

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Workshop
6:15 p.m., May 20, 2014
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

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; City Attorney Mitch Brunfelt; Chief of Police Timothy Koivunen; Director of Public Works Michael Wiskow; Eric Fallstrom, Benchmark Engineering; Consultant Dave Salene

Dave Salene gave an update on Chicagami. The school district would like to get a memo from the City Council indicating the City is working with Chicagami. Chicagami is in the process of getting financial statements to Salene.

Councilor Hadrava asked about using the church building, current Senior Center, across from the Eveleth Library. Salene said there is a potential buyer for the building, and the church would need to be rehabbed. Hadrava asked if it would be more feasible to retrofit an existing building, or construct a new building. Salene said they have not found available buildings that would meet Chicagami's needs. It may be more cost effective to construct a new building.

Councilor Hadrava said he wants the City to support Chicagami, but would also like to see the school "have a leg in it." Salene said the current superintendent is very aware of the impact the school and community would feel without Chicagami.

1. Discuss City Owned Clinic Building

City Clerk/Administrator Monahan-Junek has not heard back from Dr. Draper regarding the temporary lease agreement. Mayor Vlasisavljevich said that Dr. Draper has been seeing patients. Attorney Brunfelt advised that since Draper has not signed a lease, the City would have to take action to evict him.

Salene voiced his opinion that the Council would need to act, and recommended an eviction. Salene said the City has not been coming out ahead financially. He said if the nursing home is going to continue to operate effectively, there needs to be a relationship with a physician who will care for the patients. Salene said it would be difficult to recruit a new physician without a clean slate, and the facility needs to be cleaned up.

Councilor Koivunen said the people need to know that Dr. Draper has not been paying taxes. The building needs to be taken care of.

City Clerk/Administrator Monahan-Junek said it could take over a year to recruit a new physician. The last payment from Dr. Draper was made in May of last year. He owes the City over \$20,000 in rent.

Councilor Lillis questioned whether or not the City would still evict if Dr. Draper makes payment in full. Salene opined that once started with the eviction, the City should complete the process.

Mayor Vlasisavljevich said the City needs a medical doctor who will be there for the nursing home.

2. Funding 2014 Projects

City Clerk/Administrator distributed financing information for the 2014 projects.

3. Discuss submitting requests for placement on Intended Use Plans (IUP) for the Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF) and the Clean Water Revolving Fund (CWRF) for the Garfield Street Water and Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project in 2015

Director Wiskow discussed placement on the Intended Use Plans. The Council has set the 2015 Garfield Street Improvement as a priority. The West Eveleth Water Tower will also be added as a priority. Wiskow estimated the cost for the water tower would run \$400,000 to \$500,000.

4. Discuss final assessment roll for 2010 Grant Avenue/Park Avenue Street Reconstruction Project

The public hearing for the 2010 Grant Avenue/Park Avenue Street Reconstruction Project will be held July 1, 2014.

5. Discuss purchase of wheel loader and loader-mounted snow blower

Director Wiskow recommended the City purchase the Caterpillar 938K wheel loader, and the Sno Go MP3D mounted snow blower.

6. Update on St. Louis County's request to acquire Biosolids Disposal Site Authority (BDSA) property

Not discussed due to time constraints.

7. Discuss City Auditorium parking lot and City parking lot east of Grant Avenue between Pierce & Monroe Streets – Councilor Koivunen

Not discussed due to time constraints.

8. Discuss providing Police service to Leonidas

The City of Leonidas contacted Police Chief Koivunen to request the City of Eveleth provide police service. Currently, Leonidas contracts with the St. Louis County Sheriff's Department. Chief Koivunen provided law enforcement activity information for Leonidas over the last year. They had 106 contacts which included over 40 traffic stops and a couple of home visits.

Attorney Brunfelt advised the City would need to establish a fee for the service. The Councils' consensus was to charge \$50.00 per month for police service.

9. Discuss changes to sign ordinance

Not discussed due to time constraints.

10. Agenda Q&A

The following item was removed from the Agenda:

J8. Resolution Authorizing Conveyance of Real Estate and Purchase Agreement between City of Eveleth and Paul D. Lussier and Deniese Lussier