

The Regular Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, December 4, 2019, in the Ishpeming City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Mike Tonkin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Mike Tonkin, Council Members Lindsay Bean, Jason Chapman Pat Scanlon, and Stuart Skauge (5). Also present were Interim City Manager Steve Snowaert and City Attorney Bonnie Hoff.

PUBLIC COMMENT

PJ Stevens, Juniper Street in Ishpeming, addressed the issue of the hours for the City Attorney and felt this issue was of great importance to the City of Ishpeming. She urged the Council to maintain the services of Attorney Hoff and continue providing the current wage and benefit package.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to move item 15 to be discussed after item 12 and approve the agenda as amended.

AGENDA COMMENT - There was none.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (November 6th, 8th, 12th, 20th, and 25th -Closed Sessions November 6th)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Special Event Application: Noquemanon Ski Marathon: January 25, 2020
- d. Appoint Claudia Demarest to vacancy on Parks and Recreation Commission with term expiring 5/2020

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Finance Director Lampman reviewed the monthly budget report for the period ending November 30th 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 approve the monthly financial report as presented.

2019 BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Finance Director Lampman summarized the budget amendments for 2019.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve the budget amendments for 2019 and Resolution 13-2019, resolution to amend the 2019 budget in accordance with PA 621 of 1978 as presented.

PROPOSED 2020 CITY OF ISHPEMING FEE SCHEDULE

Interim City Manager Snowaert advised the proposed fee schedule for 2020 should also include the change to the garbage rates and the 5% increase to the water and sewer rates.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to adopt the 2020 City of Ishpeming Fee schedule as presented including the addition of the rate changes for garbage, water, and sewer.

FEE FOR USE OF ALQUAAL FOR FAT-ISH RACE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 2020

There was discussion regarding the amount to charge for the use of Al Quaal facilities for the event. DPW Director Petersen advised the cost to the City for staff was approximately \$1,014 for a Saturday. There was further discussion regarding charging the same amount as last year which was \$600 and advise them the fee could possibly increase next year.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to charge \$600 for the Fat-ish Bike Race for use of the tube slide for the event in 2020, but it would be the recommendation of Council that in future years the amount for this event would increase.

AMENDMENT TO CCI LEASE WITH THE CITY FOR THE SUICIDE BOWL SKI AREA

Richard Ziegler, Ishpeming Ski Club, reviewed the proposed lease agreement which included: deleting the language pertaining to the sale of alcohol; constructing a counter-slope on the K40 ski hill; and inclusion of the non-motorized trail system.

Gabe Johnson, from CCI, also talked about and gave a brief summary of the background related to the proposed lease amendment.

There was discussion regarding the events at Suicide Bowl, insurance coverage and certificates of insurance from the Ski Club for their events, the proposed sale of alcohol, the counter-slope, and the non-motorized trail. It was felt that a meeting should be set up in the future with Ishpeming City, Negaunee City, the Ski Club, and CCI to discuss the lease which expires in 2021. Also pointed out was even if the lease was amended to include alcohol, the Ski Club would have to get the liquor license approved from Negaunee.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to not enter into a new lease but agree to the lease amendment which would include deleting the language pertaining to the sale of alcohol; constructing a counter-slope on the K40 ski hill; and inclusion of the non-motorized trail system: permission would need to be obtained from Negaunee City for the sale of alcohol and a meeting would be arranged with the group (Negaunee City, Ishpeming City, Ski Club, and CCI) to discuss the long term lease. The Ski Club would need to provide an insurance certificate naming the City as an additional insured.

PARTRIDGE CREEK CONSERVATION EASEMENT

Interim City Manager Snowaert and City Attorney Hoff explained the background of the conservation easement.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the Partridge Creek Conservation Easement as presented.

RESOLUTION 12 -2019 HEALTH INSURANCE PER PUBLIC ACT 152 OF 2011

A motion made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 12-2019 Health Insurance per Public Act 152 of 2011 as presented.

2020 CITY HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

Interim City Manager Snowaert reported the Health Insurance Committee had met and the recommendation was to continue using 44 North for health insurance and to include signing the agreement with their third party administrator for COBRA Administration.

Attorney Hoff expressed her concerns with the TASC agreement for COBRA Administration and could not recommend the City sign it. After the City Attorney's comments, Councilmembers Bean and Chapman expressed their concerns with the TASC COBRA Agreement through 44 North.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to sign an agreement with MESSA for City health insurance coverage which included COBRA Administration.

DRAFT POLICY #305, HIGH WATER USAGE POLICY

Interim City Manager Snowaert reviewed the draft policy which would cover a one-time credit to a utility bill for the City.

