

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Workshop
November 22, 2011
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN
5:30 p.m.

Council Present: Mayor Vlasisavljevich, Councilor Hadrava, Councilor Peterson

5:30 p.m.: Tour 206 Monroe St, AEOA / Olde Town Eveleth Neighborhood Revitalization House Rehabilitation

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

1. Discuss Staffing Vacant Patrol Officer Position

The Mayor stated he would like to wait until after the truth-in-taxation public hearing to make a decision on the vacant position. Chief Lillis reported that there will be 23 overtime days in November. So far, December has 18 scheduled overtime days. Lillis explained the process to hire a new officer, stating it is an investment of time and money. There was a dialogue about Eveleth's discussions with Gilbert regarding the potential sharing of police services. The Chief and Monahan-Junek attended one meeting with Gilbert and Biwabik. More information will be forthcoming in December 2011. Lillis shared crime stats for Eveleth and Gilbert. He also explained the use of technology advancements in the department and stated that managing parking tickets is a time consuming task (previously done by the District Court). Once there is approval to fill the vacant position, it can take approximately two weeks to get an officer on board (if we hire a part-time patrol officer that has worked for the City) or six to eight weeks if we hire an entry level patrol officer.

There was discussion about Fayal police service and stated curiosity if Fayal would approach Eveleth to provide a quote to provide police service (level of service must be defined). Lillis indicated that if the department were fully staffed, the City could respond to a proposal from Fayal if asked.

The 2012 police department budget includes the open patrol officer position that was vacated in 2009.

2. 2012 Budget

The City Council will have a workshop on December 13, 2011 at 5:30 p.m., at city hall to discuss the budget and give staff final input for the December 20, 2011 City Council meeting where the City Council will adopt the 2012 budget and set the final 2012 levy.

Action Alert from the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities – Councilor Peterson will draft a letter to the editor that will be reviewed by the Mayor and Councilor Hadrava before it is sent to the newspaper.

3. Highway 53/Hatrick Ave. Semaphore

MnDOT is conducting the traffic count. The Council directed staff to send a letter to our state and federal legislators requesting that the City get an exemption to install a semaphore due to safety reasons.

4. Leonidas Fire Contract

The City of Leonidas is requesting that the current fire contract be renewed at the same rate for another two years. The current rate is \$416 per month and has remained unchanged for at least 6 years. In 2009, the City of Leonidas started charging the City of Eveleth to use their community center as an Eveleth voting precinct and re-instated charging the City of Eveleth a yearly lease fee of \$300 for the West Eveleth playground.

The City Council directed Monahan-Junek to contact Leonidas and offer to extend the current fire contract at the same rate for 2 years if Leonidas agrees to not charge the City for use of their community center for elections and meetings, and to not charge an annual lease fee for the West Eveleth playground.

5. Former A-1 Oil Site Release - not discussed due to time constraints.

6. Chicken Ordinance – Councilor Peterson – not discussed due to time constraints.

7. Agenda Q&A

Monahan-Junek handed out and explained the pay request for J8.; the resolution authorizing Making Application for Funds from the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to Deliver a Rental Rehabilitation Program for the Iron Range (from Hibbing to Hoyt Lakes) for new item J9.; and Pay Equity Compliance Plan for new item J10.