

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, with Councilmembers present and public comment via Zoom. Mayor Lindsay called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Lindsay Bean, Council Members Jason Chapman, Elizabeth Firby, and Stuart Skauge (4). Excused: Councilmember Pat Scanlon (1). Also present was City Manager Craig Cugini and City Attorney Caroline Bridges.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Public comment was offered through Zoom.

Robin Baird, Mather Inn, commented on the package she presented to Councilmember Chapman and Mayor Bean which she had asked to be on the agenda but was denied by Manager Cugini and City Clerk Smith as well as Mayor Bean. She further reviewed the meeting she had with the Mayor and the Councilmember along with other City residents. She was concerned over the lack of response received by City officials.

Mayor Bean advised the packet of information would not be added to the agenda as there was no action for Council to take. She further advised the packets were copied and provided to all Councilmembers.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to remove item 7c from the consent agenda for discussion and approved the agenda as amended.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda with the removal of the May 5th Council meeting minutes for review and correction and the minutes would be placed on the July agenda for approval.

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (May 5th, May 18th, Closed Session May 18th)
- b. Approval of Disbursements

City of Ishpeming Standard and Poor's Rating

Finance Director James Lampman advised the City's rating was increased from an A Stable to an A with a positive outlook.

Councilmember Chapman advised this was very positive and thanked staff for all their work.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Finance Director James Lampman reviewed the monthly budget report for the period ending May 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 Chapman supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to approve the monthly financial report as presented.

DISCUSSION ON MDOT CATEGORY B GRANT APPLICATION

Brian Fabbri, GEI Consultants, reviewed the proposed grant application for the MDOT Category B grant application which included Prairie Avenue from Poplar Avenue to Jopling Street, 50-foot section on the east end of lower Bigelow Street, Stone Street, and Houghton Street to Carp Street. He advised this was a 50-50 grant, with the City's portion being \$213,700 with a total grant of \$427,400.

There was discussion pertaining to the proposed work included in the grant application. Finance Manager Lampman advised it was feasible in the 2022 budget to cover the work proposed to be completed.

a. Resolution #7-2021, MDOT Category B Funding Program – A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #7-2021 for the MDOT Category B funding grant application submittal as presented.

GEI CONSULTANTS PROPOSAL FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR SEWER/WATER RATE ANALYSIS
Manager Cugini advised this could be postponed until 2022 so it could adequately be budgeted for. Brian Fabbri, GEI Consultants, explained Option 1 was for Sewer Utility Rate Analysis only and Option 2 was for both Water and Sewer Utility Rate Analysis.

It was the consensus of Council to budget for Option 2 in the 2022 City Budget.

BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR STORM WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT AT 206 DAVIS STREET

Manager Cugini reviewed the history of this issue and recommended the funding from the Water and Sewer fund in 2021 for repairs to the storm water main at this location.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to approve the Davis Street Culvert Cost estimate as presented.

SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATIONS

a. Special Event Application and Temporary Liquor License: Shelly's Rainbow Bar – A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to approve the Special Event Application and Temporary Liquor License for Shelly's Rainbow Bar as presented.

b. Special Event Application: Ishpeming Community Events: Music in the Park and Festival of Treasures

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to approve the Special Event application for Music in the Park and Festival of Treasures as presented.

Council was very happy restrictions were being lifted.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN

Chief Steven Snowaert advised the Police Officers Association of Michigan made an economic proposal for 2021 and further reviewed the Letter of Agreement. Manager Cugini recommended support for the Letter of Agreement.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to approve the Letter of Agreement with the Police Officers Association of Michigan as presented.

DECLARE 128 LIBRARY BOOKS AND AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS AS SURPLUS

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to declare 128 library books and audio-visual materials as surplus.

REQUEST FROM CEMETERY BOARD TO PURCHASE CARMEL BAY EXTERIOR CARPET FOR AROUND COLUMBARIUM

Manager Cugini recommended Council not support this proposal as the carpet does has a life span and was not a good solution. Council felt sod would be a better natural solution.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to deny the request from the Cemetery Board to purchase Carmel Bay exterior carpet for the columbarium and recommend sod be utilized instead.

