

## **Council Study Session Minutes, August 27, 2013**

### Call to Order:

The Ely City Council Study Session was called to order by Mayor Petersen at 5:37pm on August 27, 2013 at the Ely City Hall.

Present: Council members Debeltz, Kess, Nikkola, Omerza, Polyner, Sheddy and Mayor Petersen (7)  
Absent: none

Gerald Tyler, Chairman and Executive Director of Up North Jobs, gave an overview of this new 501c3, Non-Profit Organization. They are located in the Frandsen Bank building on Sheridan St which began operations on June 12, 2013. At this time, it is staffed with about 6 volunteers. Their mission is to: 1) support and conduct non-partisan research, education and informational activities to increase public awareness of the importance of job creation in Northeast MN; 2) support job growth in Northeast MN by promoting mining, manufacturing, tourism, logging, construction, retailing and service industries; 3) create a favorable business environment by promoting the implementation of sensible tax policies; 4) prevent the deterioration of our communities and schools which result from the out-migration of Northeast MN citizens due to economic conditions.

Council member Nikkola stated that the only way to support this type of organization is by forming a Joint Powers Agreement. The Mayor's of Babbitt and Winton, along with Township of Morse representatives, Ely Hospital Administrator and the Superintendent of ISD 696 spoke and expressed their support for forming this Joint Powers Agreement with Up North Jobs.

Clerk Langowski stated the next step to this organization will be to send letters requesting letters of interest from the surrounding communities in forming this Joint Powers Agreement. Up North Jobs will put together a budget and the required materials for forming this organization which will be presented to the Council. Attorney Klun stated the City of Ely will lead this Joint Powers organization and she will draft the Agreement.

Clerk Langowski thanked everyone for coming and speaking on behalf of this organization.

Communication from Betsy Leustek in favor of Up North Jobs was read aloud by Mayor Petersen.

### New Business:

1. A chart of Ely employees and their years of service was presented to the Council as information for future discussion.
2. The 2014 Budget was presented. The resolution approving and adopting the proposed tax levy for 2014 will be brought to the next Council meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.
3. Attorney Klun presented the Process for Abatement by a Municipality regarding the hazardous buildings in Ely in need of being demolished. The two commercial properties that the Building Official has deemed unsafe are the Tanner Hospital Building at Camp St & 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave and the Old Ford Garage at 36 E Conan St. Mayor Petersen stated that Attorney Klun should move forward with the next step in the legal process to get the Old Ford building demolished.

**Nikkola/Debeltz moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:45pm. Motion carried unanimously.**

Claire Huisman  
Deputy Clerk