

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Meeting
6:00 p.m., February 5, 2014
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Councilor Beth Peterson, Present
Councilor Brad Hadrava, Present
Councilor Brian Lillis, Present
Councilor Joseph Koivunen, Present
Mayor Robert Vlasisavljevich, Present

Also present: City Clerk Administrator Jackie Monahan-Junek; Deputy City Clerk Stephanie Friebe; City Attorney Mitch Brunfelt; Chief of Police Tim Koivunen; Director of Public Works Michael Wiskow; Eric Fallstrom, Benchmark Engineering; Eveleth Fire Chief Scott Haas

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Lillis to approve the Minutes of City Council Workshop Meeting held January 21, 2014 and Minutes of City Council Meeting held January 21, 2014. Ayes – All.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

E. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Hadrava to approve the following reappointments to the Eveleth Park Commission:

- 1. Reappointment of Kathy Murphy to the Park Commission for the term 2/5/2014 to 1/31/2016; and*
- 2. Reappointment of Barb Coz to the Park Commission for the term 2/5/2014 to 1/31/2016.*

Ayes – All.

F. VISITOR/PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Eveleth Fire Chief Scott Hass addressed safety issues related to electric heaters. Haas said with the increased cost of propane and natural gas, some people have been using electric heaters. There have been situations where the electrical panels are overloaded creating a fire. He urged the public to be extremely cautious. Hass also addressed the importance of working carbon monoxide detectors. Carbon monoxide is silent and not detectable. He prompted residents to check the batteries on carbon monoxide and smoke detectors. Hass encouraged residents to adopt fire hydrants located in front of their homes for easy and timely access by the Fire Department when needed.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Payroll – January 1-15, 2014 in the amount of \$94,903.21
2. Approval of Claims – January 2014 in the amount of \$712,836.73
3. Application for Exempt Permit, United Steelworkers Local 6860, to be held September 1, 2014 Steelworkers Local 6860 Union Hall, 416 Grant Avenue, Eveleth, MN
4. Recognize Greg Salmi for service on the Joint ATV/OHM/Snowmobile Trail Board

*Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Lillis to approve the Consent Agenda.
Ayes – All.*

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public Hearing for 2014 Street and Alley Improvement Projects

Mayor Vlasisavljevich convened the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. Vlasisavljevich said the Council has taken an aggressive approach to spruce up the streets in town. The costs presented are preliminary as the City will not know the final cost until the project is complete.

Martin Ryll, 902 Central Court, asked if the alleys will be better maintained after the repairs. Ryll said they only see the street sweeper once a year, and that he is concerned about the fast speed which individuals are driving down the alley. Ryll said he purchased a radar gun just to check out the speed.

Director Wiskow said the City usually sweeps the alleys once during the spring. With the current state of the alley, it is extremely difficult to remove the sand.

Police Chief Koivunen encouraged Ryll to stop by the Police Department to address his concerns with speed. Ryll said he once waived a two by four board at a motor cycle driver; the driver slowed down.

Ryll questioned what would be done with parking. Director Wiskow said other alternatives for parking will be available. The contractor tries to minimize times that the

homeowners do not have access. Ryll said he would like a rolled curb. Wiskow said they can work with the engineer and inspector to make modifications.

Ryll questioned a manhole cover, and the sewer debt charge on the utility bill. Wiskow explained the manhole cover was for access to the sanitary sewer, and the debt charge on the bill was implemented in 2004 or 2005 for repayment of the new 3.6 million dollar sewer plant.

Ryll asked about the taste in the water. Director Wiskow explained the issue with organics in the surface water. He said the City will be working with a consulting engineer for a pilot run this summer to add activated carbon to the water.

Holly Hejda, 1001 Jefferson Street, said the section between Jones and Washington does not seem to be in rough condition. Director Wiskow explained the criteria of the surface condition survey. He said some of the streets will need a total reconstruct. Wiskow said the overlay project of some streets will hopefully prolong the need for a total reconstruct by about 15 years.

City Administrator Monahan-Junek explained the billing process to the residents. Residents will have 30 days from the date of the invoice to pay the assessment. The remainder of the invoice not paid within 30 days will be certified to the County property taxes for payment increments over the next 20 years. The owner may pay the remaining balance in full at any time to the County or to the City of Eveleth.

Roger Kochevar, 703 North Auburn Avenue, thanked the Council for the meeting. Kochevar would like to know if the contractors will replace the sod next to his garage. Eric Fallstrom, Benchmark Engineering, said there will be some areas which will be disturbed more than others. The contractors will take care of replacing whatever they disturb. Fallstrom said the residents would be driving on gravel for some time, and would not have access for one day while the contractors finish up the paving.

Garrison Hale, 1005 Madison Street, asked about the assessment role. Director Wiskow said the project may not be complete until next year.

Bill McKenzie, 1007 Madison Street, asked about a time frame for the project. McKenzie said they will be blocking off the only access he has to his house. Director Wiskow said the contractors will work with the homeowners for access.

