

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, February 3, 2021, with Councilmembers present and public comment via Zoom. Mayor Lindsay Bean called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Lindsay Bean, Council Members Jason Chapman (via Zoom at home), Elizabeth Firby, Pat Scanlon, and Stuart Skauge (5). Also present was City Manager Craig Cugini and City Attorney Caroline Bridges.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Public comment was offered through Zoom. There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the agenda with the removal of item #9 Resolution 1-2021.

AGENDA COMMENT – Agenda comment was offered though Zoom. There was no agenda comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (January 13th)
- b. Approval of Disbursements

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Finance Director James Lampman reviewed the monthly budget report for the period ending January 31, 2021, 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 KAYAK LAUNCHES ON THE SHORES OF TEAL LAKE

Mayor Bean opened the public hearing at 7:15 p.m.

Manager Cugini briefly explained the project was a joint venture with the City of Negaunee and launches would be provided at both ends of Teal Lake. The Cities of Negaunee and Ishpeming would be committing \$5,000 each and the Ishpeming Rotary Club would be working on getting the remainder of the match dollars. Ishpeming will be submitting the grant application.

Mayor Bean closed the public hearing at 7:20 p.m.

RESOLUTION #1-2021, APPROVE SUBMITTAL OF THE MNRTF GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE KAYAK LAUNCHES ON THE SHORES OF TEAL LAKE

This item was not ready and removed from the agenda.

SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATIONS

Mayor Bean reviewed the spreadsheet for evaluating special event applications which included risks and mitigations for ranking each event.

- a. Ishpeming Ski Club: 134th Annual Ski Jumping Tournament: March 5-7, 2021 – Council evaluated this event on the spreadsheet. Kim Larson, Ishpeming Ski Club, advised there would be no outside vendors, food would be all pre-packaged; and, more than likely no spectators, but this would depend on the state guidelines at that time. She further reviewed the mitigations with Council.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to support the 134th Annual Ski Jumping Tournament on March 5-7, 2021.

b. Greater Ishpeming Negaunee Chamber of Commerce: West End Winter Wonderland: March 13, 2021 - Council evaluated the event on the spreadsheet. Bob Hendrickson, GINCC, advised there would be porta-potties provided, vendors would be chamber members, there would be a COVID questionnaire for attendees, masks would be required, along with the requirement to social distance, and group limits would be based on State guidelines. Would like to plan the event and reserve the date with a final COVID plan submitted before the event.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve the West End Winter Wonderland event on March 13, 2021.

c. Northern Michigan University/University of Wisconsin Green Bay Ski Race: changed to February 13 and 14th A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to approve the event as presented from Northern Michigan University to host the University of Wisconsin Green Bay Ski Race following the same COVID guidelines as the previous Northern Michigan University event.

CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH HYDRO-CORP FOR CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

Manager Cugini advised the process was going well with Hydro-Corp and with no other options available would like to continue the contract with Hydro-Corp. This would be a three-year contract.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to authorize the City Manager to sign the contract with Hydro-Corp for the cross-connection control program.

DISCUSS REQUEST TO PURCHASE CITY PROPERTY LOCATED ON NORTHWEST CORNER OF LAKE STREET AND DIVISION STREET

Manager Cugini reviewed the request from the adjoining property owner to purchase from the City the property located on the Northwest corner of Lake Street and Division Street.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to declare the above property surplus and move forward with the next step for the sale of the property with the public hearing being scheduled at the next regular Council meeting.

SCHEDULE WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS REPORTING PROCESS FROM CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS TO COUNCIL

Mayor Bean reviewed the previous discussions on the reporting process for boards and commissions and the scheduling of a meeting. She provided a form for the boards and commissions to complete. The form could be sent to the Chairpersons of each board and commission. There would be no need for a workshop if Council agreed to send out the form. The Mayor would provide a cover letter to be included with the form.

It was the consensus of Council to send the form to the chairperson of each board and commission.

