

**Regular City Council Meeting
Mountain Lake City Hall
Monday, July 6, 2020
6:30 p.m.**

Members Present: Mike Nelson, Darla Kruser, Andrew Ysker

Members Absent: Dana Kass, David Savage

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

Others Present: Rachel Yoder, Doug Regehr, Gloria McKissick, John Hall, Troy Hinrichs

Call to Order

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

Approval of Agenda & Consent Agenda

Motion by Kruser, seconded by Ysker, to add 2.H – Hire Ashley Jensen, EMT, effective July 6, 2020 to the consent agenda, to add 6.B First Reading - Ordinance 5-20 Amending Section 8.01 of City Code to the agenda, and to add 7.G Update – Coronavirus Relief Funds to the agenda.

Motion carried 3 – 0. Motion by Ysker, seconded by Kruser, to approve the agenda and consent agenda as amended. Motion carried 3 – 0.

Bills: Checks #23771 void, 23772 – 23842, 675E – 678E

Payroll: Checks #65387 – 65431

Approve March 12 Library Board Minutes, & March, April, and May Reports & Expenditures

Approve May 18 EDA Board Minutes

Approve June 11 Utilities Commission Minutes

Approve June 15 City Council Minutes

Approve to Submit Application for to Odell Wind Farm Community Fund on behalf of Mountain Lake Chamber for \$1,500

Approve to Hire Ashley Jensen, EMT, effective July 6, 2020

Public

Rachel Yoder expressed concerns and suggestions regarding the beach, road safety near the lake, the dam, and wild parsnip. Mayor Nelson stated some of the items will be discussed at the next Lake Commission meeting. Gloria McKissick expressed concerns regarding her neighbor.

Various items will be reviewed by the city administrator and police chief.

Street Department Report

A report was presented by the street superintendent. Mowing, weed whipping, spraying wild parsnip, and placing gravel for the commercial park turnaround were some of the items completed. The weed harvester operator has been actively removing weeds from the lake over the weekends. Street repairs were discussed. At the first June council meeting, it was not known whether the commercial park turnaround and signs could be used out of the commercial park infrastructure funds or if it would need to come from the street budget. It has been confirmed that the funds can be used out of the commercial park fund. The department also used some crushed rock that was leftover from PCI in Jerry Haberman's lot that was used as a base that saved on costs. Just over \$10,000 has been used to-date on street repairs and materials with about an expected bill of \$6,000 for gravel to be used around the city. If one of the alleyways was redone it would cost \$15,700. The alleyway next to city hall between 2nd and 3rd Avenue would be over \$30,000. The department plans to do more crack sealing and infrared thermal bond patching this year. After further discussion it was decided to not do any alleyways this year and if the line items come under budget this year to use those funds put into savings to pay for the city hall alleyway next year.

Pay Request #2 – Mathiowetz Construction and Wastewater Ponds Project

A memo was submitted by John Graupman from Bolton & Menk providing an update on the wastewater ponds. According to Graupman, Mathiowetz Construction has made good progress in the last month with good weather conditions. Drain tile is completed, forcemain piping is completed and significant pond shaping has occurred. In addition, the river crossing to replace corrugated metal pipe laying exposed on the river floor with a deep HDPE pipe was also completed via trenchless construction methods. Progress has held to the original schedule and the contractor is considering trying to complete the pond liners yet this year (rather than next spring) if weather conditions hold. The control building construction will start in early July also. Construction completed to date: Perimeter drain tile, forcemains, control structure placement, river crossing directional drill, and pond shaping. Planned construction for next month: Continue pond shaping, begin building construction, set additional control structures, and manholes. A second payment request was submitted by Mathiowetz Construction and recommended by Graupman to approve after his review. Motion by Ysker, seconded by Kruser, to approve Pay Request #2 of \$972,752.39 to Mathiowetz Construction. Motion carried.

City Attorney

A decision by the court of appeals has not been determined yet regarding the Hiebert Greenhouses. Three court dates for public nuisances are scheduled for August 12. Property owners were invited to attend the next meeting to discuss their properties before the court date.

Ordinance #5-20 Amending Section 8.01

The city attorney presented and explained the ordinance. The ordinance eliminated the definition of “abandoned vehicle” as it is detailed later in the section and adds more language under the definition of “inoperable” and “junk vehicle.” The city attorney is requesting that the third reading be waived at the next meeting to have the ordinance passed at the next meeting.

Street Closing Request – Center Point Church

A request was submitted by David Savage to close 2nd Avenue from 8th Street to 10th Street on Sunday, July 26th from 8:00am to 2:00pm. On that Sunday, Center Point Church would like to host Church Under The Big Top: Bike Blessing Edition. This church service would encourage people to attend with their motorcycle (or bicycle) and we would bless the bikes (and biker) at the end of the service. Following the service, they would like to offer three separate dining options including The Den, Angela’s Eggroll Food Truck, and the Caribbean Kitchen Food Truck. The Den would follow all its COVID-19 protocols. The Food Trucks would be spaced nearly a block apart and offer their usual curbside options. They would also like to provide some (social distanced) picnic tables near each dining option. All three food vendors are supportive of this plan. While they do not anticipate exceeding the 250 person limit currently in place, they would limit the number of people outside of their vehicles to 250 and require remaining attendees of the worship service to remain in their vehicle and listen on the radio. An RSVP to the event will be encouraged to properly manage the crowd size. Motion by Kruser, seconded by Andy, to close 2nd Avenue as stated in the request. Motion carried.

COVID-19 Continuity of Operations Plan

No updates or edits were made to the plan.

2nd Quarter Revenues & Expenses

Revenues and expenses to-date were reviewed.

Capital Improvement Plan Meeting

The Capital Improvement Plan meeting was confirmed to be from 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 23rd.

2020 Election Filing

The filing period for the 2020 election is from July 28th to August 11th at 5:00 p.m. Councilmember Kruser and Savage along with Mayor Nelson’s seat are up for election this year. The cost to file is \$2 along with filling out and submitting an affidavit of candidacy form.

League of Minnesota Cities Dues

The League Board decided to freeze its dues for the 2020-2021 year. A letter from the League was reviewed.

Coronavirus Relief Funds – CARES Act

The city of Mountain Lake received \$158,817 through the state of Minnesota originated from the CARES Act. The funds are designated to pay for expenses incurred for items not budgeted for caused by the coronavirus pandemic. The Department of Treasury, the League of Minnesota Cities, and the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities will continue to provide updates to better guide how funds can be properly used to follow federal law and guidelines. A meeting has been scheduled by Paul Johnson to meet with officials in the county to discuss and learn more about the funds on July 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Approved July 20, 2020

ATTEST:

Michael Schulte, Administrator/Clerk