

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Workshop
February 18, 2014
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN
6:15 p.m.

Council present: Councilor Beth Peterson, Councilor Brad Hadrava, Councilor Brian Lillis, Councilor Joseph Koivunen, Mayor Robert Vlasisavljevich

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

1. Discuss financing for purchase of a front-end loader

The Council discussed purchasing a new front-end loader.

2. Discuss calling for quotations for the purchase of one (1) ½ ton 4x4 pickup and one (1) ¾ ton 4x4 pickup

Director Wiskow requested authorization to call for quotations for a ½ ton 4 x 4 pickup and a ¾ ton 4 x 4 pickup. The purchases were approved for the 2014 budget.

3. Legislative Priorities

The Council discussed priorities to be presented on March 5, 2014 for Legislative Action Day. The following were discussed: taconite distribution formula, Homes for All, City Auditorium, water tower renovation, roof on the pavilion at the Eveleth Veterans Lake Park, funds to connect the frontage road off of Highway 53, and bonding to move Highway 53.

4. Update on VEEDA changes and Highway 53 Pavement Settlement

The Eveleth EDA voted to change the way VEEDA is organized. The decision was announced at the last VEEDA meeting. Glen Patrick, VEEDA, has been waiting to receive some information from Nemanick regarding the pavement repair on Highway 53. The payment issue has not yet been settled.

5. Discuss Casual Pay Rates

Councilor Koivunen said was asked about the pay rate for casual laborers. Discussion took place on raising the rate from \$9.00 to \$11.00 an hour for senior laborers and from \$7.25 to \$8.00 for student workers.

6. Discuss Resolution of Support of Polymet

Councilor Peterson was not in agreement with the statement regarding SDEIS. That portion of the proposed resolution will be removed. The revised resolution will be brought to the next Council meeting for adoption.

7. Update on IRRRB Assisted Living Grant Application

Mayor Vlaisavljevich said the IRRRB is considering options on how to switch the assisted living grant application monies. Tony Sertich said the auditor does not approve separating the grant.

8. Safety Committee requests

The Safety Committee would like to bring a recommendation to the Council to ban all smoking in City vehicles. Director Wiskow referred to the Freedom to Breathe Act. City Clerk Monahan-Junek discussed the City's gun policy for employees. The Council was receptive to a re-write of the City's gun policy.

9. Discuss freezing water lines

Director Wiskow announced the running water advisory for all City of Eveleth and Leonidas residents. Residents are to run water the size of a pencil from one faucet until further notice. The City will adjust water bills.

10. Agenda Q&A

Eric Fallstrom, Benchmark Engineering, indicated six soil borings were done off of Highway 53 on Station Road 44. The land looks suitable for development. A wetland delineation will need to be done.