

The rescheduled regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Thursday, March 4, 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, 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 Chapman, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

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 Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (February 3rd, 16th, and 17th)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Reappoint Stephen Piereson to 5-year term: Cemetery Board: term expiring 5/2026
- d. Reappoint Stephen Piereson to 3-year term: Parks-Recreation Commission: term expiring 5/2024
- e. Appoint David Lawler to fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission: the term expiring 11/2021
- f. Reappoint Joe Juidici to a 5-year term: Compensation Commission: term expiring 2/2026

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Finance Director James Lampman reviewed the monthly budget report for the period ending February 28, 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.

DPW EQUIPMENT

a. Declare as surplus: two Snapper walk-behind mowers (2000&2004), a 2000 Walker Mower, and a 2000 Grasshopper Mower – Manager Cugini advised these items were obsolete and should be eliminated.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to declare the four times as surplus.

b. Purchase of Lawn Mower for the Parks – Manager Cugini reviewed the pros and cons of the John Deere and the Kubota. Staff recommendation was to purchase the John Deere Grasshopper with a 42” deck and bagging system as a cash purchase for a cost of \$11,293.51.

Councilmember Scanlon pointed out bids were received.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to authorize the purchase of the John Deere Grasshopper mower as recommended for the Parks.

c. Purchase of the Lawn Mower for the Cemetery – Manager Cugini reviewed the pros and cons of the Walker Riding Lawn mower. Staff recommendation was to purchase the Walker Riding Lawn Mower with a 42” deck and bagging system.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to authorize the purchase of the Walker Riding Lawn Mower with a 42" deck and bagging system for a total cost of \$15,526.00, utilizing the cash option.

d. Purchase of Utility Trailer for the Parks – Manager Cugini advised the trail would improve efficiency and help with hauling equipment. He reviewed the pros and cons of each trailer option. Staff recommendation was to purchase the 2021 Midsota Black Steel Dual Axle Utility trailer from Meyer Yamaha.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of the 2021 Midsota Black Steel Dual Axle Utility Trailer from Meyer Yamaha in the amount of \$3,295.00.

FORESTRY FOR CITY OF ISHPEMING PROPERTIES – ALGER-MARQUETTE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Manager Cugini advised Matt Watkeys, Certified Forester, with the Alger Marquette County Conservation Districts was in attendance to discuss the advantages of the Forest Management Plan for the City of Ishpeming.

Mr. Watkeys was a resident of Ishpeming and had assisted the City with beautification in the past and was very familiar with the City. He researched possible grant opportunities for development of a forest management plan and he suggested a 10-year plan for the City. The City owned approximately 2000 acres that could be considered for harvest. The area of the proposed campground on Malton Road was mostly jack pine and could potentially be clear cut and replanted. He further discussed the potential of a select cut for additional trails, trailheads, and wildlife.

There was discussion on a complete clear cut of the jack pine versus a selective harvest; the value of jack pine; the market at that present time; budworm; and harvest and/or select cut in other areas of the City.

Councilmember Chapman felt Council should collect citizen input with a public comment session or public hearing if a Forest Management Plan is developed.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Mayor Bean and carried unanimously to direct the Manager to work with Matt Watkeys and move forward on a preliminary forest management plan for the area around the proposed campground.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR SALE OF PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LAKE STREET AND DIVISION STREET

Mayor Bean opened the public hearing at 7:55 p.m. There being no public comment the public hearing was closed at 7:56 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATIONS

a. Special Event Application and Parade Permit: 4th of July Festivities: 7/3/2021 – Andrea Jackson was present to discuss the plans for the Fourth of July festivities. The Committee would do what was needed to comply with COVID guidelines.

Councilmember Chapman thought it was too early to make any decisions on holding a parade.

