

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., March 15, 2011
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Councilor Beth Peterson, Present
Councilor Joseph Koivunen, Present
Councilor Brian Hoag, Absent
Councilor Bradley Hadrava, Present
Mayor Robert Vlasisavljevich, Present

Also present: City Clerk/Administrator Jackie Monahan-Junek; Director of Public Works Mike Wiskow; Eric Fallstrom, Benchmark Engineering

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Hadrava to approve the Agenda and Minutes of City Council Workshop Meeting held March 1, 2011 and Minutes of City Council Meeting held March 1, 2011. Ayes – All.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

E. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

F. VISITOR/PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Payroll – February 16-28, 2011 in the amount of \$108,238.06

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Peterson to approve Consent Agenda Item G1. Ayes – All.

2. 2011/2012 Contract with Law Enforcement Labor Services, Inc., Local 20

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve 2011/2012 Contract with Law Enforcement Labor Services, Inc., Local 20. Ayes – All.

3. Board and Commission Application Process (revised 3/15/2011)

Motion by Councilor Hadrava, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve the Board and Commission Application Process (Revised 3/15/2011). Ayes – All.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. Resignation of Liz Holcomb from the Eveleth-Virginia Airport Authority

Motion by Councilor Hadrava, second by Councilor Peterson to accept resignation of Liz Holcomb from the Eveleth-Virginia Airport Authority and to send a letter of thanks for her service. Ayes – All.

2. Consider Resolution Approving Plans and Advertising for Bids for 2011 Capital Improvement Projects

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Peterson to approve Resolution No. 2011-05, “Approving Plans and Advertising for Bids for 2011 Capital Improvement Projects.” Ayes – All.

Director Wiskow stated that it is a good time of year to bid projects. Monahan-Junek explained special assessments and bond financing on the project.

3. Consider Resolution Approving Water Rate Change

The Mayor opined that it is hard to forecast far ahead but the City needs to increase rates to keep the Water Utility at break-even for a couple of years. Director Wiskow prepared a rate comparison for Eveleth and neighboring communities. Eveleth has the lowest commercial water rates and the second lowest residential rates. In the comparison of cities under 5,000 population in the Upper Midwest, Eveleth has the second lowest surface water treatment plant rate. The rate comparison sheets will be made available to the public at City Hall.

Motion by Councilor Hadrava, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve Resolution No. 2011-06, "Approving Water Rate Change." Ayes – All.

4. Northern St. Louis County Housing Institute

Councilor Hadrava asked what the City would be supporting (Eveleth participation?) and asked who would be going (Jackie, are you going on behalf of Eveleth?). The Mayor asked if someone from the Council wanted to attend. Councilor Peterson referenced the expectations from partnering communities (in the agenda packet) and stated that Monahan-Junek is perfectly positioned because of her work activities with the Olde Town Eveleth Neighborhood Revitalization project the last few years. Councilor Hadrava agreed that Monahan-Junek would be the City head to attend these meetings but stated we are short in the front office still, so he doesn't know. Councilor Peterson asked if AEOA had been informed as to whether their application has been accepted. If not, the Council could revisit the request once we know if AEOA's application has been accepted. Monahan-Junek replied that if the City does not want to participate in this, we should let AEOA know so they can identify another participant. The Mayor stated the City should participate because the more we are involved, the more active we are. Councilor Hadrava stated that the City is involved in all these projects. Councilor Peterson stated, "If you're not at the table, you're not at the table. You're on the menu." The Mayor stated the City's participation would only enhance our position and gives us better footing. He knows it is extra labor hours to try and attend, but it usually pays off in some way for us. Councilor Peterson stated she works at AEOA, but is not connected to the housing department and gets no personal gain voting on this. Peterson asked City Attorney Brunfelt if she has a conflict of interest. City Attorney Brunfelt replied if there is no potential individual gain for her or a member of her family, then there is no legal conflict of interest. It is up to her to decide.

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Peterson to authorize participation in the Northern St. Louis County Housing Institute. Ayes – All.

5. City Land License in Alice Location with Chris Bertucci

The Council suggested that Monahan-Junek meet with Mr. Bertucci to determine what items or structures he owns on the subject property which he will be removing. Brunfelt stated that Mr. Bertucci is responsible for removing any items or structures he placed or owns on the property. If he does not, the City will remove them and bill Mr. Bertucci. Monahan-Junek will bring the list of items to be removed back to the Council and allow them to set the deadline for removal of such items.

K. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Motion by Councilor Hadrava, second by Councilor Peterson to send the Boys Bantams Hockey Team a letter of congratulations for qualifying to play at the State Tournament. Ayes – All.

There will be a send off through town on Thursday.

Councilor Peterson thanked residents who attended the 2011 CIP information meeting.

Councilor Hadrava announced that there was a good turnout for the Elk's Bonspiel.

Mayor Vlasisavljevich suggested the City hold a community meeting inviting the West Eveleth Civic League and Leondias to get ideas on what the residents would like to see done in West Eveleth.

L. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Public Works Director: Director Wiskow said as the snow melts turf damage will become more apparent. He asked residents to call if they notice an area which needs turf reestablishment.

M. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Attest:

Robert Vlasisavljevich, Mayor

Jackie Monahan-Junek
City Clerk/Administrator

Approved: April 5, 2011
Published: April 13, 2011