

Ishpeming Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes for November 04, 2019
(Agenda items are in bold text)
6:30 P.M. @ Ishpeming City Hall

- A. Call to Order** - for the Ishpeming Planning Commission was by Chairperson Gabe Seelen at 6:32 P.M.
- B. Roll Call**
Present: Brooke Routhier, Gabe Seelen, Angelo Bosio, Jim Bertucci, and Bruce Houghton.
Absent: Diane Gauthier, Larry Bussone, Mike Tonkin (in concurrent City Council meeting) and Harry Weikel.
Public present: Al Pierce, Zoning Administrator.
- C. Public Comment:**
None, Public Comment was closed at 6:34 P.M.
- D. Approval of Agenda** – The agenda was approved unanimously as presented upon a motion by Angelo Bosio supported by Bruce Houghton.
- E. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** – The meeting minutes of 09-09-2019 were unanimously approved as presented upon a motion by Bruce Houghton supported by Jim Bertucci.
- F. Presentations** – None.
- G. Public Hearings** – None.
- H. New Business**
- 1. Election of Planning Commission Secretary**
Al explained that Ryan Soucy from CUPPAD had requested that a Secretary from the membership of the Commissioners be elected to comply with the Michigan Planning Enabling Act (MPEA) requirements. The By-Laws for the Ishpeming Planning Commission specify that the Zoning Administrator function as Recording Secretary, and while that gets the job done, it does not comply with MPEA rules. Al proposed that we elect a Planning Commission Secretary from the membership to meet statutory requirements and designate the Ishpeming Zoning Administrator as the Planning Commission Assistant Secretary. The Assistant Secretary will prepare meeting minutes for review by the Planning Commission Secretary and the minutes would then be presented to the Commissioners for final approval. Al felt this arrangement would keep the duties of the Planning Commission Secretary at a reasonable level and comply with Statutory and By-Law requirements.
A motion by Angelo Bosio supported by Bruce Houghton that Jim Bertucci be elected Ishpeming Planning Commission Secretary passed on a 5 – 0 vote.
- 2. Designation of the Zoning Administrator as the Planning Commission Assistant Secretary**
A motion by Bruce Houghton supported by Angelo Bosio that the Zoning Administrator be designated as the Planning Commission Assistant Secretary passed on a 5 – 0 vote.
- 3. Initial Master Plan Meeting with Ryan Soucy of CUPPAD**
Ryan was not present at the meeting and Al speculated that there had been a mis-understanding of what was to be accomplished this evening. A lot of time and meetings remain to update the Master Plan!

I. Old Business

1. Status of Updated Ishpeming Zoning Ordinance – 2019 Version

Staffing is short and no one is available for typing at present.

Zoning Administrator Update: Al informed Commissioners on site earth grading on the North side of US-41 near the MDOT Park and Ride - it is only to improve the parcel's appearance for sale; Jasperlite building construction will apparently continue throughout this winter; a meeting is scheduled for Nov. 6th in Negaunee for Western Marquette County Housing Needs Assessment Focus Group and Nov. 13th for Ishpeming Community Assessment at Bell Hospital; the batch of 3 corrective rezoning's was completed on 10-24-19; another group will probably come at December's meeting; a Zoning mess is probably coming at the NW quadrant of Empire and Third involving new legal descriptions for the ZBA and Class A structures for the PC; the Zoning Map is being updated by the County and they have indicated that they would make our new Zoning Ordinance PDF searchable at no cost to Ishpeming; the vacant Shopko building may be re-used for commercial truck sales, Al queried Commissioners as to the form they wanted the updated Ordinance: printed in book style, PDF or PDF searchable on the computer – that's all !

J. Correspondence – none.

K. Meeting Adjournment was unanimous upon a motion by Angelo Bosio supported by Jim Bertucci at 7:07 P.M.

Reviewed By:


Jim Bertucci, Planning Commission Secretary

Prepared By:


Alan K. Pierce,
Planning Commission Assistant Secretary