

MINUTES
Eveleth City Council Meeting
2:00 p.m., March 12, 2024
City Auditorium, 421 Jackson St., Eveleth, MN

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vlasisavljevich called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Councilor Jim Perpich, Present
Councilor John Rauzi, 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 Joel Lewicki; Public Works Director Jerry Rosati; Police Chief Jesse Linde; Alan Johnson, Benchmark Engineering

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- 1. Minutes of City Council Workshop held February 8, 2024; and*
- 2. Minutes of City Council Workshop held February 29, 2024.*

Ayes – All.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Lillis to approve the agenda. Ayes – All.

E. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

F. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approval of Payroll – February 1-15, 2024 in the amount of \$142,761.07**
- 2. Approval of Payroll – February 16-29, 2024 in the amount of \$178,102.25**

3. Approval of Claims – February 2024 in the amount of \$980,062.99

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

G. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

I. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Authorize Benchmark Engineering to proceed with engineering field work, and plans and specifications for utilities that cross Hwy. 53 at Park Ave. and Hat Trick Ave. intersections**

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Koivunen to authorize Benchmark Engineering to proceed with engineering field work, and plans and specifications for utilities that cross Hwy. 53 at Park Ave. and Hat Trick Ave. intersections. Ayes – All.

- 2. Authorize Director of Public Works to call for quotes for 2024 curb & sidewalk replacement**

Public Works Director Rosati has requested approval to call for quotations for curb and sidewalk replacement. The City has budgeted \$30,000 and the County will fund up to \$15,000 for CSAH routes.

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Rauzi to authorize Director of Public Works to call for quotes for 2024 curb & sidewalk replacement. Ayes – all.

- 3. Authorize Director of Public Works to purchase regular road salt for the 2024-25 season from the Cooperative Purchasing Venture or open market program**

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Lillis to authorize Director of Public Works to purchase regular road salt for the 2024-25 season from the Cooperative Purchasing Venture or open market program. Ayes – All.

- 4. Change Order 001 from Max Gray Construction in the amount of \$15,564.41 for City of Eveleth Projects (auditorium)**

The Change Order incorporates pricing to adjust the installation of a structural reinforcing of the auditorium stage rigging for the drapery and the addition of an attic access to get above the stage gridiron.

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Lillis to approve Change Order 001 Max Gray Construction in the amount of \$15,564.41 for City of Eveleth Projects (auditorium). Ayes – All.

5. Pay Application 4 from Max Gray Construction in the amount of \$365,908.15 for City of Eveleth Projects

Mayor Vlasisavljevich commended Max Gray Construction for their work on the City buildings. He said they know these old buildings and we are lucky to have them around.

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve Pay Application 4 from Max Gray Construction in the amount of \$365,908.15 for City of Eveleth Projects. Ayes – All.

6. Resolution Regarding Future PERA Qualifying Part-Time Police Officers

Motion by Councilor Lillis, second by Councilor Koivunen to adopt Resolution No. 2024-06, “Resolution Regarding Future PERA Qualifying Part-Time Police Officers.” Ayes – All.

7. 2024 Sexual Assault Awareness Month Mayor Proclamation

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Rauzi to proclaim April 2024 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Ayes – All.

8. Remove Junior High Property from Eveleth School Campus Special Area Plan

Motion by Councilor Rauzi, second by Councilor Perpich to remove the former Junior High Property from the Eveleth School Campus Special Area Plan. Ayes – All.

9. 2024 Discretionary Capital expenditures

Motion by Councilor Koivunen, second by Councilor Rauzi to approve the 2024 Discretionary Capital expenditures. Ayes – All.

10. Resolution to Contract with a City Official (Rental Housing Code Inspector)

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Koivunen to adopt Resolution No. 2024-07, “Resolution to Contract with a City Official (Rental Housing Code Inspector).” Ayes – Koivunen, Perpich, Rauzi, Vlasisavljevich; Abstain – Lillis (due to conflict of interest). Motion carried.

11. Independent Contract Between City of Eveleth and Brian Lillis for rental housing code compliance and related administrative functions

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Koivunen to approve Independent Contract Between City of Eveleth and Brian Lillis for rental housing code compliance and related administrative functions. Ayes – Rauzi, Koivunen, Perpich, Vlasisavljevich; Abstain – Lillis (due to conflict of interest). Motion carried.

12. Approve Spring 2024 Refuse Collection and Yard Waste Pickup Schedule

Motion by Councilor Perpich, second by Councilor Rauzi to approve the Spring 2024 Refuse Collection and Yard Waste Pickup Schedule. Ayes – All.

Councilor Perpich reminded the public not to rake yard waste into the street.

The City will accept items for disposal at the City Garage from May 6 to 17, 2024 from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. This service is available to Eveleth residents only. Yard waste pickup will begin in the alleys on May 20, 2024.

J. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Perpich reported on the recent Parks Commission meeting. Perpich said the Veterans Park had a successful year. The commission discussed reclaiming the playground equipment at the Franklin Elementary prior to demolition of the school. Perpich suggested the City consider keeping the tennis courts as the City does not have any other courts. The dog park needs some trees removed as the sunlight is blocked by the trees.

Mayor Vlasisavljevich reported that the Eveleth-Virginia Airport has a new tenant coming to store a couple of planes in the hangars.

Mayor Vlasisavljevich would like to form an economic development committee made up of two councilmembers. City Clerk Administrator Monahan-Junek and Consultant Streetar would meet with economic development committee. Councilor Lillis agreed that it would be more efficient than trying to meet with the entire council. Vlasisavljevich said the committee would then report back to the Council.

Councilor Perpich suggested the citizen advisory group (assisting with the development plan for the former school site) be kept intact. Perpich said it is a good idea to keep those people available for input as much as possible. Perpich also encouraged the City to seek state and federal funding. Perpich said the City needs to start finding other funding means rather than relying on the same resources.

K. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS

City Clerk Administrator Monahan-Junek announced that the City-Wide Rummage Sale will be held May 3-4, 2024.

Katherine Disterhaft addressed the Council. Disterhaft indicated that she would like to see the former Eveleth-Gilbert school building saved. Disterhaft also asked the Council to consider hosting a site in Eveleth for residents to drop off compost. Disterhaft referred to a business in Duluth which makes compost and said that the State of Minnesota has grants available to start composting.

L. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.