

The Special Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Monday, October 23, 2017 in the Ishpeming City Hall Conference Room. Mayor Joseph Juidici called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Mayor Joseph Juidici, Council Members Justin Koski (arrived 10:06 a.m.), Karl Lehmann, Stuart Skauge, and Mike Tonkin (5). Also present was City Manager Mark Slown and Attorney Bonnie Hoff.

AGENDA COMMENT

Claudia Demarest, 821 Maurice Street, reserved time to speak under the 2018 Proposed Budget.

SECOND READING OF AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE #11-500

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to adopt Amendment to Ordinance #11-500, creating a Housing Commission as of the second reading.

PURCHASE OF RADIANT TUBE HEATER FOR DPW GARAGE

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Mayor Juidici and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of the additional radiant tube heater for the DPW garage from the Capital Improvement Fund – Fund Balance.

SALE OF 429 NEW YORK STREET TO COUNTY LANDBANK

Manager Slown explained there were funds remaining from the County's Blight Elimination Grant that could be used for the demolition of the structure on this property, however, the property would have to be quit claimed back over to the County so the grant funds could be used. In order to do this, a public hearing would need to be scheduled with action then taken at the next regular Council meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to hold a public hearing at a special meeting on November 2nd at 10:00 a.m. to receive comments on the proposed sale of the property.

PROPOSED 2018 BUDGET WORKSHOP

Claudia Demarest, 821 Maurice Street, commented on the amount of the contribution to UPSET and on City staff pay increases.

Tim Sholander, Detective/Lieutenant with the Michigan State Police in charge of UPSET, explained their need for funding and how the funds were used. He further noted UPSET would continue to work with the City to fight the drug problems in the community.

Councilman Lehmann felt two major issues were drugs and blight. He felt contributing more dollars towards UPSET versus the Lake Superior Community Partnership (LSCP) would be more beneficial and he thanked the County for their help with blight elimination. He would also like to continue with equipment purchases for DPW.

There was further discussion among Council regarding the amount of the contribution to UPSET versus a contribution to the LSCP and the need for assistance from UPSET with the drug issues in the community. Purchase of equipment for DPW was also talked about.

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to amend the 2018 budget proposal and increase the contribution to UPSET to \$10,000.

Councilman Skauge felt an additional police officer was needed and he felt it was priority to have two police officers on duty at all times. He would like to add this to the proposed 2018 budget with the option to remove the position from the final budget.

The addition of a new police officer was discussed and Chief Snowaert advised he was checking into various funding sources for another officer to help offset the cost. An additional officer was not in the current 2018 proposed budget.

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to add approximately \$80,000 to the 2018 proposed budget for the addition of a police officer.

Mayor Juidici expressed his concern with health care and MERS and felt these issues needed to be addressed.

Councilman Tonkin expressed the continued need to reduce expenses and to look for ways to increase revenues.

Discussion followed on the MERS and health insurance costs, the options available with Public Act 152 of 2011, and staffing needs. It was suggested a line item review of the DPW and Police Department budget be conducted at the special meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to add to the special meeting on November 2nd at 10:00 a.m. the 2018 Proposed Budget Workshop with DPW and Police.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:30 a.m., a motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Councilman Skauge and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy Smith
Recording Secretary