

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., July 21, 2009
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Matos called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Councilor Liz Kuoppala, Present
Councilor Thomas Kallevig, Present
Councilor Joseph Koivunen, Present
Councilor Brian Hoag, Present
Mayor Bill Matos, Present

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Kuoppala to approve Minutes of City Council Meeting held July 7, 2009 and Minutes of City Council Workshop held July 7, 2009.
Ayes – All.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Kuoppala, second by Councilor Hoag to approve Agenda with following addition:

J18. Consider Donations Request from 4th of July Committee for 2009 Celebration
Ayes – All.

E. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

F. VISITOR/PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Les Crawford, Bonsai Tea, Eveleth, began to address the Council regarding the Auditorium. It was decided to continue discussion with Mr. Crawford later in the Meeting as he is on the Agenda.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Payroll – June 16-30, 2009 in the amount of \$122,026.21

2. Approve Request from Chief of Police to Attend the Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center (MOCIC) Annual Conference and Training Session in Duluth, August 25 to 27, 2009

Motion by Councilor Kallevig, second by Councilor Kuoppala to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes – All.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. 2010 St. Louis County CDBG Grant Applications

Mayor Matos opened the Public Hearing regarding the 2010 St. Louis County CDBG Grant Applications.

Grant Avenue and Park Avenue Water and Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project

Director Wiskow gave an overview of the Grant and Park Avenue street resurfacing project. Wiskow explained that the County maintains nine miles of streets in the City of Eveleth. Grant and Park Avenue fall under the County State Aid Highway (CSAH) program. The City plans to replace water and sanitary sewer lines in the project area in conjunction with the County's street reconstruction. The surface improvement will include milling of the existing bituminous surface and a bituminous overlay on Grant Avenue from Fayal Road to Hayes Streets and a total reconstruction on Grant and Park Avenues from Hayes Street, north to the Highway 53 right-of-way. St. Louis County will be funding the street reconstruction. The City will be responsible for replacement of water and sanitary sewer systems at an estimated cost of \$867,092. The City plans to apply for a \$500,000 CDBG grant for the water and sanitary sewer project. In addition to this grant program, the City plans to submit grant and low-interest loans to several other federal and state agencies.

Eveleth Neighborhood Revitalization Project

Councilor Kuoppala addressed the Eveleth Neighborhood Revitalization Project. The City has partnered with AEOA and Eveleth Horizons to work with Greater Minnesota Housing. As a result of these efforts, the City recently received a \$20,000 assistance grant towards rehabilitation in the "Old Town Eveleth" neighborhood. The goal is to rehab seven homes in the first year at an average project cost of \$31,500 and to weatherize other homes in an amount up to \$6,500. The City plans to apply for a \$126,000 CDBG grant.

The Public Hearing on this matter was closed.

2. Proposed Facilities Plan and Funding Application to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for Grant Avenue and Park Avenue Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project in 2010

Mayor Matos opened the Public Hearing regarding the Proposed Facilities Plan and Funding Application to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for the Grant Avenue and Park Avenue Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project in 2010.

Director Wiskow summarized the City's request for a low interest loan to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for the Clean Water Revolving Fund. The loan would assist with financing the sanitary sewer portion of the project not provided for by grant money. The City contracted Benchmark Engineering to prepare a facility plan for the sanitary sewer replacement project.

Eric Fallstrom, Benchmark Engineering, presented the Grant/Park Avenue Corridor Sewer Improvements Facility Plan.

Wiskow indicated that if the City is unsuccessful in receiving a grant or low interest loan funding for the sanitary sewer portion of the project, the project would be funded with a General Obligation Bond. Revenues needed to make bond payments would require a sewer rate increase.

Mayor Matos closed the Public Hearing.

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution Approving 2010 CDBG Grant Application for Funding for Grant Avenue & Park Avenue Water and Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Kuoppala to adopt Resolution No. 2009-15, "Approving 2010 CDBG Grant Application for Funding for Grant Avenue & Park Avenue Water and Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project." Ayes – All.

2. Resolution Approving 2010 CDBG Grant Application for Funding for Eveleth Neighborhood Revitalization Project

Motion by Councilor Kallevig, second by Councilor Hoag to adopt Resolution No. 2009-16, "Approving 2010 CDBG Grant Application for Funding for Eveleth Neighborhood Revitalization Project." Ayes – All.

