

The Regular Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 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 Karl Lehmann, Stuart Skauge, and Mike Tonkin (4). Absent: Councilman Justin Koski (1). Also present were City Manager Mark Slown and City Attorney Bonnie Hoff.

A motion was made by Mayor Juidici, supported by Councilman Skauge and carried unanimously to excuse Councilman Justin Koski.

PUBLIC COMMENT - There was none.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Manager Slown requested the purchase of tasers be added under New Business. A motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Councilman Tonkin and carried unanimously to approve the agenda incorporating the above addition.

AGENDA COMMENT - There was none.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (December 6th and 18th and Closed Session December 6th)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Confirm appointment of Christine Moffatt to fill a vacancy on the Cemetery Board
- d. Confirm SCI Cleaning of Fire Department
- e. Special Event Application: Polar Roll: February 27, 2018
- f. Special Event Application: Ishpeming Ski Club Jr. National Qualifier: February 3 and 4, 2018
- g. Special Event Application: Noquemanon Ski Marathon: January 27, 2018
- h. Confirm Financial Support Payment for UPSET for 2018 - \$10,000
- i. Confirm Financial Support Payment for COA-Senior Citizen Program for 2018 - \$9,000
- j. Special Event Application: RAMBA/UPCROSS: January 21, 2018

Councilman Lehman asked that item 7i be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion. He suggested the name for the financial support should be consistent with the budget line item which would be Commission on Aging/Senior Citizen Program.

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously for the financial support for Commission on Aging be consistent with the budget line item title.

A motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Councilman Tonkin and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda items with the amendment to the title of item 7i.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Finance Director Jim Lampman reviewed the financial statements for the period ending December 31, 2017 which included the General Fund, Garbage Fund, Public Improvement Fund, and Water and Sewer Funds. It was the consensus of Council to file the financial statements.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR SYMONS BUILDING

Mayor Juidici opened the public hearing at 7:05 p.m. Attorney Hoff explained this was a historical issue. Since there was not an Economic Development Commission currently established, the City would need to sign off on the property so there was clear title. No money was owed to the EDC. Mayor Juidici closed the public hearing at 7:16 p.m.

CONFIRM 2018 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

There was discussion on the Capital Improvement Plan process and it was felt the Lake Bancroft Area Pavilion project should be moved from the 2019 Capital Improvement Project Plan to the 2018 Capital Improvement Project Plan.

A motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Councilman Skauge and carried unanimously to approve the 2018 Capital Improvement Plan incorporating the change of moving the Lake Bancroft Area Pavilion to be completed in 2018 instead of 2019.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT – WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT DRAW SEVEN

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to approve the Rural Development Draw Seven in the amount of \$29,471.03 for A. Lindberg and Sons and \$24,771.75 for GEI Consultants.

ENGINEERING AUTHORIZATION FOR THE LAKE BANCROFT PAVILION PROJECT

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to authorize GEI Consultants to begin with engineering for the Lake Bancroft Pavilion Project prior to the actual signing of the grant.

Councilman Lehmann expressed concern with the grant not actually being signed by the State before work would begin. Councilman Tonkin questioned and there was discussion as to what was include in the engineering costs and the proposed design concepts for the Pavilion.

TENNIS COURT PROJECT

There was discussion regarding the Tennis Court Improvement Project for the Ishpeming School District. The School would reimburse the \$500 cost for the preliminary work for the grant application for GEI Consultants to the City. There was discussion among Council regarding the ownership of the property and the lease agreement with the School. Councilman Skauge expressed concern over the 2006 Sinking Fund Millage that was used for improvements at the playgrounds and the legal issues that could be involved with ownership of the property and the Sinking Fund Millage.

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to table this item for further review of property issues by the School District.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH AFSCME DPW EMPLOYEES CHAPTER – INTERIM DPW DIRECTOR

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Mayor Juidici and carried unanimously to approve the Letter of Agreement with AFSCME DPW Employees Chapter pertaining to the Interim DPW Director position on a temporary basis.

LIFT HIRING FREEZE

A motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Councilman Skauge and carried unanimously to lift hiring freeze for the replacement of the part-time Library Clerk and the full-time DPW Director.

DESIGNATE PUBLISHING ORGAN FOR 2018 – MINING JOURNAL

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Mayor Juidici and carried unanimously to designate the Mining Journal as the publishing organ for 2018.

DESIGNATE BANK DEPOSITORIES FOR 2018

Finance Director James Lampman advised Northern Bank and Trust was now First Bank so that should be corrected on the agenda.

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to designate m-Bank, Wells Fargo, TruNorth Federal Credit Union, and First Bank as the depositories for 2018.