The public hearing adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution Ordering Improvement and Preparation of Plans for 2014 Street & Alley Improvement Projects

Motion by Councilor Hadrava, second by Councilor Peterson to adopt Resolution No. 2014-04, “Resolution Ordering Improvement and Preparation of Plans for 2014 Street & Alley Improvement Projects.” Ayes – All.

2. Approve plans and call for bids for Eveleth Library Landscaping and Hockey Plaza Redevelopment

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve plans from Architectural Resources, Inc. for the Eveleth Public Library and the “Big Stick” Plaza. Ayes – All.

3. Authorize purchase of Custom Fire Truck

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Lillis to authorize purchase of a new fire truck in the amount of \$375,243.50 from Custom Fire Apparatus, Inc. Ayes – All.

4. Approve Fire Chief appointment

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Peterson to approve appointment of Scott Haas as Fire Chief effective immediately. Ayes – All.

5. Approve hiring of EMT

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Hadrava to approve hiring Elizabeth Marie Mooreland as Eveleth Ambulance EMT. Ayes – All.

6. Set Public Hearing for Clean Water Revolving Fund Facility Plan (Garfield Street sanitary sewer replacement) for 7:00 p.m. on February 18, 2014

Motion by Councilor Hadrava, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve setting a Public Hearing for Clean Water Revolving Fund Facility Plan (Garfield Street Sanitary Sewer Replacement) for February 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Ayes – All.

7. Consider accepting proposal from Stantec Consulting for renovation of existing restrooms in Eveleth City Auditorium

Motion by Councilor Hadrava, second by Councilor Peterson to accept proposal from Stantec Consulting for renovation of existing restroom in the Eveleth City Auditorium. Ayes – All.

8. Consider authorizing Benchmark Engineering to proceed with engineering field work, and plan and specification preparation for 2014 Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project

The City of Eveleth will be receiving a CDBG grant in the amount of \$90,000 toward replacement of the 8” clay tile sanitary sewer main in the 400 and 700 blocks of Hayes Street. In order to bid the project early, Director Wiskow requested Council approval for Benchmark Engineering to proceed with engineering and filed work for the project.

Motion by Councilor Hadrava, second by Councilor Koivunen to authorize Benchmark Engineering to proceed with engineering field work for replacement of the sanitary sewer main in the 400 and 700 blocks of Hayes Street. Ayes – All.

9. Consider accepting proposal from Architectural Resources for City Hall Transaction Counter Enclosure

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Lillis to accept proposal from Architectural Resources, Inc. in the amount of \$4,350 for designing a transaction counter enclosure at City Hall. Ayes – Peterson, Koivunen, Lillis, Vlasisavljevich. Nays – Hadrava. Motion carried.

10. Requests to Sell Forfeited Vehicles

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Hadrava to authorize Police Chief to sell the following vehicles via the usual and customary competitive bid process:

*Vehicle #1: 1999 Oldsmobile 88, VIN: 1G3HN52KXX4826759
Vehicle #2: 1991 Ford Explorer, VIN: 1FMDU34X1MUE30287*

Ayes – All.

11. Letter from Jeff Torrel requesting to rent the Hippodrome for the 6th annual senior no-check hockey tournament, February 28 – March 2, 2014

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Hadrava to authorize Jeff Torrel and Frank Klabecheck to use the Hippodrome for the 6th Annual Senior No-Check Hockey Tournament for February 28, March 1, and March 2, 2014 in the amount of \$1,200.00. Ayes – All.

K. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Koivunen said the annual pool tournament will be in town next Saturday.

Councilor Hadrava announced that The Bobber Stop ice fishing event will be held at Ely Lake on February 22nd.

Councilor Peterson recently attended a State Economic Competitive Seminar. Peterson said the HRA will be posting for the executive director position.

The Eveleth Parks Commission will be hosting a dedication event at the Northside Park Skating Shack on February 16th. The public is encouraged to attend.

L. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Public Works Director – Director Wiskow said that many potential contractors attended the pre-bid meeting at the City Auditorium yesterday. The original bid date has been moved from February 13 to February 20th at 2:00 p.m. The Council will hold a special meeting on February 24th to approve the bid.

City Engineer – Eric Fallstrom said the soil boring off of Highway 53 is scheduled for the week of February 17th.

Councilor Hadrava questioned the time frame for the power line being installed on the road between Eveleth and West Eveleth. Director Wiskow speculated that it could take Minnesota Power several months to complete the installation of the 115,000 volt line.

The drawing was held for free Minnesota Wild Hockey tickets. The following winners were announced:

March 9th game: Holly Heikkinen
March 22nd game: David and Joanne Johnson

Councilor Lillis congratulated Scott Haas on appointment as Fire Chief. Lillis said Haas is an outstanding servant and he looks forward to having him on board.

M. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Robert Vlasisavljevich, Mayor

Attest:

Jackie Monahan-Junek
City Clerk Administrator

Approved: February 18, 2014
Published: February 28, 2014