

**Regular Council Meeting  
Mountain Lake City Hall  
Monday, June 25, 2018  
6:30 p.m.**

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

Members Absent: Andrew Ysker

City Staff Present: Michael Schulte, Administrator/Clerk; Maryellen Suhrhoff, City Attorney, Ron Melson, Electric Superintendent; David Watkins, Water/Wastewater Superintendent

Others Present: Sara Beavers, Dennis E. Oberloh, Ltd., Doug Regehr, Jay Schied, David Kass, Dainitri Pederson

**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 Savage, seconded by Kass, to pull items I-K from Consent Agenda to Personnel under City Administrator, add resignation of Dennis Hulzebos, Maintenance of Community Center and Appoint Dean Janzen to Utilities Commission under Personnel under City Administrator Report, add Resolution #16-18 to the agenda, and strike Street Update. Motion Carried. Motion by Kass, seconded by Kruser to adopt the agenda as amended and approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

- a. Bills: Check #21250-21332, 546E-551E \*(1-9)
- b. Approval of Payroll Checks #63916-63968
- c. Approval of April 30 Planning & Zoning Minutes
- d. Approval of May 11 Economic Development Agency Minutes
- e. Approval of May 24 Utilities Commission Minutes
- f. Approval of June 4 City Council Minutes
- g. Approval of June 11 Lake Commission Minutes
- h. Approval 2018 City Wide Cleanup Statistics
- i. Hire Vincent Voelker, Seasonal Lake Weed Harvester as of June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Public**

Jay Schied had questions about the Pow Wow races and the city's role. Kruser had a question about the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave manhole. Direction was given to the city administrator to contact Andy Kehren, city engineer about the manhole and the trail and culverts in Lawcon Park.

### **Electric Department Personnel**

Ron Melson, Electric Superintendent, spoke to the council about the vacant electric lineman position. Melson stated it takes 3-4 months to fill the position because of the advertising and interviewing process. The 2-week internal posting was waived. Due to recent events, increased work load, and not having a second man during the summer for the second summer in the row, Melson recommended hiring two electric linemen. A handout of other city's utilities personnel was given to the council. Journeyman programs, wages, benefits, training, the step plan, the union, and ideal candidate qualifications were discussed. Motion by Savage, seconded by Kass, to approve the resignation of Tristian Varpness and give the Utilities Commission the latitude to hire up to two linemen. Motion carried.

### **Public Hearing for Variance for Parcel 22.413.0480**

Motion by Kruser, seconded by Kass to open the Public Hearing at 7:03p.m. Motion carried. The variance application and the project were discussed among the council. Because of the current garage on the property already and the hardship and costs of building in its current location, the Planning & Zoning Commission took the necessary steps to review the application, maps, and descriptions. The ordinances not allowing an accessory use prior to a dwelling unit were discussed. The Planning & Zoning Commission voted on June 11<sup>th</sup> to recommend approving the variance from accessory structure standards. No public comments were made. Motion by Kass, seconded by Kruser to close the Public Hearing at 7:08p.m. Motion carried.

### **Resolution #14-18 to Approve a Variance from Accessory Structure Standards**

Motion by Kruser, seconded by Kass, to approve Resolution #14-18. Motion carried.

### **2017 Audit Presentation**

Sara Beavers from Dennis E. Oberloh, Ltd. presented the 2017 audit for the city and utilities of Mountain Lake. Various figures were explained and questions were asked. Motion by Kruser, seconded by Savage to approve the 2017 audit as presented. Motion carried.

### **Castle Drive Concerns**

Kass and members of the public shared their concerns and issues of recent rain and flooding causing standing water issues near and around Castle Drive. A packet of images was presented. Tiling, culverts, surrounding farm land, basements, and water flow were discussed. Direction was given to the city administrator to contact Andy Kehren, City Engineer, to investigate the issues and meet with Castle Drive citizens to learn more. Kass will email images to Kehren.

### **Tax Abatement Agreement**

An updated tax abatement agreement between the city of Mountain Lake and Casey's Retail Company was presented. Motion by Savage, seconded by Kass, to approve the tax abatement agreement contingent upon the real estate transaction closing as agreed upon.

### **Resolution #15-18 Approving Property Tax Abatements**

Motion by Kass, seconded by Kruser, to approve Resolution #15-18 contingent upon the real estate transaction closing as agreed upon.

### **Second Reading of Ordinance No. \_\_-18**

A second reading of Ordinance No. \_\_-18 took place.

### **City Attorney Report**

A letter was sent to a citizen of not using the fire hall for business purposes. No additional communication has taken place.

### **Mountain Lake Public Library**

Motion by Kass, seconded by Kruser, to accept the resignation of Candace James, part-time librarian, and advertise to fill the position.

### **Utilities Commission**

Motion by Savage, seconded by Kass, to accept the resignation of Michael Johnson and appoint Dean Janzen to the Utilities Commission. Motion carried.

### **Community Center**

The vacant maintenance position and the kitchen were discussed. Direction was given to seek the job duties of the maintenance position, figure out how the bids of the floor were directed. The furnace room and the inner rehab were also discussed. Nelson reached out to Curt Fast and asked for a bid to take out the furnace and rehab the room around it. Motion by Kruser, seconded by Savage, to spend up to \$1200 to take out the furnace, rehab the space, buy materials from co-op to be billed to the city and be done by July 31<sup>st</sup>. Motion carried.

### **Resolution #16-18**

Motion by Kruser, seconded by Kass, to approve Resolution #16-18. Motion carried.

### **Meetings**

An update was given on the conditional use permit public hearing. Due to conflicting schedules and future lack of a quorum it was agreed upon to delay the Capital Improvement Plan meeting to a date to be determined in July and then move the city council meetings dates to July 2<sup>nd</sup> and July 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

**Approved July 2, 2018**

ATTEST:

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Michael Schulte, Clerk/Administrator