Manager Cugini suggested the City reserve the date for the 4th of July Committee; however, holding the event would depend on the COVID situation at the time. DPW had one concern with the parade route turning right onto Division from Main Street. This would have to be discussed with MDOT.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to approve the special event application as it was presented; the correct route for the parade would have to be determined,

and a final COVID plan to be presented at the June 9th Council meeting. Ayes: Mayor Lindsay Bean, Councilmembers Elizabeth Firby, Pat Scanlon, and Stuart Skauge (4). Nays: Councilmember Jason Chapman (1). Motion passed 4-1.

b. Special Event Application: West End Health Foundation 2021 WEIRD Bike Race: 5/8/2021 – Laura MacDonald, West End Health Foundation and Start to Cycle, advised the event would be held outside at the Cliff's Mine Museum lot with all participants under separate tents. She further reviewed their COVID plan for the event.

There was discussion related to the use of the Lake Bancroft Pavilion or if the Lake Bancroft bathrooms could be utilized.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the event as presented with the final COVID plan provided to Council at the April 7th Council meeting.

c. Special Event Greater Ishpeming Negaunee Chamber of Commerce Winter Wonderland request to waive City Large Event Fee of \$450

Manager Cugini noted the Chamber of Commerce always worked with the City to hold events and festivities. This event was a fundraiser and they would like reduce expenses.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to waive the \$450 large event fee for the West End Winter Wonderland event.

Mayor Bean suggested a phone number be added to the waiver.

RESOLUTION #1-2021, SUBMISSION OF THE MNRTF GRANT APPLICATION FOR FLOATING LAUNCHES ON THE SHORES OF TEAL LAKE

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #1-2021, Submission of the MNRTF Grant application for floating launches on the shores of Teal Lake as presented.

RESOLUTION #2- 2021 TO ADOPT POVERTY EXEMPTION INCOME GUIDELINES AND ASSET TEST

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #2-2021, Adopt poverty exemption income guidelines and asset test for 2021 Board of Review as presented.

AWARD 2021 ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT -VARIOUS CITY ROADS UP TO \$305,000

Manager Cugini explained three bids were received for the project: U.P. Architects and Engineers, GEI Consultants, and OHM Advisors. There was discussion regarding the ranking of the bids, particularly the points for UPEA and GEI as well as the bid amounts.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to award the bid to GEI Consultants for the various city roads project up to \$305,000.

Mayor Bean felt Item #3 Project Understanding was a major factor in the selection.

OPTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS ITEMS AT CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Manager Cugini reviewed the options for disposal. Staff recommendation was for all current books that have already been declared surplus be recycled. In the future, staff recommended the City take advantage of Option 2 and participate in Sustainable Shelves.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to recycle all books already declared as surplus and stored in various location in the City.

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR RECREATION PASSPORT GRANT APPLICATION – FLOATING LAUNCHES ON TEAL LAKE

Mayor Bean opened the public comment opportunity at 9:00 p.m. There being no public comment the public comment session was closed at 9:01 p.m.

a. Resolution #3-2021, Submission of the Recreation Passport Grant Application: floating launches on the shores of Teal Lake - A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon, and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #3-2021 Submission of the Recreation Passport Grant Application for the floating launches on the shores of Teal Lake as presented.

OHM PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROPOSAL: MATERIAL TESTING AND CONSTRUCTION SERVICES – TACO BELL

Manager Cugini explained since the City did not have an engineer on staff, this was a proposal from OHM for material testing and construction services for Taco Bell. This contract was for an engineer to monitor what happens on City property during this project.

There was discussion related to the Taco Bell property, Magnuson Hotel property, and City property.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to authorize the City Manager to move forward with the OHM proposal for services at Taco Bell not to exceed \$6,120.

BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR MMRMA RAP GRANT FOR DIGITAL CAMERAS AND SECURITY FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to amend the budget to accept the \$2,485.49 for the digital cameras and security for the Police Department from MMRMA.

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO AUTHORIZE THE ISHPEMING NOON KIWANIS TO BEGIN FUNDRAISING FOR LAKE BANCROFT PAVILION PLAYGROUND AREA

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Firby to authorize the Ishpeming Noon Kiwanis to move forward with fundraising for the Lake Bancroft Pavilion Playground as recommended by the Planning Commission. Ayes: Mayor Lindsay Bean, Councilmembers Jason Chapman, Elizabeth Firby, and Pat Scanlon (4). Nays: Councilmember Stuart Skauge (1). Motion passed 4-1.

