

**October 04, 2011 6:00 PM**  
**Regular Meeting Ely City Council – Council Chambers, City Hall**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

The Ely City Council Regular Meeting was called to order by Mayor Skraba at 6:00 p.m. on October 4, 2011 at the Ely City Hall.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: Council members Debeltz, Omerza, Salerno, Sheddy, Zupec and Mayor Skraba (6)  
ABSENT: Nikkola (1)

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A. Motion by Salerno supported by Zupec to approve the minutes of September 19, 2011 Special Meeting and September 20, 2011 Regular Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA:**

A. Addition New Business 13i: Minnesota Power Grant

Motion by Debeltz supported by Omerza to approve Addition A to the agenda as listed above. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

A. Mayor Skraba sat in a discussion at the Boys Scout Camp with the Fire Management Team last week where they talked about the Pagami Creek Fire and how everyone gets notified of such an emergency. This brought about the discussion of the AT&T cell tower and its necessity becoming a safety issue. Attorney Klun stated that St. Louis and Lake County are considering supporting AT&T in their appeal to the FCC on their ruling regarding the AT&T cell tower on the Fernberg Rd. An Amicus Brief, which is a document, filed in a court by a person or entity who is not directly related to the case but states their thoughts and concerns regarding the issue and how it affects them. AT&T was asking if the City of Ely would sign on to one of the County's briefs or if we would start our own. A notice to file a brief is due to the court by October 13, 2011 and the actual brief is due at the end of November, 2011. Sending the notice to file a brief gives the City of Ely time to consider filing one of their own or being part of the County's Brief.

Motion by Salerno and supported by Omerza to send the letter to the Court that it is the City of Ely's intention to secure the ability to file pending financial review. Motion carried unanimously.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. Motion to waive readings in entirety all ordinances and resolutions on tonight's agenda

B. Authorize Dan Smith to attend Intermediate Governmental Accounting session, Tuesday, October 11, 2011 in Hermantown - \$50

C. Authorize Mayor to attend the Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce 141st Annual Meeting & Dinner on Thursday, October 20, 2011

Motion by Debeltz supported by Zupec to approve consent agenda item A-C as listed above. Motion carried unanimously.

7. **REQUESTS TO APPEAR:**

A. Chris Hartman with Ely Community Education spoke about the need to use the Community Center and/or the Ely Recreation Center for their Community Education classes with a possibility of swapping the City's contribution money for the use of these buildings.

Moved by Zupec and supported by Salerno to approve a contribution of \$3,724 to the Ely Community Education with the option of exchanging funds for rent of the Community Center and/or Ely Recreation Center. Motion carried unanimously.

## Ely Council Regular Meeting October 4, 2011

### 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Council member Debeltz said the Cemetery Committee will meet in October to discuss the Columbarium. Also he stated that the Cemetery Rules and Regulations have been drafted and are awaiting review and then approval by the Council.
- B. CGMC Board of Directors List and upcoming events - Omerza
- C. Council member Omerza stated she attended the League of Minnesota Cities 2011 Regional Meeting where they discussed the 2012 Policy Committee highlights with policies that they will be moving forward on and asked if anyone had any comments or recommendations regarding these policies, to let her or the League know by November 1, 2011.

Mayor Skraba attended the EADA mixer with IRRRB representatives where they discussed upcoming projects. He also attended, with Council member Omerza the League of Minnesota Cities meeting where they discussed: how to conduct meetings properly and TIF districts. Mayor Skraba also met last week with Tony Kennedy, a reporter for the Minneapolis Star Tribune, and discussed the Pagami Creek fire. He also met with a reporter from the Associated Press who was doing a story on Mining in Northern Minnesota.

Mayor Skraba attended the Rams meeting in Mt Iron where he took a tour of the solar plant there which is making silicon energy panels. They are having a Grand Opening on October 10 around 10a.m. for the public to attend.

### 9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- A. Clerk/Treasurer Boese asked to put the topic of "1st Responders to operate as a separate entity from the Fire Department" on the next agenda for the council to discuss.
- B.. Operations Director
  - i. Harold Langowski spoke on the Hazard Mitigation Grant through Homeland Security and Emergency Management. It is a \$504,038 Grant for the construction of a buried power line from the pump house on Burntside to the water treatment plant on Shagawa Lake.  
  
Motion by Shedly and supported by Debeltz to approve the HMGP Grant Agreement and authorize the Mayor and the Clerk to sign the documents. Roll Called: Debeltz-yes, Omerza-yes, Salerno-yes, Shedly-yes, Zupec-yes and Mayor Skraba-yes. Motion carried unanimously.
  - ii. EUC Consent Agenda: The following items of business were recommended for approval at the regular EUC meeting of Wednesday, September 28, 2011:
    - a. Approved installation of the load management server by Cooper Power Systems for \$8,479.17.
    - b. Approved EUC Policy 2011-1, Policy pertaining to unauthorized removal of meter seal, with review by the city attorney.
    - c. Approved Option #2 for the Minnesota Power MISO charges billing.
    - d. Approved moving forward with the Dig America bid and materials recommendation for the Burntside Power Line Project.
    - d. Approved the FEMA Grant Agreement for the Burntside Power Line Project.
    - f. Authorized participation in the Salvation Army HeatShare Program for another year.
    - g. Authorized purchase of 1000 if of 4/0 6-6-6 Cu HDPE sch. 40 duct wire from Resco for \$2,800.00.

