

Regular City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall
Tuesday, September 2, 2025
5:45 p.m.
AGENDA

1. Meeting Called to Order *Additional information on agenda item is attached or at City Hall
2. Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda
 - a. Bills: Checks # 29422-29471, 1483E-1513E (1-14)
 - b. Payroll: Checks #69002-69017
 - c. Approve July 14 Lake Commission Minutes (15-16)
 - d. Approve July 21 EDA Minutes (17)
 - e. Approve July 24 Utilities Commission Minutes (18-19)
 - f. Approve August 12 City Council Minutes (20-22)
 - g. Approve August 14 Utilities Commission Minutes (23-24)
 - h. Approve August 27 Special City Council Minutes (25)
 - i. Accept Breanna Wagner Resignation, EMT
 - j. Approve hiring contingent on completion of criminal history check and driving records check, for
Temporary/Seasonal Part Time Police Officers:
Nick Naxay
Jordan Allen
Brandon Thongvivong
Jacob Samdal
Daniel Gardiner
3. Public – A total of ten (10) minutes is allotted for individuals to briefly discuss a topic of concern or provide comments to the Council.
4. Power Plant Bid Opening, 6PM
5. 2025 Budget
 - a. Discussion/Action – 2025 Budget Review (Sent in separate email)
6. City Administrator
 - a. Discussion/Action – Street Projects/Chip Seal (26-27)
 - b. Discussion/Action – Community Center Kitchen Surplus
 - c. Discussion/Action – Union Negotiations
7. Roundtable
 - a. Discussion/Action – Commissions/Boards Update
8. Adjourn

Lake Commission Meeting

Monday, July 14, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Randy Loewen, Chad Klassen, Dave Bucklin, Stan Bennett, Jean Haberman

Members Absent: Jon Beyer, Janell Borgen

Guests Present: Luke Ewald, Michael Mueller, Mike Nelson, Vern Peterson, Daron Friesen

Chair Loewen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. M/S/P Klassen/Bucklin to approve the agenda and minutes of the June 10, 2025 meeting.

Treasurer's Report (7/8/2025)

Weed Harvester Income/Expense:

Ending Balance: **\$31,643.90**

Trail Income/Expense:

Beginning Balance:	\$10,085.74
1 st Half 2025 Property Taxes	3,725.00
Trail Stencils (letters)	(27.77)
Trail Signs (Hampel's Blind Driveway)	(97.24)
Trail Signs (Slow by Curve)	<u>(57.70)</u>
Ending Balance:	13,628.03

M/S/P Bennett/Klassen to approve the Treasurer's Report

Lake Projects:

- **Harvesting:** Nathan Fast was trained and harvested a little. Since most of the remaining vegetation is native, it was decided to quit harvesting at this time.
- **Shoreline:** Dave and Janell have been cutting some of the shrubs and ash trees growing along the shoreline by the dam. Many thanks to Nickel Construction for their donation of time and materials putting rock along the shoreline.
- **Beach:** It was decided to look into building a floating raft for the beach. The City will build three benches to place around the fire pit.
- **Carp Fishing Contest:** Discussion about hosting a carp fishing contest to help control the abundance of carp in the lake.

Trail Projects:

- The current trail condition was discussed. Daron Friesen suggested filling the cracks with Mastic and then do chip sealing (a pavement preservation technique that involves applying a thin layer of asphalt emulsion followed by a layer of aggregate (chips.) After that, a fog seal would be applied. The City could complete this project if they have time in the fall.
- **Trail Safety:** The sign for a blind driveway and a caution sign by the curve have been installed. The lettering for the No. 1 scenic marker at the island needs to be painted on the trail.
- **MnDOT Active Transportation Planning Assistance Grant:** Luke Ewald updated the plans for a future bike/walk audit to look at possible trails, sidewalks in the community. There will be a community open house to get feedback as to what the residents want for improving infrastructure and to encourage active transportation in Mountain Lake.
- **Island Trail:** Janell has been trimming overgrown vegetation near the trail on the island. More work needs to be completed.
- **Wild Parsnip:** Janell and Jean have been chopping down and spraying wild parsnip. The DNR said that it was okay to use ROUND-UP for spraying individual plants and to concentrate on doing it in late fall.
- **Memorial Bench:** Vern Peterson expressed interest in donating a bench in memory of Jim Peterson. There will be further discussion at our next meeting.

Next meeting will be Monday, August 11, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Haberman, Secretary

Economic Development Authority
Monday, July 21, 2025
Mt. Lake City Hall
Council Chambers

PRESENT: Eileen Augustin, Phil Skow, Kyle Smith, Steve Syverson, Travis Smith and Darla Kruser (arrived at 12:33 p.m.). Clara Johnson and Vern Peterson, Advisors.

