from the Fire Department and to refurbish the truck into a hauler. Motion carried.

City Attorney

City Attorney Suhrhoff requested a court date regarding the Hiebert greenhouse property and has not received an official date yet. The court requested to have a conference meeting amongst city officials and the property owner prior to a court date. Suhrhoff contacted Steve Sunde, the property owner's attorney, and Sunde has not been able to get in contact with the property owners. Sunde might withdraw representation if no communication is established. The court is waiting on a response from Sunde.

Suhrhoff submitted the mandatory court appearance violations (Ordinance #4-19) to the courts and is waiting on their approval. Various nuisances and properties were discussed.

Resolution #18-19 – Tax Forfeited Property

A letter and supporting documents from Jan Johnson were reviewed and discussed. 5 parcels within Mountain Lake city limits have been forfeited to the State of Minnesota for non-payment of property taxes. The resolution approves that the parcels be approved for public auction, to

waive the 60-day period and gives the city the authority to reassess special assessments on said parcels. Motion by Savage, seconded by Kruser, to approve Resolution #18-19. Motion carried.

Capital Improvement Planning Meeting

The administrator asked the council how and when they wanted to conduct the capital improvement planning meeting. 2018's meeting was in mid-July from 3PM-5PM with 15-minute increments to hear from each department head. A tentative date was scheduled for July 16th from 3PM-5PM but will be reviewed again at the next regular meeting.

Local Government Aid (LGA) & Small City Street Funding

The 2019 legislature approved to restore LGA back to its 2002 LGA level (its highest level) in its omnibus tax bill. Mountain Lake received \$888,853 in LGA in 2019. Mountain Lake is expected to receive \$911,528 in 2020, a \$22,685 increase. The legislature did not approve any new revenue for transportation in which there will be no additional funding for small-city streets. Mountain Lake has received around \$20,000 in small city street funding in the past but 2019 is the first year where no city street funds will be received and will continue to not receive funds for at least another year.

U.S. Representative Jim Hagedorn Town Hall Meeting

The office of U.S. Representative Jim Hagedorn will be hosting a townhall meeting at 2:00PM on June 14 at Mountain Lake City Hall.

Resignation

Emily Mathiowetz, Police Officer, submitted a resignation letter and this was presented to the council. Motion by Kruser, seconded by Ysker, to accept the resignation letter and to advertise to fill the Police Officer position immediately. Motion carried.

Adjourn

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

Approved June 19, 2019

ATTEST:

Michael Schulte, Administrator/Clerk