

The Special Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Tuesday, November 28, 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, Karl Lehmann and Mike Tonkin (4).  
Absent: Councilmember Stuart Skauge (1). Also present was City Manager Mark Slown and City Attorney Bonnie Hoff.

AGENDA COMMENT – There was none.

2018 PROPOSED BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mayor Juidici questioned the proposed funding for the Lake Superior Community Partnership (LSCP). It was noted the City had never made a contribution to the LSCP. Councilman Lehmann suggested a contribution of \$2,000 to the LSCP because of their efforts in assisting with economic development in the City. Discussion followed pertaining to the limited funds available and the tight budget for 2018.

A motion was made by Councilman Tonkin, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to maintain the contribution to UPSET in the amount of \$10,000 and to not included a contribution to the LSCP for 2018.

Councilman Koski asked that a letter be sent to the LSCP explaining the City supports the Partnership and appreciates all of the Partnership's efforts in the City.

Manager Slown reminded everyone of previous discussions regarding the garbage rates and whether the rates should be raised incrementally beginning in 2018 or in a lump sum amount in 2019. Discussion followed regarding the fund balance in the Garbage Fund and the amount the rates should be increased.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported Mayor Juidici and carried unanimously to increase the garbage rates \$2.50/month in 2018 and increase the garbage rates \$2.50/month in 2019.

Jessica Shirtz, Head Librarian, reviewed the cuts proposed to the library budget and explained the library's needs. She further explained the need for two new computer workstations and the heavy use they receive from patrons; the building improvements involved additional security, primarily outside lighting; and advised the initial request in the book line item was \$22,000 which had been reduced to \$19,000 and then further reduced to \$15,000.

Councilman Koski suggested additional fund raising for the computer workstations and books be looked into. Librarian Shirtz explained the Friends of the Library had always helped with fund raising and book sales and Ray Leverton with building improvements.

Council thanked Librarian Shirtz for attending the meeting and explaining the various line items, however, it was the consensus of Council to leave the library budget as previously amended.

Councilman Lehmann requested clarification on the transfer out of for the \$45,000 for the first payment of the plow vehicle and the fund balance in the Motor Pool fund.

There was further discussion related to the City's tax base, the Headlee Amendment, and options on increasing revenues. Councilman Tonkin felt it was important to continue to decrease expenses where possible especially since revenues have been staying the same.

DPW Director Jon Kangas advised one of his staff was going to be retiring after the first of the year and questioned whether this position would be replaced. There was discussion about not filling this position through attrition versus laying an employee off and to continue to work on increasing efficiencies within departments.

A motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Councilman Tonkin and carried unanimously to implement a hiring freeze unless it was preauthorized in the budget.

2018 BUDGET ADOPTION

A motion was made Councilman Lehmann, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to adopt the 2018 budget as amended.

SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING FOR SYMONS PROPERTY

Attorney Hoff explained this was another deed which needed to be executed by the City, on behalf of the EDC, for the Symons property. Unless there was a special meeting, the public hearing would have to be held at the January 2018 regular meeting, because of the City Charter requirement requiring a notice in the paper 10 days before the public hearing.

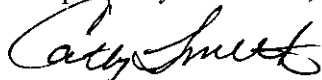
Manager Slown advised there may be special joint meeting with Council, the DDA, and the Planning Commission either December 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup>.

It was the consensus of Council to hold a public hearing at the special meeting if one is scheduled or at the regular meeting in January 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:35 a.m., a motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy Smith  
Recording Secretary