ABSENT: Mike Nelson

STAFF: Rod Hamilton and Tabitha Garloff

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: Michael Mueller

1. CALL TO ORDER. President Syverson called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.
2. Motion to Approve Consent Agenda
Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approval of June 23, 2025, Meeting Minutes.
 - b. Approval of Financial Reports and Bills. Motion made by Phil to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Kyle. Motion carried.
3. Public hearing for sale of Parcel 226100040 in Mountain Lake Industrial Park to Alliant Ventures X, LLC. Open public meeting at 12:02 p.m. No one present for public meeting. Closed public meeting at 12:03 p.m. Rod gave a brief overview of the sale of the parcel. Motion made by Phil to approve the sale of the property located in Mountain Lake Industrial Park, parcels 224210030 and 224210020 to Alliant Ventures X, LLC. Construction must commence on the property within (12) twelve months of the closing date. If construction has not begun within that time frame, ownership of the property shall revert to the Economic Development Authority (EDA) at no cost to the EDA, pursuant to the terms outlined in the purchase agreement. Seconded by Kyle. Motion carried.
4. Hotel Update. The closing date for the land will be Thursday and the county has approved the business subsidy Agreement. Rod stated plans continue to move forward.
5. Budget update. Rod stated that he will be working on the budget and said the EDA will be asking for an increase this year. The EDA has not asked for an increase in 3 years. Discussion continued on what funds can be increased or reallocated. Rod mentioned that we also have the income for the chamber director position to include in the budget.
6. Krienke Foods/Pop'd Kerns update. Krienke Food has been paying their lease payment ahead of the notices sent and that they are now employing 15 people.
7. GENERAL DISCUSSION:
 - a. Next Regular Board Meeting is August 18, 2025
 - b. Other Business. Rod stated that he was contacted by a local person that would like to start a recycling center/business. Rod will be working with him on a location.
8. ADJOURN. President Syverson adjourned the meeting at 12:44 p.m.

**Mountain Lake Utilities Commission Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall
Thursday, July 24, 2025
7 AM**

Members Present: Todd Johnson; Mark Langland; Sue Garloff; Dean Janzen

Members Absent: City Council Liaison Jeff Jack; David Savage

Staff Present: Michael Mueller; City Administrator; Jill Falk; Utility Office Manager;
Lane Anderson; Lineman; Steve Peters; Lineman; Taylor Nesmoe;
Water/Wastewater Superintendent; Scott Pankratz; Water/Wastewater

Others Present:

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7 AM.

Approval of Minutes and Bills

Motion by Garloff, seconded by Janzen to approve the July 10th Minutes and Check Numbers 24326-24344 (711E-722E). Motion carried.

Electric Department

Anderson said that they are still working on the underground project on Boxelder Street, but the outages this week have been taking up most of their time. The outages were originally caused by an underground LBC wire that burnt out. Without that line, power needed to be fed to multiple other lines. The extreme heat and humidity, along with the extra current, caused other lines to overheat and burn out as well. As of now, everything is back up and running and will hopefully hold. The main LBC wire will still need to be repaired.

Water/Wastewater

A Gas Line was hit near Heritage Village. The lines were marked; however, the flags were removed for mowing. Assistance from both Nickel Construction and Leak Detectors was requested. Once those bills are received, they will be sent out to Heritage for payment. Nesmoe stated that the RO was down temporarily while waiting for a replacement part. The part has been replaced, and the RO should be working properly again. Janzen mentioned that a utility hole on Twelfth Street was starting to sink in. Nesmoe said that he will swing by and check it out to see what needs to be repaired.

City Administrator

Bills for the new power plant are officially being accepted. The bidding process will close on August 27th. Both WEB Construction and Tri-State are expected to enter new bids, and Wilcon should submit their bid as well.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 a.m.

ATTEST:

Jill Falk, Utilities Office Manager

**Special City Council Meeting – Capital Improvement Planning
Mountain Lake City Hall
Tuesday, August 12, 2025
3:45 p.m.**

Members Present: Bryan Bargen, Jeff Jack, Andrew Ysker, Mike Nelson

Members Absent: Darla Kruser

City Staff Present: Michael Mueller, Administrator/Clerk; Dave Watkins Electric Superintendent; Rod Hamilton, EDA Director; Taylor Nesmoe Water-Wastewater Foreman; Daron Friesen, Street Superintendent; Daniel Mick, Library Director; Louis Norell, Police Chief

Others Present: None

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nelson at 3:45 p.m.

Capital Improvement Plan Presentations

Each department head was given 15 minutes to discuss future capital purchases or projects and the approximate year in which they ideally will occur. Handouts for each department were given to the council to review. Department budgets, past projects and purchases, and the upcoming budget were discussed.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michael Mueller, Administrator/Clerk

**City of Mountain Lake
Regular City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall – 930 Third Ave
Tuesday, August 12, 2025
5:45 p.m.**

Members Present: Bryan Bargen, Jeff Jack, Andrew Ysker, Mike Nelson

Members Absent: Darla Kruser

City Staff Present: Michael Mueller City Administrator; Louis Norell Police Chief; Ben McHenry Police Officer

Others Present: Doug Regehr, Rachel Yoder, Deanna Anderson

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nelson at 5:55 p.m.