CONFIRM POLICY #601, COUNCIL RULES AND PROCEDURES POLICY

Councilmember Scanlon asked why the Pledge of Allegiance was struck from the agenda. He noted Council had not been doing the Pledge of Allegiance during Zoom meetings, however, he felt it should remain on the agenda. In addition, he thought the Policy was not necessary and was redundant of the Opens Meeting Act, Roberts Rules of Order, and the City Charter.

There was discussion regarding the history of the policy and the removal of the pledge of allegiance from the agenda. It as the consensus of Council to keep the Pledge of Allegiance on the agenda.

Council directed the City Manager to rewrite the Council Rules and Procedure Policy.

CONFIRM MANAGEMENT NEGOTIATING TEAM MEMBERS

Mayor Bean reviewed how the Management Negotiating team Councilmember were appointed. There was discussion as to which Councilmembers should be on the team.

Councilmember Chapman, Mayor Bean, and Councilmember Scanlon would be the three Councilmembers that would be on the team, with only two present at a time.

ESTABLISH COMMITTEE TO REVIEW WATER AND SEWER RATES

Mayor Bean would like to have two members of Council sit on the Committee and a report would then be made to the full Council from the Committee. Councilmember Chapman would like to be on the Committee.

There was discussion related to setting up a Committee or having the full Council present at a meeting. Also discussed was whether this would an open meeting or a workshop. It was the consensus of Council to have the full Council present not a establish a Committee. The meeting would be held on February 17th at 7:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilmember Scanlon ask the City Attorney when Council would be receiving the statement of legal services rendered from the City attorney for work performed.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Scanlon questioned if City contracts were being reviewed by the City Attorney such as the Hydo-Corp and North Country Disposal contracts; Manager Cugini advised they had.

Manager Cugini reviewed the work being done on the snow plan and discussed how it related to the new PubWorks software. He explained to rectifying the echo currently in the Council Chambers sound panels would need to be installed. The cost to install engineered panels would range from \$8,000 to \$10,000 depending on the type and style of the panel.

There was discussion related to the grant received for the Council Chambers/Emergency Operations Center and the amount of City funds spent to date. It was the consensus of Council to not install sound panels at this time.

Councilmember Scanlon felt several dollars have been spent over the last 8-9 months; he would like the PubWorks software to be implemented along with TextMyGov; but then spending would need to be reduced.

Manager Cugini explained the mapping app for the PubWorks software was not included in the initial purchase and it was a very important piece to have. The cost was approximately \$2,900.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Scanlon, and carried unanimously to approve the mapping app software for Pub Works in the not to exceed amount of \$3,000.

Mayor Bean and Councilmember Scanlon were reviewing the process for the manager's evaluation for the first year. An evaluation form would be emailed to everyone to evaluate Manager Cugini along with the goals and objectives.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Public comment was offered through Zoom. There was no public comment.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Firby attended the School Board meeting and the Library Board meeting via Zoom. The Library was working toward a plan allowing patrons into the Library.

Councilmember Chapman had no report.

Councilmember Skauge went to Mayo Clinic for a week and was advised he had a speech disorder and has been in speech therapy and eventually his voice should return to normal; the Housing Commission was meeting by phone and the Central Dispatch Policy Board was meeting via Zoom.

Councilmember Scanlon reiterated spending should be reduced.

Mayor Bean attended the Planning Commission meeting and there was discussion related to the marijuana ordinance; a committee was set up to further discuss allowing sales in the City; however, there would be nothing brought back to the March Council meeting as initially discussed. It would be a much longer discussion.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Cugini advised the ice rink was open; TextMyGov would be going live soon and a flyer will be sent out via bulk mail to all households in Ishpeming; he discussed the possible purchase of new DPW equipment at a future meeting; noted Taco Bell was moving along; and there were three internal posting for the DPW Foreman position.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:37 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith
City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager