

## ISHPEMING DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Meeting of July 23, 2012

A motion of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, July 23, 2012, in the City Hall Conference Room. Chairman David Aeh called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Present: David Aeh, Charlie Anderson, Jered Ottenwess, Rosemarie Strom, Stacey Willey, and Dave Williams.

Also present were Treasurer Anita Keto, Scott Patrick, Chamber Director Elizabeth Peterson, Pat Coleman, Brian Savolainen, and Sara Kirk of UPEA.

### Minutes of Previous Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mrs. Willey to approve the minutes of June 25, 2012, as presented. Motion carried.

### Financial Report

Mrs. Keto stated most of the expenses have been for engineering and beautification.

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Williams to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

### Chamber of Commerce Report

Mrs. Peterson said the Fourth of July activities went well, and there were more vendors at the picnic this year. There are almost 400 registrations for the Mud Plunge. She met with Jon Kangas, and they worked out what DPW services can be done for \$1,000. This will include mowing only the lower portion, barricades, picnic tables, and trash cans. The community guide is almost ready to print. Ongoing and new programs are progressing, including a "Meet the Candidates 2012" webpage. She is working on the annual dinner scheduled for October 13, 2012. There are now 219 Chamber members.

A motion was made by Mrs. Willey and seconded by Mrs. Strom to approve \$1,000 for the Mud Plunge to pay for City provided services. Motion carried.

### Façade Improvement Program

There have been inquiries from business owners outside the eligibility area of Main and Division Streets about participation in the façade improvement program. It was noted the program was only approved two meetings ago, and businesses within the targeted area have not had an opportunity to submit an application.

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson to stay within the parameters now established until the September meeting and then review whether it should be extended. Following discussion, Mr. Anderson withdrew his motion.

Scott Patrick, Carpet Specialists, asked if there is a funding limit per property. Mr. Patrick feels consideration to a limit per project would be advisable and does not think it would be right for one business to use all the funds. He also would like to see the

boundaries expanded. He feels the entire TIF district should be allowed to participate. He indicated he has a project and the funds ready now for façade improvements to his building

Mr. Patrick commented that the Chamber of Commerce is doing better than he had expected and is good for the community.

Expansion of the boundaries for the façade grant program will be revisited in September.

#### Penney Building Parcel

Pat Coleman and Sara Kirk presented some options for consideration. They requested that DDA members add their comments or suggestions for possible incorporation into a final proposal.

#### Malton Road Construction Bids

Mr. Ottenwess indicated the two outstanding legal access issues are being resolved. The City Council approved a Letter of Understanding for a property transfer with Malton Electric, and the matter on the southern portion can be easily resolved.

Mr. Savolainen, UPEA, stated Lindberg & Sons is the low bidder, and he recommends awarding the bid with the deductive alternate included. He explained that the deductive alternate is to add a seal coat process to prevent dust in a small section of the road. After discussion with Lindberg, they may have some suggestions to possibly modify the road structure.

A motion was made by Mr. Ottenwess and seconded by Mr. Aeh to award the Malton Road construction bid to Lindberg & Sons for \$386,506.25, including the deductive alternate of \$51,660.00, for a bid amount of \$334,846.25, and authorize the chairman to execute the contract. Motion carried.

#### U. S. 41 Water and Sewer Project

Mr. Savolainen stated the bids for this project came in over budget with the current design. The water lines need to be where planned, and the sanitary sewer was pushed closer to the highway because of the location of the water lines. After further review of the design flows, the pumping solution could be to have a lift station. An easement through Crimmins property is still required. There is a \$720,000 budget for this project. Mr. Savolainen said they went through the concept of both plans with Lindberg, and Mr. Crimmins is responsive to a change order. This plan could get everything within budget. All bid figures are now known, and it is recommended that negotiations continue with Lindberg rather than bidding the project again. The revised project amount would include the easement. Mr. Savolainen recommended that the DDA gives Lindberg a letter of intent to award and authorize UPEA to continue negotiations with Lindberg before consideration of award. When negotiations are completed, a contract and change order can be awarded at the same time.

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Willey to authorize a letter of intent to award the U. S. Highway 41 water and sewer project to Lindberg & Sons. Motion carried.

### Bond Project Update

An easement was obtained from Good News Assembly of God Church for the monument sign. The site is on the opposite side of the highway, but is very visible. The best sites for the sign were where Don Schinella did not want a sign.

Mr. Coleman stated UPEA is still working on obtaining an access easement from Canadian National for the west entry sign and the overpasses. The person who they were working with retired without approving the easement, and additional time has been required to update his replacement. UPEA is requesting an additional \$1,000 for the addition time and effort spent. UPEA proposes to do the construction and administration phases of the gateway sign project for \$6,990.

A motion was made by Mrs. Willey and seconded by Mr. Aeh to authorize payment of \$1,000 for the additional work required by Canadian National and \$6,990 for the bidding and administration of the gateway sign project. Motion carried.

The DIG grant agreement was approved by the City Council. The contract for the design and construction of that project is near completion, and the improvements are planned for next summer.

### Beautification

Proposals were received for an irrigation system, and Nimbus was the lowest bid at \$1,775 plus \$500 for electrical work at Old Ish, for a total bid of \$2,275.

Discussion followed on beautification, and landscaping is over budget this year. It was suggested for 2013 that the irrigation system be installed and there be less flower beds. At Lake Bancroft, have some flowers around the gazebo and near the lake.

A motion was made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mrs. Willey to include an irrigation system and a reduction in beautification costs for flowers and their maintenance in the 2013 budget. Motion carried.

### Ishpeming Business Association

Mr. Anderson stated the Festival of Treasures was ok, but felt the Partridge Creek construction hampered the activities.

Mr. Ottenwess said some of the light poles had to be taken down and new lights installed. It will be done cost effectively to match the surrounding area as closely as possible.

### Old Business

Mr. Aeh asked that a letter be sent to Alice Nelson thanking her for her past service to beautification in the downtown area.

Mr. Aeh stated he received a framed and signed thank you and a copy of the registration booklet from the Model A Club for the contribution given for their convention. Mr. Aeh suggested both be donate to the Historical Society.

### New Business

Mr. Aeh received a request from Ski Hall of Fame for a sponsorship for their Hall of Fame weekend in September.

A motion was made by Mrs Willey and seconded by Mr. Anderson to approve a sponsorship for the Ski Hall of Fame weekend in the amount of \$500. Motion carried.

It was reported that Sandy Sundquist and Dave Aro resigned.

A motion was made by Mr. Aeh and seconded by Mr. Williams to accept the resignations of Sandy Sundquist and Dave Aro. Motion carried.

Mrs. Stacey noted that the list for photos by Forget Not Photography include the summer concert series, the Festival of Treasures, the Fourth of July parade and picnic, Ladies Night Out, the Christmas parade, Santa and tree lighting at Old Ish, early bird sales at Country Village, Santa and sleigh rides at Old Ish.

### Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Aeh to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Carol Holmgren  
Recording Secretary