PROCEEDS FROM SALE OF LOT ON NORTHWEST CORNER OF LAKE AND DIVISION STREET

Manager Cugini advised the City Council had previously approved the sale of this lot; however, when the deed was pulled, there was a deed restriction on the parcel as part of the initial transfer of the property from the County

Treasurer. The language in Public Act 123 of 1999 indicated the proceeds from the sale would be returned to the County, less the City's purchase price. He recommended the proceeds be returned to the County so clear title could be transferred to the Andriacchi's and the property would be back on the tax rolls.

Attorney Caroline Bridges further summarized her conversations with the County.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to concur with the recommendation from the Manager Cugini and Attorney Bridges and proceed with getting clear title on the parcel with the County Treasurer for the sale of the property and return the proceeds, less the City's purchase price, to the County of Marquette.

SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR REQUEST TO PURCHASE LOT 48—SOUTHWEST CORNER OF FIRST STREET AND PEARL STREET

Manager Cugini advised the owner of the adjoining parcel would like to use the space primarily for parking and has been maintaining that lot for many years. There could be further discussion regarding an offer on the property at a future meeting.

A motion was made by Mayor Bean, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to declare this property as surplus and set the public hearing for the July 7th regular Council meeting.

DISCUSSION ON EMPIRE STREET RECONSTRUCTION

a. UP Engineers and Architects (UPEA) Contract Amendment for Empire Street Reconstruction

Manager Cugini advised this amendment would allow UP Engineers and Architects to pick up the additional engineering work which would be taken from the GEI Consultants Various Road work contract in the amount of \$8,950 for the reconstruction of Empire Street.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to approve the amendment to the contract with UP Engineers and Architects in the amount of \$8,950.

b. Parking/Sidewalk along Empire Street from Third Street to Oak Street

Manager Cugini briefly summarized the sidewalk proposal that was incorporated in the Tennis Court Grant application previously submitted and what was proposed currently. He asked for permission to work with UPEA for the best plan for a sidewalk in that area.

There was some brief discussion among staff and Council. It was the consensus of Council to direct the Manager to work with the engineer for the parking/sidewalk in that area.

PERMISSION TO APPLY FOR A 20% MATCH REFORESTATION GRANT FOR CAMPGROUND ON MALTON ROAD

Manager Cugini advised there was opportunity to apply for a reforestation grant for the campground on Malton Road and the deadline for applications was July 8, 2021. There was some discussion on the potential cost of reforestation and what dollar amount would Council be willing to match. The match dollars would come from public improvement.

Council questioned what was spent to date that was not budgeted for 2021 and asked for data at the July meeting

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to table this item until the July meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Bean reported she had been working with the Planning Commission on the Marijuana Ordinance and as of the meeting on Monday there was a draft Ordinance completed that would begin going through the approval process. There was also discussion on the distance of the establishments from school's in relation to the downtown.

Mayor Bean provided an update on the property maintenance ordinance being developed by the Blight Committee. Evan Bonsall, from the County of Marquette, had been working on the proposed ordinance and would like to meet with the Blight Committee at least two more times. She would like staff to get these scheduled.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Bean would like to discuss the possibility of holding two regular schedule Council meetings per month instead of one a month; the first Wednesday after the first Monday for the regularly scheduled Council meeting and the regular special meeting two weeks later both starting at 6:00 p.m. There was discussion on what items should be included on the agenda for the second meeting.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to schedule two council meeting per month beginning in August at 6:00 p.m.

Special Event Application: Brogies – July 2-4, 2021 – Chief Snowaert advised he would suggest Second Street be closed from Cleveland Street to Bank Street instead of just blocking parking spaces.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to approve the special event application with Second Street being closed from Cleveland Avenue to Bank Street and approve the temporary liquor license.

Glass Recycling – Manager Cugini discussed the possibility of glass recycling available to resident. He advised it would be approximately \$300 per month to have a glass container available for residents. There was no action.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Public comment was offered through Zoom.

Robin Baird, Mather Inn, questioned when the Council meetings would be open to the public.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Chapman attended the Memorial Day service at the Cemetery and it was a wonderful event; he also thanked the City Manager for getting flags for the branches of our military around town.

Mayor Bean noted there would be a lot of road construction beginning soon in the City.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Cugini reported the flower baskets would be hung around town soon; the North Iron Church cleaned the City Garden; and advised he would be on leave August 13th through the 17th.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:29 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Firby, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith
City Clerk