

**Minutes  
Avon City Council  
February 3, 2025**

**THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT**

Jeff Manthe – Mayor, Katie Reiling, Mark Schulzetenberge, Sarah Grutsch, Aaron Goebel - City Council  
Justin Kurtz – Water Wastewater Foreman, Chuck Pelkey – Public Works Foreman, Corey Nellis – Police Chief  
Jodi Austing-Traut, City Clerk-Administrator

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

**Public Forum**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Council and EDA Minutes of January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025
2. Receive Fire Department Minutes of December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025
3. Paid Check Register, Manual Claims, Capital Expenditures, Payroll Deposits, Quarterlies (email only)
4. Legal Fees, Engineering Fees, Auditor/Acct. Fees
5. Resolution 2025-03 PERA Certification for Officer Jason Falconer
6. Resolution 2025-04 Authorizing Fund Transfers from General Fund to Capital Fund for Unspent 2024 Capital
7. Resolution 2025-05 Accepting Donation \$11,000 from Blattner Company for A/V Equipment at Fire Hall
8. Resolution 2025-06 Accepting Donation \$4,000 from Avon Lions for Merry-Go-Round at Stratford Park
9. Resolution 2025-07 Approving Application for Gambling License St. Benedict's Church Raffle
10. Resolution 2025-08 Accepting Donation \$3,500 from Columbia Gear for PD Squad Computer
11. Resolution 2025-09 Accepting Donation of Land from Hanauer Trust for Stormwater Drainage
12. Pay Application 10M to W. Gohman for Fire Hall Materials \$31,163
13. Pay Application 12L to W. Gohman for Fire Hall Labor \$86,444.30
14. Receive W. Gohman Contingency Report for Fire Hall
15. Resolution 2025-10 Accepting Donation \$720.20 from Parks Forever for Merry-Go-Round at Stratford Park

*Motion Goebel to approve consent agenda*

*Second Reiling*

*Passed Unanimously*

**COUNCIL BUSINESS**

Ken Pflipsen 506 Suncrest – Drainage Issue

Pflipsen was present with photographs of recent snow melt pooling at the end of his driveway. Pflipsen stated that overall it takes a few days for it to go down once it warms up. Goebel stated that his driveway has a similar issue, even though there is curb and gutter. It was suggested that with the curb having been snow covered and frozen the water took longer than it normally would to drain away. Mathiasen stated that to do more grinding of the street would create a problem for others and may not offer a significant enough improvement in drainage for Pflipsen. To really change the existing drainage would require substantial work to the roadway as well as re-grading the driveways. Council consensus to look at this again in the spring.

Jeremy Mathiasen, Stantec - Engineering Update

Mathiasen presented his engineering update and requested approval of Resolution 2025-10 Approving Plans & Specs for 2025 Capital Improvements (1<sup>st</sup> St SE, Barracuda Ave SE, Char Ave SE, and Dolphin Ave SE). Plans and specs are nearly complete and are awaiting final approval from MN DOT. Once that approval is received, Mathiasen would like to begin advertising for bids so the project can continue to move forward.

*Motion Goebel to approve Resolution 2025-10 Approving Plans & Specs for 2025 Capital Improvements*

*Second Grutsch*

*Passed Unanimously with Reiling Abstaining*

**ISSUES BY STAFF**

## **Administration**

### **Liquor License Application for MN Stores, LLC (dba: Snak Atak Liquor #7)**

Council considered an application by MN Stores, LLC (Snak Atak Liquor #7) for an Off-Sale Liquor License. Goebel expressed concerns about approving another off-sale liquor license in the city. In a small town this could effectively flood the market and create a situation where both liquor stores fail. Reiling asked if the city needs specific grounds on which to deny the permit. Austing-Traut cited the ordinance which clearly states, “*The Council in its sound discretion may either grant or deny the application for any license or for the transfer or renewal of any license. No applicant has the right to a license*”. Schulzetenberge indicated his support for free enterprise and business growth in the city. Goebel further stated concerns about the current condition and operation of the business.

***Motion Goebel to deny the liquor license for MN Stores, LLC***

***Second Manthe***

***Passed Unanimously***

### **Consider Avon Liquor Locker Cannabis Application**

Council concurred and clarified that existing licensed on-sale/off-sale liquor establishments in town [as of this day: Avon Liquor Locker, Spunky’s Bar, The Buckhorn, PJ’s on the Lake, and Fisher’s Club] may be considered “grandfathered in” but only as it relates specifically to low-potency hemp derived products and only upon approval of a license by the city council.

***Motion Goebel to approve the license for Avon Liquor Locker for low-potency hemp derived cannabis sales***

***Second Manthe***

***Passed Unanimously***

## **Public Works**

Written Report was presented. Pelkey discussed recent issues with snow plowing. With low snow levels the past couple of years there have been very different levels of expectation for clear roads. The city generally does not plow roads unless there are more than 2 inches of snow accumulation on the streets.

Kurtz presented an invoice from W.W. Goetsch for a new air release valve near the trailhead that comes off the force main for Avon Estates. It appears to be original from when the pipe was put in the ground. Replacement parts can no longer be found. Request is for \$2985 plus installation.

***Motion Reiling to authorize the \$2985 plus installation for the air release valve***

***Second Schulzetenberge***

***Passed Unanimously***

There was discussion of water usage at 201 Barracuda Ave SE (Urbanski) due to a house fire that had occurred recently. It appears that approximately \$84.55 can be directly attributed to water loss due to a pipe break during the fire.

***Motion Reiling to credit the utility bill \$84.55 due to the pipe break during the house fire***

***Second Manthe***

***Passed Unanimously***

## **Police Department**

Chief Nellis presented his written report along with a request for payment of invoice for Body Armor for \$5037 to Tactical Solutions for Body Armor. These costs are generally reimbursed by the federal government.

***Motion Manthe to authorize payment of \$5037 to Tactical Solutions for Body Armor for Schultz, Mooney, and Falconer***

***Second Schulzetenberge***

***Passed Unanimously***

Chief Nellis stated that now that another squad car is being outfitted, we need an additional rifle for that squad. Recently the city sold an Avon PD engraved rifle to Officer Klocker who has agreed to sell it back to the City for what he paid for

it. The squad will also need a defibrillator and a less lethal weapon as well as a medical bag. Chief is hoping to obtain a grant for the defibrillator.

***Motion Manthe to buy back the Avon PD engraved rifle from Klocker for \$1,000  
Second Reiling  
Passed Unanimously***

Squad build is now pushed out until at least the end of February.

#### **ISSUES BY COUNCIL**

Goebel asked if street lights could be made brighter in Avon Estates. Manthe explained that the lights are designed that way to decrease any light spill over that would otherwise shine directly into adjacent homes. The lights are designed and maintained by Xcel energy. Goebel further asked if there could be speed bumps placed near the apartments in Avon Estates. Officer Klocker stated that officers have run radar in that area on many occasions and while it may seem like people are speeding, drivers are driving the speed limit for the most part. The perception can seem like vehicles are going faster than 30 mph, but most often they have been within the limit.

***Adjourned at 8:00 pm.***

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