

The Regular Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, February 5, 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, Jason Chapman, Pat Scanlon, and Stuart Skauge (5). Also present were City Manager Craig Cugini and Interim City Manager Steve Snowaert. The City Attorney position is vacant.

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Tonkin asked that item #16 Public Works Garage Roof and Item 26 Attorney Report be removed from the agenda.; and item ##20 Schedule Public Hearing for resubmittal of MNRTF Grant for Tennis Court project be moved up after the Monthly Budget Report. A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve the agenda incorporating the above changes.

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 (January 8th and January 22nd)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Appoint Matt Cody to fill vacancy on the Housing Board of Appeals with term expiring 12/2020
- d. Appoint Craig Cugini to vacancy on Building Authority with term expiring 6/2020
- e. Reappoint Larry Bussone to a three-year term on the Iron Ore Recreation Authority with term expiring 4/2023

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Finance Director James Lampman reviewed the monthly budget report for the period ending January 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 Skauge and carried unanimously to approve the monthly financial report as presented.

SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING FOR RESUBMITTAL OF THE MNRTF GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE TENNIS COURT PROJECT

Carrie Meyer, Ishpeming Schools Superintendent, asked the City Council to schedule a public hearing for the resubmittal of the grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant for the tennis court project and authorize City staff to update the grant for resubmittal. She further reviewed the scope of the project.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to schedule the public hearing for the next Council meeting and proceed with updates for the resubmittal of the grant application.

RESOLUTION 2-2020. WAIVER OF PENALTY AND INTEREST FOR UNTIMELY FILED PROPERTY TRANSFER AFFIDAVITS

Assessor Jackie Lykins explained the proposed resolution #2-2020.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #2-2020, Waiver of Penalty and Interest for untimely filed property transfer affidavits as presented.

RESOLUTION #3-2020, ADOPT POVERTY EXEMPTION INCOME GUIDELINES AND ASSET TEST

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 3-2020, Adopt poverty exemptions income guidelines and asset test as presented.

RECOMMENDATION FROM PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE REZONINGS RZ2019-05 AND RZ2019-06

Manager Cugini explained the two rezoning's were to clean up some properties that were zoned commercial and should have been zoned residential.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve the Rezoning 2019-05 and Rezoning 2019-06 as recommended by the Planning Commission.

REQUEST FROM ST. ROCCO'S FOR PERMISSION TO CONSTRUCT A PERMANENT ROOF OVER THE BANDSTAND AT AL QUAAL

Manager Cugini explained the roof style proposed was a shed type roof versus a peaked roof which would help with the sound for bands. This item was on the Parks and Recreation Commission's agenda for their February meeting.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to allow the St. Rocco-St. Anthony Society to build a roof over the bandstand at Al Quaal at no cost to the City, contingent upon approval from the Parks and Recreation Commission.

POLICY #115; CLOSURE OF MERS DIVISION 10, NON-UNION SUPERVISORY UNIT DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN TO NEW HIRES

Manager Cugini recommended the Defined Benefit Plan for the Non-Union Supervisory Unit, Division 10, be closed to new hires as was done with the AFSCME Unions and a Defined Contribution Plan be adopted for employees hired after 1/1/2020. In addition, he asked that the Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk, Finance Director, and City Treasurer be offered Presidents Day as a holiday to coincide the Police Department and with the floating holiday negotiated with the AFSCME Unions.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to close the Defined Benefit Plan to new hires for the Division 10, Non-Union Supervisory Group and replace it with a Defined Contribution plan for new hires.

The holiday would be discussed under New Business.

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

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

CONTRACT EXTENSION FOR ONE YEAR WITH HYDRO-CORP FOR CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

Manager Cugini advised this contract was beyond the date to cancel. He suggested the option to extend the contract for one year and then prepare to go out for bids next year for cross connection control services.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to direct the City Manager to move forward with the one-year extension with HydroCorp for cross connection services and prepare to go out for bids next year.

AUTHORIZE PAYMENT TO ELCOM SYSTEMS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT RADIOS

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to accept the proposal from Elcom in the amount of \$11,602.60 and waive competitive bidding on the recommendation of the City Manager.

ATTORNEY SERVICES

Manager Cugini asked Council for direction on how to proceed with attorney services. There was discussion on the immediate need for an interim attorney, and, then proceed with obtaining a permanent solution.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to seek a short-term solution for an interim attorney and continue seeking a long-term solution.

Manager Cugini informed the Council he received the information regarding the exit interviews, which had been discussed at previous meeting, in a sealed envelope from Attorney Bruce Houghton and asked Council how they wished to proceed with the information.

