

Council Minutes - January 7, 2020
Regular Meeting Ely City Council – City Hall, Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Novak called the Ely City Council meeting to order at 5:30pm.

2. PRESENT: Council members A.Forsman, Kess, Debeltz, Omerza, Campbell, and Mayor Novak
ABSENT: Council member Callen

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve minutes from the December 17, 2019 Regular Council Meeting, and TIF District Public Hearing Minutes from December 17, 2019. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Callen Absent.

4. ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA:

- A. Addition 6.E. Approve the Ely Jaycees Temporary Liquor Licenses for the Piragis Lumberjack Party on February 15, 2020 at 105 N Central Ave, Crapola Block Party on 1st Ave East, Chamber Sponsored Music in the Park June 25, July 9, and August 13, 2020 at Whiteside Park, Blueberry Arts Festival July 24, 25, 26, 2020 at Whiteside Park, and the Ely Marathon on September 20, 2020 at Whiteside Park.
- B. Addition 8.A. Lodging Tax Board
- C. Addition 9.E. East Spaulding Reversionary Interest Kirk Solum and Sale to Linda Solum. Approval of Quit Claim Deed, removing the City's right of re-entry to the property legally described as follows Lot 3, Block 3 in East Spaulding.
- D. Addition 11.D. Pay Request for the Quad Cities ATV Virginia to Laurentian Trail Improvements for \$4200 to Soil & Water –Environmental Consulting – Thomas A. Fait for the Wetland Delineation Report.
- E. Addition 13.L. In kind services for the Ely Winter Festival February 6-16, 2020.
- F. Addition 13.M. In kind services for the Northland 300 Snowmobile Group and the Annual Fun Run at the Grand Ely Lodge on January 22-26, 2020, to plow both Pioneer Mine parking lots for additional parking.

Additions A-F were added without objection.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Novak stated that at the next council meeting the council will go through the Council Member Committees list for 2020. If council members are interested in a particular committee let the Deputy Clerk know.

Mayor Novak indicated that the public works crew has been using the new snow blower to widen the streets and it has worked great.

Debeltz indicated that the city crews are doing a great job with the amount of snow we have received this year.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Motion to waive readings in entirety of all ordinances and resolutions on tonight's agenda
- B. Approve to call for sealed bids for 2020 legal newspaper
- C. Approve advertising for open committee seats
- D. Approve 2020 Council Meeting Calendar

- E. Approve the Ely Jaycees Temporary Liquor Licenses for the Piragis Lumberjack Party on February 15, 2020 at 105 N Central Ave, Crapola Block Party on 1st Ave East, Chamber Sponsored Music in the Park June 25, July 9, and August 13, 2020 at Whiteside Park, Blueberry Arts Festival July 24, 25, 26, 2020 at Whiteside Park, and the Ely Marathon on September 20, 2020 at Whiteside Park.

Omerza/Debeltz moved to approve the consent agenda items A-E.

Campbell asked why the bid packet for the 2020 legal newspaper bids was not in the agenda packet.

Mayor Novak indicated that the Council approves going out for bids.

Langowski stated that it is similar to last years.

Campbell indicated that she would like to include the statutes in the bid packet.

Langowski indicated that we can include the appropriate statutes in the bid packet.

Omerza thanked the Deputy Clerk for putting together the 2020 Council Meeting Calendar with the 2020 Election dates and meeting changes in it.

Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Callen Absent.

7. REQUESTS TO APPEAR:

Muffin Nelson – State Theater/Quiltmaker’s Gift Proclamation – Mayor Novak indicated that he will sign the proclamation.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Standing/Special

Planning and Zoning Commission

Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve the recommendation to discuss the Short-Term Rental Recommendations from Planning and Zoning at the January 28, 2020 Study Session. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Callen Absent.

Lodging Tax Board

Kess indicated that major changes to the board are coming. Cindy Beans is the new director. The Ely Tourism Bureau is now an independent entity: they have a separate 501(c)6, Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, they are no longer using the Chamber of Commerce as a fiscal agent. Through the rebranding process of the Ely Area Tourism Bureau or Visit Ely, MN we will have a defined logo, slogan, and design elements. Establish brand requirements to ensure ongoing area recognition.

Omerza stated that the outdoor skating rink is open at the Rec Center; check the City of Ely website for the hours.

Langowski indicated that the hours are Monday – Friday 3pm-8pm, Saturday 12pm-8pm and Sunday 1pm-6pm.

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

A. Clerk-Treasurer

Langowski indicated that Public Works will be removing the snow in the downtown area on Thursday and will be working with MnDot to remove the snow on Sheridan Street on Friday. If you are a or have a contracted snow plower please work with your neighbors, do not push the snow into your neighbor’s driveway, the city right of ways, the sidewalk, etc. We are aware that there is a lot of snow, we are doing the best we can to remove it and appreciate everyone’s patience.

B. Fire Chief

C. Library Director

Library Director Heinrich gave an update on the upcoming events at the library and the holiday hours which can be located on the Library website.