3. Resolution to Adopt Grant Avenue and Park Avenue Corridor Sewer Improvements Facility Plan

Motion by Councilor Kuoppala, second by Councilor Hoag to adopt Resolution No. 2009-17, "Adopting Grant/Park Avenue Corridor Sewer Improvement Facility Plan." Ayes – All.

4. Letter from Eveleth Merchants Association and Eveleth Elks Lodge #1161 Requesting Closure of Jones Street Between Adams Avenue and Douglas Avenue on Friday, August 21, 2009 for the Eveleth Elks Annual Corn Feed and Eveleth Merchants Association Classic Car Show and Cruise

Motion by Councilor Kallevig, second by Councilor Kuoppala to authorize closure of Jones Street and Grant Avenue on August 21, 2009 from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the Eveleth Elks Annual Corn Feed and Eveleth Merchants Association Classic Car Show and Cruise. Ayes – All.

5. Letter from Les Crawford and Barb White, Bonsai Tea and EvTAP Volunteers, Requesting Use of City Auditorium and Requesting Permission to Form Committee to Restore and Reopen the Auditorium

Les Crawford, Bonsai Tea EVTAP Volunteer, reiterated his initiative to restore and open the City Auditorium. Crawford notified the Council of an available grant with the Minnesota Historical Society. He said the deadline for the grant application would be this Friday. Crawford suggested the funding could be applied towards updating the sprinkler system in the Auditorium.

Mayor Matos said a full plan for restoring the Auditorium is needed from start to finish. Councilor Kuoppala expressed her appreciation for those interested in restoring the Auditorium. Kuoppala said she researched the grant opportunity online and recalled the application calling for a 10 year plan of how the City would maintain the building.

Crawford requested an Auditorium Committee be established. Discussion took place referring the Auditorium plans to the Building Committee which is comprised of two members of the Council along with City staff.

Motion by Councilor Kallevig, second by Councilor Kuoppala to refer the Auditorium plan to the Building Committee. Ayes – All.

Crawford formally introduced 7th grader, Tucker Nelson, who was one of the finalists competing for a chance to appear on the Jeopardy Game Show. Mayor Matos congratulated Nelson on his accomplishment.

Discussion took place on the request for use of the City Auditorium parking lot for a Hawaiian Luau on August 22, 2009.

Motion by Councilor Hoag, second by Councilor Koivunen to allow the Eveleth EvTAP Volunteers to use the City Auditorium parking lot on August 22, 2009 for a Hawaiian Luau; authorize power use from the Auditorium; authorize the Public Works Department to provide a sand pile for the kid's coin dig; and provide a portable toilet for the event at City cost. Ayes – All.

A power cord will be run through a window of the Auditorium.

Crawford said the Eveleth Heritage Committee will provide liability insurance through the Chamber of Commerce.

6. Letter from Eveleth Horizons Regarding National Night Out and Request to Allow Insert in the City's July 30th Utility Bills Regarding the Eveleth Neighborhood Revitalization Program Neighborhood Gathering on August 20, 2009

Motion by Councilor Kuoppala, second by Councilor Hoag to move the Council Meeting scheduled for August 4, 2009 from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. due to National Night Out. Ayes – All.

Motion by Councilor Kallevig, second by Councilor Kuoppala to authorize the Eveleth Horizons to insert a flier regarding the August 20, 2009 Neighborhood Gathering in the July 30, 2009 utility bill for the Eveleth Neighborhood Revitalization Project targeted area. Ayes – All.

Motion by Councilor Kuoppala, second by Councilor Hoag to authorize request from Eveleth Horizons to block streets off for National Night Out in partnership with the Eveleth Police Department. Ayes – All.

Eveleth Horizons will continue working with the Police and Public Works Departments to finalize street locations.

7. Authorize Bonestroo to Call for Bids for City Hall ADA Lift

Motion by Councilor Kuoppala, second by Councilor Kallevig to authorize Bonestroo to call for bids for the City Hall ADA Lift. Ayes – All.

8. Consider Approving Change Order No. 1 to Hibbing Excavating for Ground Storage Reservoir and Booster Station Improvements Project

Miles Jenson, Bonestroo, said the change order relates to installation of temporary fencing for safety and security reasons near the ground storage reservoir.

