

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Meeting
5:30 p.m., November 17, 2025
Council Chambers, City Hall, Eveleth, MN

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Roen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Councilor Jim Perpich, Present
Councilor John Rauzi, Present
Councilor Brian Lillis, Present
Councilor Joseph Koivunen, Present
Mayor Adam Roen, Present

Also present: City Clerk Administrator Jackie Monahan-Junek; Incoming City Administrator Pat Oman; Deputy City Clerk Stephanie Friebe; Public Works Director Jerry Rosati; Police Chief Jesse Linde; City Attorney Joel Lewicki; Alan Johnson, Bolton & Menk Engineering

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Rauzi to approve the following minutes:

- 1. Minutes of City Council Workshop held November 3, 2025; and*
- 2. Minutes of City Council Meeting held November 3, 2025.*

Ayes – All.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Lillis to approve the agenda with the following changes:

Remove:

- I.1. Introduction and First Reading of an Ordinance Adding Section 6.28 Social and Civic Organizations to Chapter 6 of the Eveleth City Code*
- I.2. Introduction and First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 11 Land Use Regulation, Section 11.01 General Provisions, Subd. 3 Definitions, and Section 11.20, Subd. 2 Zoning Use Classification List: Permissible (P) and Interim (I) Uses, Exhibit D of the City Code*

Add:

- I.11. Proclaim November 7, 2025 as Day of Recognition of the Rock Ridge High School Girls Tennis Team for Winning the 2025 Class 2A State Championship*
- I.12. Discuss RAMS Dinner to be held December 9, 2025*
- I.13. Consider purchase of a back-up Zamboni*
- I.14. Discuss possible sponsorship advertising wraps for Zamboni*

Ayes – All.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

F. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Payroll – October 16-31, 2025 in the amount of \$207,951.32

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Rauzi to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes – All.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. Introduction and First Reading of an Ordinance Adding Section 6.28 Social and Civic Organizations to Chapter 6 of the Eveleth City Code

This item was removed from the agenda.

2. Introduction and First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 11 Land Use Regulation, Section 11.01 General Provisions, Subd. 3 Definitions, and Section 11.20, Subd. 2 Zoning Use Classification List: Permissible (P) and Interim (I) Uses, Exhibit D of the City Code

This item was removed from the agenda.

3. Resolution Making Levy and Assessment Against Taxable Properties for Special Assessments, and Delinquent Water, Sewer & Refuse Collection Accounts, and Miscellaneous Unpaid Obligations

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Rauzi to adopt Resolution No. 2025-37, “Resolution Making Levy and Assessment Against Taxable Properties for Special Assessments, and Delinquent Water, Sewer & Refuse Collection Accounts, and Miscellaneous Unpaid Obligations.” Ayes – Rauzi, Koivunen, Perpich, Roen; Abstain – Lillis (due to conflict of interest). Motion carried.

4. Retainer Agreement between the City of Eveleth and Colosimo, Patchin & Kearney, LTD, Attorneys at Law

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Perpich to approve the Retainer Agreement between the City of Eveleth and Colosimo, Patchin & Kearney, LTD, Attorneys at Law. Ayes – All.

City Attorney Lewicki pointed out that the retainer is lower this year as their firm will not be providing an attorney for every meeting, but on an as needed basis.

5. Request from Annamae Tomczak to purchase undeveloped alley right-of-way

Annamae Tomczak has made a request to purchase the undeveloped alley right-of-way adjoining her lot at 809 Douglas Avenue. City staff will reach out to Ms. Tomczak to determine her intentions. If she is interested in moving forward the City would need to go through the zoning administrator to follow the appropriate steps in vacating the alley.

6. Consider purchase of a Wheel Loader

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Perpich to approve purchase of 2024 John Deere loader from McCoy Construction through the state bidding process in the amount of \$199,985.00. Ayes – All.

Councilor Koivunen noted that he supported the purchase as the City will need a replacement loader and Director Rosati was able to find this new 2024 loader which will save the City over \$44,000.

7. Resolution Accepting Grant Navigator Funding

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Lillis to adopt Resolution No. 2025-38, “Resolution Accepting Grant Navigator Funding.” Ayes – All.

The City of Eveleth received a \$5,000 grant as part of the League of Minnesota Cities pilot Grant Navigation Program. The City of Eveleth will enter into an agreement with MSA Professional Services to find additional funding for the City’s upcoming Wastewater Facility Improvement Project.