D. Police Chief

E. City Attorney

Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve the Note and Mortgage for the Commercial renovation loan for 141 N Central Ave to replace floors, replace windows, and apply 1” of foam insulation and fiberglass for \$17,500. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Callen Absent

Omerza/Campbell moved to approve the East Spaulding Reversionary Interest Kirk Solum and Sale to Linda Solum. Approval of Quit Claim Deed, removing the City’s right of re-entry to the property legally described as follows Lot 3, Block 3 in East Spaulding. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Callen Absent.

F. City Engineer

10. COMMUNICATIONS:

ISO Rating for Ely and Ely Fire Department Public Protection Classification: 05/5X, 10 - Matter of Information

11. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT:

A. City and EUC claims for January 7, 2020 – \$383,378.11

B. Range Association of Municipalities and Schools Invoice 2020-010 for 2020 Dues of \$700.00

C. Ely Community Resource 1st Quarter Payment of \$5125.00

D. Pay Request for the Quad Cities ATV Virginia to Laurentian Trail Improvements for \$4200 to Soil & Water –Environmental Consulting – Thomas A. Fait for the Wetland Delineation Report.

Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve the Claims for Payment A-D. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Callen Absent

12. OLD BUSINESS: None

13. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Debeltz/A.Forsman moved to approve the 2020 official city depositories: Frandsen Bank & Trust, Boundary Waters Bank and 4M Fund. Motion Carried 5-0-1-1 with Callen Absent and Omerza abstaining since spouse works for Frandsen.

B. Omerza/A.Forsman moved to designate the Assistant Treasurer as the designated person to oversee, monitor, accept responsibility and evaluate the “nonattest/nonaudit services, which include the preparation of the notes to the financial statements to be included in the audit of the City of Ely for the year ending December 31, 2020. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Callen Absent.

- C. A.Forsman/Omerza moved to approve Change Order #3 – Final to decrease the contract amount by \$3,296 for the Vermilion River Bridge Construction Project, Voyageur Country ATV. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Callen Absent**
- D. Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve Pay Estimate #8 for the Vermilion River Bridge Construction Project for \$254,173.38 to George Bougalis and Sons. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Callen Absent+**
- E. Omerza/Campbell moved to approve the Miscellaneous Invoices for the Vermilion River Bridge Construction Project:**
Mesabi Sign Company – Invoice #46069 for \$1788.60
ShelDon – Invoice #21253 for \$1044.00
Voyageur Country ATV – Invoice #1399940 for \$6,717.22
Lowe’s – Transaction #4336062 for \$30.04
Anderson Canoe Outfitters – Invoice #3414 for \$1562.50
Seppi Bros – Ticket #7240 for \$936.52
Radko Iron & Supply – Invoice #553535 for \$450.98
Melgeorge’s Elephant Lake Lodge – Invoice #1325 for \$1,184.00
Tom Baumchen – Invoice #102 for \$5,198.00
Northwoods True Value Home Center – Transaction #A57128 for \$294.21
Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Callen Absent
- F. Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve Resolution #2020-001 authorizing City officials and staff to attend meetings outside of Ely. Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess-Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza-Yes, Callen-Absent, Campbell – Yes, and Mayor Novak-Yes. Motion Carried 6-0-1with Callen Absent.**
- G. Omerza/A.Forsman moved to approve the City of Ely Fee Schedule dated January 1, 2020.**
Langowski indicated that the Winter Cemetery Burial Fees are going to be looked at in the future.
A.Forsman asked if there were any changes to the Fee Schedule. There were not any changes to the fee schedule at this time.
Motion Carried 6-0-1with Callen Absent.
- H. Campbell/Omerza moved to approve the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant Agreement for the Pioneer Mine Retaining Wall Construction Drawings for \$10,000. Motion Carried 6-0-1with Callen Absent.**
- I. Debeltz/Kess moved to approve the Golf Course Land Lease for May 18, 2020 – May 18, 2022. Motion Carried 6-0-1with Callen Absent.**
- J. Campbell/Omerza moved to approve the Commercial Renovation Loan for E Sheridan Street Properties, LLC for 228 E Sheridan St for insulation, wiring, and to rough in plumbing on 2nd theater space in Salerno building for \$17,500, pending proper paperwork and fees and to direct Attorney Klun to work with the applicant and to proceed with loan processing. Motion Carried 6-0-1with Callen Absent.**

K. A.Forsman/Omerza moved to approve Resolution 2020-002 authorizing the Knights of Columbus to Council 3238 to conduct Bingo. Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman-Yes, Kess-Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza-Yes, Callen-Absent, Campbell – Yes, and Mayor Novak-Yes. Motion Carried 6-0-1with Callen Absent.

L. Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve the in kind services for the Ely Winter Festival February 6-16, 2020.

Langowski indicated that the cities priority is the streets and public safety and they will help the Winter Festival when they can.

Motion Carried 6-0-1with Callen Absent.

M. Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve the in kind services for the Northland 300 Snowmobile Group and the Annul Fun Run at the Grand Ely Lodge on January 22-26, 2020, to plow both Pioneer Mine parking lots for additional parking. Motion Carried 6-0-1with Callen Absent.

14. OPEN FORUM - None

15. ADJOURN

Mayor Novak adjourned the meeting without objection at 6:13pm.

Casey Velcheff
Deputy Clerk