Approval of Agenda & Consent Agenda

Motion by Bargen, seconded by Jack to approve the agenda and consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried 4 – 0.

Bills: Checks # 29393-29421, 1462E-1482E
Payroll: Checks # 68945-69001
Approve July 10 Utilities Commission Minutes
Approve July 21 City Council Minutes
Approve July 28 Special City Council Minutes
Approve July Street Department Report
Accept Samantha Spiker Resignation, Ambulance

Public

Rachel Yoder spoke during the public comment section of the meeting.

Spec Building

Still awaiting a response from Robert Machacek regarding the costs of constructing a new spec building in Mountain Lake. Item was tabled.

City Administrator

The City Council agreed that each individual involved in the Tax Abatement Bonds will guarantee a portion of the loan proportional to their ownership interest in the LLC.

2026 Budget

The 2026 budget was reviewed. No action was taken.

Roundtable

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

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michael Mueller, Administrator/Clerk

**Mountain Lake Utilities Commission Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall
Thursday, August 14, 2025
7 AM**

Members Present: Todd Johnson; Mark Langland; Sue Garloff; Dean Janzen; David Savage

Members Absent: City Council Liaison Jeff Jack

Staff Present: Michael Mueller; City Administrator; Jill Falk; Utility Office Manager; Dave Watkins; Electric Superintendent; Steve Peters; Lineman; Taylor Nesmoe; Water/Wastewater Superintendent; Scott Pankratz; Water/Wastewater

Others Present:

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7 AM.

Approval of Minutes and Bills

Motion by Garloff, seconded by Janzen to approve the July 24th Minutes and Check Numbers 24345 - 24375 (723E-742E). Motion carried.

Electric Department

Watkins advised that the Boxelder underground project is almost completed. Two more houses need to be connected, and then the clean-up will begin. Previously, the discussion came up about the Highway 60 signs and their electricity usage. The utilities has always covered the costs for power, however, recently several bulbs were replaced on the Heritage sign. With the new welcome sign, owned by the EDA, **Garloff made a motion that the utilities will continue to provide power; however, maintenance will begin to be managed by the appropriate owner.** Falk will create a letter to send to Heritage Village, the EDA, and the Chamber. The motion was seconded by Langland, and the motion passed.

Water/Wastewater

The power outage created a power surge at Well #7, which affected the VFD. This, in turn, damaged the motor for the pump. Nesmoe is working with Automatics Solutions and Thein Well. Once the repairs are completed, an insurance claim should be filed to regain some of the costs. Additionally, the pump at the Castle Drive list station is malfunctioning. Since the pump is 30 years old, replacement parts are difficult to find. The upgrade will cost around \$30,000; however, they have agreed to defer payments until January 1, 2026. Nesmoe did not have the estimated lift station budget available but knew this would burn through the yearly amount predicted. **A motion was made by Janzen and then seconded by Garloff, to purchase the upgraded pump and defer payments to 2026.** The motion passed. Also, Bolton and Menk contacted Nesmoe to continue the Leak Service inspection from last year. There are approximately eighty residents who did not return the forms. They have requested updated mailing addresses and will begin sending out letters and then making door-to-door contact. For those who have lead, the Department of Health will cover the costs to replace.

City Administrator

The power plant project is moving forward. There has been more interest and inquiries with bids this time around. Unfortunately, Wilcon Construction will not submit a bid as their bank liability cannot exceed \$7 million. However, Mueller is hoping for five bids to come through before the closing date of August 27th.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 a.m.

ATTEST:

Jill Falk, Utilities Office Manager

**City of Mountain Lake
Special City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall – 930 Third Ave
Wednesday, August 27, 2025
5:45 p.m.**

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

Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Michael Mueller City Administrator; Louis Norell Police Chief

Others Present: Jason Kruser, Kris Thompson

Call to Order

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

The 2025 Budget was reviewed. Item was tabled; no action was taken.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michael Mueller, Administrator/Clerk

2026 Chip Seal

- 1 - Mithale RD - ct 1 to 10th
- 2 - Boxelder - ct 1 to 15th ST
- 3 - 15th ST - 6th Ave to 2nd Ave
- 4 - 4th Ave 15th ST to 10th ST N
- 5 - 6th ST 3rd Ave to 4th Ave

6 - 7th Ave 2 Blocks, 15th to 11th



2027

Chop Seal

- Midway Rd 10th to 11th
- Estate Dr
- Prince St
- Lake Dale
- 2nd Ave
- 12th St N

