

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Meeting
2:00 p.m., October 1, 2024
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Councilor Jim Perpich, Absent
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 Joel Lewicki; Public Works Director Jerry Rosati; Police Chief Jesse Linde; Alan Johnson, Benchmark Engineering

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve the following minutes with correction to the City Council Workshop Minutes of September 16, 2024:

- 1. Minutes of City Council Special Meeting held September 12, 2024;*
- 2. Minutes of City Council Workshop held September 16, 2024;*
- 3. Minutes of City Council Meeting held September 17, 2024; and*
- 4. Minutes of City Council Workshop held September 23, 2024.*

Ayes – All.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Rauzi to approve the agenda. Ayes – All.

E. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

F. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approval of Payroll – September 1-15, 2024 in the amount of \$146,784.23**
- 2. Approval of Claims – September 2024 in the amount of \$982,901.16**

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

G. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. Veterans Park Campground Managers Agreement for 2025-26

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Lillis to approve the Veterans Park Campground Managers Agreement for 2025-26. Ayes – All.

2. Resignation from David Briesemeister, EMT

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Lillis to approve the resignation of EMT David Briesemeister and to send a letter of thanks for his service. Ayes – All.

3. Letter from Amr Azzabi regarding using city lot

Motion by councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve temporary land license with Amr Azzabi to utilize City land to store siding material adjacent to his building at 501 Grant Avenue. Aye – All.

Mr. Azzabi will be re-siding his building and has requested permission to store his siding materials on City property for two weeks after the October 4, 2024 siding delivery date.

4. Independent Contract between City of Eveleth and Therese Elverum as Safety Coordinator

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve the Independent Contract between the City of Eveleth and Therese Elverum as Safety Coordinator. Ayes- All.

5. Resolution Authorizing the City of Eveleth to Make Application to and Accept Funds from the Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources for Miller Trunk Road Water Main Improvements

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Lillis to adopt Resolution No. 2024-33, “Resolution Authorizing the City of Eveleth to Make Application to and Accept Funds from the Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources for Miller Trunk Road Water Main Improvements.” Ayes – All.

6. Resolution Authorizing the City of Eveleth to Make Application to and Accept Funds from the Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources for Fayal Pond Trails Phase 3

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Koivunen to adopt Resolution No. 2024-34, “Resolution Authorizing the City of Eveleth to Make Application to and Accept Funds from the Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources for Fayal Pond Trails Phase 3.” Ayes – All.

7. 2025 Proposed Budget & Levy

City Clerk Administrator Monahan-Junek explained that the City Council held a Special Meeting yesterday to adopt the preliminary levy as required by state statute. Between now and the end of the year the City will continue to work to reduce the levy and will adopt a final levy amount by the end of the year.

The City will hold a Truth and Taxation Meeting on December 3, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. to allow the public to discuss the City budget. The conversation on December 3rd is not related to the value of property, but has to do with the City’s taxes.

J. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Vlaisavljevich said he received a letter from FEMA advising the City of special flood areas. FEMA has been reaching out to all of the area communities.

K. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Police Chief – Chief Linde reminded the public that calendar parking is in effect beginning today. The Police Department will give a grace period of issuing warnings for the next two weeks.

Public Works Director – Director Rosati met with FEMA about a month ago. They will be coming back tomorrow to look at the City’s claim for damage from the summer storms. The damage to Fayal Pond was covered by the City’s insurance and will not qualify for FEMA funding.

Cassandra Nowaczyk asked, “What is going on with the public safety stuff for the Iron Range Hells Angels?”

Mayor Vlasisavljevich said that issue is between the organization and the City and will be kept confidential until a decision has been made. The City has a committee that has already met and will continue to meet.

Sue Hill asked if anything is being done with the arch downtown on Grant Avenue. Director Rosati reported that the loose tiles have been removed. City Clerk Administrator Monahan-Junek said the City Council will be considering a downtown revitalization plan which will include deciding on whether to replace or remove the arch.

Dave Ollila, of the Hells Angels, said the Hells Angels are not a hazard to public safety. He said that if they are considered a public safety hazard then so is the 4th of July Street Dance. Ollila said the two incidents being referred to did not happen at their club house.

Mayor Vlasisavljevich said that is why the City has a committee.

Ollila said, "You are kicking us out for no reason. It is against our civil rights."

Vlasisavljevich said this is not the place to have that discussion.

Amanda Ollia identified herself as Dave Ollia's wife. She said she supports everything he said and stands for.

L. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:19 p.m.