

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Meeting
5:00 p.m., September 17, 2019
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Councilor John Rauzi, Present
Councilor Brad Hadrava, Present
Councilor Brian Lillis, Present
Councilor Joseph Koivunen, Present
Mayor Robert Vlasisavljevich, Present

Also present: Deputy City Clerk Stephanie Friebe; Public Works Director Jerry Rosati;
Police Chief Tim Koivunen; Alan Johnson, Benchmark Engineering

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

1. *Minutes of City Council Workshop Meeting held September 3, 2019; and*
2. *Minutes of City Council Meeting held September 3, 2019.*

Ayes – All.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Hadrava to approve the agenda with removal of the following item:

G3. 2019 Land Licenses in Alice Location (revised Land License)

Ayes – All.

E. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

F. VISITOR/PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Payroll – August 16-31, 2019 in the amount of \$148,162.41
2. Request to make additional principal payment on Medical Office Building Bond (General Obligation Revenue Bond, Series 2008C)
3. 2019 Land Licenses in Alice Location (revised Land License) - **removed**

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve Consent Agenda Items G1 and G2. Ayes – All.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution Abolishing Eveleth Fire Commission

Mayor Vlasisavljevich said the duties of the Fire Commission have been replaced by the Council Members as the Fire Commission has had vacancies. Vlasisavljevich would like to see more community involvement in the future with development of a public safety committee. Councilor Lillis clarified that the affairs of the fire and police commissions will be dealt with in the interim through the Council's public safety committee.

Councilor Rauzi said the explanation from the City Attorney was very thorough and the reasons were good for abolishing the two commissions. Mayor Vlasisavljevich said the City Council needs to hold a few meetings to determine member numbers and operation of the public safety committee. Councilor Lillis concurred with Councilor Rauzi on the attorney's explanation and the reasoning and logic to move on with the existing commission. Lillis said there was a stage that he was not in favor of abolishing the fire and police commissions, but that he had changed his opinion as times have changed. Lillis thanked all those past commission members for their service over the years (since the 1930s).

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Hadrava to adopt Resolution No. 2019-20, "Resolution Abolishing Eveleth Fire Commission." Ayes – All.

2. Resolution Abolishing Eveleth Police Commission

Mayor Vlaisavljevich said he hopes to foster some community involvement with the public safety committee. Councilor Lillis clarified that the Police Commission would be abolished effective October 1, 2019.

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Hadrava to adopt Resolution No. 2019-21, "Resolution Abolishing Eveleth Police Commission." Ayes – All.

3. Application for Exempt Permit from Eveleth Youth Hockey Association

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Hadrava to approve Application for Exempt Permit from the Eveleth Youth Hockey Association for raffle to be held at the Eveleth Elks Club, 415 ½ Jones Street, Eveleth, MN on November 29, 2019. Ayes – All.

4. Lease Agreement between United Taconite LLC and City of Eveleth for seasonal storage of recreational vehicles, camper trailers, or boats

The agreement will allow the City to create parking spaces for storage of recreational vehicles on land owned by Untied Taconite. Councilor Hadrava said he appreciates the cooperation from the mining company.

Motion by Councilor Hadrava, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve the Lease Agreement between United Taconite LLC and City of Eveleth for seasonal storage of recreational vehicles, camper trailers, or boats. Ayes – All.

Councilor Lillis clarified that the property is behind Cleveland Street (200 Block). Mayor Vlaisavljevich said the Council will need to hold a workshop meeting to determine the number of parking spots. He does not want to see this site turn into a junkyard.

5. Request from Eveleth Heritage Society to use the Auditorium November 2, 2019

Bill Aho, Eveleth Heritage Society, addressed the Council regarding the Society's request to use the Eveleth Auditorium for an event on November 2, 2019. This will be the first major fundraising event for the Society as a non-profit organization. They will be hosting a screening of the 1984 film *Wildrose*, which was filmed in Eveleth. They anticipate appearances by Director John Hanson as well as other cast and crew members. Aho requested use of the Auditorium and that the rental fee be waived. Proceeds from this event will be used by the Eveleth Heritage Society to digitalize newspapers and care for the archived collections.

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Hadrava to authorize the Eveleth Heritage Society to use the Auditorium on November 2, 2019 and to waive the rental fee. Ayes – All.

Anyone who was involved in the movie and is interested in attending the event should contact Tucker Nelson at 218-780-4594.

Aho reminded the Council to keep moving forward with the entrance sign on Highway 53 to give Eveleth some recognition.

6. Proposal from NTS regarding Eveleth Wastewater Treatment Plant Permit

Mayor Vlasisavljevich said the City must renew its Wastewater Treatment Plant Permit every five years with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Vlasisavljevich would like to meet with the MPCA to discuss the changes and requirements they are expecting the City to make. Councilor Hadrava agreed that this should be further investigated as some of the proposed changes could be very expensive to the City. Vlasisavljevich said there should be a specific reason for the changes—a problem that they are trying to address.

K. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Rauzi said the boards at the hockey rink in West Eveleth are coming along. Councilor Koivunen said it is nice to see everyone pitching in and working together. Director Rosati said the City did some work on the boards at the Franklin School rink. The boards are solid for now and the rink can be used this winter. Councilor Koivunen said he enjoys driving around on a Saturday afternoon during the winter to see all the rinks full and being used.

L. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Public Works Director – Director Rosati reported that the utility and ground work at the 300 Block of Jackson Street will take over a week once they get moving. The rain has put a hold on the project. Fall Clean Up has begun and the dumpsters are at the City Garage. The Garage will be open later until 6:00 p.m. starting Monday for the next two weeks for residents who are unable to get there during the day.

City Engineer – Alan Johnson indicated Jola & Sopp is finishing up the Douglas Court Project. There are some punch list items to complete. The Council will probably see a pay request at the next Council Meeting.

Mayor Vlasisavljevich said that the CNN news crew will be in town the next couple of days. They will be looking for comments from the public.

M. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.