

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., November 20, 2012
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. ROLL CALL

Councilor Beth Peterson, Present
Councilor Brad Hadrava, Present
Councilor Brian Hoag, Present
Councilor Joseph Koivunen (Acting Mayor), Present
Mayor Robert Vlasisavljevich, Absent

Also present: City Clerk/Administrator Jackie Monahan-Junek; Deputy City Clerk Stephanie Friebe; City Attorney Mitch Brunfelt; Chief of Police Timothy Koivunen; Director of Public Works Michael Wiskow

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Hoag to approve the following minutes:

- 1. Minutes of Special City Council Meeting held September 26, 2012*
- 2. Minutes of Special City Council Meeting held October 10, 2012*
- 3. Minutes of City Council Workshop held October 16, 2012*
- 4. Minutes of City Council Meeting held October 16, 2012*
- 5. Minutes of City Council Workshop held November 8, 2012*
- 6. Minutes of City Council Meeting held November 8, 2012; and*
- 7. Minutes of City Council Workshop held November 13, 2012*

Ayes – All.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

E. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

F. VISITOR/PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

1. Eveleth Heritage Committee Historic Preservation Award

Esther Salmi, Eveleth Heritage Committee, presented the 12th Annual Eveleth Heritage Committee Historic Preservation Award. Salmi said the 2012 theme was “This Place Matters.” Criteria for the award are based on initial character and uniqueness of the building and grounds. This year’s winner is the East Range Development Achievement Center, otherwise known as the Lincoln School Building, at 800 “A” Avenue.

Dale Gilbertson from the East Range Development Achievement Center accepted the award. The center was founded by Josephine Cornish, and other parents, and has been in business since 1966. Gilbertson has been working with the facility for over 30 years. He acknowledged the center’s presence and large employment base in the community. The program provides services by people with disabilities to include cleaning, lawn services, production of rags (thousands of boxes) for the mines, etc. Gilbertson reminded the public of the annual sale of gift baskets and other miscellaneous items at the center.

2. Tom Hall

Tom Hall, owner of Tuna’s Bar, 507 ½ Grant Avenue, Eveleth, addressed the Council. Hall said he would like to know if the Council would be willing to work with him to revive Tuna’s Bar. The liquor license for Tuna’s Bar expired December 31, 2011. Hall said the “place was dumped in his lap” with delinquent taxes around \$10,000; an overdue City utility bill around \$2,000; and a leaky roof. Hall said the County will foreclose the property as of November 30, 2012 if an arrangement is not worked out for the delinquent taxes. Hall does not want to invest money into the property unless he can be guaranteed the City will allow him to operate his business as in the past.

City Attorney Brunfelt said the type of business (a strip club) was essentially grandfathered in because the City’s Zoning Code considers a strip club to be a nonconforming business. By Minnesota Statute, a nonconforming business, which ceases to operate for more than a year, is discontinued and can no longer operate in that zone. A nonconforming business would not qualify for a variance from the zoning ordinance. Brunfelt said the establishment could open later than a year as a bar or saloon, but not a strip club.

Hall said if he applies for and pays the fees now, he is looking at 90 to 120 days before he could be open. Attorney Brunfelt said that pursuant to the Statute, that would not work. Hall said if it is not feasible for his business to operate as before, he will let the County foreclose on the property. Hall said that he does not want to run the business without the dancers.

Brunfelt said that in order to change the City's ordinance, the Planning and Zoning Commission would have to make a recommendation to the Council that the zoning be changed.

Councilor Hoag advised Hall to talk with Tony Jeffries of the Planning Commission.

Hall said he would have to come up with over \$3,300 to stop the County foreclosure. Brunfelt advised Hall that he would also need to be current on utility bills before the City would issue a liquor license.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Payroll – October 16-31, 2012 in the amount of \$109,672.29
2. Resolution No. 2012-26, "Resolution Making Levy and Assessment Against Taxable Properties for Delinquent Water, Garbage and Sewer Collection Accounts."

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

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public Hearing on FY 2013 St. Louis County Community Development Block Grant Program Application

Acting Mayor Koivunen opened the public hearing.

Director Wiskow said the City Council is looking to submit a grant application for the City Auditorium building. The Auditorium was constructed in 1913 and was used as the City's community center until the 1960s. Wiskow said that many citizens in the community would like to see the building open for use.

No one from the audience spoke. The hearing was closed.

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution Authorizing Submittal of Grant Application to the Fiscal Year 2013 St. Louis County Community Development Block Grant Program

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Hoag to approve Resolution No. 2012-27, "Resolution Authorizing Submittal of Grant Application to the Fiscal Year 2013 St. Louis County Community Development Block Grant Program." Ayes – All.