Councilmember Bean reviewed some of her concerns/questions on the proposed policy: would the adjustment go with the property or the owner; the cause of the high usage must be identified, repaired, and inspected; and the amount of the bill or usage for the policy to take effect. There was discussion regarding the amount of the bill to be considered for forgiveness.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge and supported by Councilmember Scanlon to table this item and bring a revised version back to the Council at a future meeting. Ayes: Mayor Mike Tonkin, Councilmembers Pat Scanlon and Stuart Skauge (3). Nays: Councilmembers Lindsay Bean and Jason Chapman (2). Motion passed.

CONFIRM POLICY #601, COUNCIL RULES AND PROCEDURE POLICY

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to confirm Policy #601, Council Rules and Procedures as presented.

Councilmember Bean reminded all Councilmembers to pay close attention to the Ethical Conduct of Councilmembers in the policy.

906 TECHNOLOGIES ESTIMATE

Interim City Manager Snowaert advised Council authorized \$8,000 for the new NAS and at least \$10,000 is currently budgeted in the 2019 budget for computers. He recommended the remainder be taken from the 2019 Public Improvement Fund for the computer upgrades.

There was discussion among Council regarding the need for computer upgrades and the current budget and the proposed 2020 budget.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman and supported by Councilmember Scanlon to accept the quotation from 906 Technologies in the amount of \$41,895.68 with the remainder of the funds needed to come out of the 2019 Public Improvement Budget.

LAKE BANCROFT PAVILION PROJECT

Brian Fabbri, GEI Consultants, provided an update on the Lake Bancroft Pavilion Project.

The estimate from Stonehouse Window and Door in the amount of \$25,696 was for the installation of the garage doors. The labor for the installation was being donated by Stonehouse.

2020 ISHPEMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to amend the 2020 meeting schedule and change the November meeting from November 4th to November 11th which would be after the Presidential election.

SCHEDULE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING FOR MARIJUANA WORKSHOP

It was the consensus of Council to schedule the workshop for Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilmember Scanlon reported the grant for the Senior Center with MEDC was moving forward and reminded everyone the Senior Center was now located in Phelps Square; and the Blight Committee was continuing to meet.

Councilmember Skauge noted the DNR grant for the tennis courts received a score of 370 out of 395 so the City should be hearing soon if the grant was awarded.

Councilmember Bean felt the City Attorney contract was signed and this issue should not be continued to be discussed.

Councilmember Chapman felt there was enough discussion regarding the City Attorney, the contract was signed, and with the new City Manager starting in February would like to move on and continue to move the City forward.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Bean suggested a committee comprised of Councilmember Scanlon and Councilmember Chapman be established to meet with the City Attorney regularly to discuss issues/topics being worked on. Mayor Tonkin established the committee.

Councilmember Scanlon felt the City Attorney's hours were not structured and thought they should be. He had no issue with the quality of work being done.

Councilmember Skauge noted he had no issue with the City Attorney's work he felt it should be evaluated as to whether it should be a part-time position that included full time benefits.

City Clerk Cathy Smith announced the KD Hall-St. John's the Evangelist Church would be the new polling location for Precinct #2 with the closure of the Senior Center. All voters in Precinct 2 would be receiving new voter ID cards in the mail.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Scanlon thanked DPW for all their work during the snow event; and would still like to have a meeting regarding the snow removal.

Councilmember Bean thank DPW staff; attended many meeting during the month; attended the Ishpeturkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day; and was excited about the Fat-ish Bike Race coming up in January.

Councilmember Chapman also thanked the DPW staff; and he would like to honor all the people that worked on and assisted with the construction of the new Santa House.

Mayor Mike Tonkin attend the Planning Commission meeting and announced the new Zoning Ordinance was complete and was now on the City Website and the Planning Commission was beginning work on the Master Plan with the assistance of CUPPAD; he also announced there would be a meeting regarding the Master Plan at the Carnegie Library on December 19th.

Council wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Interim City Manager Snowaert provided a written report to Council. He also noted the new City Manager Craig Cugini would be starting on February 3, 2020.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Hoff reported she met with new Councilmember Jason Chapman, thanked DPW for all the work during the snow event; thanked Ms. Stevens for her comment; and thanked Council for support.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO MCL 15.268(c) FOR STRATEGY AND NEGOTIATIONS CONNECTED WITH COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge and supported by Councilmember Scanlon to go into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(c) for strategy and negotiations connected with a collective bargaining agreement at 9:42 p.m. and to include Finance Director Lampman in closed session. Ayes: Mayor Mike Tonkin, Councilmembers Lindsay Bean, Jason Chapman, Pat Scanlon, and Stuart Skauge (5). Nays: None (0). Motion passed.

Returned to open session at 10:23 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO MCL 15.268(d) TO CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge and supported by Councilmember Chapman to go into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(d) to consider purchase or lease of real property at 10:24 p.m. and to include Finance Director Lampman in the closed session. Ayes: Mayor Mike Tonkin, Councilmembers Lindsay Bean, Jason Chapman, Pat Scanlon, and Stuart Skauge (5). Nays: None (0). Motion passed.

Returned to open session at 10:36 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:42 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith
City Clerk