

REGULAR SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 22, 2021

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Regular Session June 22, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Government Center in Austin, Minnesota.

All members present, viz: Polly Glynn, Chair
Jerry Reinartz
Mike Ankeny
Jeff Baldus
John Mueller
Trish Harren, County Administrator

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the agenda with the following additions: 1) Tobacco License application of Soltau Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a BP Food Shop; 2) Fireworks Display Application of Deer Creek Speedway; 3) bridge closure on County Road 2 near Lansing; and 4) Fraud Prevention contract. Motion carried.

The Board recessed at 9:02 a.m. for the purpose of a public hearing.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 9:02 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement request of Robert and Caryn Lewison, applicants, to construct a single-family home in Section 20 (SE ¼ NE ¼ N of Road exc. W 214.14 ft), LeRoy Township, Minnesota (09.020.0084).

County Administrator Trish Harren reviewed the application and recommended approval.

The applicant was not present. No one spoke for or against the Robert and Caryn Lewison housing tax abatement application.

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 9:03 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement request of Robert and Caryn Lewison, applicant.

The County Board reconvened its regular session at 9:03 a.m.

Date: June 22, 2021

Res. #43-21

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

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held June 22, 2021 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, Robert and Caryn Lewison are the owner(s) of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

Section 20, Township 101, Range 014 SE ¼ NE ¼ N of Road Exc. W214.14 ft

WHEREAS, Robert and Caryn Lewison have 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 June 22, 2021 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Robert and Caryn Lewison 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 22nd day of June, 2021.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to approve the minutes of June 8, 2021 County Board and June 15, 2021 County Board of Review and Equalization. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the following Commissioner warrants for payment:

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Advanced Correctional Healthcare, Inc	15,030.57	Leadership Development Resources	4,793.00
API Supply Lifts	14,095.00	Mayo Clinic	8,434.15
Baudoin Oil Company	19,254.41	Mayo Clinic Rochester	2,342.35
Cedar Valley Services, Inc	57,001.14	Midwest Monitoring & Surveillance	3,857.25
Central States Wire Prod	3,449.20	Nexus-Mille Lacs Family Healing	6,263.24
City Of Austin	4,145.00	Nutrien Ag Solutions Inc	31,170.12
CivicPlus, LLC	9,878.40	Office Of Mn It Services	5,777.42
Cummins Npower, Llc	2,639.34	Precision Signs	3,447.61
Election Systems & Software, LLC.	10,782.75	Ready Mix Concrete Co LLC	2,076.00
Erickson Engineering Co., LLC	12,852.00	Regents Of The University Of Minnesota	25,808.27
Falk Construction Co./L.R.	2,127.21	TOWMASTER	4,489.50
Freeborn County Co-Operative Oil Co.	10,044.15	Ulland Brothers Inc.	11,788.90
Grass & Sons Seed, Inc	2,540.00	Village Ranch Inc	12,130.92
Jones Haugh & Smith Inc	12,359.25	91 Payments less than 2000	48,207.27
		Final Total:	346,784.42

Motion carried.

Date: June 22, 2021

Res. #44-21

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held June 22, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, Resolution #75-17 approved a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) with the Saint Paul Port Authority to administer the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program for Mower County: and

WHEREAS, The County has received a request from the Saint Paul Port Authority to place a special assessment on the following property tax parcel, pursuant to the JPA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That a special assessment of \$2,970,890.00 plus interest at 6.65% and any fees incurred shall be placed on parcel 34.156.0030 for property owner JCW Creekside LLC to be amortized evenly over the twenty-year term of the assessment with the interest accrual date of February 18, 2023.

Passed and approved this 22nd day of June, 2021.

Date: June 22, 2021

Res. #45-21

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held June 22, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, In 2010, the Minnesota Legislature created the Council on Local Results and Innovation; and

WHEREAS, The Council on Local Results and Innovation developed a standard set of performance measures that will aid residents, taxpayers, and state and local elected officials in determining the efficacy of counties in providing services and measure residents' opinion of those services; and

WHEREAS, Benefits to Mower County are outlined in MS 6.91 and include eligibility for a reimbursement as set by State statute; and

WHEREAS, any county participating in the comprehensive performance measurement program is also exempt from levy limits for taxes, if levy limits are in effect; and

WHEREAS, the Mower County Board has adopted and implemented at least 10 of the performance measures, as developed by the Council on Local Results and Innovation, and a system to use this information to help plan, budget, manage and evaluate programs and processes for optimal future outcomes; and

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, Mower County will report the results of the performance measures for 2021 to its citizenry by the end of the year through publication, direct mailing, posting on the county's website, or through a public hearing at which the budget and levy will be discussed and public input allowed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Mower County will submit to the Office of the State Auditor the actual results of the performance measures adopted by the county.

Passed and approved this 22nd day of June, 2021.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to amend the 2021 Fee Schedule to include in Administration a \$10 fee for Identification Badges for Post Certified Police Officers and Non-Voluntary Emergency Personnel. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve out-of-state travel for sheriff and jail personnel to attend Taser training. Motion carried.

Date: June 22, 2021

Res. #46-21

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held June 22, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, on June 22, 2021 Disabled American Veterans Mayo Southeast Chapter 28 presented a request for a Minnesota Lawful Gambling License for gambling to be conducted at Deer Creek Speedway on August 14, 2021.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mower County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the issuance of a Minnesota Lawful Gambling License to Disabled American Veterans Mayo Southeast Chapter 28 for gambling at Deer Creek Speedway on August 14, 2021.

