

The Regular Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, March 4, 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 Skaug (5). Also present were City Manager Craig Cugini. The City Attorney position is vacant.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Manager Cugini reviewed the letter received from Mr. DeGabrielle regarding his complaint against various Councilmembers and staff. Councilmember Bean and Chapman had email interactions with Mr. DeGabrielle. There was brief discussion among Council.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

AGENDA COMMENT - There was none.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Manager Cugini questioned if declaring items as surplus, particularly smaller items, such as books at the library needed to come before Council. There was discussion on the language in the City Charter and the intent of the Charter.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Finance Director James Lampman reviewed the monthly budget report for the period ending February 28th 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 Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the monthly financial report as presented.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR MNRTF GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE TENNIS COURTS AND TRAIL LINK PROJECT

Mayor Tonkin opened the public hearing at 7:21 p.m. There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed at 7:22 p.m.

Staff briefly explained the trail link portion of the project.

RESOLUTION #4-2020 SUBMISSION OF THE MNRTF GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE TENNIS COURTS AND TRAIL LINK PROJECT

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to approve Resolution # 4-2020 authorizing submission of the MNRTF grant application for Tennis Court and Trail Link Project.

PROCLAMATION TO DECLARE APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH PER POLICY #403-2 FAIR HOUSING PLAN

Manager Cugini advised as per Policy #403-2 Fair Housing Plan, the City was required to declare April as fair housing month. Staff would provide some education on fair housing.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously authorize the Mayor to sign the proclamation and declare April as fair housing month in the City of Ishpeming.

AWARD BID FOR FLOOR MAT AND UNIFORM SERVICES FOR ALL CITY DEPARTMENTS

Manager Cugini advised two bids were received for the services. Aramark was the lowest bidder per monthly cost breakdown.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to award the floor mat and uniform services contract to Aramark.

CITY MANAGER TRAVEL TO MML CAPITAL CONFERENCE IN LANSING, MARCH 24-25, 2020

Manager Cugini encouraged Councilmembers to attend the MML conference.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Chapman to approve the travel for Manager Cugini to attend the MML conference.

CITY MANAGER ATTENDANCE AT THE CITIZEN PLANNER PROGRAM IN MARQUETTE AND BEING EXCUSED FROM THE MAY 6TH COUNCIL MEETING

Manager Cugini requested permission to attend the Citizen Planner Program which will be held in Marquette. The program will be held on Wednesdays beginning April 22nd and ending May 27th. This would require him to be excused from the May 6 Council Meeting.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to grant the request to attend the Citizen Planning Program and excuse Manager Cugini from the May 6th meeting.

CITY MANAGER PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

Manager Cugini advised he met with Councilmembers Bean and Scanlon to discuss performance objectives and what was provided in the meeting packet was the outcome from that meeting. Once these performance objectives were approved he could proceed with developing performance objectives for department heads.

There was discussion among Council and it was felt these objectives gave good direction, work could be evaluated and determined if it was completed, and having quarterly reviews were beneficial to both parties.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to approve the performance objectives for the City Manager as presented.

PART TIME EMPLOYEES PROPOSED BENEFIT PACKAGE

Manager Cugini reviewed two options for benefits for the regular part-time employees. Option 1 was to allow part-time employees to earn pro-rated vacation/time off based on the hours worked per week and allow 48 hours to carry over; allow holiday pay at 5 hours in the holiday week; and sick leave as per PA 338 of 2018, Paid Medical Leave Act. The second option was to negotiate part-time employees in the union. This option could be negotiated during upcoming negotiations.

There was discussion among Council regarding the two options.

Councilmember Skauge and Chapman felt the part-time employees should be included in the union. This could be done by a letter of agreement with the unions until negotiations would begin later in the year.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon and supported by Councilmember Bean to accept Option 1 as recommended by the Manager and authorize pro-rated vacation, 5 hours of holiday pay, and sick leave if eligible per PA 338 of 2018. Ayes: Mayor Mike Tonkin, Councilmembers Lindsay Bean and Pat Scanlon (3). Nays: Councilmembers Jason Chapman and Stuart Skauge (2). Motion passed.

UPDATE ON ATTORNEY SERVICES

Manager Cugini reported he met with Councilmember Scanlon, Mayor Tonkin, and David Savu, previous City Attorney, to discuss what should be included in the request for proposal for City Attorney Services. He summarized some of the discussion in the meeting and advised the meeting was helpful.

Councilmember Chapman expressed concern with having discussions with previous City Attorney David Savu, on what to include in the proposal. He felt if the City was going to make a fresh start with an attorney, the City should not be meeting with previous attorney Savu.

OLD BUSINESS – There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Manager Cugini reported the MEDC meeting in Lansing would take place on March 24th regarding the grant for the Senior Center building. He suggested Council authorize another staff member to attend as he would be at the MML Capital Conference.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to approve travel for another staff member to attend the MEDC meeting on March 24th for the Senior Center grant.

Manager Cugini advised the GMC Sierra 3500 Diesel dump truck used at the Cemetery needed repair. The estimated amount was \$4,016.14 from Fox Negaunee.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to authorize repairs and direct the Manager to research trading the vehicle or selling outright and the possible purchase of a gasoline engine for use at the Cemetery.

City Clerk Cathy Smith reminded everyone of the Presidential Primary election on March 10th and that Precinct 2 which was located at the “old” Senior Center is now located at KD Hall-St. Johns Church at 325 S. Pine Street.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Scanlon attended the Breakfast with the City Manager at Buck’s Restaurant which went very well; the meeting regarding the performance objectives was very productive and staff evaluations would be very positive for staff.

Mayor Tonkin attended the Planning Commission meeting and work is still progressing with the Master Plan; and he also attended the meeting regarding the City Attorney proposal.

Councilmember Bean attended the meeting pertaining to the City Manager objectives which was very productive and she was very glad to see structure and accountability; she also attended the Rotary Club meeting.

Councilmember Chapman met with Mayor Tonkin regarding the downtown, they would continue to meet with hopes to push the DDA and move the downtown forward; he also reminded everyone May was Mental Health Awareness Month.

MANAGER’S REPORT

Manager Cugini advised Council had received his bi-weekly report. He also advised he met with Ryan Soucy from CUPPAD regarding a fellowship planner which could be assigned to the City and funded by MEDC; he met with UPEA regarding a proposed dog park which would be at no cost to the City; and he also discussed the format of the incident reports prepared for water leaks, etc.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT – There was no attorney report.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:32 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,


Cathy Smith
City Clerk