REGULAR SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 9, 2024

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Regular Session July 9, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Government Center in Austin, Minnesota.

All members present, viz: Chair John Mueller, Vice-Chair Polly Glynn, Mike Ankeny, Dan Sparks and Jerry Reinartz. Also in attendance were County Attorney Kristen Nelsen and County Administrator Trish Harren Gjersvik.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve the agenda adding 1) approve Late claim for payment for employee #1599; and 2) approve temporary road closure for Rose Creek event on July 13. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

1. Approve Minutes of June 25, July 2 work session
2. Approve Fireworks Permit for Richard Groth on August 16, 2024 (Rain date of August 17, 2024).
3. Approve the following list of surplus property for disposal and/or auction:

Quantity	Item	Department
1	Checkgate metal detector Model PC9000 Serial #90210202	Sheriff
1	2007 Caterpillar ET4000 Forklift ETB1451331	Recycling
1	Forklift battery M#18-85DL-21 S# 69522-005	Recycling
1	Forklift charger S# 01A1185S	Recycling
1	2007 Caterpillar ET4000 Forklift ETB1451539	Recycling
1	Forklift battery M#18-85DL-21 S# 0104533	Recycling
1	Forklift charger S# 02BO704S	Recycling

4. Approve Memorandum of Understanding with UAW
5. Late Claim for payment for employee #1599 ($20.00)
6. Approve request of Rose Creek to temporarily close Main Street (County Road 104) on July 13 for a car show

Motion carried.

County Auditor-Treasurer Scott Felten provided a department update that included the information pertaining to the general election timeline of activities; the status of the MN Tax Forfeiture new legislation; the status of tax payment receipts noting that courtesy letters for delinquent tax payments have been sent; and status of department staffing changes and impending changes.

The Board recessed at 9:34 a.m. for the purpose of the Health & Human Services Board.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD:

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the Health & Human Services accounts payable totaling $141,075.14. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the Site Agreement with Americorps Reading & Math, Inc. d/b/a AMPACT for the 2024-2025 program year ending on July 31, 2025 for a person to focus on Opioid matters. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Sparks, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to approve the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant Agreement for July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2029 with the Minnesota Department of Health in the amount of $41,629 for budget period number one ending on 6/30/25. Motion carried.

Public Health Supervisor Sally Garry provided an update on the pilot project Wellness on Wheels mobile clinic in collaboration with the Hormel Institute. The first wellness event was held in Grand Meadow at the school. For future events additional outreach notification options will be tried and the committee hopes to have a trailer.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the Purchase of Service Agreements (renewals) effective 7/1/24 – 6/30/25 for the following:

Housing Support	Transportation
Cedars of Austin	Grand Meadow Public School District
Sargeant, Stephanie & Stacy	Lyle Public School District
	Southland Public School District

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to adjourn the Health & Human Services Board meeting at 9:55 a.m. Motion carried.

COUNTY BOARD

The Regular Session of the Board was reconvened at 9:55 a.m. for regular business items.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve the following Commissioner warrants for payment:

Vendor Name	Amount	Vendor Name	Amount
Access Wireless Data Solutions, LLC	8,966.37	Freeborn County Co-Operative Oil Co.	12,158.95
Advanced Correctional Healthcare, Inc	79,070.84	Gallagher Benefit Services Inc	4,000.00
Alex Pro Firearms, LLC	2,550.00	Harbaugh Septic LLC	13,540.00
AMI Imaging Systems Inc	4,569.00	Lano Equipment Inc	64,706.04
Ancom Communications	11,340.00	Mineral Service Plus, LLC	6,412.50
Atlas Toyota Material Handling, LLC	41,370.34	Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative	8,529.30
Austin Automotive LLC	3,659.28	Motorola Solutions Inc	10,200.00
Austin Automotive LLC	56,884.68	Oldcastle Infrastructure	12,151.40
Austin Community Charitable Fund	9,615.00	Paulson Rock Products	250,111.52
CivicPlus, LLC	3,495.00	Petroblend Corp.	3,720.39
CliftonLarsonAllen LLP	60,900.00	Ratwik,Roszak & Maloney, P.A.	4,202.00
Commissioner of Transportation	13,265.68	Regents Of The University Of Minnesota	46,243.40
Consolidated Correctional Foodservice	19,436.10	Sun Control of Minnesota, Inc.	8,090.14

Dave Lucas Consulting	3,815.00	Tiny's Body Shop		4,113.49
DDA Human Resources, Inc.	12,963.00	Vertiv Corporation		4,259.00
Dell Marketing L P	11,488.50	Ziegler, Inc		3,808.70
Emergency Automotive Technologies, Inc	5,437.81	78 Payments less than 2000		35,356.98
Fox Electric Company	5,793.34		**Final Total:**	**846,223.75**

Motion carried.

The Board recessed at 10:01 a.m. for the purpose of a public hearing.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 10:01 a.m. regarding a Housing Tax Abatement application of Bigelow & Lennon Construction for a single-family home located at Lot 5, Block 1 Nature Ridge 3rd, Austin, MN (PIN 34.468.0050).

County Administrator Trish Harren Gjersvik reviewed the application and recommended approval.

The Applicant was not present. No one spoke for or against the Bigelow & Lennon housing tax abatement application.

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 10:02 a.m. regarding the Bigelow & Lennon Housing Tax Abatement application.

The County Board reconvened its regular session at 10:02 a.m.

Date: July 9, 2024 **Res. #64-24**

RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY PURSUANT TO MINN. STAT. 469.1813

On motion of Commissioner Sparks, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held July 9, 2024 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 469.1813 gives authority to the County of Mower to grant an abatement of property taxes imposed by the County if certain criteria are met; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the statutory requirements, Mower County has adopted the Tax Abatement Policy for new construction of Single and Multi-family homes which includes criteria which must be met before an abatement of taxes will be granted; and

WHEREAS, Nature Ridge Properties of Austin Co. (Seller) is the owner of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

Lot 5, Block 1, Nature Ridge Third, Austin, MN (34.468.0050)

WHEREAS, Bigelow & Lennon Construction (Buyer) has made application to Mower County for the abatement of taxes as to the above-described parcel; and

WHEREAS, Notice having been duly given, a public hearing was held on July 9, 2024 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Nature Ridge Properties of Austin Co. (Seller) and Bigelow & Lennon Construction (Buyer) have met the statutory requirements outlined under Minnesota Statute 469.1813 Subdivision 1(1) and Subdivision 2(i) as well as Mower County's criteria for tax abatement;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA:

1. Mower County does, hereby grant an abatement of Mower County's share of real estate taxes upon the above-described parcel for the construction of the single-family home.
2. The tax abatement will be for no more than five years commencing, in the tax year the property realizes a value increase over original value due to construction of the housing project. Partially constructed housing may result in an abatement in the first abatement year that may be significantly less than the following years. This will still be considered one of the five years of eligible abatement. In the event construction has not commenced within one year of approval, the abatement is eliminated and the property owner will need to reapply in accordance with this policy.
3. The County shall provide the awarded abatement payment following payment of due real estate taxes annually. One single payment shall be made to the owner of record at the time of the payment, by December 30th of that calendar year.
4. The real estate taxes to be abated shall be for up to the full amount of the real estate taxes collected due to the added tax base of the newly constructed housing/home annually. The current value of the property is not eligible for the abatement, will not be abated as part of this program and is further defined as the "original value." Any eligible abatement years are calculated on the tax increase due to a value increase over the original value.

Passed and approved this 9th day of July, 2024.

Under Committee Reports Commissioner Mueller reported that the 4th of July activities were successful around the periods of rain and the Fair Board is gearing up for the fair and is addressing security and surveillance. County Administrator Trish Harren Gjersvik noted that former sheriff Terese Amazi was recognized as a pillar of community at the 4th of July event.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:09 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY: Jerry E. Mueller
Chairperson

Attest:
By: Trish Gjersvik
Clerk/Administrator