

**Minutes  
Avon City Council  
July 7, 2025**

**THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT**

Jeff Manthe – Mayor, Mark Schulzetenberge, Sarah Grutsch, Aaron Goebel, Katie Reiling - City Council  
Jodi Austing-Traut, City Clerk-Administrator

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the meeting was opened at 6:30 pm.

**Fire Chief Chuck Swenson presentation of Commendation Award to Bryan Becker.**

According to Chief Swenson, on Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup> the fire department was paged out to a garage fire in Avon. It was found that Bryan Becker, in his way back in to town, saw smoke and noticed a fire at the twin homes on 1<sup>st</sup> Street SE. Becker called out to a neighboring property owner to call 911 and subsequently ran toward the fire and alerted the home owner of one of the twin homes to the fire and checked the other twin home for occupants and found none. Chief Swenson presented a commendation award to Bryan Becker for this incredible act of bravery.

**Public Forum**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Council Minutes of June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025
2. Receive Fire Department Minutes of May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025
3. Paid Check Register, Capital Expenditures, Payroll Deposits, Quarterly Reports (email only)
4. Legal Fees, Engineering Fees, Auditor/Acct. Fees
5. Authorize Asbestos Abatement M.A.A.C \$9,800.00
6. Resolution 2025-30 Accepting Donation
7. Resolution 2025-31 Authorizing Fund Transfers
8. Resolution 2025-32 Accepting Donation
9. Stearns County Attorney Contract for Prosecutorial Legal Services
10. W. Gohman FINAL Pay App 14M \$35,975 (material) and Pay App 16L \$30,326 (labor) Fire Hall

***Motion Goebel to approve consent agenda as presented***

***Second Reiling***

***Passed Unanimously***

**COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**Ken Pflipsen of 506 Suncrest Drive** was present to request a credit for a shut off valve that was sticking up that he had hit when backing up. City staff charged for parts only but did not charge for the labor to cut the shut off valve off. Although corrected by the city, this was not the fault of the city as the shut off valve should have been lowered by the contractor who originally built the home. Council consensus to leave the charge as it stands.

**Nick Jungles of 200 Casa Ave** presented a number of ideas to address his neighborhood's concerns with traffic and pedestrian safety in Avon Estates. The top three ideas include: 1) Installation of stop signs 2) Installation of speed bumps/humps in key areas and 3) Reduction in speed limit in certain sections. Unique features to this particular area of Avon Estates include the assisted living on the north end and the multi-family living facility on the south end as well as the width of the roadway being nearly double that of most other residential streets in Avon. Council discussed a number of alternatives and placement of traffic controls. Consensus to place stop signs at Casa Ave/Winden Way and another one at Woolgrass Way/Winden Way. Council directed Chuck Pelkey, Public Works Foreman, to investigate the best style of speed bumps to consider for placement near the park(s).

***Motion Reiling to authorize placement of three way stop signs at Casa Ave/Winden Way and four way stop signs at Woolgrass Way/Winden Way***

***Second Goebel***

***Passed Unanimously***

Jeremy Mathiasen, Stantec - Engineering update and request approval of invoices. Mathiasen stated that Phase 1 is nearing completion of the utility line installation. Phase II has begun. Mathiasen requested approval of the following:

- 1) RL Larson Pay App #1 \$541,619.27
- 2) Stantec 1<sup>st</sup> St SE Engineering \$70,435.06
- 3) Stantec 2025 Stormwater Engineering \$32,533.30
- 4) Independent Testing Technologies \$1,625

***Motion Schulzetenberge to approve invoice for RL Larson Pay App #1 \$541,619.27***

***Second Grutsch***

***Passed Unanimously***

***Motion Manthe to approve invoices to Stantec for 1<sup>st</sup> Street Project Engineering \$70,435.06 and for 2025 Stormwater Engineering \$32,533.30***

***Second Reiling***

***Passed Unanimously***

***Motion Reiling to approve invoice to Independent Testing Technologies for \$1,625 for soil borings for Stormwater Project***

***Second Schulzetenberge***

***Passed Unanimously***

## **ISSUES BY STAFF**

### **Administration**

Austing-Traut presented a report from the City Building Inspector recommending the city council take action to condemn the townhome properties at 254 and 256 1<sup>st</sup> Street SE in Avon. Photos of damage were presented.

***Motion Goebel to authorize condemnation of both 254 and 256 1<sup>st</sup> Street SE in Avon***

***Second Reiling***

***Passed Unanimously***

### **Public Works**

Kurtz and Pelkey presented their written report. Pelkey gave an update on Greta Shofner's requested Eagle Scout Project.

***Motion Manthe to approve the Eagle Scout Project proposed by Greta Shofner with the caveat that any wording to be placed on any related plaque or placard be approved in advance by City Clerk/Administrator***

***Second Grutsch***

***Passed Unanimously***

Pelkey presented quotes on a JD Mower trade in option. On a 60" deck, after trade in the cost would be \$5,977.47. To move to a wider 72" deck upgraded model, the after trade in cost would be \$7,771.47. Council consensus to keep what we have now, and look at this again in a year or two. In the mean time it would make sense to demo a few different models, including a 6' mower deck style, to determine what would be the best option for the city going forward.

Kurtz requested authorization for a quote from Veolia for the north sand filter repair. Kurtz obtained another quote but they had a vastly different approach and gave a ballpark price of around \$200,000 to complete the repair. There are very few companies that do this type of specialized work. Kurtz will attempt to get another quote for the August meeting.

Lift Station #3 is having issues with the pump. WW Goetsch and Freeport Electric have been troubleshooting.

### **Police Department**

Chief Nellis presented his written report and stated that there is an intern working with the police department who will be looking at public nuisances and making contact with property owners. Chief Nellis requested overtime pay for Officer Klocker for having worked excessive hours due to a complex case involving five search warrants. These hours ended up crossing over into his days off. Klocker is currently 45 hours over his regularly scheduled hours. Generally, staff takes

time off for extra hours worked, but in this case it would be a significant burden for the police department to try to cover that many additional hours.

*Motion Manthe to authorize 26.5 hours of overtime pay for Officer Chad Klocker for extra days worked for this situation*

*Second Goebel*

*Passed Unanimously*

#### **ISSUES BY COUNCIL**

*Adjourned at 8:55 pm.*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jodi Austing-Traut - City Clerk/Administrator