

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Meeting
3:00 p.m., August 3, 2021
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the meeting to order at 3:05 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; Police Chief Jesse Linde; Public Works Director Jerry Rosati; City Attorney Karl Sundquist; 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 July 6, 2021; and*
2. *Minutes of Special City Council Meeting held July 15, 2021*

Ayes – All.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Change resolution title from:

I8. Resolution Authorizing the City of Eveleth to Make Application to and Accept Funds from the Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation for Roosevelt Avenue & Douglas Avenue Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project

to:

18. Resolution Authorizing the City of Eveleth to Make Application to and Accept Funds from the Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation

Ayes – All.

E. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

F. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approval of Payroll – June 16-30, 2021 in the amount of \$135,852.34**
- 2. Approval of Claims – July 2021 in the amount of \$836,406.96**
- 3. Request for Sergeant Elias to attend 2021 National Patrol Dog 1 Field Trials, September 19-23, 2021, Carolina Beach, NC**

Eveleth Police Sergeant Brandon Elias explained the week-long training request. Elias reported that Eveleth’s canine, “Bear” is certified. The National Patrol Dog training would further prepare Elias and Bear on obedience, distance, walking, agility, article search, suspect search and apprehension (bite, suspect search, criminal apprehension). Elias said that Bear has qualified the last 4 years for the national level. He said they put in a ton of time together training. Councilor Rauzi commented that he is favor if this training is beneficial to Sergeant Elias, Bear and the City of Eveleth.

Mayor Vlasisavljevich said the canine has been received so well from the community. Everyone is proud of the Elias and Bear team.

Councilor Koivunen said the City picked the right person for Bear. He commended Elias for his time and working with Bear 24/7.

Mayor Vlasisavljevich said he is a big advocate of training which incorporates real life experiences.

- 4. Authorize new account at Miners National Bank of Eveleth for accepting credit card payments for City services**

City Clerk Administrator Monahan-Junek explained the need for a separate banking account for all credit card transactions to pass through. The City is working to integrate a system which will allow credit card payments.

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

G. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. Purchase Agreement and Resolution Authorizing Conveyance of Real Estate to Joseph Strlekar and Joan Strlekar

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Rauzi to approve Purchase Agreement and Resolution Authorizing Conveyance of Real Estate to Joseph Strlekar and Joan Strlekar for the purchase of Lot 8D, 17th Avenue West, Eveleth. Ayes – All.

2. Right of Entry Agreement between City of Eveleth and Scenic Rivers Health Services, Inc.

The City has a Right of Entry Agreement with Scenic Rivers for the City owned clinic building located at 239 McKinley Avenue. This agreement would allow for an extension and would expire September 28, 2021.

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve Right of Entry Agreement between City of Eveleth and Scenic Rivers Health Services, Inc. Ayes – All.

3. Proposal from NTS for consulting services

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Perpich to approve the proposal from NTS for consulting services for the environmental review of the demolition of the former Manual Training Building. Ayes – All.

4. Pay Request No. 3 from Veit and Company in the amount of \$474,692.98 for Garfield Street Reconstruction

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Perpich to approve Pay Request No. 3 from Veit and Company in the amount of \$474,692.98 for Garfield Street Reconstruction. Ayes – All.

Alan from Benchmark Engineering reported that the project is going well. The utilities are in and the contractors are now working on the surface improvements.

5. Promotions of Police Patrol Officers to Sergeant

The Eveleth Public Safety Committee conducted promotional interviews for two Sergeant positions on July 15, 2021.

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve promoting Patrol Officers Richard High and Christopher Melin to the position of Sergeant effective August 4, 2021. Ayes – All.

6. Proposed contract for parking ticket processing

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Rauzi to approve contract with United Public Safety for parking ticket processing system. Ayes – All.

Councilor Perpich and Councilor Lillis discussed blight citations. This program would be able to handle other citations; however, the Police Department is looking at using the system primarily for parking tickets at this time. Councilor Lillis clarified that timelines and many variables that are involved with blight citations often get held up at the Court level.

7. Letter from City of Virginia regarding their application for financial assistance to USDA for the new regional Virginia Public Safety Center

The Council would like more information. This item was tabled.

8. Resolution Authorizing the City of Eveleth to Make Application to and Accept Funds from the Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation

This resolution approves the Commercial Redevelopment Grant Application for construction of a drive-in loading dock at 1042 Progress Parkway (owned by VEEDA and leased to United Glass, Inc).

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Koivunen to adopt Resolution No. 2021-19, “Resolution Authorizing the City of Eveleth to Make Application to and Accept Funds from the Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation.” Ayes – All.

9. Renewal for 2 am License/Permit for Susan Gulbranson, dba Sue’s Penalty Box, 311 Grant Avenue, Eveleth

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Perpich to approve 2 AM License/Permit for Susan Gulbranson, dba Sue’s Penalty Box, 311 Grant Avenue, Eveleth. Ayes – All.

10. Letter from Eveleth Elks Corn Feed and Classic Car Show

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Lillis to authorize street closures of Grant Avenue from Jackson to Monroe Street and Jones Street from Adams Avenue to

Douglas Avenue along with the Grant at Jones parking lot beginning at 2:30 p.m. for the Eveleth Elks Corn Feed and Classic Car Show to be held on August 27, 2021. Ayes – All.

The Corn Feed will be held from 4 to 7 p.m.

11. Consider approving Fall 2021 Refuse Collection and Yard Waste Pickup Schedule

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Rauzi to approve Fall 2021 Refuse Collection and Yard Waste Pickup Schedule. Ayes – All.

Eveleth residents can dispose of their garbage at the City Garage beginning September 20 to October 11, 2021 from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Councilor Rauzi reiterated that this service is available to Eveleth residents only and proof of residency is required.

J. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Vlasisavljevich attended a recent Airport Seaplane Base meeting. Vlasisavljevich said the City is looking to limit its financial liability. He said everyone wants to see it open, and that they made some good progress.

K. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Police Chief – Police Chief Linde announced the National Night Out activities will be held today from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Eveleth Veterans Lake Park.

Councilor Lillis reported on the July Fire Shared Services Committee Meeting and indicated they are still moving forward and will continue to update the Council as they progress. The Committee will not meet in August, but will start up again in September. Councilor Rauzi said he was excited on the progress. The Committee is currently working on the Joint Powers Agreement. Councilor Lillis said they want to make sure the Joint Powers Agreement is done right as it is the driving force for everything else.

L. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m.