

**Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority  
Minutes  
Monday, March 22, 2021**

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The regular meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, March 22, 2021 in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was called to order by David Aeh at 4:00 p.m.

Present: David Aeh, Dave Aro, Sandy Arsenault, Jason Chapman, Rob Taylor, Jay Clancey (via Zoom), and Craig Cugini, (7). Absent: Tracy Magnuson, John Carlson, Carrie Meyer, and Eric Laksonen (4). Also present was Bob Hendrickson from the GINCC and Linda Andriacchi.

PUBLIC COMMENT – David Portale, Dave’s Barber Shop, talked about the Façade Grant application and advised he would like to apply for a grant for his building located on the corner of Pearl Street and Pine Street. He purchased the building from his family and had installed new windows along with much other work. The roof needed repairs and he briefly summarized the work he would like done, but questioned if the façade grant would cover work to the roof.

The DDA advised Mr. Portale to obtain an application and submit it for review by the DDA.

Discussion followed on the use of a façade grant on a business which includes rentals above.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Member Arsenault, supported by Member Aro, and carried unanimously to approve the January 25, 2021 regular and special meeting minutes as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director James Lampman reviewed the financial report for period ending February 28, 2021. A motion made by Member Aro, supported by Member Arsenault and carried unanimously to approve the financial report as presented.

AMERICAN RAMP DESIGN CONTRACT - SKATE PARK DESIGN

Manager Cugini explained he used the services provided by Sourcewell for obtaining quotes from design firms. A bid was received by American Ramp Company which was a competitive bid with Sourcewell. He reviewed some of the proposed designs submitted by American Ramp Company.

A motion was made by Member Taylor, supported by Member Chapman and carried unanimously to move forward with the design of the skate park with American Ramp Company in the amount of \$11,500.

2022 BUDGET GUIDANCE

Manager Cugini reviewed the process to be followed for the 2022 budget cycle.

It was the consensus of the DDA to hold the budget guidance meeting as a Special meeting on May 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. with the regular meeting being held immediately following at 4:00 p.m.

2022 CAPITAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY

It was the consensus of the DDA to have this discussion at the May 24<sup>th</sup> special DDA meeting at 3:00 p.m.

APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER TO THE SKATE PARK COMMITTEE

Member Taylor expressed interest in participating on the Skate Park Committee; he was appointed to the Committee.

**BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Linda Andriacchi, Chair of the Beautification Committee, advised she had nothing much to report for beautification at this time. She advised the Committee would not be looking for donations from any business because of the last year with COVID. She was still looking for beautification volunteers and anyone interested could contact Linda Andriacchi or Cathy Smith. She also reported a gentleman had stopped in her office today and donated \$500 toward the beautification effort in Ishpeming.

There was further discussion related to the beautification effort, options available to seek volunteers, and other possible fundraising efforts.

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT**

Bob Hendrickson, Greater Ishpeming Negaunee Chamber of Commerce Director, briefly reviewed the Chamber of Commerce report. He went to local businesses to inform them of the façade grant program, sent out an e-blast, and also did an article in the newspaper.

**ISHPEMING COMMUNITY EVENTS REPORT**

Member Aeh advised he has not attended an Ishpeming Community Events meeting recently so he had no update. The Gus Macker was still planned to be held the last weekend in June.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Member Aro advised the Ishpeming Noon Kiwanis had begun fundraising for a playground at the Lake Bancroft Pavilion.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Member Aeh asked all members to give a little information about themselves.

Manager Cugini advised the dedication for the new Senior Center will be held the end of June and there would also be dedications for the Three Sons Memorial the end of June.

Member Cugini reminded everyone that the City of Ishpeming was trying to grow TextMyGov and encouraged everyone to join.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 5:30 p.m., a motion was made by Member Chapman, supported by Member Arsenault and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith

City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager