

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Workshop Meeting
9:00 a.m., September 23, 2024
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

Councilor Jim Perpich, Present
Councilor John Rauzi, Present (arrived at 9:06 a.m.)
Councilor Brian Lillis, Present
Councilor Joseph Koivunen, Absent
Mayor Robert Vlasisavljevich, Present

Also present: City Clerk Administrator Jackie Monahan-Junek; Deputy City Clerk Stephanie Friebe; Public Works Director Jerry Rosati; Police Chief Jesse Linde

1. 2025 Proposed Budget & Levy

The Council discussed setting the preliminary levy which must be done by September 30th.

Councilor Perpich would like to see the City go for all grants available. Perpich would like to let the public know the grants the City has applied for, whether or not the grant is received, so that they can see the City is trying. Perpich said there has to be some accountability to the agencies distributing grant monies. He said that if people see that Eveleth has applied for funding from the IRRRB or the state, but has been denied, at least people will know the City has tried and has been refused.

Rauzi concurred that the public needs to know the Council is “trying our best.” He said he is confronted almost daily and the Council must show the public that we are striving.

Public Works Director said the City has received some big grants. There is a wastewater plant project coming where the City must front the costs, but will be reimbursed for about 90 percent of the project. Rosati pointed out that many times grants are available that cover only a small portion of a project or where the City has to match the grant amount. Rosati said it all comes down to priorities on what projects the Council want to complete.

Councilor Perpich suggested at the next town hall meeting that Consultant Streetar explain the difference between a grant and a loan to those in attendance. He would also like clarification for attendees that a grant often does not cover the full cost of a project leaving the City to match funds or more.

Discussion took place on hiring someone to handle social media for the City.

The Council is in agreement with setting the preliminary levy at +10 % over the 2024 levy.

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m.