

The Special Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, November 18, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Mike Tonkin called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

Present: Mayor Mike Tonkin, Councilmembers, Lindsay Bean via Zoom at home, Jason Chapman via Zoom at home, Pat Scanlon via Zoom at home, and Stuart Skauge (5). Also present was City Manager Craig Cugini via Zoom. City Attorney Caroline Bridges was excused.

AGENDA COMMENT

Brooke Routhier was present to listen to the discussion regarding the proposed 2021 budget.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR TUNNEL VISION: PARK STREET LIFT STATION

Manager Cugini explained the budget amendment was necessary due to a mechanical failure with Tunnel Vision's truck. The budget amendment would adjust the 2021 budget.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously amend the budget and transfer the balance of \$167,126 to the 2021 budget and move forward with the project next year.

2021 BUDGET WORKSHOP

Manager Cugini briefly reviewed the proposed 2021 budget. The Library, Police and Fire did not receive any dollars in the Public Improvement Fund. He advised the Library Board would be meeting tomorrow to continue budget discussions.

Councilmember Chapman was concerned with funds not being allocated in the Public Improvement Fund for fire, police, and the library and he did not support it. Roads and a campground were important but he felt the scope should be reduced and money allocated to the departments. Council needs to provide funding for departments to operate.

Manager Cugini advised the campground could potentially generate \$600,000/year in revenue for the City. The City has a declining budget and additional revenue sources were needed. Rural Development funding was being sought for the project.

Councilmember Bean further explained the proposal for the campground and felt the returns could be substantial for the City. It was necessary to spend money to make money and the City needs to find ways to increase revenues. She further advised during meetings with Councilmember Scanlon and Manager Cugini it was determined one major need was road repairs.

Councilmember Scanlon briefly summarized budget meeting discussions with the Manager and Councilmember Bean.

Mayor Tonkin felt the City's budget should be clear and concise and it was very important for City Council members to be able to answer questions from citizens regarding the City Budget.

Councilmember Skauge questioned where the funds for books and periodicals were located budget. He felt the process should not have been changed this year, since the process had begun late.

There was discussion among Council and staff regarding the format of the budget and how dollars were allocated; line item budgeting; and the State requirement to follow the State Chart of Accounts versus how Council would like to see the budget presented.

Some Councilmembers expressed concern with all of Council not having input on the budget process and not having a chance to meet with department heads

Councilmember Skauge and Chapman would like to meet with Manager Cugini to review the budget and the process. The meeting was set for Monday, November 23rd at 11:00 p.m. Finance Director James Lampman would also be in attendance. If necessary after that meeting, another Council meeting would be scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:30 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Mayor Tonkin and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith
City Clerk