

Council Minutes - July 7, 2020

Regular Meeting Ely City Council – City Hall, Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular city council meeting was called to order by Mayor Novak at 5:30pm.

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

ABSENT: None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve the minutes from the June 16, 2020 Regular Council Meeting. Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA:

A. Addition 8.A Park and Recreation Committee

B. Addition 9.A.ii. Quotes for Demo of 131 E Conan St

C. Addition 10.D Correspondence from Cynthia Bean Executive Director of the Ely Area Tourism Bureau regarding the reimagined Ely Brand.

D. Addition 13.D. Resolution 2020-022 Resolution Appointing Election Judges for the 2020 Primary Elections

E. Addition 13.E. Request from Prospector Alliance – Asking for City of Ely’s assistance with payment on a 10-year lease for state lands used along the Prospector ATV trail system for up to \$50,000, the city would be reimbursed through the IRRRB grant and/or state funds via Lake County.

Additions A-E were added without objection.

5. MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Novak welcomed the new Kawishiwi District Ranger, Aaron Kania. Kania spoke about his previous professions. Kania indicated that he is excited to be in Ely and working with the people in the community.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

Omerza/Debeltz moved to waive readings in entirety of all ordinances and resolutions on tonight’s agenda. Motion Carried Unanimously.

7. REQUESTS TO APPEAR: None

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Standing/Special

Budget Committee:

A.Forsman/Kess moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee to get proposals for the City Fuel Provider. Motion Carried Unanimously.

A.Forsman/Campbell moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee to approve the 2021 Budget Calendar. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Heritage Preservation Commission: Minutes included in the agenda packet

Planning and Zoning Commission: Minutes included in the agenda packet

Library Board: Minutes included in the agenda packet

Ely Utilities Commission: Minutes included in the agenda packet

Telecommunications Advisory Board

Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve the recommendation from TAB to have the Ely City Council utilize TAB fund balance to upgrade the microphones at a quoted price of \$29,169 for a wireless microphone system. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Lodging Tax Report: Report included in the packet

Park and Recreation Committee:

Omerza/Campbell moved to approve the recommendation from Park and Recreation Committee to maintain the fishing pier at Miner's Lake.

Resolution 2020-023 Resolution Authorizing the Miners Lake Public Fishing Pier Land Use, Operations, and Maintenance Cooperative Agreement between the City of Ely and State of Minnesota. Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess – Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza -Yes, Callen – Yes, Campbell-Yes, and Mayor Novak – Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Omerza/Callen moved to approve the recommendation from the Park and Recreation Committee to allow rentals at Semers Pavilion and Whiteside Park with following the up to date recommendations from the Minnesota Department of Health and CDC guidelines starting July 1, 2020. Rentals at the Rec Center will be done on an individual basis with Ely Community Resources. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Omerza indicated that she ran the nominating committee for the League of Minnesota Cities as her last duty as the Past President. Omerza stated that she was one of the longest standing league board members with 9 years of service. Omerza appreciates this council and previous councils giving her the ability to take the time to be a part of the League for all these years.

A.Forsman asked the council to review the Commercial Sanitation Contract before the next Council Meeting where it will be brought forward.

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

A. Clerk-Treasurer

i. The following items of business were recommended for approval at the regular EUC meeting of Wednesday, June 24, 2020:

1. Approved the purchase of a grit auger from Kusters Water for \$5,340.00 for the WWTP.
2. Approved the purchase of 47 poles from Bell Lumber & Pole Co. for \$15,323.00.
3. Approved the May EUC Bills List for \$362,345.24.
4. Approved the lighting rebate for VCC for \$2,485.99.

Debeltz/Callen moved to approve the EUC Consent Agenda items 1-4. Motion Carried Unanimously.

ii. Quotes for Demo of 131 E Conan St (Quotes were due Monday, July 6th)

Debeltz/Callen moved to approve the quote from the GMen for \$23,350 for the demolition of 131 E Conan St. Motion Carried Unanimously.

iii. WWTF facility improvements next steps

Langowski indicated that the next step is to come to terms with an engineering contract to get this project moving. We need to have our plan completed by January and construction needs to begin by next spring to meet our requirements for our MPCA permit.

