

The Regular Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, August 7, 2019, in the Ishpeming City Hall Conference Room. Mayor Karl Lehmann called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Karl Lehmann, Council Members Pat Scanlon, Stuart Skauge, and Mike Tonkin (4). Excused: Councilmember Lindsay Bean (1). Also present were Interim City Manager James Lampman and City Attorney Bonnie Hoff.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Lehmann announced that Fred Ventresco declined the offer for the City Manager position.

Claudia Demarest, 821 Maurice Street, discussed the Freedom of Information Act request she made to the City for emails between Councilmembers pertaining to the City Manager position. She felt it was not appropriate for Councilmembers to communicate with the applicants and further felt there was an Open Meetings Act violation with Councilmember Bean's emails and would be looking into this further.

Dan Perkins, 500 W. Division Street, announced he was working with the Boys and Girls Club of America in an attempt to start this organization in Ishpeming. He was asking for support for Council and local businesses in this effort.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Lehmann asked that item 7d be pulled off the consent agenda for discussion. A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Mayor Lehmann and carried unanimously to approve the agenda incorporating the removal of item 7d from the consent agenda for discussion.

AGENDA COMMENT - There was none.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda with the removal of 7d for discussion.

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (July 10, 18, 25, and 30)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Special Event Application: Iron Ore Heritage Celebration: 9-14-19

d. Special Event Application: Marji Gesick 100

This item was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion. Mayor Lehmann expressed his concern that local businesses were not asked to participate and/or provide services for various event. He was not opposed to having events, but would like to make sure that events are beneficial to local businesses.

Todd Poquette, Race Coordinator, advised this year's event has approximately 1000 registered participants so there would be many people coming to Ishpeming and benefiting local businesses. He advised, if there were any business owners that would like to try and capture more business or would like to discuss the event with him they could contact him at any time.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve the special event application and temporary liquor license for the Marji Gesick 100 as presented.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Interim Manager James Lampman reviewed the monthly budget report for the period ending July 31<sup>st</sup> which included the General Fund, Garbage Fund, Public Improvement Fund, Major and Local Streets Funds, and Water and Sewer Funds.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to accept the monthly financial statements as presented.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR CDBG FUNDING FOR DEMOLITION OF EXISTING SENIOR CENTER AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SENIOR CENTER

Mayor Lehmann opened the public hearing at 7:28 p.m.

David Savu, 224 N. Davis Street, urged the Council to approve the resolution for the submission of the MEDC grant application in the amount of 2.2 million dollars for construction of a new Senior Citizens Center and demolition of the existing Senior Center so the project could continue to move forward. He has been through the existing building many times and he discussed the condition of the building which included the concrete slab floor that is heaving, the condition of the exterior walls; and various other problems as described in the report by the architect. He felt the cost to repair the existing facility would exceed the value of the building.

Carr Baldwin, Ishpeming, advised the existing building was constructed on poor fill which caused the issues with the slab and explained replacement of the existing foundation would be extremely costly; he was very much in support of the construction of a new building for the Senior Center.

Julie Solka, Coordinator/Volunteer Services for Bell Hospital, 700 Cleveland Avenue, supported the construction of a new Senior Center and liked the proposed layout and the new location for the new center; she collaborates with the Senior Center for various activities and felt the new facility would enable the center to provide more services for the seniors.

Susan Thibeault, 16275 County Road 581, attends the art class at the Senior Center and expressed her concern with the floor along with the other problems in the building; and she was very much in favor of the Greenwood Street area for the new facility.

Tom Ryan, 212 Deer Lake Road, pointed out there are many programs that take place at the Senior Center and one very important services is, client services for seniors in the City, as well as surrounding areas, and the new facility would be an asset for these services.

Councilmember Scanlon, liaison to the Commission on Aging, advised there was 100% support from the Council for this project.

Mayor Lehmann noted it was wonderful to see so many people comment on this project.

Richard Segal, 9212 Hawks Drive in Republic, thanked the Center for all the services they provide to seniors in the City and all the surrounding areas.

Karen Wallace, 450 County Road PB, supported the construction of a new Senior Center, thought it was a wonderful project, and the seniors very much deserved a new facility.

Bill Kangas, member of the Commission on Aging Board as a representative of Ishpeming Township, agreed with all the problems with the building and completely supports the project.

Shirley Tyne, 417 Empire Street, very much in favor of the new Senior Center and would like to see the grant approved and moved forward.

Dee St. Andre, 832 Michigan Street, runs the cribbage league at the Senior Center which is attended by 24-32 people regularly, and she reiterated that the floor was in awful condition and a new building would be a tremendous asset to the City.

Elyse Bertucci, Senior Center Director, 429 N. Lake Street, thanked David Savu, City Council members, and City Hall staff James Lampman and Cathy Smith for all their help and work with the preparation of the grant application and thanked all the seniors in attendance for their support of the proposed project. A new senior center will be a great resource and an asset for the citizens of the City of Ishpeming.

Mayor Lehmann closed the public hearing at 7:43 p.m.

RESOLUTION #10-2019 APPROVING APPLICATION FOR CDBG FUNDING FOR DEMOLITION OF EXISTING SENIOR CENTER AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SENIOR CENTER

A motion was made by Mayor Lehmann, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #10-2019, approving the application for CDBG funding for demolition of existing Senior Center and construction of a new Senior Center as presented.

Interim Manager Lampman advised if MEDC requires and inspection by the County Building Codes Inspector for the condition of the existing building, the County would require the Memorandum of Understanding to be signed.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Mayor Lehmann and carried unanimously to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding with the County of Marquette if it is needed.