Interim City Manager Snowaert cited the City Charter Section 6.10(a)...”all books, papers, money, and effects in the custody of that officer, in any way pertaining to that office shall be delivered to the successor in office, or to the City Clerk.”

Councilmember Bean and Chapman felt the information should be either filed or destroyed. There was discussion among Council regarding how to proceed with the information.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to direct the City Manager to give the Mayor the envelope.

Manager Cugini provided the sealed envelope to the Mayor and noted staff did not have a copy of the information and it was not in the custody of the City Clerk.

PART TIME FRONT OFFICE ASSISTANT POSITIONS

There was discussion regarding the part time Front Office Assistant positions at City Hall. Manager Cugini noted the Front Office Assistant position was currently making \$10.81/hour and suggested it be increased to \$12.00/hour to hopefully be able to retain someone in that position. He would research other part-time positions in the area to develop a package for the part time positions for example pro-rated holidays and vacation. He would bring this information back to Council. In addition, he would also like to fill the second vacant part time Front Office Assistant position. Interim City Manager Snowaert noted the need for the position had always been there.

There was discussion regarding the 2020 budget and what positions were included and how to retain employees in the part-time positions. Councilmember Skauge suggested the part-time positions be included the Union.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to increase the wage for the Part-time Front Office Assistant positions from \$10.81/hour to \$12.00/hour and authorize filling the second position in the front office.

DISCUSSION OF REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO THE MICHIGAN REGULATIONS AND TAXATION OF MARIHUANA ACT

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Mayor Tonkin and carried unanimously to table this item and direct the City Manager to research this issue and bring information back to the Council.

Councilmember Bean did not want to push this item off for too long. She went to the Fire Station located in Negaunee Township with Councilmember Chapman and was very interested in pursuing some type of license being available in Ishpeming. She would like to give the City Manager time to research this issue.

Councilmember Chapman suggested research be conducted on the pros and cons of the various licenses and what may be good for the City. He emphasized Michigan law needed to be looked at and what regulations had to be followed.

Manager Cugini would research the possibility of a dispensary in the City, the pros and cons, and what potential revenues could be obtained.

OLD BUSINESS

City Clerk Cathy Smith reminded all voters in Precinct 2 that the location of Precinct 2 was changed from the Old Senior Center to KD Hall – St. John’s Church which was also located on Pine Street. She further advised all voters in Precinct 2 would be receiving new Voter ID cards in the mail. She reminded everyone that the City maintains a permanent absent voter list and to contact the Clerk’s Office if anyone wished to be on the list.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to align the holiday schedule for the three positions at City Hall with the Police Union and include President’s Day as a holiday.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Scanlon welcomed City Manager Craig Cugini to the City of Ishpeming; and advised the MEDC grant application was still being worked on for the new senior center.

Councilmember Skaug noted union clerical positions can be either fulltime or part time and he felt this should be considered for the two part-time Front Office Assistant positions. He welcomed City Manager Craig Cugini.

Mayor Tonkin attend the Planning Commission meeting and work was continuing with the Master Plan; he advised the rezoning’s presented tonight from the Planning Commission were necessary and others may follow; and he welcomed City Manager Craig Cugini.

Councilmember Lindsay Bean welcomed City Manager Craig Cugini and thanked Steve Snowaert and Jim Lampman for all their work on an interim basis; she reminded everyone to help with the Master Plan and take the survey that CUPPAD had out with a link located on the City’s website and on Facebook.

Councilmember Jason Chapman welcomed new Fire Chief Jason Annala; thanked Jim and Steve for all their efforts during the interim period; welcomed City Manager Craig Cugini; and also thanked the Ishpeming Ski Club for a wonderful ski jump events.

MANAGER’S REPORT

Manager Cugini reviewed the recent reports he forwarded to Council; the Incident Report and the Report of Concern and he would continue to use these reports to get information to Council. He asked Council so set up a committee of two Councilmembers to meet with the Manager to discuss various items.

Mayor Tonkin appointed Councilmember Bean and Scanlon to the committee with Councilmember Chapman as a backup for the committee.

Manager Cugini would like to arrange an all-day Council Workshop to discuss strategic planning and SWAT analysis for the City of Ishpeming which would include goals and objective.

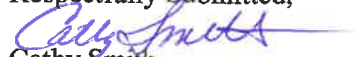
Steve Snowaert would be returning to the Police Department as Police Chief effective Monday, February 10, 2020.

Council thanked Steve Snowaert, Jim Lampman, and Cathy Smith for all their work and efforts in the interim.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:00 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith

City Clerk