

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Meeting
2:00 p.m., December 17, 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, 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; Public Works Director Jerry Rosati; Deputy Police Chief Brian Ness; City Attorney Joel Lewicki; Alan Johnson, Benchmark Engineering

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- 1. Minutes of City Council Special Meeting held November 25, 2024;*
- 2. Minutes of City Council Meeting held December 3, 2024;*
- 3. Minutes of Truth In Taxation Hearing held December 3, 2024; and*
- 4. Minutes of City Council Workshop Meeting held December 5, 2024.*

Ayes – All.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Lillis to approve revised agenda with removal of the following:

- I.12. Updated Fire Administrative Guidelines.*

Ayes – All.

E. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

F. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approval of Payroll – November 16-30, 2024 in the amount of \$189,883.07**
- 2. Request to carry over vacation**
- 3. Request for Public Works employees to attend the Minnesota Rural Water Association Technical Conference, March 4-6, 2025, St. Cloud, MN**

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

G. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

I. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Preliminary Development Agreement with The Overland Group, LLC to construct a Dollar General at 408 Fayal Road**

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Perpich to approve the Preliminary Development Agreement with The Overland Group, LLC to construct a Dollar General at 408 Fayal Road. Ayes – All.

- 2. Introduction and First Reading of a Proposed Ordinance - An Interim Ordinance Temporarily Establishing a Planning Moratorium on Clubs and Lodges**

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Perpich to approve Introduction and First Reading of a Proposed Ordinance - An Interim Ordinance Temporarily Establishing a Planning Moratorium on Clubs and Lodges. Ayes – All.

The time frame of the moratorium would be one year.

- 3. Resolution Awarding the Sale of a General Obligation Capital Note, Series 2025, in the Original Aggregate Principal Amount of \$245,750; Fixing its Form and Specifications; Directing its Execution and Delivery; and Providing for its Payment**

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Rauzi to adopt Resolution No. 2024-44, “Resolution Awarding the Sale of a General Obligation Capital Note, Series 2025, in the Original Aggregate Principal Amount of \$245,750; Fixing its Form and

Specifications; Directing its Execution and Delivery; and Providing for its Payment.”
Ayes – All.

Public Works Director Rosati said this resolution pertains to a dump truck the City ordered almost two years ago.

4. Retirement Notice from Sheri Lillis, Administrative Assistant

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Perpich to approve retirement notice from Sheri Lillis, Police Department Administrative Assistant, effective May 1, 2025 and to send her a letter of thanks for her over 34 years of service. Ayes – Rauzi, Koivunen, Perpich, Vlasisavljevich; Abstain – Lillis (due to conflict of interest). Motion carried.

5. Request to fill Administrative Assistant position

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Lillis to allow the Police Chief to post for the Administrative Assistant position in AFSCME 484 for 7 days and if no applications are received then to seek applications outside of AFSCME 484. Ayes – All.

Police Chief Linde has requested the start date for the new administrative assistant position to begin February 2, 2025 which would allow for an adequate training period.

6. Authorize posting and advertising for a Part Time Library Clerk

The Part-Time Library Clerk position has been vacant for quite some time as the City did not receive any applications that met the requirements or were able to interview for the position.

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve posting for the Part-Time Library Clerk position in AFSCME 484 for 7 days, and if no applications are received during that time, to authorize a public advertising of this position. Ayes – All.

7. 2025 Legislative Priorities

Councilor Lillis, City Clerk Administrator Monahan-Junek, Public Works Director Rosati and Consultant Streetar met with the City’s lobbyist to discuss priorities.

Councilor Lillis said meeting with the lobbyists was a positive experience and he described them as very professional. Lillis said he appreciates what they are doing for the City of Eveleth.

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Perpich to approve the following 2025 Legislative Priorities:

- 1. Request for pre-design funds for upgrades to the Waste Water Treatment Plant*

2. *Request for an exemption to IRRRB grant match requirement for new housing at the former Eveleth School Campus.*

Ayes – All.

8. School Campus Concept Plans & Budget

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve the School Campus Final Housing Plan & Budget. Ayes – All.

The City does not yet own the school property.

9. Resolution Adopting Budget for Year 2025

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Lillis to adopt Resolution No. 2024-45, “Resolution Adopting Budget for Year 2025.” Ayes – All.

10. Resolution Establishing Tax for Year 2025

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Koivunen to adopt Resolution No. 2024-46, “Resolution Establishing Tax for Year 2025.” Ayes – All.

The City’s levy has been set at 8 percent.

11. 2025 Discretionary Expenditures

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Perpich to approve the 2025 Discretionary Expenditures. Ayes – All.

12. Updated Fire Administrative Guidelines

This item was removed from the agenda.

13. 2025 City of Eveleth Animal Control Contract with Contented Critters

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Lillis to approve the 2025 City of Eveleth Animal Control Contract with Contented Critters. Ayes – All.

14. Request to sell forfeited vehicle

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Rauzi to authorize the sale of the following forfeited vehicles per the usual and customary competitive bid process using Oberfoell Auctioneers/Do.Bid.com):

Vehicle #1: 2001 Harley-Davidson RS Motorcycle, VIN: 1HD1BHY101Y032443

Vehicle #2: 2007 Ford Fusion, VIN: 3FAHP07ZR248492
Vehicle #3: 2009 Harley-Davidson XL 1200, VIN: 1HD1CT3189K443711
Vehicle #4: 2020 Kawasaki Brute Force ATV, VIN: JKAVFDG34LB517364

Ayes – All.

15. Rotation of police vehicles

Police Chief Linde reported that the Police Department recently took ownership of the new K9 squad. The Police Department is requesting authorization to rotate the vehicles.

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Lillis to authorize the following police vehicle rotations:

- 2016 Chevy Tahoe (old K9 squad) – to be used as administrative/back-up;
- 2010 Ford Escape (current admin vehicle) – to be used for under cover/training;
- 2017 Ford Explorer (current back-up vehicle) – keep as back-up/training.

Ayes – All.

16. Resolution Accepting Donation of Plein Air Oil Painting of Eveleth Public Library

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Rauzi to adopt Resolution No. 2024-47, “Resolution Accepting Donation of Plein Air Oil Painting of Eveleth Public Library” and to send a letter of thanks to artist Willow Gentile. Ayes – All.

17. Cooperative Agreement with St. Louis County regarding City hydrant relocations on CSAH 142 (Progress Parkway)

Director Rosati reported that this project will be at no cost to the City. The County will be working with City Engineer Alan Johnson to relocate some of the hydrants along the CSAH route 142 in Progress Parkway.

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve Cooperative Agreement with St. Louis County regarding City hydrant relocations on CSAH 142 (Progress Parkway). Ayes – All.

18. Closed Session for labor negotiations pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.03, subd. 1

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Lillis to go into closed session for labor negotiations pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.03, subd. 1. Ayes – All.

The Council went into closed session at 2:24 p.m. The regular meeting reconvened at 2:52 p.m.

J. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

K. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

None.

L. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.