

The Regular Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, 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, Pat Scanlon, and Stuart Skauge (4). Excused: Councilmember Jason Chapman (1). Also present were Interim City Manager Steve Snowaert and City Attorney Bonnie Hoff.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Claudia Demarest, 821 Maurice Street, referenced comments made at the December regular Council meeting with regards to the City Attorney. She did not feel a City, the size of Ishpeming, needed a full-time City Attorney; and, she also expressed concerns that the City did not have a back-up attorney as noted in the City Charter.

Don Dakota, 700 Duncan Street, expressed concerns with the high banks on the corner by his residence and the inability to see when pulling out with a vehicle. He also questioned who was responsible to maintain the sidewalks as some of the sidewalks in his area were in need of repairs.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to move item 16 after item 10 and approve the agenda as amended.

AGENDA COMMENT - There was none.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to remove confirmation of the Commission on Aging payment of \$9,000 from the consent agenda to be discussed under new business and approve the consent agenda as amended.

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (December 4th, 18th, 23rd; Closed Session December 4th)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Special Event Application: Polar Roll Race: 2-15-20
- d. Confirm Payments to Commission on Aging \$9,000 and UPSET \$10,000 for 2020
- e. Confirm Depositories for 2020— m-Bank, Flagstar, TruNorth, First Bank, Comerica, Charles Schwab, and Edward D. Jones
- f. Confirm Publishing Source for 2020 – Mining Journal

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Finance Director Lampman reviewed the monthly budget report for the period ending December 31st which included the General Fund, Garbage Fund, Public Improvement Fund, Major and Local Street Funds, and Water and Sewer Funds.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to approve the monthly financial report as presented.

RESCIND ORDINANCE #4-800, CHARGES FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICES RENDERED AT VEHICLE ACCIDENTS AND REVISE THE FEE SCHEDULE

Interim City Manager Snowaert advised a committee met to discuss cover recovery ordinances, open burning, and false alarm policy. It was the recommendation of the Committee to rescind the cost recovery ordinances for the Fire Department.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to rescind Ordinance #4-800 Charges for Fire Department Services rendered at a vehicle accident and to revise the fee schedule accordingly.

RESCIND ORDINANCE #4-1000 CHARGES FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICES RENDERED AT A STRUCTURE FIRE AND REVISE THE FEE SCHEDULE

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to rescind Ordinance #4-1000 Charges for Fire Department for services rendered at a structure fire and revise the fee schedule accordingly.

FIRST READING OF AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE #4-1100, OPEN BURN

Previous Fire Chief Ed Anderson summarized the proposed changes to the Open Burn Ordinance and explained some of the problems encountered with nuisance smoke.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to approve the amendment to Ordinance #4-1100, Open Burn as of the first reading.

AMENDMENT TO POLICY #405, FALSE FIRE ALARM POLICY AND REVISE FEE SCHEDULE

Fire Chief Ed Anderson explained the proposed revisions to the policy.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to accept the amendment to Policy #405, False Fire Alarm Policy as presented and revised the fee schedule accordingly.

UPDATE ON SMALL PARK ALONG HEMATITE DRIVE

Bob Marietti provided an update on the Memorial Park he proposed along Hematite Drive. Interim City Manager Snowaert advised the concept would be presented to the Planning Commission next month and a recommendation would be given to Council.

DRAFT POLICY #305, ONE-TIME LEAK/HIGH WATER USAGE ADJUSTMENT POLICY

Interim City Manager Snowaert advised he met with Councilmembers Bean and Chapman regarding the policy. He reviewed the Policy and advised this was only for owner-occupied residences it was not for businesses or rentals.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve Policy #305, One-time Leak/High Water Usage Adjustment Policy as presented.

2020 WAGE INCREASE – NON UNION EMPLOYEES

Interim City Manager Snowaert explained the two part-time Library Clerks were inadvertently left off the list of employee in the memo.

