

**Minutes
Avon City Council
October 6, 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.

Public Hearing on Delinquent Refuse Bills

Austing-Traut presented the assessment rolls provided by West Central Sanitation for delinquent utility bills per the contract.

Motion Reiling to close the public hearing

Second Grutsch

Motion Passed Unanimously

Open Forum

Greta Shofner was present to explain that her Eagle Scout project has been completed with the installation of a bench and concrete pad in Wobegon Park. Miss Shofner presented a draft plaque and per council's direction, will make sure the plaque specifically states "This bench...." is part of her scout project and will send a proof to Austing-Traut prior to ordering it.

Mary Sieben was present to inquire about the request for digital crosswalk signs. Mayor Manthe explained that a decision has not yet been made, but at this time they will not be installed as the stop signs were so recently placed.

Scott and Brenda Salzmänn were present to ask about tarring on the alley to the east of main street. The residents in the area are concerned about dust and have stated that it was paved at one point. Andy Tvrdik was also present to speak on this matter.

Motion Manthe to tar the alley to the east of 1st Street as part of the 1st Street project since the alley was asphalt prior to the construction project and should be restored

Second Goebel

Passed Unanimously

Motion Goebel to authorize Shofner plaque to state

"This bench is for the community of Avon, MN

Greta Shofner, Eagle Scout Project

October 2025"

Second Schulzetenberge

Passed Unanimously

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Council Minutes of September 8, 2025
2. Council and EDA Minutes of September 22, 2025
3. Receive Fire Department Minutes of August 25, 2025
4. Paid Check Register, Capital Expenditures, Payroll Deposits (Quarterly Reports – email only)
5. Legal Fees, Engineering Fees, Auditor/Acct. Fees
6. Resolution 2025-43 Accepting Donations for Avon PD Encrypted Radios
7. Resolution 2025-44 Adopting Assessment to Taxes for Delinquent Refuse Bills
8. Statement of Work for Audit Services – Clifton Larson Allen for Audit 2025
9. Avon Lions Club / Buckhorn Bar Gambling Permit 106 Avon Ave N, Avon, MN

Motion Goebel to approve consent agenda as presented

Second Reiling

Passed Unanimously

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Dan Zimmermann –Blattner Field & Parks Board Updates

Consider Development Agreement for Blattner Field Improvements (spectator deck). This would be the same protocol as we used the for the grandstand. Parks Forever will be responsible for contracts and the end product and will donate the improvements to the city upon successful completion.

Motion Goebel to authorize Development Agreement as written for the spectator deck improvements

Second Grutsch

Passed Unanimously

Joann Dirkes was present from the Women of Today to share a bit about a project they are working on in hopes that eventually the trees along the Wobegon Trail could be lit for the holidays. To do this, there is a significant amount of electrical work that would be needed. This would also provide additional electric service for vendors for Spunk Days. In addition, the Women of Today would like to improve the nativity scene and build a stable around it. The Women of Today are also looking to update the sign at Wobegon Park. A total of around \$22,000 will be needed to complete all phases of this project. The electrical improvements could possibly be made this fall.

Motion Reiling to authorize the Women of Today, Parks Forever, and the Avon Lion's Club to work with city staff to make the electrical improvements as presented

Second Schulzetenberge

Passed Unanimously

Motion Reiling to accept a donation from Parks Forever for \$2,500 for concrete installation around the grandstand at Blattner Field

Second Goebel

Passed Unanimously

Zimmermann indicated that they are still working on fundraising for the dugout improvements at the youth field at Lion's Park.

Jeremy Mathiasen, Stantec - Engineering Update

Mathiasen gave an update on various elements of the street and stormwater project currently in progress. Concrete finishing up tomorrow and Wednesday. Paving is scheduled for Friday and Monday. Project Update No. 5 was made available.

Request approval for Pay Application No.4 RL Larson \$822,584.40

Motion Manthe to approve Pay Application No 4 to RL Larson in the amount of \$822,584.40

Second Reiling

Passed Unanimously

Request approval for invoice for construction materials testing by Braun Intertec \$6,392.50

Motion Goebel to authorize payment to Braun Intertec \$6,392.50

Second Grutsch

Passed Unanimously

ISSUES BY STAFF

Administration

Consider Resolution 2025-38 Joint Resolution as to Orderly Annexation

Leroy Gondringer and Chad Klocker were present to represent Avon Township. Gondringer listed a number of the farms that are in close proximity to Avon Estates and gave the council some assurance that none of the properties currently

located within 500' of Avon Estates are operating registered feedlots at this time. The 500' provision of the Orderly Annexation Agreement (Page 7 Section H.2.) should not be of concern in terms of the further development of Avon Estates.

Motion Schulzetenberge to approve Resolution 2025-38 Joint Resolution as to Orderly Annexation Area by and between the City of Avon and the Town of Avon
Second Grutsch
Passed

Council discussed and considered Water Sewer Rate / SAC WAC Comparisons and Adjustments
At the budget and finance workshop, Financial Advisor Jason Murray of David Drown Associates had advised the council to continue annual modest increases to water and sewer rates throughout the life of the wastewater bonds. There is also a need for some water tower improvements in the very near future that will require additional funding.

Motion Schulzetenberge to increase Water Rates by 3% and Sewer Rates by 5% effective beginning with the mid-November reading for the 1st billing of 2026 (February billing) and to increase SAC to \$4200 and WAC \$1100 effective January 2026
Second Manthe
Passed Unanimously

Sewer Main Break

Council was updated on the sewer main break. The city received the report from the Duty Officer which is a narrative of what was originally reported to the Duty Officer by Josh Blommer in our sewer department. The Duty Officer report is *not* an enforcement action letter. The report was duly sent to the MN Pollution Control Agency for review and subsequent enforcement action. Blommer, Kurtz and Austing-Traut have all spoken with representatives from the MPCA on separate occasions and have been assured that the required mitigation has been completed to the satisfaction of the MN Pollution Control Agency which is the regulatory and enforcement agency for this situation. Taylor Olson, one of those representatives, did provide some options for the council to consider for further mitigation if the council were interested in pursuing those, however, there is no requirement to do so.

Public Works

Kurtz and Pelkey presented their written report. Hydrant flushing will occur likely the week of the 20th. Tomorrow Preferred Controls will be installing the headworks PLC. Radios on lift stations are installed and working correctly.

Police Department

Chief Nellis presented his written report and stated that the encrypted radios have been ordered, the purchase was approved in the consent agenda. Donations were received to cover nearly all the cost.

Fire Department

Request for approval for three new hires - Start date 11/1 contingent upon medical exams:

Grace Eiyneck; Blake Maile; Matt Pantze

Another candidate had been recommended for hire, but withdrew his application due to family commitments.

Motion Grutsch to approve the three new hires contingent upon medical exams
Second Goebel
Passed Unanimously

ISSUES BY COUNCIL

Adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jodi Austing-Traut - City Clerk/Administrator