

Council Minutes July 2, 2019
Regular Meeting Ely City Council – City Hall, Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Novak called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 5:30pm
2. PRESENT: Council members A.Forsman, Kess, Debeltz, Omerza, Callen, Campbell, and Mayor Novak
ABSENT: None
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve the minutes from June 18, 2019 Regular Meeting. Motion Carried Unanimously.
4. ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA:
 - A. Addition 13. B. Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) FY 2019 agreement between St. Louis County and the City of Ely.
 - B. Addition 13. C. Residential Rehab Loan for James Reed at 1350 N 18th Ave E for new windows, siding with an additional ¾” of insulation, and to replace roofing for \$10,000 , pending proper paperwork and fees and to direct Attorney Klun to work with the applicant and to proceed with loan processing.
Additions A and B added without objection.
5. MAYOR’S REPORT
Mayor Novak proclaimed July 26, 27, and 28 to be Twin Metals Minnesota appreciation days in the City of Ely.
Mayor Novak discussed the League of Minnesota Cities Annual Conference and stated that Heidi Omerza is now the past president of the league.
Omerza indicated that she appreciates the support the council gave her this last year as president of the league. Omerza stated that is was an honor and privilege to serve on the board.
Kess stated that the league conference was very good and he appreciated the remarks that the governor made.
Campbell stated that this was her first league conference and enjoyed the opportunity to network with the 600+ guests from the cities around the state.
Langowski indicated that it was great to see Omerza as President and the respect that she receives.
6. CONSENT AGENDA:
Debeltz/Callen moved to waive the readings in entirety of all ordinances and resolutions on tonight’s agenda. Motion Carried Unanimously.
7. REQUESTS TO APPEAR:
 - A. Rotary signs – George Burger
Sergeant Burger indicated that he has been giving presentations to groups on traffic safety. The Rotary has generously donated four signs to the City that state “Drive Carefully, Protect our Children” with the Rotary logo in the middle. Burger accepted the donation on behalf of

the city at the last Rotary meeting. Burger indicated that we will look for spots at the school, Whiteside Park and Semers Park to hang the signs.

Langowski indicated that Rotary is also donating benches for the new pocket park on Chapman Street.

Debeltz/Omerza moved to send a Thank You to the Rotary for their donations of the signs and benches. Motion Carried Unanimously.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Standing/Special

Budget Committee

A.Forsman/Kess moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee to approve the 2020 budget calendar with the addition of the special budget meeting on September 3, 2019. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A.Forsman/Debeltz moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee to transfer \$200,000 from the general fund to the capital projects fund.

A.Forsman indicated this is to cover the capital projects we have going on this year.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

A.Forsman/Omerza moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee to have Clerk/Treasurer Langowski create a change order with Casper Construction for \$20,824 for the 17th Ave Project for additional costs incurred to Mesabi Bituminous for the paving. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Heritage Preservation Commission – Minutes included in the packet

Planning and Zoning

Callen/Debeltz moved to approve the recommendation from Planning and Zoning to approve an Obstruction permit for one block area on 7th Avenue E between Sheridan and Camp Streets for the Northern Lights Clubhouse 5K Glow Run on September 20, 2019.

Langowski stated in the past the 5K started and ended at the college, but this will help to be closer to the park with the activities that are going on.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Park and Recreation Board

Omerza/Campbell moved to approve the recommendation from the Park and Recreation Board to approve the rules for the Ely Wheel Park. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Omerza/Debeltz moved to approve the recommendation from the Park and Recreation Board to purchase 2 security cameras from Custom Theaters for the Wheel Park as presented in estimate #3530 for approximately \$1600.00. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Omerza/A.Forsman moved to approve the recommendation from the Park and Recreation Board to wait on the installation of a second sand volleyball court at Semers until next year when it can be finished in conjunction with the new ADA trail.

Omerza indicated that most of the Park and Recreation budget was spent on the new wheel park. We need to wait and see where the ADA trail is going to be aligned at Semers.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Omerza/Callen moved to approve the recommendation from the Park and Recreation Board to use the new picnic shelter at Semers as a “first come/first served” with no reservation system. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Omerza/Campbell moved to approve the recommendation from the Park and Recreation Board to replace the existing wooden benches around the Trezona Trail with the new donated Rotary Benches. Motion Carried Unanimously.

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

A. Clerk-Treasurer

- i. Community Center limited site investigation estimates from the heating oil tank.

Debeltz/Omerza moved to award the estimate for the limited site investigation from the community center heating oil tank to Northeast Technical Services for \$6022.00.

Langowski indicated that the work will be substantially reimbursed by the MPCA following completion.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

- ii. Possible Cemetery Restoration Project with Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps.

Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve to have Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps come to do some Cemetery Restoration.

Langowski indicated that the Korpi Trust will contribute at least half of the cost and the use of other donated funds will go towards the other portion.

Callen asked how much it will cost. Langowski indicated it will be about \$5000.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Langowski indicated that construction has started on Pattison Street. Ely Public Works is working on removing the concrete and black top. Utility work is scheduled to start later this week.

B. Fire Chief

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 reminded everyone that it is grass cutting season. If you do not cut your grass you will be getting a letter and possibly a citation.

E. City Attorney

F. City Engineer

10. COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. NOAA's National Weather Service Skywarn Training Program
- B. Thank you from AAUW and Ely Rotary

11. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT:

- A. City and EUC claims for July 2, 2019 – \$148,829.21
- B. Partial Payment Estimate #9 for the 17th Avenue East/7th Avenue East/Water Tower Supply Line Project for \$97,334.26 to Casper Construction Inc
- C. Partial Pay Estimate #3 To KGM Contractors for \$289,067.24 for the 2018 Pavement Rehabilitation Project for State Project #A6920-48
- D. Partial Pay Estimate #3 to KGM Contractors for \$991,992.33 for the 2018 Pavement Rehabilitation Project for State Project #A6920-49
- E. Ely Community Resources 3rd Quarter Payment of \$5125

Debeltz/Callen moved to approve the Claims for Payment items A-E. Motion Carried Unanimously.

12. OLD BUSINESS:

13. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Callen/Campbell moved to approve Resolution 2019-023 Resolution Authorizing Application of Ruffed Grouse Society Crazy Flight Chapter to Apply for Raffle Permit. Roll Called A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-yes, Callen-yes, Campbell-yes, and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion Carried Unanimously.

B. A.Forsman/Callen moved to approve the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) FY 2019 agreement between St. Louis County and the City of Ely. Motion Carried Unanimously.

C. Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve the Residential Rehab Loan for James Reed at 1350 N 18th Ave E for new windows, siding with an additional 3/4" of insulation, and to replace roofing for \$10,000, pending proper paperwork and fees and to direct Attorney Klun to work with the applicant and to proceed with loan processing. Motion Carried Unanimously.

14. OPEN FORUM

15. ADJOURN

Mayor Novak adjourned the meeting at 6:15pm without objection.

Casey Velcheff
Deputy Clerk