

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Meeting
5:30 p.m., July 21, 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; Deputy City Clerk Stephanie Friebe; Public Works Director Jerry Rosati; Police Chief Jesse Linde; City Attorney Joel Lewicki; Alan Johnson, Bolton & Menk Engineering; Fire Chief Guy Spurlin

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- 1. Minutes of City Council Special Meeting held June 24, 2025;*
- 2. Minutes of City Council Workshop Meeting held June 25, 2025; and*
- 3. Minutes of City Council Meeting held July 7, 2025*

Ayes – All.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Rauzi to approve the agenda with following addition:

I.11. Discuss Land Work at the New Dog Park

Ayes – All.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

F. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Payroll – June 16-30, 2025 in the amount of \$211,623.55
2. Approval of Payroll – July 1-15, 2025 in the amount of \$169,411.64

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

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. Second reading of an Ordinance Regulating Antennas and Towers

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Lillis to approve second reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 88, 2nd Series, “An Ordinance Regulating Antennas and Towers.” Ayes – All.

2. Reschedule the September 1, 2025 regular City Council meeting to September 2, 2025

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Perpich to reschedule the Monday, September 1, 2025 regular City Council Meeting to Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. Ayes – All.

The meeting was rescheduled as September 1, 2025 is Labor Day.

3. Consider quote for meter and lighting at new dog park

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve quotation from Hometown Electric for installing a meter and lighting at the new dog park. Ayes – All.

The City received one proposal from Hometown Electric for installing six lights at the new dog park. Mayor Roen said the Parks Commission is looking at a Grand Opening for the new dog park on October 1st. Roen said the Parks Commission does not feel this needs to be addressed immediately. Public Works Director Rosati said the lack of lighting was one of the biggest complaints at the old dog park.

Roen said the Council will be addressing some land work which needs to be done at the dog park in item I.11. There is a large, deep sand box remaining after removal of the playground equipment. The City would be looking at digging out the sand and replacing with fill and grass. The cost is estimated at \$3,000 to \$5,000.

Councilor Lillis said he was in favor of moving forward with proposed quote for lighting as soon as possible this year.

4. Pay Application No.1 and No. 2 from Upper Midwest Athletic Construction in the amounts of \$81,700 and \$4,300.00, respectively, for tennis/pickleball court resurfacing project

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Rauzi to approve Pay Application No.1 and No. 2 from Upper Midwest Athletic Construction in the amounts of \$81,700 and \$4,300.00, respectively, for tennis/pickleball court resurfacing project. Ayes – All.

The Council acknowledged that the new pickleball and tennis courts are being well utilized. Mayor Roen said that people of all ages are playing with each other—and being polite. Roen said the addition of the new courts has been a good moral booster for the community.

5. Proposal of Services from Bolton & Menk for demolition quote package for 1502 1st Street, Eveleth

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Lillis to approve the Proposal Services from Bolton & Menk for demolition quote package for 1502 1st Street, Eveleth in the amount of \$7,850. Ayes – All.

City Engineer Alan Johnson said it will take about three weeks to get a bid package out. The City is hoping to accomplish the demolition by this fall.

6. Resolution of Concurrence with the Roadway Exchange Between St. Louis County and City of Virginia

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Koivunen to adopt Resolution No. 2025-20, “Resolution of Concurrence with the Roadway Exchange Between St. Louis County and City of Virginia.” Ayes – All.

7. Consider quote for Genesis SC240 SL3 Nxt Gen extrication cutter

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Lillis to accept quote from Equipment Management Company, Channahon, IL in the amount of \$14,364.00 for Genesis SC240 SL3 Nxt Gen extrication cutter. Ayes – All.

The City received reimbursement from the DNR in the amount of \$26,460 for the Eveleth Fire Departments time fighting fires at the Camp House fire. The firefighters have been paid for their service, and Fire Chief Spurlin is requesting funds to purchase a new extrication cutter. The Fire Department has a cutter that is 30 years old. Chief Spurlin will be requesting to purchase some new radios in the near future using the remaining DNR reimbursements.

8. Request to hire additional EMTs

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Lillis to hire the following EMTs contingent upon them passing a successful pre-employment background check and physical: Jared Montgomery, Abigail Larson, Aaron Johnson. Ayes – Koivunen, Perpich, Lillis, Roen; Abstain – Rauzi (due to conflict of interest). Motion carried.

9. Proclamation - National See Tracks! Think Train® Week

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Rauzi to approve proclaim September 15-21, 2025 as National See Track! Think Train® Week. Ayes – All.

10. Resolution Authorizing the City of Eveleth to Make Application to and Accept Funds from the Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Koivunen to adopt Resolution No. 2025-21, “Resolution Authorizing the City of Eveleth to Make Application to and Accept Funds from the Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources.” Ayes – All.

11. Discuss Land Work at the New Dog Park

Mayor Roen would like to discuss the deep sand pile near the future dog park. The sand pile remains after the removal of the playground equipment. The sand is about 1 foot deep and around 170 cubic yards. The City crew would be able to stockpile the sand at the City Garage for reuse in other locations. The area would be replaced with fill and grass.

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Rauzi to remove the sand at the new dog park and replace with fill at an estimate of \$3,000 to \$5,000. Ayes – All.

J. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Koivunen recently attended the RRCC Board Meeting. The Pan Continental Curling Championships will be hosted in Virginia and Eveleth in October 2025. Councilor Koivunen will be attending an Airport Meeting tomorrow.

Councilor Perpich will also be attending the Eveleth-Virginia Airport Authority Meeting tomorrow. The board is hoping to get a new manager hired to take care of the airport.

Perpich reported that he will be attending the next Parks Commission Meeting set for August 4th at 3:00 p.m. at the City Hall.

Mayor Roen recently attended the RAMS Board Meeting for Mayors. Roen said that RAMS puts together a great program. This particular meeting was looking at how to help and stabilize daycare centers inside your City.

Roen reported that the City will hopefully have some answers in the next couple of weeks after counteroffering Rock Ridge School Districts offer (bus garage). Councilor Lillis said the City has been contemplating a purchase from the school and the plan is to report back to the full Council to move forward with what is in the best interest of the City.

Roen attended the VEEDA Meeting. He said there is only one building still owned by VEEDA which is located at 1402. There is glass company that pays rent for use of the building.

K. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Public Works Director – Director Rosati will need the Council’s direction for specific items and monetary amounts for which the City will be applying for a matching grant. The grant application is due soon. Possible ideas would be benches, hockey boards, etc.

City Engineer – Alan Johnson reported that Northeast Technical Services will be doing some soil borings at the former school property before the City moves forward with a parking lot.

Mayor Roen thanked Fire Chief Guy Spurlin for attending the meeting and the Fire Department for their service.

L. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.