8. Pay Application No. 5 from Peterson Sheet Metal, Inc. in the amount of the \$16,806.02 for Multipurpose Building Boiler Reconstruction Project

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Rauzi to approve Pay Application No. 5 from Peterson Sheet Metal, Inc. in the amount of \$16,806.02 for the Multipurpose Building Boiler Reconstruction Project. Ayes – All.

The heat in the building is operating with a few punch list items to complete.

9. Letter from Rock Ridge High School DECA regarding National DECA month

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Koivunen to Proclamation November 17, 2025 as National DECA Day. Ayes – All.

Rock Ridge Student Abigail Sather, Rock Ridge DECA Chapter President, addressed the Council and thanked them for their support.

10. Consider City of Eveleth being the fiscal agent for funding for Airport Snow Removal Equipment

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve the City of Eveleth serve as the fiscal agent for funding the Airport Snow Removal Equipment. Ayes – All.

City Clerk Administrator Monahan-Junek explained that the Airport does not have the authority to take out a loan. The City of Virginia is acting as the fiscal agent for the Airport, but is unable to take on additional debt due to their recent HRA project. Eveleth would be the fiscal agent for the Airport Snow Removal Equipment. Virginia will be required to sign a pledge agreement for this equipment.

11. Proclaim November 7, 2025 as Day of Recognition of the Rock Ridge High School Girls Tennis Team for Winning the 2025 Class 2A State Championship

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Lillis to Proclaim November 7, 2025 as Day of Recognition of the Rock Ridge High School Girls Tennis Team for Winning the 2025 Class 2A State Championship. Ayes – All.

Mayor Roen applauded the efforts of Eveleth, Gilbert and Virginia for working together to recognize the Girls Tennis Team on their State Championship.

12. Discuss RAMS Dinner to be held December 9, 2025

Mayor Roen is unable to attend the RAMS Dinner and asked for a Council Member to attend on his behalf.

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Koivunen to nominate Councilor Rauzi to attend the RAMS Dinner on December 9, 2025 in Mayor Roen's absence. Ayes – All.

13. Consider purchase of a back-up Zamboni

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve the purchase of a back-up Zamboni in an amount up to \$10,000. Ayes – All.

Mayor Roen has been looking for a slightly used Zamboni to serve as a back up in the event the City's main Zamboni is not working. Discussion took place on the Wilderness Hockey team possibly wanting a longer lease at the Hippodrome. The main Zamboni dates back to 1990 and has had a lot of electrical parts rebuilt. At this time, if there was an issue with the Zamboni, the City would not have a backup.

14. Discuss possible sponsorship wrap for Zamboni

Public Works Director Rosati will need to review the contract with the Wilderness to see if they have rights to Zamboni advertising. No action was taken. Rosati will report back to the Council.

J. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Koivunen reported that there will be a Special Meeting of the Airport Authority on Wednesday. There is a request for someone to teach classes at the Airport.

Councilor Perpich reported that the interviews went well for the Airport. He indicated the Airport has a new manager, part-time maintenance workers, and a new courtesy car which was donated by Joe Shallbetter.

Councilor Lillis reported on the Public Safety Committee's call for proposals for the EMS Operations Supervisor. The Committee will be addressing the applications and making a recommendation to the Council, hopefully at the first meeting in December.

Mayor Roen reported on a successful Trunk or Treat event held on Halloween. There were a total of 18 ambulance, fire and police vehicles at the event with around 124 trick or treaters in attendance.

Mayor Roen and Councilor Koivunen recently attended an Energizing Eveleth meeting. The new non-profit group will be working with the City to create funds for items needed in the community. The group recently donated a shelter for the new dog park and is working on selling benches to be placed throughout the City. The Masons have purchased three of these benches which are on display for the winter at the City Hall, Hippodrome and the Masons Hall. Energizing Eveleth will be at the Hippodrome on December 20th to promote their group and they can be reached at energizingeveleth@gmail.com.

K. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

City Engineer – Alan Johnson reported that the excavation near the new Community Center (former school property) is complete. The parking lot should be open to the public next week with the final top layer to be completed this Spring.

Johnson reported that Ulland Brothers is finishing up their punch list on Hat Trick Avenue. Councilor Koivunen expressed safety concerns with no stop signs and unclear right-of-way for traffic near Five Seasons. Johnson indicated that this would fall under MnDOT for signage. Police Chief Linde will follow up in the meantime to determine whether or not the City will need to install temporary signage at the location.

Mayor Roen introduced incoming City Administrator Pat Oman in attendance. Roen said that the City of Eveleth will hopefully have an EDA person hired in the near future.

L. ADJOURN

The Meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.