

Council Minutes December 15, 2015
Regular Meeting Ely City Council – City Hall, Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Novak called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 5:30pm.
2. ROLL CALL:
PRESENT: Council members A.Forsman, Kess, Debeltz, Omerza, Polyner, D.Forsman and Mayor Novak (7)
ABSENT: None
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting on December 1, 2015. Motion Carried Unanimously.
4. ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA:
 - A. Addition: 15. A. Performance Evaluation of Harold Langowski
 - B. Addition: 15. B. Performance Evaluation of John Lahtonen
 - C. Addition: 15. C. Performance Evaluation of Rachel Heinrich
 - D. Addition: 15. D. Performance Evaluation of Tom Erchull
 - E. Addition: 13. F. WebsiteItems A-E were added without objection.
5. MAYOR'S REPORT
The December Study Session will be canceled.
The Department of Revenue is hiring in St. Paul and in Ely, there are 15 openings. Mayor Novak encourages people to apply as these are very good jobs for the Ely area.
6. CONSENT AGENDA:
 - A. Motion to waive readings in entirety of all ordinances and resolutions on tonight's agenda
 - B. Arbor Day Proclamation and Application for Tree City USA Certification
 - C. Approve staff to attend 2016 Minnesota Municipal Clerks Institute May 2-6, 2016
 - D. Approve Council and/or Staff to attend the 2016 CGMC Legislative Action Day on March 16, 2016.**Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve the consent agenda items A-D. Motion Carried Unanimously.**
7. REQUESTS TO APPEAR:
None
8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Kess stated that the annual meeting for RAMS is on January 7, 2016 at the Mt. Iron Civic Community Center. RAMS also passed two resolutions in support for the existing open, transparent and comprehensive environmental review and permitting process in place for PolyMet's proposed NorthMet mining project, currently planned for development in Northeast Minnesota, and the resolution in supporting immediate action, such as proposed legislation, to ban foreign steel imports for five years and encouraging the legislative delegation to pursue immediate relief for laid off mine workers.

Omerza/Debeltz approved the recommendation from the library board to appoint Cade Thibodeaux to take the primary seat and Becky Zientek to become the alternate seat to fill the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust library designated seats. This Recommendation will be forwarded to the District Court Judge. Motion carried unanimously.

Polyner/Debeltz moved to approve Kara Polyner as the Representative of the Ely City Council and Claire Taylor as the Representative of Ely –At Large for the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust. This Recommendation will be forwarded to the District Court Judge. Motion Carried Unanimously.

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

A. Clerk-Treasurer

B. Fire Chief

i. Hiring of New Firefighters

Debeltz/D/Forsman moved to approve the hiring of Randi Ritchie and Joshua Hanninen to the Ely Fire Department. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Fire Chief Tom Erchull stated Ely Fire Department will be bringing five new firefighters to start training at the beginning of the year.

C. Library Director

Library Director Heinrich went over upcoming events and activities at the Library.

D. Police Chief

E. City Attorney:

i. Annexation Lands Immediately West of Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital. Mayor Novak and Attorney Klun attended the Town of Morse Board Meeting and walked out with a signed agreement for the annexation of lands immediately west of Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital. Mayor Novak and Attorney Klun were also invited back to the Town of Morse's next meeting to discuss the West Shagawa Road Annexation.

F. City Engineer

10. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Custom Theaters Donation of Moving ElyTV to City Hall

Debeltz/Omerza moved to send Custom Theaters a Thank You for their donation of moving ElyTV to City Hall. Motion Carried Unanimously.

B. Preservation Agreement for the Pioneer Mine Buildings and A Headframe-Matter of Information- Matter of Information

11. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT:

A. **Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve the City and EUC claims for December 15, 2015 for \$580,971.48. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

B. **Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve the JPJ Partial Payment Estimate #3 for the 2015 Improvement Projects for \$91,589.26 to Utility Systems of America. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

- C. Mesabi Humane Society Invoice for \$915.00: Langowski stated that this bill is for the additional boarding for the 3 animals that are still at the Mesabi Humane Society for Luthera Smith. Langowski stated that he would like to defer this bill to Klun Law Firm as to who should be paying these additional bills.

Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to deny the payment from the Mesabi Humane Society for \$915.00 and to have Attorney Klun refer this matter to the Mesabi Humane Society and the Mesabi Humane Society can file restoration for this bill. Motion Carried Unanimously.

12. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve the following committee appointments:
Airport Committee - William Vosburgh – Term Expires January 31, 2017
Park and Recreation – Kelly Klun – Term Expires January 31, 2017
HRA – Mark Zupec – Term Expires January 31, 2019
Motion Carried Unanimously.**

13. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Kess/Debeltz moved to approve the League of Minnesota Cities Liability Coverage-Waiver Form. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

- B. **A.Forsman/Debeltz moved to approve Resolution #2015-045 Approving the City of Ely Budget for the Fiscal Year 2016 WHEREAS, the Ely City Council is responsible for properly managing and maintaining the City's finances; and WHEREAS, the Ely City Council is ultimately responsible for the accountability of the City's expenditures and revenues; and WHEREAS, by the Ely City Council as follows: Section 1. The annual budget for the City of Ely for the Fiscal Year beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2016 is hereby adopted and incorporated herein by reference. Section 2. The sums and amounts of money herein set forth are hereby appropriated to respective accounts and funds therein set forth for expenditure during the Fiscal Year 2016, for each of the several items set forth in the budget. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Ely, Minnesota does hereby adopt this resolution. Roll Called: A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-yes, Polyner –yes D.Forsman-yes and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

- C. **A.Forsman/D.Forsman moved to approve the Budget Adjustments for 2015 from the Budget Committee. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

- D. **D.Forsman/Debeltz moved to approve Beaver Liquors Off Sale Liquor License Transfer to New Owners pending receipt of proper paperwork. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

- E. **A.Forsman/Omerza moved to approve Resolution 2015-046 Authorizing 2016 Permit Fee Schedule WHEREAS, the City of Ely is a Municipal Corporation governed under the Charter of the City of Ely with powers vested in its City Council; WHEREAS, the Building Permit Task Force has recommended the following rates for Permit Fees for the Building Department:
Water Heater Permit- Gas- \$50.00, Re-inspection Fee - \$47.00,
Residential Roof - \$50.00, Residential Siding - \$50.00, Residential Door - \$50.00**

*Residential Replacement Window(s) 1-5 - \$50.00

*Residential Replacement Windows 6 or more - \$100.00

*Replacement windows are defined by changing existing windows without making changes to the size or location of the rough opening.

WHEREAS, the Building Permit Task Force has recommended removing the following fees from the Permit Fee Schedule: Standard Meter Reader - \$82.00, Mobile Home Permit - \$80.00, Sewer Access Fee(SAC) (together \$2500.00) - \$2000.00 covered under EUC, Water Access Fee(WAC) (together \$2500.00) - \$2000.00 covered under EUC, Sewer Inspection Fee - \$40.00 – covered under EUC, Water Inspection Fee - \$40.00 – covered under EUC **WHEREAS**, the Ely City Council approved the Permit Fee Task Forces Report on November 3, 2015 and approved a January 1, 2016 start date for the 2016 Permit Fee Schedule. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Ely, that: the 2016 Permit Fee Schedule shall be pursuant to the recommendation of the Permit Fee Task Force, attached hereto as Exhibit “A” 2016 Permit Fee Schedule-Building Department and shall take effect on January 1, 2016. **Roll Called: A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-yes, Polyner –yes D.Forsman-yes and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

F. Website

Debeltz mentioned that it would be nice if we could get a picture of the council on the website. Possibly have a welcome to Ely from the Mayor and Council and a little bio on each council member. At the January 2016 meeting we will take a picture.

14. OPEN FORUM

Mike Jankovec stated that TightRope is fixing the ElyTV hard drive, so ElyTV will be down for a while until the computer is fixed. Mike would also like to thank Voltz and Mauro Caruso for all there help and support in trying to get ElyTV up and running again.

Mayor Novak recessed the meeting at 6:00pm.

The meeting was reopened at 6:15pm

The meeting was closed for the reviews at 6:17pm at the request of Harold Langowski.

Harold Langowski, John Lahtonen, Rachel Heinrich, Tom Erchull were each reviewed in the order given.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

Casey Velcheff
Deputy Clerk