2. Second reading of an Ordinance Rezoning Certain Property within the City Limits of Eveleth (Eastview Addition)

Motion by Councilor Hoag, second by Councilor Peterson to approve second reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 61, 2nd Series, "An Ordinance Rezoning Certain Property within the city Limits of Eveleth (Eastview Addition)." Ayes – All.

3. Second reading of an Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Section 11.08 Accessory Buildings, Subdivision 2 Number (2), and Subdivision 4. Maximum Size (2) of the City Code

Motion by Councilor Hoag, second by Councilor Peterson to approve second reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 62, 2nd Series, "An Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Section 11.08 Accessory Buildings, Subdivision 2 Number (2), and Subdivision 4. Maximum Size (2) of the City Code." Ayes – All.

4. Retirement Notification from Bob Kivela, Assessor/Zoning Administrator

Motion by Councilor Hoag, second by Councilor Hadrava to accept retirement of Robert Kivela as City Assessor/Zoning Administrator and to send Mr. Kivela a letter of thanks for his years of service. Ayes – All.

5. Hire County Assessor to Complete 2013 Reassessment

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Hoag to hire St. Louis County Assessor to complete the City's 2013 reassessment at the prorated six month rate. Ayes – All.

6. Mortgage Satisfaction for Ejay J. & Linda J. Dawson loan (Document Number 0562094)

Motion by Councilor Hadrava, second by Councilor Peterson to approve the Mortgage Satisfaction for Ejay J. & Linda J. Dawson loan (Document Number 0562094). Ayes – All.

7. Consider Wellstone Center (at EHSP) Improvements Bids

The following bids were received on November 15, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. for the Wellstone Center improvements:

TL Construction, Inc.	\$69,800.00
Lenci Enterprises, Inc.	\$79,850.00
Max Gray Construction, Inc.	\$81,000.00

The Wellstone Center was awarded a grant from the IRRRB for the improvements.

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor Hoag to approve the bid from TL Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$69,800.00 for improvements at the Eveleth Health Services Park Wellstone Center contingent upon City Clerk Administrator meeting with the Wellstone staff to inform them that the bid does not include an outside shelter. Ayes – All.

8. Letter from Eveleth Westside Civic League regarding funds for West Eveleth playground improvements

Acting Mayor Koivunen read a letter from the Westside Civic League. The League has secured payment for \$15,524 out of a \$16,872 playground equipment cost and is requesting the City pay the remaining \$1,348.

Motion by Councilor Hoag, second by Councilor Peterson to pay remaining balance in the amount of \$1,348 towards playground equipment at the West Eveleth playground area and to authorize the City Public Works Department to install the equipment. Ayes – All.

9. Consider extension to agreement for Golf Course Clubhouse Manager

Motion by Councilor Hoag, second by Councilor Hadrava to accept recommendation from the Eveleth Golf Course Commission to extend the agreement for Golf Course Clubhouse Manager with John Rinne for the years 2014-2016. Ayes – All.

The current agreement with Golf Course Manager John Rinne will expire on September 30, 2013.

K. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Peterson commented that the HRA is implementing many changes and are getting control of the facilities.

Councilor Hadrava attended the Retirement Roast for Tom Rukavina. Hadrava congratulated Rukavina on his retirement.

Councilor Hadrava said the State of Hockey Capital flag and jersey will be moved from the school to the Hippodrome with a final resting place at the Hockey Hall of Fame Museum.

L. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Public Works Director: Director Wiskow informed the public that yard waste will be taken at the City Garage until the snow falls.

Clerk-Administrator: Monahan-Junek thanked all involved for decorating City Hall for Christmas.

City Attorney Brunfelt drew the name for the Wild Hockey tickets give-away. Joann Korpi was selected as the winner of the tickets.

Loretta Nemanick, audience member, said she donated money towards the scoreboard at the Hipp and wondered when the new board would be placed. Tim Koivunen said that Eveleth Youth Hockey was not able to raise enough money this year, but the funds will remain designated towards the board.

J. NEW BUSINESS *Continued*

10. Closed session to develop an offer for the purchase of real property

The Council went into closed session at 7:50 p.m. to develop an offer for the purchase of real property.

M. ADJOURN

The Council reconvened the meeting to adjourn at 8:14 p.m.

Attest:

Joseph Koivunen, Acting Mayor

Jackie Monahan-Junek
City Clerk/Administrator

Approved: December 4, 2012
Published: December 12, 2012