

**MINUTES**  
**Eveleth City Council Special Meeting**  
**9:00 a.m., September 29, 2022**  
**City Hall, 413 Pierce Street, Eveleth, MN**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.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; Assistant Public Works Director Mark Karpen

**C. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Consider Facilities Use Agreement between the City of Eveleth and Independent School District No. 2909, Rock Ridge Public Schools**

Mayor Vlasisavljevich along with Councilors Koivunen and Perpich attended the Rock Ridge School District Board Meeting on September 26, 2022. Mayor Vlasisavljevich spoke at the meeting regarding the City's desire to divide high school hockey ice time equally at 50/50 between the Eveleth Hippodrome and the Virginia's Iron Range Trail Motors ice arena. At the September 26, 2022 meeting, the School Board did not bend in their proposal to give Eveleth 150 hours of ice time, while issuing the City of Virginia 350 hours of ice time.

Mayor Vlasisavljevich would like to schedule a City Council Workshop Meeting to discuss negotiation strategy for the next Facilities Use Agreement with Rock Ridge School District. Vlasisavljevich feels there were discussions behind the scenes to determine the outcome of the hockey ice time. He was told that the School Board was hoping Eveleth would reject the 150 hours so all of the ice time would be awarded to the City of Virginia.

Councilor Perpich suggested the School District receive some sort of correspondence from the Eveleth City Council or a letter in the newspaper to emphasize the Eveleth City Council's disappointment in the Board's decision to offer only 150 hours of ice time to

the City of Eveleth. Perpich argued that Eveleth should not have to pay for the Virginia convention center (Iron Range Trail Motors Event Center). He said the public was promised that games would be divided fairly when the school consolidation vote was taken. Perpich pointed out that around 68 total households in the Rock Ridge School District have players participating in high school hockey. He debated that the other nonparticipating households in the Rock Ridge School District should not be held responsible to pay for Virginia's arena.

Councilor Koivunen also felt that all of the ice time would have been given to Virginia if Eveleth would have argued with the school board.

Councilor Lillis recapped that the proposal from the school district is to use 150 hours of ice time at the Eveleth Hippodrome at \$150 per hour. The school district is not locked into only 150 hours and could potentially use more if needed.

Mayor Vlaisavljevich said the contract should be settled by April as now everyone is under the gun to settle since the hockey season is starting.

*Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Lillis to approve Facilities Use Agreement between the City of Eveleth and Independent School District No. 2909, Rock Ridge Public Schools for 150 hours of ice time to be played at the Eveleth Hippodrome at \$150 per hour. Ayes – All.*

#### **D. ADJOURN**

The Meeting adjourned at 9:16 a.m.