

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Meeting
5:00 p.m., February 1, 2022
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Councilor Jim Perpich, Present
Councilor John Rauzi, Present
Councilor Brian Lillis, Present
Councilor Joseph Koivunen, Present
Mayor Robert Vlasisavljevich, Present

Also present: City Clerk Administrator Jackie Monahan-Junek; Deputy City Clerk Stephanie Friebe; City Attorney Karl Sundquist; Public Works Director Jerry Rosati; Police Chief Jesse Linde; Alan Johnson, Benchmark Engineering

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Rauzi to approve the following minutes:

- 1. Minutes of City Council Meeting held January 18, 2022; and*
- 2. Minutes of City Council Workshop held January 25, 2022.*

Ayes – All.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve agenda with the following addition:

I.10 Appoint Two Council Members to Joint Rec Board Committee

Ayes – All.

E. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

- 1. Commission/Board Application from Timothy Nybo for the Joint Cable TV Access Board**

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Perpich to appoint Timothy Nybo to the Joint Cable TV Access Board for the term 2/1/2022 to 3/1/2025. Ayes – All.

F. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approval of Payroll – January 1-15, 2022 in the amount of \$124,254.21**
- 2. Approval of Claims – January 2022 in the amount of \$545,951.25**
- 3. Audit Proposal from Walker, Giroux & Hahne LLC for YE 2021, 2022, 2023**

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes – All.

G. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

I. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Authorize Preparation of Feasibility Study for replacement of West Eveleth sanitary sewer force main**

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Perpich to authorize Preparation of Feasibility Study for replacement of West Eveleth sanitary sewer force main. Ayes – All.

- 2. Cooperative Agreement between the County of St. Louis and the City of Eveleth (Roosevelt Avenue & Douglas Avenue Water & Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project)**

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve Cooperative Agreement between the County of St. Louis and the City of Eveleth (Roosevelt Avenue & Douglas Avenue Water & Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project). Ayes – All.

- 3. Approve Roosevelt Avenue & Douglas Avenue Water & Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project costs as bid by St. Louis County**

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Perpich to approve Roosevelt Avenue & Douglas Avenue Water & Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project costs as bid by St. Louis County. Ayes – All.

The City will be responsible for the sanitary sewer and water portion of the Roosevelt Avenue & Douglas Avenue project.

4. Resolution Authorizing Making Loan Applications to the Public Facilities Authority Clean Water Revolving Fund and Drinking Water Revolving Fund for Roosevelt Avenue & Douglas Avenue Water & Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Rauzi to adopt Resolution No. 2022-03, “Resolution Authorizing Making Loan Applications to the Public Facilities Authority Clean Water Revolving Fund and Drinking Water Revolving Fund for Roosevelt Avenue & Douglas Avenue Water & Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project.” Ayes – All.

5. Letter from Jeff Torrel requesting to rent the Hippodrome March 4-6, 2022 for 13th annual senior no-check hockey tournament

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve request from Jeff Torrel to rent the Hippodrome for the 13th Annual Senior No-Check Hockey Tournament to be held March 4-6, 2022. Ayes – All.

Councilor Koivunen commented that this event brings a lot of people to town each year which helps out local businesses. Mayor Vlasisavljevich suggested the City revisit the possible purchase of the building right across from the Hippodrome. He said perhaps the owner would sell the building which could be removed to install a parking lot. This would help eliminate off street parking during events at the Hippodrome.

6. Approval of Airport Rescue Grant Grant Agreement

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Rauzi to approve Airport Rescue Grant Offer, Grant No. 3-27-0028-018-2022 for the Eveleth-Virginia Municipal Airport. Ayes – All.

7. Resolution Accepting Donations for Ambulance Service New Ambulance and Power Cot Upgrade

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Lillis to adopt Resolution No. 2022-04, “Resolution Accepting Donations for Ambulance Service New Ambulance and Power Cot Upgrade,” and to send a letter of thanks. Ayes – All.

The Eveleth Ambulance received donations from the Central Lakes Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$2,500 and the Eveleth Elks Lodge #1161 (through the Eveleth Paid-On-Call Fire Fighters Relief Association) in the amount of \$2,005.

8. Resolution Authorizing the City of Eveleth to Make Application to and Accept Funds from the Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation (Hancock Fabrication, Inc.)

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Perpich to adopt Resolution No. 2022-05, “Resolution Authorizing the City of Eveleth to Make Application to and Accept Funds from the Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation (Hancock Fabrication, Inc.).” Ayes – All.

The City of Eveleth will act as the fiscal agent.

9. Resignation letter from Cassaundra Jelen, EMT.

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve resignation of Cassaundra Jelen from the Eveleth Ambulance and to send a letter of thanks for her service. Ayes – All.

10. Appoint Two Council Members to Joint Rec Board Committee

The Joint Rec Board will to continue to operate the rec programs for the time being. In the meantime, the Joint Rec Board will need to consider hiring an interim director to replace Craig Homala upon his retirement. The Joint Rec Board will explore possible consolidations with the Rock Ridge School District Community Education Program.

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Lillis to appoint Councilor Perpich and Councilor Rauzi as City Council Liaisons for the Joint Rec Board Committee to work with the Rock Ridge School District to determine possible consolidations of joint recreation programs and Community Ed. Ayes – All.

The goal is to work with the other communities (Gilbert, Fayal, School District) and communicate to the community what the process will be moving forward.

J. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Rauzi reported that the HRA is still looking for someone to replace the administrative assistant who is set to retire.

Rauzi also reported on the recent EDA Meeting. He said there was discussion on a banner program and making certain sites around Eveleth look more presentable.

Councilor Perpich asked City Attorney Sundquist how the blight ordinance is progressing. Attorney Sundquist said it is getting very close to completion, and once finalized the purpose of the ordinance will be to speed up the blight process.

Councilor Rauzi discussed calendar parking. Rauzi said he personally has three vehicles which have to be moved back and forth. He recognized the reason for calendar parking is to maintain the streets. Rauzi questioned whether or not the hours could be changed to make it

more convenient for residents. Chief Police Linde and Public Works Director Rosati will discuss this issue and report back to the Council.

K. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Dawn Adamic of 106 Roosevelt was the winner of two Minnesota Wild Hockey game tickets for the March 6th game.

L. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.