

The Regular Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, November 8, 2017 in the Ishpeming City Hall Conference Room. Mayor Joseph Juidici called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jay Clancey, Cognition Brewing, spoke on behalf of the Lake Superior Community Partnership and the valuable services they provide to individuals looking to start a business and encouraged the City Council to support them.

Michael Jennings, 672 Duncan Avenue, questioned the water rate increases and the schedule in which the increases were implemented. Manager Slown briefly explained the water fund deficit elimination plan and the Rural Development Water Project currently in progress.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Manager Slown asked that Item 4a Travel Marquette presentation be removed from the agenda and Item 4b Lake Superior Community Partnership be moved and presented under the Public Hearing for the 2018 Budget.

A motion was made by Mayor Juidici, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to remove Item 16, Health Insurance per Public Act 152 of 2011 from the agenda and place this item on the special Council meeting agenda on November 15th.

Councilman Skauge asked that items 7e and 7f be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to approve the agenda incorporating the above amendments.

AGENDA COMMENT – There was none.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to approve the following consent agenda items with the removal of items 7e and 7f for discussion.

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (October 4th, 23rd, and November 2nd; Closed Session October 4th)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Reappoint Bruce Houghton to a 3 year term on the Planning Commission
- d. Reappoint Gabe Seelen and Elyse Bertucci to 3 year terms on the Zoning Board of Appeals
- e. Reappoint Carol Gaboury to a 5 year term on the Housing Commission
- f. Appoint Michelle Meyers to fill vacancy on the Housing Commission with term expiring 10/2019
- g. Declare library books and other miscellaneous item surplus property
- h. Nominate Harry Weikel for the Marq-Tran Board
- i. US Bank – Paying Agent, Registrar, and Transfer Agent Agreement

Councilman Skauge questioned if there was any others interested in being appointed to the Housing Commission. Manager Slown advised there were four applications either received or on file interested in the Housing Commission one of which was Michelle Meyers. Carol Gaboury was interested in being reappointed to another term on the Housing Commission.

A motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Councilman Skauge and carried unanimously to confirm the reappoint of Carol Gaboury to a 5 year term on the Housing Commission and to confirm the appointment of Michelle Meyers to fill a vacancy with the term expiring 10/2019.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Finance Director Jim Lampman reviewed the financial statements for the period ending October 31, 2017 which included the General Fund, Garbage Fund, Public Improvement Fund, and Water and Sewer Funds.

Councilman Lehmann questioned the fund balance in Garbage Fund and the Major Street Fund. It was noted the garage rates would have to be discussed at some point in the future.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilman Skauge and carried unanimously to approve the financial report as presented.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2018 BUDGET AND MILLAGE RATES

Mayor Juidici opened the public hearing at 7:30 p.m.

Caralee Swanberg, Vice President of Economic Development, spoke on behalf of the Lake Superior Community Partnership and the many services they provide to the City of Ishpeming to potential business owners.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilman Skauge and carried unanimously to approve the concept to budget dollars for the Lake Superior Community Partnership in some capacity as the budget allowed.

Mike Jennings, 672 Duncan Avenue, questioned the garbage fund and rates; water rates, the current water improvement project; and road repairs.

At 7:49 p.m., Mayor Juidici closed the public hearing.

ADOPT 2018 FEE SCHEDULE

A motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Mayor Juidici and carried unanimously to approve the 2018 Fee Schedule as presented.

CHANGE ORDER #3 FOR CONTRACT I – WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Mark Stoor, GEI Consultants, explained Change Order #3 for Contract I in the amount of \$7,730.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilman Skauge and carried unanimously to approve Change Order #3 for Contract #1 in the amount of \$7,730.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT DRAW FIVE

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Mayor Juidici and carried unanimously to approve Draw #5 to Rural Development for the Water Improvement Project in the amount of \$318,848.06.

A.LINDBERG AND SONS PAY APPLICATION #4 FOR CONTRACT III

A motion was made Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to approve Pay Application #4 for the sewer portion of the water improvement project in the amount of \$15,057.32.