Callen/Campbell moved to have A.Forsman and Kess be on the ad hoc committee with the EUC Budget/Rates committee members Wilmunen and Richards for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements. Motion Carried Unanimously.

B. Fire Chief

C. Library Director

Heinrich indicated that the library is still doing curbside pickup and can serve double the amount of people with curbside rather than being open.

D. Police Chief

Debeltz/Campbell moved to start the hiring process for a Police Officer with an estimated start date of late fall to early 2021.

Chief Houde indicate that the City currently has 7 officers with one on work comp and one in their probationary period yet.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

E. City Attorney

Omerza/Campbell moved to approve the 1st Reading of Ordinance 343 2nd Series, An Ordinance of the City of Ely, Minnesota, Amending the Ely City Code, Chapter 6, Section 6.30, Tobacco and Electronic Delivery Devices. Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess – Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza -Yes, Callen – Yes, Campbell-Yes, and Mayor Novak – Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously.

F. City Engineer

10. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Correspondence from the League of Minnesota Cities regarding refraining from implementing a membership dues increase for the next fiscal year.

B. Correspondence from the Department of Administration regarding the Sigurd F Olson Writing Shack at 106 E Wilson St on the National Register of Historic Places.

C. Correspondence from the Minnesota State Demographic Center regarding Ely's population and household estimates.

D. Correspondence from Cynthia Beans Executive Director of the Ely Area Tourism Bureau regarding the reimagined Ely Brand.

Cindy Beans thanked the council for allowing her to present at the Study Session. Beans indicated that she is looking forward to working with the City Council and City Staff for the implementing of the new Ely Brand and logos. Beans asked for the councils blessing that we will work together to implement the new brand for Ely. Mayor Novak indicated that we will work with them.

11. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT:

A. City and EUC claims for July 7, 2020 – \$684,003.19

B. SEH Invoice #387625 for the Prospector ATV Trail for \$2574.00

Callen/Campbell moved to approve the Claims for Payment items A and B. Motion Carried Unanimously.

12. OLD BUSINESS: None

13. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Omerza/Callen moved to approve Resolution 2020-021 Resolution of the City of Ely Adoption of the St. Louis County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan. The updated plan is available online at: <https://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/departments-a-z/sheriff/emergency/emergency-management> Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess – Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza -Yes, Callen – Yes, Campbell-Yes, and Mayor Novak – Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously.**
- B. **Campbell/Debeltz moved to approve the Storefront Rehab Loan for Douglas Scheibe at Front Porch Coffee & Tea Co. for work at 343 E Sheridan St, to tear off and replace shingles for \$12,000 pending proper paperwork and fees, and to direct Attorney Klun to work with the applicant and to proceed with the loan processing. Motion Carried Unanimously.**
- C. **Callen/Omerza moved to approve the Grant Agreement from the US Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration, AIP Grant Number 3-27-0027-020-2020 to acquire Snow Removal Equipment. Motion Carried Unanimously.**
- D. Approve Election Judges for 2020
Campbell/Debeltz moved to approve Resolution 2020-022 Resolution Appointing Election Judges for the 2020 Primary Elections. Roll Called: Council Member A.Forsman- Yes, Kess – Yes, Debeltz-Yes, Omerza -Yes, Callen – Yes, Campbell-Yes, and Mayor Novak – Yes. Motion Carried Unanimously.
- E. **Omerza/Campbell moved to approve the request from Prospector Alliance – Asking for City of Ely’s assistance with payment on a 10-year lease for state lands used along the Prospector ATV trail system for up to \$50,000, the city would be reimbursed through the IRRRB grant and/or state funds via Lake County.**
A.Forsman indicated that this allows us to be the fiscal agent on this project.
Langowski stated it is important to get this trail built this summer in time for the ATVAM Ride and Rally in September.
A.Forsman stated that these trails are important to our community and he thanks the committee for all of their work on the trails.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

14. OPEN FORUM: None

15. ADJOURN

Mayor Novak adjourned the meeting at 6:19pm without objection.

Casey Velcheff
Deputy Clerk