

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., January 3, 2012
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. ROLL CALL

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

Also present: City Clerk/Administrator Jackie Monahan-Junek; Deputy City Clerk Stephanie Friebe; City Attorney Mitch Brunfelt; Director of Public Works Michael Wiskow; Chief of Police Brian Lillis; Eric Fallstrom, Benchmark Engineering

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Hadrava, second by Councilor Hoag to approve the Agenda. Ayes – All.

E. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

F. VISITOR/PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Payroll – December 1-15, 2011 in the amount of \$92,742.26
2. Approval of Claims – December 2011 in the amount of \$439,930.91; and January 2012 in the amount of \$30,184.17

3. Iron Range Resources Grant Agreement 3000000677, Station 44 Road (between Highway 37 and Mesabi Station Road)
4. Iron Range Resources Grant Agreement 3000000676, Hat Trick Avenue (between Five Seasons Sports Center and the United States Hockey Hall of Fame Museum)
5. Iron Range Resources Grant Agreement 3000000295 Time Extension, Eveleth Health Services Park Assist Living Conversion

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Hadrava to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes – All.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. Designate Depositories

Motion by Councilor Hoag, second by Councilor Hadrava to designate Wells Fargo, Eveleth, MN and The Miners National Bank of Eveleth, MN as depositories for the City of Eveleth for the year 2012. Ayes – All.

2. Designate Official Newspaper

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Hoag to designate the Eveleth Scene, Eveleth, MN as the City's Official Newspaper for 2012. Ayes – All.

3. Appoint Acting Mayor

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Hadrava to appoint Councilor Joseph Koivunen as the Acting Mayor and Councilor Brian Hoag as the alternate to Acting Mayor. Ayes – All.

4. Resolution Appointing a Responsible Authority and Assigning Duties

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Hoag to adopt Resolution No. 2012-01, "Resolution Appointing a Responsible Authority and Assigning Duties." Ayes – All.

5. Designate Benchmark Engineering, Inc. as City Engineer for 2012

Motion by Councilor Hoag, second by Councilor Peterson to designate Benchmark Engineering, Inc. as the City Engineer for 2012. Ayes – All.

Councilor Peterson pointed out that this is the fourth year in a row that Benchmark Engineering has kept their rates the same.

6. Retirement Notification from Police Chief Lillis

Motion by councilor Hadrava, second by Councilor Hoag to approve retirement notification from Police Chief Lillis effective April 30, 2012. Ayes – All.

Chief Lillis was hired by the Eveleth Police Department in 1983 as a Patrol Officer. He was promoted to Lieutenant and ultimately Police Chief. In his letter to the Council, Lillis stated, “It is my hope that the City Council and Police Commission will continue to support a strong public safety component in our City, and will give the new Chief of Police the same level of support that I have enjoyed.”

7. Request to Fill Vacated Police Officer Position

Councilor Peterson questioned the process for filling the Chief’s position. Lillis said the Police Commission has the authority to make a promotion from within the department or allow applicants from both inside and outside the department.

Chief Lillis said there is one candidate for the vacant Police Officer position who is eligible and ready to begin. Mayor Vlasisavljevich said he would like to wait to see what the Police Commission decides regarding the Chief’s position. Councilor Peterson said she does not want any undue hardship to be placed on the Police Department by being short staffed. Peterson said the position has already been budgeted. Vlasisavljevich said he would like to wait to see what type of State funding the City will receive.

The vacant patrol officer position will be added to a Workshop Agenda in either January or February 2012, dependant upon the Police Commission’s recommendation to the Council for the Chief’s position.

8. Resolution Accepting Donation for Hippodrome Operations

Motion by Councilor Hoag, second by Councilor Peterson to adopt Resolution No. 2012-02, “Resolution Accepting Donation for Hippodrome Operations,” and to send a letter of thanks to the Eveleth Youth Hockey Association. Ayes – All.

9. Resolution Accepting Feasibility Report and Calling for Public Hearing (2012 CIP)

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Hoag to adopt Resolution No. 2012-03, “Resolution Accepting Feasibility Report and Calling for Public Hearing (2012 CIP)” and to authorize staff to add language about the assessment method for each piece of property. Ayes – All.

10. Review Status of Mike Jacobsen Removal of Personal Items from former license site in the Alice Location

Mike Jacobsen said he is done with removing his items from the Alice Location and the building is completely cleaned out. Councilor Hadrava asked if Public Works Director Wiskow had driven by the site. Wiskow said he noticed a small part of the plant building was still in tact, and a few items were scattered around.

Councilor Hadrava thanked Jacobsen for clearing the site.

K. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Hadrava thanked Eveleth Youth Hockey for their donation to the Hippodrome, and said the City is still working towards summer ice. Hadrava wished Councilor Koivunen good luck regarding his medical issues.

L. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Public Works Director: Director Wiskow said that Christmas trees can be brought to city garage for disposal. Wiskow also informed the public that two water breaks had occurred during the day, and that the Public Works Department is out working to rectify the problems.

City Attorney: Attorney Brunfelt said he regrets to see Lillis turn in his retirement notice. Brunfelt said that Chief Lillis has been an outstanding law enforcement professional.

M. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Attest:

Robert Vlasisavljevich, Mayor

Jackie Monahan-Junek
City Clerk/Administrator

Approved: February 6, 2012
Published: March 7, 2012