

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Workshop
8:00 a.m., April 15, 2015
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

Mayor Robert Vlasisavljevich, Present
Councilor Brian Hoag, Present
Councilor Brad Hadrava, Absent
Councilor Brian Lillis, Present
Councilor Joseph Koivunen, Present

Also present: City Clerk Administrator Jackie Monahan-Junek; Deputy City Clerk Stephanie Friebe; City Attorney Bonnie Thayer; Chief of Police Timothy Koivunen; Director of Public Works Mike Wiskow, Zoning Administrator Tony Jeffries

1. Discuss Carter Circle lots

City Clerk Administrator Monahan-Junek received a quote from Benchmark Engineering that it would cost around \$30,000 to run utility service to the lots. Discussion took place on whether or not to subdivide the lots. Mayor Vlasisavljevich asked if Benchmark could stake the property so that interested buyers could see the lot divisions.

The Council would like to move along with the process in order to allow potential property owners to start building.

2. Discuss delinquent Community Development loan

This item will be discussed at the April 22nd workshop meeting.

3. Discuss Katherine's House, 426 Monroe Street

The Council was recently given a copy of a brochure advertisement for Katherine's House located at 426 Monroe Street.

Mayor Vlasisavljevich voiced his concerns about public safety issues related to the project lead by Shelly Holmes. Vlasisavljevich said the mix of vulnerable adults living with children is concerning.

City Clerk Administrator Monahan-Junek met with Ms. Holmes back in January. At that time, Monahan-Junek advised Holmes that she should meet with the City Council and Police Chief to discuss her plans.

Zoning Administrator Tony Jeffries said he began working with Ms. Holmes about a year ago. Holmes indicated she was interested in opening a facility for battered women which would require the women to sign a lease. Jeffries did not see this as changing the current use of the building.

Mayor Vlasisavljevich said that the brochure is different than what was presented.

Jeffries said he was made aware of the brochure yesterday and was surprised.

Vlasisavljevich said the City Attorney needs to send a letter to Ms. Holmes indicating the project is not in compliance with zoning and they are prohibited from opening.

Councilor Lillis said there is a big difference between a safe house and a rehab center.

Councilor Koivunen said that Ms. Holmes should be here meeting with the Council.

Jeffries said Ms. Holmes was strongly encouraged to meet with the City Council, Police Chief and Fire Chief. He said that the center would have two full time medical personnel on staff.

Councilor Hoag said usually these types of facilities have nurses' aides on duty as the patients are not acutely ill. A registered nurse is often on call.

Mayor Vlasisavljevich questioned how Holmes had time to meet with Commissioner Nelson and Senator Tomassoni, but not to contact the City Council.

Police Chief Koivunen said he went over to meet with Administrator Hannah Gurno at Katherine's House. Koivunen voiced his concerns to Ms. Gurno over the information on the brochure. He strongly encouraged them to meet with the City Council. He said they are hoping to open on May 15th.

Vlasisavljevich said this project is not compliant to zoning and is prohibited from operating.

Councilor Koivunen reiterated that Ms. Holmes should be here, and said the Council does not want second hand information.

Vlasisavljevich said the project is vastly different from what was presented, and does not have Council approval. He is worried about safety of the children.

Councilor Lillis said it would nice if she could "put us in the mix."

Jeffries revealed that Ms. Holmes was well underway with the renovations before he was contacted.

Chief Koivunen said the facility plans to have 16 cameras, but did not know if they would be controlled cameras.

Councilor Lillis agreed that a reassessment of the zoning should be done to see if it meets the requirements.

City Attorney Thayer will draft a letter to Ms. Holmes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 a.m.