

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Workshop Meeting
10:30 a.m., September 21, 2020
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

Councilor John Rauzi, Present
Councilor Brad Hadrava, 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 Mitch Brunfelt; Police Chief Tim Koivunen, Public Works Director Jerry Rosati; Alan Johnson, Benchmark Engineering

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

1. Coronavirus Relief Aid

City Clerk Administrator Monahan-Junek distributed a list of items for the Council to consider for the Coronavirus Relief Aid. The Council is interested in reopening the Library. Councilor Lillis suggested purchasing additional UV-C Air & Surface Disinfection Lamps to be used by the Library, City Hall and Public Works. The City had purchased two of these disinfection lamps in April of 2020.

2. Update on West Eveleth Lots sales

City Clerk Administrator Monahan-Junek asked the Council their preference on selling lots in West Eveleth. There has been a recent inquiry from a West Eveleth resident wanting to purchase a single lot (not attached to their house lot) for construction of a garage. The Council will continue to sell double lots. They are not interested in selling single lots for garage, but will consider each request on a case by case basis.

3. Discuss Carter Circle Lots

The Council discussed readjusting and repricing the Carter Circle Lots. Mayor Vlasisavljevich mentioned the poor condition of the lot where the Mediacom utility buildings are located. He suggested some safety lighting could be added. Attorney Brunfelt suggested a blight notice could be sent to the owner. Police Chief Koivunen will check to see who owns the site and see if they are in compliance with the blight ordinance.

4. Alice Location Fencing

City Clerk Administrator Monahan-Junek informed the Council that the quotes for fencing the Alice Location came back too high. The Council will plan to have this project rebid. In the meantime, signage will be added to the area to keep people out.

5. Discuss City property east of Highway 53 between Super 8 and Mesabi Station

Alan Johnson, Benchmark Engineering, distributed a report and findings from the 2014 soil borings at the property northeast of US Highway 53 and Minnesota State Highway 37. At that time, part of the borings had to be done by hand auger as the contractor was concerned about getting equipment in and out of the mucky soil conditions. Hand augers are not as reliable, but it was determined that there is some organic material on site B. Johnson advised that the first step would be to come up with a conceptual plan for the site which would then lead to a potential wetland delineation. The Council is interested in extending the frontage road.

Bill Aho, owner of Super 8 Hotel and EDA Board Member, suggested to the Council that this spot would make a nice location for building higher end homes. He recommended the EDA look at acquiring the adjacent property which is owned by the State.

City Attorney Brunfelt left the meeting at 11:06 a.m. Councilor Lillis left the meeting 11:09 a.m.

6. 2022 CIP Project

Public Works Director Rosati informed the Council that the County will be working on Douglas and Garfield in 2022. He would like to file the grant application to see if the City will qualify for any money.

7. Discuss purchasing excavator and trailer

Director Rosati reported that the City's 20-year old back loader is used almost every day. He said it is difficult to find replacements parts. The City also has a 40-year old backhoe that needs to be replaced. Mayor Vlasisavljevich suggested leasing the equipment. Director Rosati will look into leasing newer equipment and report back to the Council.

The meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.