Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority Minutes Monday, September 28, 2020

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, September 28, 2020 in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was called to order by David Aeh at 4:05 p.m. Present: David Aeh, Dave Aro, John Carlson, Sandy Arsenault, Eric Laksonen, Carrie Meyer (left at 5:00 pm, and Craig Cugini, (7). Absent: Tracy Magnuson, Jay Clancey, Jason Chapman, and 1 vacant position (4). Also present was Linda Andriacchi and Bob Hendrickson from the GINCC.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Andriacchi asked that the City be cautious during plowing and slow down to protect the buildings in the downtown.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Member Arsenault, supported by Member Meyer and carried unanimously to approve the July 27th minutes as presented. A motion was made by Member Meyer, supported by Member Arsenault to approve the minutes of August 31st minutes as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director James Lampman reviewed the financial report for period ending August 31st. A motion was made by Member Carlson, supported by Member Arsenault and carried unanimously to approve the financial report as presented.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Linda Andriacchi provided a brief history of the beautification effort and was concerned with her proposed budget for 2021. Donations for beautifications have been down as well as the number of volunteers. There was discussion pertaining to the 2021 budget. The intent was to keep the budget the same for 2021 for beautification. Also discussed was the type of mulch that should be used for the gardens.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT

Bob Hendrickson, Chamber of Commerce Director, summarized the Chamber report. The Lake Bancroft Art and Craft Fair went well and had a good attendance. The Chamber was now back on regular hours beginning September 8th; the Chamber has two new board members; they will be doing an online auction as a fund raiser.

ISHPEMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Member Aeh advised Ishpeming Community Events was checking with local businesses about their interest in Ladies Night in the downtown but without using punch cards, no snacks, no coffer, etc. There was discussion related to the Christmas Parade and the visits with Santa during the holidays. Santa and Mrs. Clause were willing to still have the visits with Santa.

OLD BUSINESS

Member Aeh read a letter of support that would be incorporated into the grant to be submitted to the DNR supporting an urban and community forest management plan by the DDA. The grant application was due on September 30th.

A motion was made by Member Aro, supported by Member Laksonen to approve the letter of support to be sent to the DNR regarding the urban and community forest management plan.

Discussion followed on the 2021 budget. One goal was to try and increase the value of the homes in the area and to build the downtown in Ishpeming to get people interested in moving to Ishpeming.

NEW BUSINESS - There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:15 p.m., a motion was made by Member Arsenault, supported by Member Carlson and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Smith

City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager