

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Special Meeting
10:00 a.m., March 10, 2021
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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; Police Chief Tim Koivunen, Deputy Police Chief Jesse Linde; Public Works Director Jerry Rosati; City Attorney Mitch Brunfelt

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Letter of Understanding Between the City of Eveleth, Minnesota and the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union on behalf of Local No. 6860-05

City Attorney Brunfelt clarified that the Letter of Understanding is an agreement to waive the retirement notice requirement under the union contract due to unique circumstances. Brunfelt said this does not set a precedence or set up past practice claims.

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve Letter of Understanding Between the City of Eveleth, Minnesota and the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union on behalf of Local No. 6860-05. Ayes – All.

2. Appointment of Police Chief

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Lillis to appoint Jesse Linde as Chief of Police starting at the 4-year salary step within the union contract. Ayes – All.

Councilor Lillis requested a photo be taken of the three generations of Eveleth Police Chiefs in attendance at the meeting (Councilor Brian Lillis, Tim Koivunen and Jesse Linde).

- 3. Authorize posting for Deputy Chief position per the Agreement between the City of Eveleth and the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union on behalf of Local No. 6860-05, and authorize external posting for Deputy Chief if there is no qualified candidate from Local No. 6860-05**

Discussion took place on posting the notice for the Deputy Chief position. Although there are no qualified candidates within the Local No. 6860-05, the City is required to post for seven days. After that time, the City would be posting outside of the Local No. 6860-05 union for the Deputy Chief position. Councilor Lillis said he would like to keep promotions within the department if possible. Councilor Koivunen agreed that he would like to keep the promotions in house. Attorney Brunfelt advised that the Council has discretionary authority to post for existing city employees only. Brunfelt said the Council could ultimately decide to accept applications from the outside if there is no one qualified internally.

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Rauzi to authorize posting for Deputy Chief position per the Agreement between the City of Eveleth and the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union on behalf of Local No. 6860-05, if there is not a qualified candidate for Deputy Chief from Local No. 6860-05, to authorize internal posting for existing Eveleth City employees only; if the City does not find an acceptable candidate within the pool of applicants internally to authorize the City to seek outside applicants. Ayes – All.

Deputy Chief Jesse Linde was sworn in as the new Eveleth Police Chief.

D. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.