AWARD BID FOR CERTIFIED GRANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR SENIOR CENTER

Interim Manager Lampman advised only one bid was received for the Certified Grant Administrator. This would be covered by MEDC, as this was a requirement of MEDC, to have a Certified Grant Administrator, and no City funds would be used.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Mayor Lehmann and carried unanimously to approve the proposal from CUPPAD in the amount of \$30,300.

Councilmember Skauge expressed concern over the safety of the existing Senior Center building and questioned if an alternative location should be considered until a new facility is constructed. David Savu advised the City took care of areas of concern in the existing building which helped with safety concerns.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

a. Change Order #13, Contract I – A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve Change Order #13 for Contract I in the amount of \$9,049.06.

b. Change Order #13, Contract II - A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve Change Order #13 for Contract II in the amount of \$21,270.

c. Rescind July 10, 2019 Meeting Action #18 – A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to rescind meeting action #18 from July 10, 2019.

d. Revised Meeting Action #18 – A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve revised Draw #18 for the Rural Development Water Improvement Project.

e. Pay Application #16, Contract III- A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve Pay Application #16 for Contract III as presented.

LAKE BANCROFT PAVILION PROJECT

a. Pay Application #2 – A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Mayor Lehmann and carried unanimously to approve Pay Application #2 for the Lake Bancroft Pavilion Project in the amount of \$145,251.23.

Councilmember Skauge advised the Ishpeming Rotary Club was applying for a grant to Eagle Mine for picnic tables for the new Lake Bancroft Pavilion and they approved a donation of \$1,000 towards the picnic tables as a match for the grant, and asked if the City would donate \$1,000 towards the grant match.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to appropriate \$1,000 towards the grant to be submitted by the Ishpeming Rotary Club for picnic tables for the pavilion.

JOHNSON CONTROLS PROPOSAL-CONTROL VALVE IN AIR HANDLING UNIT AT CITY HALL

Councilmember Scanlon advised Johnson Controls was at City Hall for an issue with the filters; it was determined, at that time, that the valve job may not be necessary.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge, and carried unanimously to approve the proposal for \$2,614.03 from Johnson Controls for a problematic control valve in the air handling unit if it is determined that it is needed.

WAGE FOR PART-TIME OFFICE ASSISTANT AT CITY HALL

Mayor Lehmann advised that there has been difficulty filling the part time office assistant position at City Hall. Interim Manager Lampman suggested the starting wage be increased from minimum wage to \$10.50/hour for the part-time office assistant position.

A motion was made by Mayor Lehmann, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to increase the part-time Office Assistant position at City Hall to \$10.50/hour.

Councilmember Skauge questioned why the part-time position was not part of the Clerical Union and suggested this be discussed during the upcoming negotiations.

CITY MANAGER POSITION DISCUSSION

Mayor Lehmann felt it was time to hire the Michigan Municipal League (MML) to assist with recruitment of a new City Manager. The approximate cost of a middle grade contract with MML would be approximately \$14,000.

Councilmember Skauge asked Council to consider hiring the same firm that Negaunee used to hire their current City Manager.

Councilmember Scanlon and Tonkin felt the process needed to move forward and MML would be the right move.

There was some discussion on the City Manager agreement that was approved at the last meeting.

A motion was made by Mayor Lehmann, supported by Councilmember Scanlon to direct the Interim Manager to contact the Michigan Municipal League for the middle grade contract for the hiring of a new City Manager. Ayes: Mayor Karl Lehmann, Pat Scanlon, and Mike Tonkin (3). Nays: Councilmember Skauge (1). Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Lehmann provided a sample of the beautification award that had been discussed at previous meetings. He also reached out to Roger Crimmins of Lindberg and Sons regarding the Jasper Street wall and asked if they could obtain rock needed to repair the wall. Councilmember Scanlon was continuing to talk with masons regarding the wall repair.

Councilmember Scanlon was concerned with the shortage of staff at City Hall.

Councilmember Skauge would like to appoint a Street Committee to determine priority roads for paving. There was discussion regarding streets to be paved and what process to use in determining which roads should be done first. There was discussion on the best timeframe for paving. Councilmember Skauge and Tonkin would sit on the Streets Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Scanlon discussed the Mobile Food Vendor Ordinance and felt the fee charged for a food truck license should be increased; and also asked the status of the Deputy Treasurer position.

Mayor Lehmann discussed the sidewalk outside of City Hall which was noted in the estimate from Arrow Construction; however, he felt the only section that should be replaced is the section in front of the main entrance stairs at City Hall. There was discussing on making this section of sidewalk level which may require the addition of a stair.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to replace the sidewalk in front of the main entrance to City Hall and make that entrance ADA compliant.

City Clerk Smith advised there was one additional new business item which was a Special Event Application for the Paradise Bar for an event on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Mayor Lehmann and carried unanimously to approve the special event application for the Paradise Bar as presented.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Tonkin attended the Planning Commission meeting and several Council meetings in July.

Mayor Lehmann attended the DDA meeting, working on the Manager's search; attended meetings regarding the Senior Center grant application; and listened to Senator Peter's at the Senior Center.

Councilmember Scanlon reviewed the quote from 906 Technologies for moving the server and felt staff should start looking for new services; held a family reunion at Al Quaal, and they loved the beautification efforts in the City.

Councilmember Skauge thanked DPW for the efforts with the events taking place around the City.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Interim City Manager Lampman noted he attend Italian Fest for the first time and very much enjoyed it and thanked City Hall staff and the Police Department for all their work especially with being short staffed.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Hoff advised the Planning Commission would be holding a public comment session on recreational marijuana; she was working on various court cases; congratulated City Clerk Smith on a successful first election; and noted she had an amazing trip to Norway.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:59 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Mayor Lehmann and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith  
City Clerk