

**Regular City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall
Monday, September 16, 2019
6:30 p.m.**

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

Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Michael Schulte, City Administrator/Clerk; Maryellen Suhrhoff, City Attorney; Doug Bristol, Police Chief

Others Present: Sue Garloff, Deanna Anderson, Observer/Advocate; Tom Appel, County Commissioner; Jennifer Klassen, Justin Klassen, Doug Regehr

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 Kass, seconded by Ysker, to add 2. E – Approve Tobacco License for Casey’s General Store, 2.F – Hire Dylan Oeltjenbruns, Fire Department, effective September 11, 2019, 2.G – Hire Daniel Oeltjenbruns, Fire Department, effective September 11, 2019 to the consent agenda and 9.A Closed Meeting to Discuss Land Negotiations to the agenda. Motion carried.
Motion by Savage, seconded by Kruser, to approve the agenda and consent agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Bills: Checks #22824 – 22864, 622E – 624E

Payroll: Checks #64819 – 64854

Approve July Library Board Minutes, July/August Library Report, & July/August Expenses

Approve September 3 City Council Minutes

Approve Tobacco License for Casey’s General Store

Hire Dylan Oeltjenbruns, Fire Department, effective September 11, 2019

Hire Daniel Oeltjenbruns, Fire Department, effective September 11, 2019

Public

Tom Appel, County Commissioner, wanted to provide the council the county’s setbacks for feedlots and earthen basins. Depending on the size of a feedlot, a setback from a residence can be from one-fourth of a mile to one mile and earthen basins are a one mile setback unless the property owners affected sign-off on the proposed project. Earthen basins are a one mile set

back. The feedlot and basin setbacks were established in 1995. The council thanked Appel for the information and clarification of the ordinances.

Police Department

Doug Bristol, Police Chief, provided an update to the council on the hiring process. A full-time officer will be hired contingent upon background, psychological, and other checks and tests. This will be brought forward to the council at a future meeting. John Beck, who applied for the seasonal/part-time position, was selected by the interview committee to fill this position. Bristol discussed Beck's experience and background. The last part-time/seasonal officer was paid around \$18/hour. With Beck's experience, Bristol is requesting to pay Beck \$20/hour. With Beck's experience, there will also be savings in training and equipment costs. Motion by Kruser, seconded by Ysker, to hire John Beck at \$20/hour effective September 16, 2019. Motion carried.

Rental Inspection Fees

Current rental inspection fees are set at \$10/building. Steve Carson, Building Inspector, recommended raising the rate to offset his and the city's administrative costs. Carson inspects rental units each year to ensure each unit is up to code and safe for residents to live in. Motion by Kruser, seconded by Savage, to raise the rental inspection fee to \$20 per building. Motion carried.

2020 Budget

Modifications from the last meeting were made. The EDA budget was adjusted to lower revenue taken from interest and management fees to offset the proposed full-time hours of the EDA Assistant to just under 30 hours. The interfund transfer and levy will remain the same. The levy is set at \$765,650, a 9% levy increase from 2019. The levy from last meeting was at 8.25%. The 0.75% increase was added in the miscellaneous line item to round it to 9%. The preliminary levy can be lowered in December but not raised. After the resolution is approved, the council must set a public meeting time to discuss the budget in December prior to setting the final levy for 2020. Motion by Kass, seconded by Kruser, to approve Resolution #25-19 – Adopting Proposed Preliminary Property Tax Levy. Motion carried.

2020 Budget Public Meeting

Motion by Savage, seconded by Ysker, to set the 2020 budget public meeting for 6:00 p.m. December 3, 2019 at the council chambers. Motion carried. The public meeting is set for 30 minutes prior to the regular council meeting. Comments regarding the levy or budget can be made prior to the meeting by calling 507-427-2999 ext.1, emailing mschulte@mountainlakemn.com, or mailing a letter to City of Mountain Lake, 930 3rd Ave, P.O. Box C, Mountain Lake, MN 56159.

City Attorney

There was a pre-trial regarding the greenhouses on September 11. The property owners did not have an attorney representing them. The trial date is set for September 25. The property owners of the greenhouses were also given a citation for the vehicles on the property. Various public nuisances and their statuses were discussed.

Closed Meeting to Discuss Land Negotiations

Motion by Savage, seconded by Kass, to close the public meeting and open the closed meeting at 7:19 p.m. Motion carried. Motion by Kruser, seconded by Ysker, to close the closed meeting and open the public meeting at 7:47 p.m. Motion carried. Direction was given to the city administrator and the city attorney to continue land negotiations.

Joint Resolution #26-19 – Orderly Annexation

The joint resolution of the City of Mountain Lake and the Township of Midway pertains to orderly annexation of unincorporated land for the development of new sewer ponds. The city attorney explained the resolution and its components. Motion by Savage, seconded by Kass, to approve Joint Resolution #26-19 – Orderly Annexation. Motion carried. The resolution will be given to Midway Township to review. Midway Township can approve or not approve the resolution. Both entities must approve the resolution to take effect. Councilmember Savage expressed that the city and the utility will still be working with Shirley Riihl, the neighboring property to the proposed ponds, on an agreeable and fair solution to her situation with her proximity to the ponds.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned 7:50 p.m.

Approved October 7, 2019

ATTEST:

Michael Schulte, Administrator/Clerk