

**City of Mountain Lake
Regular City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall – 930 Third Ave
Monday, September 15, 2025
5:45 p.m.**

Members Present: Bryan Bergen, Jeff Jack, Darla Kruser, Andrew Ysker, Mike Nelson

Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Michael Mueller City Administrator

Others Present: Doug Regehr, Deanna Anderson

Call to Order

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

Approval of Agenda & Consent Agenda

Motion by Bergen, seconded by Kruser to approve the agenda and consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried 4 – 0.

Bills: Checks #29472-29495, 1514E-1528E (1-8)

Payroll: Checks #69018-69067

Approve August 11 Lake Commission Minutes (9-10)

Approve August 25 EDA Minutes (11-12)

Approve September 2 City Council Minutes

Approve Resolution #16-25 \$15,000 Fire Relief Donation

Public

No comment

Jeff Jack arrived at 5:50pm.

Variance Permit – Adam Sayles, 812 5th Ave

Bryan Bergen and the city administrator discussed the variance ordinance, variance permit application, notice of public hearing, draft findings of fact, and building permit information for the project. The property includes a residential house with an attached garage. Bergen Inc. would like to build an additional garage, next to the existing garage. The proposed garage is 16' by 38'. The variance would allow an increase in the limit of impervious surfaces in the lot area. The side setback requirements are met. The criteria required to allow a variance were reviewed. Planning & Zoning recommended the approval of the variance application permit, with the condition that no additional structures be allowed if they would increase the impervious surface limit of 44%.

Motion by Nelson, seconded by Jack to approve Resolution #13-25, the variance application permit, with the condition that no additional structures be allowed if they would increase the impervious surface limit of 44%. Motion carried 2 – 1. Ysker opposed. Barga & Darla abstained.

Land Offer

The City received an offer from Kenneth & Rebecca Kraemer to purchase PID 22.520.1432 for \$100.00. Motion by Ysker, seconded by Barga to sell PID 22.520.1432 for \$100.00 to Kenneth & Rebecca Kraemer. Motion carried 5 – 0.

2026 Budget

Motion by Kruser, seconded by Ysker to approve the 2026 Capital Improvement Plan. Motion carried 5 – 0.

The 2026 budget was reviewed. The City Council has set the 2026 preliminary levy at 7%, increase from last year, a total preliminary levy of \$1,145,808.73, which would cover the cost of the bond for a new fire and ambulance hall. Based on this increase, the estimated annual property tax impact would be:

- \$37.00 for a home valued at \$100,000
- \$69.00 for a home valued at \$150,000
- \$100.00 for a home valued at \$200,000
- \$132.00 for a home valued at \$250,000

The City Council will review the budget following the Truth in Taxation hearing on **December 1 at 5:45 p.m.** to determine whether the levy increase can be reduced. Once a preliminary levy is adopted, it cannot be increased, but it may be lowered when the final budget and levy are approved. Additional consideration will also be given to the possibility of phasing in the levy increase in two years for the new fire and ambulance hall.

Motion by Ysker, seconded by Kruser to approve Resolution #15-25. Motion carried 5 – 0.

City Administrator

The meeting was closed due to union negotiations, per MN Statute 13D.03.

Roundtable

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

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michael Mueller, Administrator/Clerk