

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Workshop
11:15 a.m., August 14, 2019
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

Councilor John Rauzi, Present
Councilor Brad Hadrava, Absent
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; Police Chief Tim Koivunen; City Attorney Mitch Brunfelt, Consultant Dave Salene

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the meeting to order at 11:22 a.m.

1. Alice Location Redevelopment

The Alice Location land was acquired many years ago from the mines during their bankruptcy.

Through the EPA grant the City has completed Phase 1 & 11 at the Alice Location. There is hazardous soil in the area and soil borings indicate it could be very extensive to remove the damage. City Clerk Administrator Monahan-Junek will check into a DEED grant. Monahan-Junek will also look at another EPA grant.

Monahan-Junek has been working with Jennie Holmes from NTS. Holmes gave several options the City has when dealing with the contaminated soil and the current tenants:

- Remove all tenants
- Fence off the whole area
- Remind the tenants of the hazards (put on notice)
- No trespassing signs

City Attorney Brunfelt said, if the tenants stay, the City would have to put the license holders on notice to make sure they are aware of the hazardous substances in the soil. There would need to be very strict wording that if they disturb any soil they will be evicted.

Councilor Koivunen suggested that all tenants should sign something releasing the City from liability. Mayor Vlasisavljevich questioned whether or not this area is even worth the City's time and money. Monahan-Junek said that once the box has been opened the City need to

continue. She pointed out that the City does not have many options for new businesses locate in the downtown area. Attorney Brunfelt said there may be some grant money, but this will take time.

It may be adequate to put up “No Trespassing” signs for the general public without snow fencing the area. Councilor Lillis requested that the signs be uniform and not pounded into trees or other objects in the area.

Discussion also took place on the land usage and insurance requirements for the property licensed by the Simonsons. Attorney Brunfelt indicated the insurance requirements must be met and no gardening or disturbing the soil, harvesting trees, etc. can take place on the property due to hazardous material.

The meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m.