Passed and adopted this 22nd day of June, 2021.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to adopt the Surplus Property Policy effective immediately. The entire adopted policy is on file in the office of County Administration and Finance. The first two sections of the policy are as follows:

Surplus Property Policy

I. General Information

A. Definition of Surplus Property

Any county-owned property with utility or monetary value including capital assets, sensitive items, commodities, equipment, materials, supplies, buildings, and other property, that is obsolete, unused, not needed for a public purpose, or ineffective for current use. Any liens against property must be satisfied before the property can be considered surplus.

B. Purpose and Scope

1. *The objectives of an effective surplus property management program are to:*
 - a. *Optimize the use of county-owned property through intra-department surplus property transfers; and*
 - b. *Obtain the maximum return on investment for Mower County through the sale of non-transferable surplus property.*
2. *This section has been prepared in accordance with [Minnesota Statute 16B.2975](#) and [Minnesota Rules Chapter 1255](#). Its contents are applicable to all county Departments possessing surplus property.*
3. *Consistent with [Minnesota Statute 16B.2975](#), the Administrator may do any of the following to dispose of state surplus property:*
 - a. *transfer it to or between county departments;*
 - b. *transfer it to a governmental unit or eligible nonprofit organization in Mower County;*
 - c. *sell it and charge an administrative fee to cover expenses incurred in the disposal of the surplus property; or*
 - d. *transfer county surplus computers to any school, school system, or college in Mower County.*

[See entire Policy in the office of County Administration or Finance]

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the application of The Church of St. John of Adams for a temporary 3.2 On Sale liquor license effective July 11, 2021. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to approve the application of Midwest Investment LLC d/b/a Mini Mart #15 for a tobacco license effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the application of NuWay – K & H Cooperative d/b/a K & H Classic Stop – LeRoy for a tobacco license effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve the application of Freeborn County Coop Oil Co. for a tobacco license effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the application of Soltau Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a BP Food Shop for a tobacco license effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to approve the following transfer of funds as indicated effective December 1, 2020 to cover COVID expenses from CARES funds:

From Fund 01	\$377,246	
To Fund 11		\$340,958
To Fund 13		36,288

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to authorize Maintenance and Public Works to jointly purchase a Genie GR-20 Lift (\$14,095) to share. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the application of Deer Creek Speedway, LLC for a fireworks/pyrotechnic special effects display on September 25, 2021 (rain date: 9/26/21). Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the Health & Human Services accounts payable totaling \$247,746.86. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve Fraud Prevention Investigation Grant with the Minnesota Department of Human Services effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023. (Total grant amount: \$120,000) Motion carried.

Health & Human Services Director Crystal Peterson provided public health updates that indicated that there has only been one new case of Covid reported in the last two weeks. Staff have administered 9117 vaccines indicating that 63% of Mower County citizens have received at least 1 dose. Statewide vaccinations are at 66.4% of the population. The department is anxious concerning the possibility of a State Shut Down.

Public Works Director Mike Hanson presented bid information on road projects with recommendations for award to the low bidders.

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to award the bids to the low bidders as follows for the following projects:

CP 50-21-03/SAP 104-020-017	Ulland Brothers	1,197,736.15
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and have the projects commence. Motion carried. Full bid abstract on file in the office of the County Auditor-Treasurer and Public Works Director.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to award the bids to the low bidders as follows for the following projects:

SAP 050-599-175	Fitzgerald Excavating	\$ 281,111.00
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and have the projects commence. Motion carried. Full bid abstract on file in the office of the County Auditor-Treasurer and Public Works Director.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to award the bids to the low bidders as follows for the following projects:

SAP 050-604-026	Fitzgerald Excavating	354,546.00
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and have the projects commence. Motion carried. Full bid abstract on file in the office of the County Auditor-Treasurer and Public Works Director.

The County Engineer reported that MnDOT had inspected Bridge 50524 in the Village of Lansing and with the lower water levels discovered some critical issues needing repairs. The bridge needs to be closed immediately.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to support the findings of the engineer and the State to close Bridge 50524 on CSAH 2 East of the Village of Lansing for necessary repairs. Motion carried.

Under Committee Reports the Board did not have any Personnel or Finance matters for recommended action. The Building Committee recommended approving a quote to paint portions of the interior of the Justice Center.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve the quote of Nickelson Painting, Inc. for painting in the Justice Center (\$5300). Other vendors were invited to quote but did not respond. Motion carried.

The Building Committee also provided information for discussion and possible approval of the Dude Solutions "Asset Essentials Core" proposal for computerized maintenance management system software (implementation and 2021 services \$4,617.79) (Annual Renewal 2022 \$9,008.37).

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to table the Dude Solutions agreement and refer it to Finance Committee for more review and recommendation. Motion carried.

The Solid Waste Committee would like continued discussion concerning issues in the County in terms of debris accumulated on parcels. No action at this time.

Commissioner Glynn on behalf of the County made the following statement:
“Mower County recognizes Juneteenth as a Federal Holiday and the importance of this day in acknowledging and honoring the Freedom of enslaved African Americans.”

The commissioners noted that the Annual Report of the County Engineer can be received digitally.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m. Motion carried. The next meeting is scheduled for July 6, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY: _____
Chairperson

Attest:

By: _____
Clerk/Administrator

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