## Ely Council Regular Meeting October 4, 2011

- h. Authorized purchase of 19 transformers from Dakota Transformer for \$11,145.00.
- i. Approved payment of the EUC August Bills List for \$378,579.27.
- j. Approved payment of the Minnesota Power August Bill for \$199,650.63.
- k. Approved payment of the KBM, Inc. Invoice #081126 for \$9,023.78 for engineering for the Burntside Power Line Project.

Motion by Sheddy and supported by Debeltz to approve the EUC consent agenda items A-K as presented above. Motion carried unanimously.

- iii. Director Langowski presented information on the grant applications he has been working on recently. He submitted two Community Redevelopment Grants applications yesterday; Priority One for the Old Clinic Building and Priority Two for the Old Pamida Building. He will also be submitting a Culture and Tourism Grant for \$10,000 for the repair of three structures in the park prior to October 14, 2011. Also, there are a couple of Public Works Grants through IRRRB that could help fund some of the city's existing development projects.

Motion by Omerza and supported by Salerno to approve the submission of the grant applications by Langowski as presented above. Motion carried unanimously.

- iiii. The Library roof repair will begin on Monday, October 10, 2011 so there will be some parking issues to watch for during the construction which will take about 30 days.

### 10. COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. Local Board of Appeal & Equalization Training Session held Thursday, October 20, 2011, 6:00-9:00 pm, Cotton Community Center, 9087 Hwy 53
- B. Ely Bloomenson Hospital annual Shareholder Meeting - December 5, 2011
- C. Ely Nursing Home will become Boundary Waters Care Center on October 1, 2011
- D. National League of Cities Brief on Financial Conditions of America's Cities
- E. 2012 All Night Graduation Party donation request

### 11. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT:

- A. City and EUC claims for September, 2011 - \$345,500.24
- B. 2011 Assessment Services Invoice - \$37,743
- C. Ely Community Resource 4th Quarter Invoice - \$3,140
- D. League of Minnesota Cities membership dues Invoice - \$3,163
- E. Lenci Enterprises, Inc Project#14900- Roof Repairs - Invoice \$60,230.00
- F. DSGW Architects - Community Center Roof - Inv#2 - \$840.52
- G. RLK - Pay Estimate No. 4 - Water Treatment Plant Demolition - \$23,149.25

Motion by Debeltz supported by Zupec to approve claims for payment A – G as listed above. Motion carried unanimously.

### 12. OLD BUSINESS:

Ely Council Regular Meeting October 4, 2011

- A. The council agreed to stay with their earlier decision to fund the Joint Powers/Ambulance using the 2010 census population figure of 3460 instead of the Joint Powers request for the subsidy of \$18,806 based on the 2000 census figures.

13. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Motion by Zupec and supported by Debeltz to approve the Capital Improvement Plan 2012-2017 for the Ely Municipal Airport as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Motion by Omerza and supported by Salerno to submit Council member Shedly's name as the representative for Ely on the Ely Area Ambulance Service board. Currently Chuck Novak is the representative for Ely and his term is expiring. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Motion by Salerno and supported by Debeltz to approve the FY12 Snowmobile Grant-In-Aid Agreement of \$22,034.10 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. Motion by Salerno and supported by Shedly to approve the 2012 City of Ely, Spaulding sewer assessment list as presented.

City of Ely-Spaulding Sewer Assessment

Parcel	2012	Parcel	2012
030-0170-00010	\$287.93	030-0170-00090	\$95.98
030-0170-00020	\$287.93	030-0170-00100	\$95.98
030-0170-00030	\$287.93	030-0170-00110	\$95.98
030-0170-00040	\$287.93	030-0170-00120	\$95.98
030-0170-00050	\$287.93	030-0170-00130	\$95.98
030-0170-00060	\$143.96	030-0170-00140	\$95.98
030-0170-00070	\$143.96	030-0170-00170	\$287.93

Motion carried unanimously.

- E. Motion by Debeltz and supported by Salerno to accept Brady Luthens' letter of resignation as 1st Assistant Fire Chief and to send him a thank you letter for his service. Motion carried unanimously.
- F. Motion by Debeltz and supported by Zupec to approve the posting internally for the 1st Assistant Fire Chief Position. Motion carried unanimously.
- G. Hearing date for Re-Districting: October 10, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in Cloquet at the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College Amphitheater.

Motion by Salerno and supported by Omerza to have the Mayor send a letter to the Judges to let them know of our recommendations for the re-districting plan. Motion carried unanimously.

- H. Motion by Salerno and supported by Debeltz to authorize Northland Securities to begin the process for refinancing the following City Bond Issue: \$840,000 General Obligation Tax Increment Crossover Refunding Bonds, Series 2003. Motion carried unanimously.
- I. Motion by Debeltz and supported by Omerza to accept the Minnesota Power Grant of \$1,100 for the Whiteside Park Playground and to send them a thank you letter. Motion carried unanimously.

Ely Council Regular Meeting October 4, 2011

14. OPEN FORUM:

Clerk/Treasurer Boese announced that this agenda was put together with the new Agenda Pal software and if anyone had any suggestions or changes that they would like to see implemented to let her know.

15. ADJOURN:

Motion by Omerza and supported by Debeltz to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Terri Boese  
Clerk/Treasurer