

**CITY OF LEONIDAS**  
**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
September 12, 2024 6:30 p.m.

**1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Milton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The City Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Attendance**

Present: Mayor JoAnne Milton, Councilor Nathaniel Rock, Councilor Jay DeRoos, Maintenance Leroy Roos, Clerk McKenzie Clinton  
Councilor Brian Otto and Councilor Cassandra Cave were absent  
Guest Dale Mostad and Nathan Feist from Bollig Engineering were present.

**3. Adopt Agenda**

*Motion by Rock, second by DeRoos to adopt the agenda. Ayes – All. Motion carried.*

**4. Consent Agenda**

- A. Minutes of August 15, 2024 City Council Meeting
- B. Minutes of August 27, 2024 Special City Council Meeting with Bollig Engineering
- C. Approval of Payroll ending 08/31/2024
- D. Approval of Claims ending 08/31/2024

*Motion by Rock, second by DeRoos to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes – All. Motion carried.*

**5. Reports**

**A. Clerk's Report**

Clerk Clinton stated that she and Mayor Milton attended the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) open house hosted by St. Louis County. Clerk Clinton felt that the open house was very informative and that funding may be available through the CDBG program. Members of the funding department from Bollig also attending a CDBG open house and will be discussing the information with Clerk Clinton.

**B. Maintenance**

Maintenance Leroy Roose spoke about the need for a new adapter for the plow blade on the loader. Because of the type of adapter needed, one may need to be made. Leroy will look into this and report back at the next council meeting. Leroy Roos also spoke about preparing for winter and readying snow removal equipment.

**C. Hall Manager**

Nothing new to report at this time.

**6. Old Business**

Nothing new to report at this time.

**7. New Business**

**1. Preliminary 2025 Levy**

The council reviewed the current 2024 receipts and disbursements in order to adequately set the preliminary 2025 levy. The 2023 and 2022 receipts and disbursements were also looked at. The council felt that a 5% increase to the 2025 levy was necessary in order to efficiently manage the city's budget. The preliminary 2025 levy was set at \$26,250.00.

*Motion by DeRoos, second by Rock to set the preliminary 2025 levy at \$26,250.00  
Ayes – All. Motion carried.*

## **2. Blight/Public Nuisance Enforcement**

A sample blight complaint letter was reviewed by the council. [Full text on file.] This letter would be sent to residents who are cited for blight. The blight officer, after receiving a complaint, would inspect property to determine if there was blight. If there was blight, a certified letter would be sent to residents notifying them and explaining how to rectify the situation. The council felt that the letter would adequately inform residents what the blight offense was, as well as how to rectify the situation. The council approved the blight letter and Clerk Clinton will have it reviewed by the city's attorney.

*Motion by Rock, second by DeRoos to approve the blight enforcement letter. Ayes – All. Motion carried.*

A discussion then occurred about who would be the city's blight enforcement officer. It was suggested that Brian Lillis be hired for the position. Lillis is the former chief of police for Eveleth and is currently on the Eveleth City Council. He also serves as Eveleth's blight enforcement. Mayor Milton had previously spoken to him regarding his interest in the position. Mayor Milton will follow up with Lillis regarding his desired salary and the logistics of hiring him. This will be discussed further at an upcoming meeting.

## **3. Maintenance Position**

A Maintenance job description and employment application were reviewed by the city council. [Full text on file] Minor changes were made to the job description. The council approved the job description and employment application. Clerk Clinton will make the minor changes to the job description and then advertise for the job. Application will be due October 11th with interviews occurring the following weeks. A hiring committee made up of Mayor Milton, Clerk Clinton, and Maintenance Leroy Roos, will conduct interviews and make a recommendation to the city council.

*Motion by Rock, second by DeRoos to approve the job description and application. Ayes – All. Motion carried.*

## **4. October City Council meeting**

A brief discussion occurred about moving the date of the October City Council Meeting from October 10th, 2024 to October 15th, 2024. A motion was passed and the October Meeting will be held on October 15th, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the Leonidas City Hall

*Motion by Rock, second by DeRoos to adjourn the meeting. Ayes – All. Motion carried.*

## **5. Bollig**

Nathan Feist, the project engineer from Bollig Engineering attended the meeting to speak to the council about televising and cleaning the sanitary sewer system. He provided estimates from a company who could perform the service. The cost of doing televising and cleaning the sewer system may exceed \$12,000.00 depending on how much time is needed to effectively clean the system. The sewers were cleaned and televised in 2000. The council had concerns about the cost of the services and about being able to drive the required equipment to the sewer lines behind the park. The manholes would need to be located and cleared and the logistics of driving the truck to the location would need to be figured out before any work could be done. Because of this, Nathan Feist recommended waiting to clean and televise the sewer system. The council tabled the discussion until more information is gathered.

*Motion by Rock, second by Milton to table televising and cleaning the sewer system until logistics can be worked out. Ayes – All. Motion carried.*

**6. City Clean up**

The city of Eveleth sent out letters stating that their fall clean-up would begin on September 20th and that they will start pick-up of yard waste on October 14th, 2024. A brief discussion took place about Leonidas offering a one-time pick-up of household refuse to Leonidas residents. The council felt that it was beneficial to residents to offer the one time pick-up as it helps keep the city clean. The council passed a motion to offer the one-time pick up of household refuse on October 3rd and 4th, 2024. Maintenance Leroy Roos and Jay DeRoos will pick up the refuse and bring it to the Eveleth City Garage for disposal. A letter regarding this will be sent to all residents.

*Motion by DeRoos, second by Rock to offer a one-time pick-up service to residents. Ayes – All. Motion carried.*

**8. Adjourn**

*Motion by Rock, second by DeRoos to adjourn the meeting. Ayes – All. Motion carried.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

JoAnne Milton, Mayor