ESTABLISH CHAIN OF COMMAND IN ABSENCE OF CITY MANAGER

A motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Councilman Skauge and carried unanimously to establish the Chain of Command in the absence of the City Manager as (1) James Lampman, Finance Director; (2) Steve Snowaert, Chief of Police; and (3) Cathy Smith, Assistant to the City Manager.

ESTABLISH COMMITTEE TO REVIEW ENERGY EFFICIENCIES

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to appoint the committee as suggested by the City Manager to include one or two Council members, Finance Director, City Manager, DPW Director, a representative from UPPCO and one or two citizen volunteers.

Council Members Skauge and Lehmann volunteered for the Energy Efficiencies Review Committee.

SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR 5 YEAR RECREATION PLAN UPDATE 2018-2022

SET SPECIAL MEETING FOR COUNCIL RULES AND PROCEDURES WORKSHOP

It was the consensus of Council to hold a special meeting for the Recreation Plan Public Hearing and to review the draft Council Rules on February 13, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVE THE PARKS AND RECREATION SURVEY

Councilman Skauge suggested a question regarding "no smoking in public parks" be added; and add boxes to the list of recreation sites on question number two.

A motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Councilman Skauge and carried unanimously to approve the recreation survey with the above changes and send it out.

LIBRARY FRONT ENTRY REPAIRS

There was discussion on the repairs done to the front entry of the Library and what portion of the remaining bill should be paid. Councilman Tonkin felt a portion should be retained due to the problems with the color match; and the Library Board was not happy with the outcome; however, he felt the contactor should receive a partial payment.

A motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to make a partial payment to the contractor but retain \$3,000 until the corrections have been made and are acceptable.

OLD BUSINESS - There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Snowaert explained the price for the purchase of tasers was \$9,345 and this price was only good until January 31st. In addition, the Police Department would apply for a RAP grant for \$500 per taser which would be a reimbursement of \$2,500. Manager Slown recommended waiving competitive bidding because Axon was the only company that supplied tasers to law enforcement.

A motion was made by Councilman Lehmann, supported by Councilman Skauge and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of tasers and on the recommendation of the City Manager waive competitive bidding.

There was discussion on the upcoming Annual Suicide Hill Ski Tournament and the parking situation on the entry road. Chief Snowaert advised they would be providing "no parking signs" but reminded everyone the road was in Negaunee not Ishpeming; however, they would provide support for the event with no overtime involved.

Councilman Lehmann thanked Manager Slown for obtaining the financial information he had request for the Iron Ore Heritage Trail.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Tonkin attended the joint meeting with the DDA and Planning Commission with Jessica Flores presenting; attended the Planning Commission meeting; and discussed the State of Michigan not allocating dollars for road repairs and snowplowing.

Councilman Lehmann thanked Jon Kangas for his service to the City of Ishpeming and wished him the best with his new job opportunity.

Mayor Juidici thanked Carl Petersen for stepping up as the Interim DPW Director and taking on the additional responsibility.

Councilman Skauge thanked Jon Kangas for his service to the City and wished him the best in his new job; expressed concern over creating a historical district in the downtown; and was concerned with the ambulance coverage in Ishpeming and surrounding areas with recent changes at the hospital. He requested Alyson Sundberg, UP Health Systems, attend a Council meeting in the future to discuss.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Slown would provide a written report to Council; and advised staff would be meeting to discuss concerns with the recent structure fires that had occurred in the City.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Hoff reported she continued to work on past and current projects; wished Jon Kangas well in his position; and welcomed Carl Petersen as the Interim DPW Director.

CLOSED SESSION

Councilman Skauge felt there was no need to go into closed session and would not vote in favor of it. Attorney Hoff explained for this exemption the public body would need four votes to go into closed session.

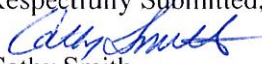
A motion was made by Councilman Tonkin and supported by Mayor Juidici to go into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(h) at 8:32 p.m. Ayes: Mayor Juidici, Council Members Lehmann and Tonkin (3). Nays: Councilman Skauge (1). Absent: Councilman Koski (1). Motion failed.

There was debate regarding the vacant DPW Director position and what the desirable qualifications for the position should be. Councilman Skauge felt the Director position should remain the Supervisor's Union; and would also like to keep the engineer requirement. After discussion, it was felt the advertisement should state engineering preferred but not required the position should remain in the union; and require an S-2 Water License.

In addition, Manager Slown asked for clarification on the procedure to follow in the hiring of the DPW Director and what involvement Council would like to have. There was discussion on possible procedures.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:52 p.m., a motion was made by Councilman Skauge, supported by Councilman Lehmann and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Smith
Recording Secretary