Motion by Councilor Kallevig, second by Councilor Kuoppala to approve Change Order No. 1 to Hibbing Excavating for Ground Storage Reservoir and Booster Station Improvements Project in the amount of \$1,480.00. Ayes – All.

9. Consider Approving Pay Request No. 2 to Hibbing Excavating for Ground Storage Reservoir and Booster Station Improvements Project in the Amount of \$405.99

Motion by Councilor Kuoppala, second by Councilor Hoag approving Pay Request No. 2 in the amount of \$405.99 to Hibbing Excavating for Ground Storage Reservoir and Booster Station Improvements Project. Ayes – All.

10. Consider Approving Change Order No. 2 to Jola & Sopp Excavating in the amount of \$18,839.00 for 2008 Street Improvement Project

Eric Fallstrom indicated the Change Order amount should have been \$19,259.00.

Motion by Councilor Kuoppala, second by Councilor Hoag to approve Change Order No. 2 to Jola & Sopp in the amount of \$19,259.00 for 2008 Street Improvement Project. Ayes – All.

11. Consider Approving Final Payment to Jola & Sopp Excavating for 2008 Street Improvements Project in the amount of \$36,749.12

Motion by Councilor Kuoppala, second by Councilor Koivunen approving Final Payment to Jola & Sopp Excavating for 2008 Street Improvements Project in the amount of \$36,749.12. Ayes – All.

12. Resolution Revising 2009 Budget

Motion by Councilor Kuoppala, second by Councilor Kallevig to adopt Resolution No. 2009-18, “Revising 2009 Budget.” Ayes – All.

The resolution reinstates items and projects that were put on hold or removed from the budget prior to knowing the LGA cuts.

13. Consider Increasing Student Casual Laborer Wage Rate to \$7.25/hour in Accordance with New Federal Minimum Wage

Motion by Councilor Kallevig, second by Councilor Kuoppala to increase the student casual laborer wage rate to \$7.25 per hour in accordance with the new federal minimum wage. Ayes – All.

14. Authorize the Director of Public Works to Call for Quotations for Boulevard and Park Tree Planting

Motion by Councilor Kallevig, second by Councilor Hoag to authorize Director of Public Works to call for quotations for boulevard and park tree planting. Ayes – All.

Director Wiskow estimated about 35 to 40 trees would be planted. The City has budgeted \$5,000 for 2009.

15. Authorize the Director of Public Works to Call for Quotations for Curb and Sidewalk Replacement

Motion by Councilor Kallevig, second by Councilor Koivunen to authorize Director of Public Works to call for quotations for curb and sidewalk replacement. Ayes – All.

The City's 2009 budget for this item is \$20,000.

16. Authorize the Director of Public Works to Call for Quotations for Purchasing Materials for Veterans Park Water System Expansion

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Kallevig to authorize Director of Public Works to call for quotations for purchasing materials for Veterans Park Water System Expansion. Ayes – All.

Expansion of the water system would provide potable water service to the remaining 21 camper/RV sites. The 2009 budget for this item is \$12,000.

17. Authorize the Director of Public Works to Waive the Project Labor Agreement Policy and Call for Quotations for New Playground Equipment for Northside Park

Motion by Councilor Kuoppala, second by Councilor Koivunen to authorize Director of Public Works to waive the Project Labor Agreement Policy and call for quotations for new playground equipment for Northside Park. Ayes – All.

Unions typically do not install playground equipment. The City will have two slides removed due to safety requirements.

18. Consider Donations Request from 4th of July Committee for 2009 Celebration

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Kallevig to approve donations request from the 4th of July Committee for 2009 celebration in the amount of \$2,500.00 Ayes – All.

K. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

L. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Public Works Director: Director Wiskow advised of a temporary reservoir failure at the booster station over the weekend. He said the City was supplied some water through the Cities of Gilbert and Virginia. Wiskow credited M & M Electric, Assistant Public Works Director Jerry Rosati and City employees Jack Haugen and Craig Schlossin for their efforts in restoring function. Wiskow said the transformer should be replaced under warranty.

City Engineer: Eric Fallstrom, Benchmark Engineering, gave an update on the ground reservoir project.

M. ADJOURN

The Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Attest:

Bill Matos, Mayor

Stephanie A. Friebe
Deputy Clerk

Approved: August 4, 2009
Published: August 12, 2009