Councilmember Bean questioned why the City Attorney was not included in the list. Councilmember Scanlon expressed his concerns with including the City Attorney as her employment agreement was renegotiated separately and the new agreement was just signed in July of 2019.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean to include the City Attorney in the 3% wage increase. Motion died for lack of support.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to concur with the Manager's recommendation for a 3% wage increase for the positions: Finance Director, Treasurer, Assistant to the City Manager/Clerk, Police Chief, part-time Front Office Assistant, part-time Code Enforcement/Rental Inspector, part-time Zoning Administrator, two part-time Library Clerks, and the volunteer Firefighters and their command staff for 2020; and staff would provide a list of the increases for city staff to Council.

RESOLUTION #1-2020, Resolution in Support of the Reinstatement of State Historic Tax Credits SB54/HB4100
A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #1-2020, in support of the reinstatement of State Historic Tax Credits SB54 and HB 4100 and forward the resolution to Michigan Historic Preservation Network.

MICHIGAN REGULATION AND TAXATION OF MARIHUANA ACT REGULATIONS

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge and supported by Councilmember Scanlon to table this item until the February agenda. Ayes: Councilmember Bean, Scanlon, and Skauge (3). Nays: Mayor Tonkin (1). Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Jasperlite Senior Housing 2019 Expenditures as required per Ordinance #11-2300 – Interim City Manager Snowaert advised this was basically and informational item. The information provided was required under Ordinance #11-2300.

Councilmember Scanlon questioned why the City had not applied for and/or received 2% Tribal Gaming Funds. Attorney Hoff explained the 2% gaming funds rules and regulations. The Police Department received a grant from the funds in the amount of \$9,000 for AED's and the Fire Department received \$1,000.

NEW BUSINESS

Confirm payment to the Commission on Aging \$9,000 for 2020 – Finance Director Lampman explained MCL 400.571.577 577 stated that while payments for services to older person is a valid public purpose for municipal expenditures, appropriations to a private organization must be specified and the terms of the appropriation must be published in a newspaper of general circulation within 10 days following approval by the governing body.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Bean, and carried unanimously to move forward with the \$9,000 appropriation to the Greater Ishpeming Commission on Aging and direct staff to prepare the necessary documents.

Interim City Manager Snowaert advised a member of the Planning Commission recently resigned so there was one vacancy. Clerk Cathy Smith advised John Carlson expressed an interest in being appointed to the Planning Commission.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to appoint John Carlson to fill the vacancy on the Planning Commission with the term expiring November 2022.

Councilmember Bean felt the City Attorney should be included in the 3% wage increase and made motion to include the City Attorney in the raise. The motion died for lack of support.

There was some discussion related to the City Attorney Employment Agreement.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge and supported by Councilmember Scanlon to appoint two Councilmembers to review the City Attorney Employment Agreement. Ayes: Mayor Tonkin, Councilmembers Bean and Skauge (3). Nays: Councilmember Scanlon (1). Motion passed

Mayor Tonkin appointed Councilmember Bean and Skauge to the Committee.

Councilmember Scanlon resigned from the City Attorney Liaison Committee.

Councilmember Bean discussed the importance of safety in the workplace and would like to have department heads promote safety awareness among staff.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Bean attended the meeting regarding the Master Plan update that was held at the Carnegie Library which was very well attended; attended the Fatish Bike Race at Al Quaal which was a wonderful event.

Councilmember Skauge attended the Rotary Club meeting and noted they were still working on the project at Teal Lake for a kayak launch on both the Ishpeming and Negaunee side; and would like to revisit the Ishpeming Hills Neighborhood Enterprise Zone.

Mayor Tonkin attended the Planning Commission meeting on Monday and a new survey would be sent out to citizens regarding the Master Plan update; the new Zoning Ordinance was published and was on the City Website; and would like to ensure that staff and Council follow the Ishpeming City Charter.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Interim City Manager Snowaert provided a written report to Council. He further noted the City received a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the 2% Tribal Gaming Funds; a grant application to Financially Distressed Cities, Villages, and Township Fiscal 2020 Michigan Department of Treasury was submitted in the amount of \$250,000 for to upgrade the water metering system in the City; and he continued to work on the MEDC grant for the Senior Center.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Hoff met with Councilmember Chapman to discuss the work she had been doing; and she thanked the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and their Tribal Attorney for all their assistance with the 2% gaming funds.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:50 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith
City Clerk