

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Workshop Meeting
8:30 a.m., July 19, 2023
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

Councilor Jim Perpich, Present
Councilor John Rauzi, Present (arrived at 8:36 a.m.)
Councilor Brian Lillis, Present
Councilor Joseph Koivunen, Present
Mayor Robert Vlasisavljevich, Present

Also present: City Clerk Administrator Jackie Monahan-Junek; Police Chief Jesse Linde; Public Works Director Jerry Rosati; City Attorney Joel Lewicki; Alan Johnson, Benchmark Engineering

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1. Adult-use Cannabis Law

New Minnesota law, effective August 1, 2023, legalizes the possession, use, manufacture, and sale of certain cannabis products within the state. The new law establishes the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) which is charged with, among other things, enforcing an organized system of regulation for the cannabis industry and the hemp consumer industry. The law also: establishes labor standards for the use of cannabis and hemp products by employees and testing of employees, and establishes expungement procedures for certain individuals previously convicted of a crime related to cannabis. Possess, use, and home growth under this law will be legal beginning August 2, 2023, and legal sales are expected to begin in January of 2025.

City Attorney Lewicki advised the City Council they can pass a moratorium prohibiting the sale, manufacturing, or distribution of adult-use cannabis to study the issue.

The City Council also discussed prohibiting the use and possession of cannabis on public property.

Attorney Lewicki will research these issues and prepare an ordinance(s) for the City Council's consideration. A special meeting may be called if said ordinance(s) are ready before the regular September 5 City Council meeting. Before adopting an interim (moratorium) ordinance, the city must hold a public hearing on the issue.

2. 4th of July holiday festivities

Mayor Vlasisavljevich and Police Chief Linde attended a meeting recently with the 4th of July Committee regarding some problems during the festivities. Underage drinking, improved barricades, and a different band was discussed.

Linde will meet periodically with the 4th of July Committee to identify possible solutions.

3. City water

Public Works Director Rosati is looking into drilled wells as an alternative to our current surface water as the city's potable water source. While the cost for drilled wells is substantial the benefits are huge.

Director Rosati will prepare a plan to explore drilled wells.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.