

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., September 20, 2011
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the Meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Also present: City 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

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Peterson to approve Minutes of City Council Workshop held September 6, 2011; Minutes of City Council Meeting held September 6, 2011; Minutes of City Council Workshop held September 8, 2011. Ayes – All.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

E. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

F. VISITOR/PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Payroll – August 16-30, 2011 in the amount of \$118,847.53
2. FY 12-13 Agreement between the Minnesota Historical Society and the City of Eveleth – pass through appropriation for the United States Hockey Hall of Fame Museum

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

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. Review of Actions from September 13, 2011 Special City Council Meeting

City Clerk/Administrator Monahan-Junek reviewed actions taken by the City Council at the September 13, 2011 Special City Council Meeting.

2. Consider Quotation from Climate Makers for Boiler and Distribution Repairs at Eveleth Health Services Park

This item will be discussed at the next Council Meeting.

3. Consider Proposal to Conduct a Limited Phase II in the Alice Location (proposed area to be leased by Minnesota Power)

The City Council was provided with a revised cost estimate from NTS for conducting a limited Phase II study in the Alice Location.

Motion by Councilor Hoag, second by Councilor Hadrava to approve the revised proposal from NTS to conduct a limited Phase II environmental site assessment in the amount of \$5,479.00 at the proposed Minnesota Power lease area in the Alice Location. Ayes – All.

4. Letter from Police Commission – Staffing of Police Department/Sharing Police Services

Mayor Vlaisavljevich referred to a letter from the Eveleth Police Commission. Chief Lillis said at their last meeting, the Police Commission discussed giving the Council a letter from their viewpoint to express their desire for the Police Department to remain strong. The Commission also suggested the possibility of exploring shared services with other Cities (i.e. Fayal Township, Gilbert). The Commission is seeking City endorsement and suggesting the Council begin dialogue with other entities.

5. Retirement Notification Letter from Michael Newman, Park & Rec Crew Leader

Councilor Koivunen read a letter from Michael Newman, Park and Rec Crew Leader, who intends to retire October 31, 2011.

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Hoag to accept retirement of Michael Newman as the Eveleth Park and Rec Crew Leader effective October 31, 2011, and to send Newman a letter of thanks for his service to the City. Ayes – All.

6. Consider Authorizing Staff to Post for Park & Rec Crew Leader

Motion by Councilor Hadrava, second by Councilor Peterson to authorize Director of Public Works to post both internally and externally as needed for the Park & Rec Crew Leader position. Ayes – All.

7. Mike Jacobsen Regarding Former Land License in the Alice Location

Mayor Vlaisavljevich said the City is committed to demolishing the Flour & Feed Building. Mike Jacobsen said he would be able to take the building down in a week without charge to the City.

Councilor Peterson said the City has given Jacobsen date after date and none of the deadlines have been met. Jacobsen said the only deadline he did not meet was tearing down the Flour & Feed building in 17 days. Councilor Koivunen reiterated that the City has already made arrangements with a contractor to demolish the building.

Jacobsen said he would have all of his property off the premises by the end of the year. City Attorney Brunfelt recapped the action by the City Council, at the last Council Meeting, which forbids Jacobsen unauthorized entry to the property. Brunfelt said the Council would have to pass a motion for reconsideration to take further action at the next Council Meeting. Brunfelt advised that if action is taken it must be clear. He revealed that Jacobsen has possibly been subletting a building out to another tenant. The former license documents only granted Jacobsen access to the property for a limited purpose. None of the licenses authorized Jacobsen to sublet the buildings to another party.

City Clerk/Administrator Monahan-Junek confirmed that the demolition job has already been awarded to Jola and Sopp.

Chief Lillis questioned the Council's desire as the property is currently sealed for safety concerns under the Council's previous decision to post "No Trespassing" signs on the premises.

Attorney Brunfelt questioned Jacobsen as to where the materials would be stored. Brunfelt emphasized that Jacobsen's belongings need to be moved to a location outside the City limits of Eveleth. Jacobsen assured Brunfelt that he had a site beyond the City's borders.

Motion by Councilor Hadrava, second by Councilor Hoag to reconsider the motion made at the September 6, 2011 Council Meeting and revisit progress at the first Meeting in October 2011. (Ayes - Hadrava, Hoag, Koivunen, Vlasisavljevich; Nays - Peterson. Motion Carried.)

The following is the Motion from the September 6, 2011 meeting which the Council approved reconsidering at the October 4, 2011 Meeting:

“Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Koivunen directing City staff to solicit proposals to remove all buildings and items on the premises, secure the premises to prevent unauthorized entry, and that Michael Jacobsen may contact the Public Works Director to get access to the premises to remove any of his personal belongings from the premises. Ayes – All.”

Attorney Brunfelt recalled the time and money invested and implored Jacobsen to make progress in the next two weeks. In the meantime, Jola and Sopp will work on demolishing the Flour & Feed. Jacobsen should contact the Director of Public Works to make arrangements to move his personal belongings.

K. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Danny Rodgers addressed the Council regarding a 550 gallon underground fuel tank at the Alice Location. Rodgers said he believed it would qualify for funding under the State’s abandoned tank program. The City would need to complete proper documentation and submit to the State.

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Hoag to authorize City staff to prepare and submit documentation to the State Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for the abandoned fuel tank program. Ayes – All.

The Council thanked Rodgers.

L. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Public Works Director: Director of Public Works Wiskow said he spoke with the MPCA regarding the underground tank at Alice Location. Wiskow said if the soil is contaminated at the site the City could potentially be required to pay for removal of the hazardous soil.

Wiskow reminded the public that the refuse collection at the City Garage begins next week. The Garage will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., September 26 to October 21, 2011. Extended hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. will be held October 3-14, 2011.

City Engineer: Eric Fallstrom, Benchmark Engineering, gave an update on the capital improvement projects throughout Eveleth.

Councilor Hoag announced that he will be absent from the October 4, 2011 Council Meeting.

M. ADJOURN

The Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Attest:

Robert Vlasisavljevich, Mayor

Jackie Monahan-Junek
City Clerk/Administrator

Approved: October 4, 2011
Published: October 12, 2011