

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Special Meeting
9:15 a.m., November 2, 2021
City Hall, 413 Pierce Street, Eveleth, MN

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. after conclusion of the workshop meeting.

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; City Attorney Karl Sundquist; Public Works Director Jerry Rosati; Alan Johnson, Benchmark Engineering; Deputy Police Chief Brian Ness

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- 1. Minutes of City Council Workshop Meeting held October 12, 2021;*
- 2. Minutes of City Council Special Meeting held October 14, 2021; and*
- 3. Minutes of City Council Meeting held October 19, 2021.*

Ayes – All.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No changes made.

E. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

F. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Payroll – October 1-15, 2021 in the amount of \$124,503.92
2. Approval of Claims – October 2021 in the amount of \$1,040,671.93

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

G. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution Special Appropriation General Obligation Bond Grant

This resolution will accompany the official application to the State regarding funding for the indoor air quality project.

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Rauzi to adopt Resolution No. 2021-26, “Resolution Special Appropriation General Obligation Bond Grant.” Ayes – All.

2. Application for Exempt Permit, Eveleth-Gilbert Youth Hockey at Eveleth Elks Club, 415 Jones Street

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Perpich to approve Application for Exempt Permit, Eveleth-Gilbert Youth Hockey at Eveleth Elks Club, to be held on November 26, 2021 at 415 Jones Street, Eveleth, MN. Ayes – All.

3. Consider repealing sale of City owned property on Grant Avenue to Charles Denny

City Clerk Administrator Monahan-Junek referred to the pending Purchase Agreement with Charles Denny which was given to the Council for their review. Monahan-Junek also distributed a map of the parcel from County Land Explorer. After further review of the property, City Attorney Joel Lewicki is questioning whether or not there is an encroachment on the lots and advised the City to have the land surveyed. Per City Engineer Alan Johnson, the cost to survey the land would be around \$800. City Attorney Karl Sundquist agreed that the City should have the area surveyed. Mayor Vlasisavljevich concurred that the City needs to have the land surveyed. Councilor Perpich said the City needs to have a complete description of the property.

Monahan-Junek indicated that she had received some concerns from Council Members over selling the property to Charles Denny. Mayor Vlasisavljevich said that he initially mentioned to Chaz Denny about purchasing the property. At the time, Denny did not express interest. About two or three weeks later, Denny conveyed that he was interested

in the lot. Vlasisavljevich said that if there was a delay in the paperwork or a slow process - that is the reason.

Councilor Koivunen said as much as Denny needs to get building, he will have to wait until everything is taken care of. If Denny is still interested after the lot is determined, he can come back to the Council.

Councilor Lillis asked how to go about changing the previous motion. City Attorney Karl Sundquist said the City does not have a signed purchase agreement at this point. Sundquist said the City needs to make sure the description is correct and that all the covenants will be followed by Denny.

Councilor Rauzi said he was of the opinion that the Council should “scrap the whole thing,” and if Denny is interested, he can come back to the Council. Rauzi said it’s going to take time and that’s the way it goes. It takes as long as it takes.

Mayor Vlasisavljevich said the City has sold a lot of property, and he has never seen anything like this. He said, “If you don’t like the covenants, don’t buy the property.”

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Rauzi to repeal the following motion from the October 19, 2021 City Council Meeting regarding the sale of City property on Grant Avenue to Chas Denny and to have a survey of the property completed at Grant Avenue by the City Engineer:

Motion Repealed from October 19, 2021 City Council Meeting

“Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Lillis to approve the resolution conveying real estate to Chas Denny along with a purchase/development agreement for the northerly 50-foot-wide lot located on the 500 block of Grant Avenue in the amount of \$1,000 contingent upon Denny working with City Administrator Monahan-Junek and City Attorney Sundquist to comply with conditions of the purchase/development agreement to include stipulation that prohibits outdoor storage of any kind.”

Ayes – All.

J. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Rauzi reported that the Fayal Township Board has voted to drop the Fire Shared Service Consolidation efforts with Eveleth.

K. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

City Engineer – Alan Johnson reported on the Garfield Street Project. He will be working with Public Works Director Rosati to develop a punch list for the contractors to complete before final payment is made.

Johnson also reported that the logging on Station Road 44 is set to begin this week.

Mayor Vlasisavljevich asked about the purchase agreement with the school for the former junior high school property. Monahan-Junek said a letter was sent to the school indicating the City's desire to purchase the property. She will be following up with the school. Vlasisavljevich said he has three people who are interested in a lot at that location and suggested the City run an alley through the property.

Bill Aho added to his comments from the workshop meeting held earlier. He highlighted an idea from EDA Member, George Walters, to have a blue line painted on Highway 53 leading up to the Hockey Hall of Fame Museum. Aho encouraged the Council to be creative about the future.

L. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 9:59 a.m.