

**MINUTES**  
**Eveleth City Council Workshop Meeting**  
**9:00 a.m., February 11, 2021**  
**Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN**

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; Police Chief Tim Koivunen, Public Works Director Jerry Rosati; Assistant Public Works Director Mark Karpen; Alan Johnson, Benchmark Engineering

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**1. Frontage Road east of Hwy. 53 – Eric Fallstrom, St. Louis County**

Eric Fallstrom, Matt Hemmila and Vic Lund of St. Louis County attended the meeting to discuss the potential construction of a frontage road east of Highway 53. Fallstrom explained the timeline of events. The County met previously with MnDOT, the school district, and the City of Eveleth to discuss the campus layout for the new Rock Ridge High School and Elementary School facilities. The school did not want traffic coming through their school locations. The potential option to connect Progress Parkway to Station Road 44 was considered. Since that time, the County decided to take a closer look at the frontage road as the traffic flow and safety of this road makes sense. The County met with Jackie Monahan-Junek and Jerry Rosati in November to discuss the possibility and begin looking at a mileage swap of CSAH roads within the City of Eveleth for the frontage road.

Last week, the County met with Mayor Vlasisavljevich and County Commissioner Keith Nelson to discuss moving forward with the frontage road. MnDOT plans to conduct a corridor study which will look at all the intersections in the vicinity which enter Highway 53. The County will be meeting with the school district tomorrow. The thought is to swing the road to the south of the school buildings; however, there may be wetland and rock issues to address. Fallstrom explained that the County is not trying to strong arm the City into moving forward with the frontage road. The purpose of today's meeting is to get the City's feedback and look at a potential CSAH swap.

Councilor Koivunen asked about the intersection at Station Road 44. Eric Fallstrom explained that the stop signs are determined by traffic counts, and he did not foresee any changes at this point as there are existing turning lanes already in that area. Mayor Vlasisavljevich said the frontage road makes total sense with the school and extra traffic in

the area. Councilor Lillis is in favor of the project and pointed out that the frontage road will open up access to other properties on the corridor. Rauzi said he was behind the project based on the safety factor.

Fallstrom gave the Council an update on the Douglas Avenue and Roosevelt Avenue project. The quotes are out right now for soil borings. He anticipates a public informational meeting in May or June to provide an update on the project.

## **2. City Council vacancy**

The Council will come up with names of potential individuals to serve on the City Council to fill the vacancy created by Brad Hadrava's resignation from the Council. This will be discussed further at a future workshop meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.