

Council Minutes: June 20, 2017

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. PRESENT: Council members A.Forsman, Kess, Debeltz, Omerza, Callen, and Mayor Novak
ABSENT: Council member D.Forsman
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Debeltz/Callen moved to approve the minutes from the June 6, 2017 Regular Meeting. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent
4. ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA:
 - A. Addition 8. A.e. Budget Committee Minutes
 - B. Addition 12.A. July Council Meeting**Additions approved without objection.**
5. MAYOR’S REPORT
Congrats to the Ely Baseball team for being the Section 7A Section Champs and making it to state. Ely was the youngest and smallest school to go to state.
This Friday is Crapola’s Street Dance and 10th Anniversary on 1st Avenue and Chapman Street.
Mayor Novak and Council Member Kess as the President of RAMs attended a Press Conference in Mt Iron with four U.S. Congressmen, State Legislators, other local mayors and council people, Steve Georgi as director of RAMS to discuss mining on the range.
6. CONSENT AGENDA:
 - A. Motion to waive readings in entirety of all ordinances and resolutions on tonight’s agenda.
Debeltz/Callen moved to approve Consent Agenda item A. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent
7. REQUESTS TO APPEAR: None
8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
 - A. Standing/Special
ERCC Board Meeting
At the last board meeting the Ely Recreation Community Complex (ERCC) received an anonymous \$5 Million donation to towards the EECC. The ERCC board also discussed possible locations and how to fund the rest of the project.

A.Forsman discussed the meeting he attended with MN Power and others about Wild Rice Standards.
Langowski discussed the formula and the testing process for the Wild Rice Standards.
Kess stated that the Wild Rice Standard is not just about Ely, but it affects numerous communities across the range. It’s been through the efforts of RAMS and MN Power to challenge the standard that the state has set up. The potential costs for the communities across the range or even the state would be enormous.

Omerza reported on the League of Minnesota Cities annual conference. Omerza was voted in as 1st Vice President.

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

- i. **A.Forsman/Debeltz moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee to split the reimbursement funds from Homeland Security Emergency Management from the July 2016 Storm Damage between capital projects and equipment replacement equally. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent**
- ii. **A.Forsman/Debeltz moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee to direct the Clerk-Treasurer to advertise for bids for the purchase of a used rubber tire backhoe 2010 or newer with 2000 hours or less similar in size and capacity to a 410 John Deere. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent**
- iii. **A.Forsman/Omerza moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee to transfer \$9,600 in funds from Capital Improvements for the Semer's Park Project for the Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corp project. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent**

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

A. Clerk-Treasurer

i. Tax Forfeited Property

Debeltz/Omerza moved to work with St. Louis County to purchase and advertise for proposals for the sale of both properties at 131 E Chapman Street and 1227 E Harvey Street both of which are tax forfeited properties.

Langowski stated that the city will work with a neighbor for the Harvey Street Property to submit an IRRRB grant request for demolition. The neighbor would be responsible for all costs not covered by the IRRRB. It is anticipated that 131 E Chapman would be renovated and the blight conditions removed.

Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent

ii. SATO Building

Langowski stated that we are planning on improvement to the bathrooms at the SATO building this summer. We have requested an estimated cost from Ben Olson at TKDA to put together plans and specifications to bid the project. He proposed it not to exceed \$3,605.

Langowski state that we are also looking at the replacement of a portion of the roof as well as exterior siding and flashing replacement. This work may be completed in two phases in 2017 and 2018.

- iii. **Debeltz/A.Forsman moved to promote Jared Hietala to Equipment Operator III. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent**

B. Fire Chief

The Airport Crash class was a success and they learned a lot.

C. Library Director

Library Director Heinrich gave an update of the upcoming events at the library which can be located on the Library Website.

D. Police Chief

Chief Lahtonen stated that they have sent out 58 letter and 6 tickets so far for people for tall grass.

E. City Attorney

i. **A.Forsman/Debeltz moved to approve the Mortgage and Note for Dee's Bar at 17 E Sheridan St for \$17,500. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent**

ii. 21 W Shagawa Road Enforcement

Attorney Klun stated that Doug Whitney completed an inspection report for 21 W Shagawa Road and based on the report of June 14, 2017, items A, B, E, F and G of Resolution 2016-042 have not been completed, item D was completed but an inspection has not been done, item C was completed.

Kess/Omerza moved to direct staff to perform the execution of the order to Resolution 2016-042. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent

iii. LELS Contract

Attorney Klun stated that we anticipated on having a language change tonight for the LELS Contract, but we have not received the language back from LELS yet.

iv. Ely Property LLC vs City of Ely, et al

Debeltz/Omerza moved to close the meeting after open forum under Minnesota Statute 13D to discuss the pending litigation. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent

F. City Engineer

10. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Northern Lights Clubhouse 5k Glow Run September 22, 2017- Looking for planning volunteers.

11. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT:

A. City and EUC claims for June 20, 2017 - \$385,686.66

B. Ely Garden Club requesting \$500 for 2017.

Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve the claims for payment items A and B. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent

12. OLD BUSINESS:

A. **Debeltz/A.Forsman moved to have the July 4th Council Meeting on July 6th 2017 at 5:30pm. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent**

13. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Debeltz/Callen moved to approve the Young Life in kind services for the 4th of July. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent**

Kess/A.Forsman moved to donate \$2000 to the 4th of July Committee and to put it in the future budgets. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent

- B. Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve Resolution #2017-016 A Resolution Requesting Funds from the State of Minnesota for Infrastructure Improvements to Improve Access to the Ely Bloomenson Hospital and Provide the Development of a Multi-Use Trail Head Facility Roll Called: A.Forsman-Yes, Kess-Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza-Yes, Callen-Yes, Mayor Novak-Yes Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent.**

- C. Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve Resolution #2017-017 A Resolution Requesting Funds from the State of Minnesota for Infrastructure Improvements for Vermillion Community College, 17th Avenue East and Business Park Roll Called: A.Forsman-Yes, Kess-Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza-Yes, Callen-Yes, Mayor Novak-Yes Motion Carried 6-0-1 with D.Forsman Absent.**

14. OPEN FORUM

Mauro Caruso spoke about the Ely Recreation Community Complex. Caruso stated that the city needs to remember to not compete against other tax paying businesses in town, businesses struggle as it is around town.

A.Forsman stated that he is happy to hear the other side; we also don't want to deny our citizens to have swimming lessons in town and a place to work together.

Caruso stated that we are not just talking about a pool and a gym. We need to think about where the money is going to come from for the yearly operation of the complex.

Mayor Novak recessed the council meeting at 6:39pm

Mayor Novak closed the meeting at 6:50pm

Mayor Novak opened the meeting at 7:00pm

15. ADJOURN

Mayor Novak adjourned the meeting without objection at 7:00pm

Casey Velcheff
Deputy Clerk