

Ishpeming Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes for April 05, 2021
(Agenda items are in bold text)

A. Call to order – by Bruce Houghton (Acting Chairperson) for the Ishpeming Planning Commission was at 6:35 P.M.

B. Roll Call --

Present: Bruce Houghton, David Lawler, John Carlson, Brooke Routhier, Ty Hyatt, Mike Kinnunen, Lindsay Bean, and Harry Weikel. David Lawler was introduced as the newest member.

Absent: Gabe Seelen.

Public present: Al Pierce, Zoning Administrator.

C. Public Comment – No members of the Public were present and Public Comment was closed at 6:36 P.M.

D. Approval of Agenda –The agenda was approved unanimously upon a motion by Lindsay Bean supported by Harry Weikel.

E. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – The meeting minutes of February 01, 2021 were approved unanimously as presented upon a motion by Brooke Routhier supported by Mike Kinnunen, and the minutes of March 01, 2021 were approved unanimously as presented upon a motion by Lindsay Bean supported by John Carlson.

F. Presentations - none.

G. Public Hearings – none.

H. New Business

1. Re-scheduling of the May 3, 2021 P.C. meeting to May 10, 2021 for personal reasons of the Zoning Administrator was unanimous upon a motion by John Carlson supported by Harry Weikel.

2. Election of Planning Commission Officers for 2021 involved the nomination of Gabe Seelen for Chairperson, Harry Weikel for Vice-chairperson and Bruce Houghton for Secretary, all of whom were unanimously approved by the attending members.

3. Ryan Soucy AICP, Master Plan Continuation

Ryan indicated that we are about half way through completing the Master Plan process. He will be contacting the County for a Parcel Map to be used as the basis for a Future Land Use Map. Neighborhood Enterprise Zone (NEZ) maps were discussed. Al indicated that he had started work with Thyra at Mqt. Co. and Craig had obtained maps from Equalization. Al had reviewed them and they didn't match what Cathy had in her files. We will be contacting the State for a list of Parcel Identification Numbers (PIN) and be working on updating maps. Ryan is arranging a joint meeting with the DDA in August. Ryan stated that part of the process of final adoption involves a 63-day Public Review Period, adoption by the PC, and the City Council can also adopt the Plan. A schedule for the Ishpeming Master Plan completion was presented covering April thru December

Ryan presented an 8-page draft of the 2021 Master Plan with background historical information and emphasis on Community Values. At the next meeting he will address Population, Housing, Economic Development and Neighborhoods. Brooke suggested that our vision statement include text on Natural Resources, Outdoor Recreation, and Biking. Bruce provided Ryan with the name of Will Bradley as a local artist and illustrator potentially for some Master Plan graphics.

4. Initial Review/Comments on Capital Improvement Program (CIP) 2022-2027

No information received – no comments provided.

5. Discussion on Medical/Recreational Marihuana Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance

Lindsay reported that the City Council is concerned about the distance from schools for Marihuana establishments as it is an issue. She also stated that a local prospect is waiting for the addition of Marihuana to Ishpeming's ordinance to assess a business presence. Licensed retail and distribution in Marquette County apparently have garnered \$112,000 in taxes.

6. Review Draft Public Participation Plan (P3)

This plan is an RRC requirement and the City Council should review and adopt it. Brooke engaged Ryan on several text edits and a discussion on requests for special issues. It is critical to post issues on the website to provide reasonable time for public review. Brooke questioned effective methods for getting stakeholders involved. Ryan will clarify some of the issues mentioned and discussed.

7. Informational (on Web Site) - Planning Commission Annual Reports 2018, 2019, & 2020

Commissioners were informed that the indicated annual reports are on the website.

8. Informational (on Web Site) - Ishpeming Development Guide, Conceptual Review Meetings, 2021 Rate & Fee Schedule

Commissioners were informed that the above information is on the website.

9. Recreation with development (Brooke's Addition)

Brooke indicated that she desires to discuss how to preserve land and still promote development. Lindsay questioned how familiar are we with the Malton Road area and the mapping of Mountain Bike and Horseback Riding trails? We are aware that RAMBA has mapped mountain trails and suspect that horseback riding trails are mapped as well. The big question is - Has a composite map for planning purposes been put together? John shared his thoughts that a campground and logging fit together. The IOHRA runs thru the South part of this area and has a trail on the West side of Malton Road also. There has been discussion of a rustic campground Northerly of East New York Street at the bluff area West of Malton Road. A traditional RV park was discussed in the old landfill borrow area East of Malton Road. Due to objections of the owner of the Country Village RV Park this area is no longer under consideration as it would be competition for a tax paying venture.

There was broad based discussion regarding future progress - how to move forward on recreation development with group involvement? We will continue with the category of **Recreation With Development** on future agendas.

I. Old Business - none

J. Correspondence - none

K. Meeting Adjournment was unanimous upon a motion by Brooke Routhier supported by Lindsay Bean at 8:22 P.M.

Prepared By: 

Alan K. Pierce, Planning Commission Assistant Secretary

Reviewed By: 

Bruce Houghton, Planning Commission Secretary