ACCEPT OR REJECT TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FROM COUNTY TREASURER

Manager Slown advised this property would automatically transfer to the City from the County Treasurer unless the transfer was objected to.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to object to the transfer of parcel #52-51-500-001-00 from the County Treasurer.

SALE OF 429 NEW YORK STREET PROPERTY TO COUNTY LAND BANK

Manager Slown explained the County Land Bank had \$3,500 remaining from the Blight Elimination Grant that could be used towards the demolition of this structure, however, the Land Bank had to have ownership. Once the demolition was completed the Land Bank would transfer ownership of the parcel back to the City.

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to approve the sale of 429 New York Street to the County Land Bank with the understand the parcel would be transferred back over to the City after demolition.

A. LINDBERG AND SONS CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL STORAGE AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to approve the Agreement for Storage of Construction Materials including the written notes from Roger Crimmins of A. Lindberg and Sons.

RESOLUTION #13-2017, DISSOVLING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF THE CITY

Attorney Hoff explained this was a historical issue. The Economic Development Corporation had been inactive since 1990 and there were no longer any funds available. This resolution would be sent to the Secretary of State's office and if approved the Ordinance would have to then be rescinded.

A motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Mayor Juidici and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution #13-2017 Dissolving the Economic Development Corporation of the City of Ishpeming as presented.

RESOLUTION #14-2017, CHANGE TO CHARTER FOR THE FILING DATE FOR NOMINATING PETITIONS

Attorney Hoff explained this was also a historical issue. This change occurred in 2012 but the Charter was never amended. Michigan Municipal League recently contacted the City and advised the Charter needed to incorporate the change and the change could be made by Resolution.

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution #14-2017 Change to Charter for the filing date for nominating petitions.

AUTHORIZATION FOR CITY TREASURER TO PLACE DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS ON TAX ROLL

Kaitlyn Feldbauer, City Treasurer, reviewed some of the delinquent accounts to be placed on the tax roll.

A motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to authorize the City Treasurer to place the delinquent utility billing charges on the December 1, 2017 property taxes as special assessments.

CITY MANAGER PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Councilmembers Koski and Lehmann reviewed the City Manager's evaluation and felt the process was working well. They suggested question 8 in Category 2-B be removed as it was not pertinent and question 5 in Category 1-A be answered by the Mayor only.

Mayor Juidici and Mayor Pro-Tem Koski would meet with Manager Slown to discuss his evaluation.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilman Lehmann mentioned he was happy to see the fence at the property on Hematite Drive and Third and Ely Street which helped hide the storage from the gas station.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Tonkin questioned if the lines on the major streets were going to be painted; he felt it was a safety hazard. There was also discussion pertaining to the re-lining of Cliff Street.

Manager Slown explained Negaunee City had a parcel of land that had been declared surplus and they would like to sell it; however, the City of Ishpeming as a contiguous landowner had the Right of First Refusal. Councilman Koski questioned the trails that currently ran through this parcel and suggested perhaps RAMBA attend the Negaunee Council meeting to discuss.

A motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously refuse the property from Negaunee City and authorize the Mayor to sign.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Tonkin reported the Planning Commission was continuing work on the Zoning Ordinance and it was almost complete and thanked Al Pierce for all his work.

Councilman Lehmann attended the special DDA meeting with the team from MEDC.

Mayor Juidici attended the special DDA meeting; the meeting at the High School with UPSET and the Police; and had also been to various meetings at City Hall.

Councilman Koski thanked election workers for their hard work; and thanked Department Heads and staff for cutting expenses over the years and still providing great service.

Councilman Skauge congratulated Sara Cambensy as Representative of the 109th District and provided an update on the ore car restoration project.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Slown provided a written report; thanked Council for his evaluation; and felt there was a great team working for the City.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Hoff attended the special DDA meeting with the team from MEDC and thank Roger Crimmins for all his work with the City.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge and supported by Councilman Lehmann to go into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(h) and MCL 15.268(d) at 9:05 p.m. Ayes: Mayor Juidici, Council Members Koski, Lehmann, Skauge, and Tonkin (5). Nays: None (0). Motion passed.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to return to open session at 9:26 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:26 p.m., a motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith
Recording Secretary