Councilmember Skauge discussed the location of the playground at the Pavilion site and advised he was not opposed to having a playground just not at that location.

REQUEST FROM TIM KINNEY TO PURCHASE PROPERTY ADJACENT EAST OF EXISTING PROPERTY LOCATED AT 400 E. NEW YORK STREET

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to declare the land surplus and schedule a public hearing for the sale of the property at the April Council meeting.

REQUEST FROM SARA BANNAN TO PURCHASE PROPERTY ADJACENT EAST OF EXISTING PROPERTY LOCATED AT 428 E. NEW YORK STREET

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to declare the property as surplus and schedule the public hearing for the April Council meeting.

MALTON ROAD CAMPGROUND

a. Approve UPEA for engineering services for the Malton Road Campground

Manager Cugini reviewed the history of the grant application for the Campground and explained UPEA had help obtain the grant from Michigan Department of Agriculture – Rural Development for the campground and recommended they be awarded the engineering services.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge, and carried unanimously to waive competitive bidding and award the engineering services, in the not to exceed amount of \$10,400, to U.P. Engineers and Architects since they helped with the grant process and the grant was awarded.

b. Establish Malton Road Campground Committee – A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to authorize the City Manager to establish a campground committee not to exceed 12 people.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to extend the City Council meeting past beyond 10:00 p.m.

RE-ESTABLISH SKATE PARK COMMITTEE - A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to reestablish the Skate Park Committee.

SCHEDULE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR MARCH

a. 2022 Budget Guidance – Manager Cugini explained this meeting was for 2022 budget guidance. The special meeting was set up for Tuesday, March 9th at 6:00 p.m.

b. Rural Development Sewer Grant Discussion – GEI would review the status of the sewer grant application. The meeting was set up for Wednesday, March 10th at 6:00 p.m.

c. 2022 Capital Investment Strategy – Manager Cugini reviewed the capital investment strategy process. The meeting was set up for Wednesday, March 24th at 6:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilmember Chapman questioned the status of the repairs to the fire tower. There was discussion regarding repairs to the tower and the time frame for repairs. He would like to received a report at the next regular Council meeting.

Councilmember Scanlon questioned the perpetual care fund investment strategy; would like to get Channel 189 back on the air; would like an updated on the PubWorks software; and requested a report on the Three Sons project.

Mayor Bean advised the Planning Commission held a committee meeting to discuss the marijuana ordinance. The timeline back to Council was approximately July or August. The Committee was discussing a possible change to the distance of 1,000 feet from a school to 250 feet.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Firby would like to formulate a Labor Management Committee; Manager Cugini would check into it with the Unions.

There was discussion related to which Councilmember would be attending the Union Negotiations.

Mayor Bean advised the Planning Commission discussed the proposed campground on Malton Road and suggested some recreational areas along Malton Road be incorporated as part of the development.

Manager Cugini advised PubWorks training would begin the week of March 15th.

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

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Chapman thanked DPW for all their work during the last couple snow events; and hoped we were moving in a safe direction with COVID.

Councilmember Firby attended the Library Board meeting; the Library she advised the library was now open to the public and the hours were posted; masks were required; and all COVID guidelines were being followed.

Councilmember Scanlon questioned how meetings would be handled in the future as guidelines change.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Cugini was changing the format of the bi-weekly reports and Council would begin to receive them.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – There was none.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO MCL 15.268(a)

A motion was made by Councilman Scanlon and supported by Councilmember Skauge to go into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(a) for an employee evaluation and the closed session was requested by the City Manager at 10:40 p.m. Ayes: Mayor Bean, Council Members Chapman, Firby, Scanlon, and Skauge (5). Nays: None (0). Motion passed 5-0.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to return to open session 11:27 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:28 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