

ISHPEMING DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Meeting of August 27, 2012

A meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, August 27, 2012, at 4:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room. Chairman David Aeh called the meeting to order.

Present: David Aeh, Charlie Anderson, Diane Gauthier, Jason Gauthier, Jered Ottenwess, Elaine Racine, and Stacey Willey

Also present were Treasurer Anita Keto, Pat Coleman and Brian Savolainen of UPEA, and Yvonne Leaf

Minutes of Previous Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Racine to approve the minutes of July 23, 2012, as presented. Motion carried.

Financial Report

Mrs. Keto indicated the majority of expenditures were for engineering on the bond projects and landscaping.

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Gauthier to accept the financial report as presented. Motion carried.

Presentation by Yvonne Leaf

Mrs. Leaf gave a presentation on beautification efforts this past summer. Two problems were called to her attention by Alice Nelson, lack of soil nutrients and watering methods. Mrs. Leaf addressed the various areas of beautification.

1. Lakeshore Drive. There are 20 planters, and they are now thriving.
2. Lake Bancroft. The smothering was a big success, and Lake Bancroft has a nice clean crisp look.
3. Hematite Drive. The beds are thriving, but watering is a bit of an issue. Trees are in need of trimming.
4. Cleveland and First. There is a desperate need for attention, but with work they now have a good appearance.
5. Pearl and First. The shrubs need to be replaced.
6. City Hall. There is a feeling of tranquility. There is a tree that is dying, and the tulips need to be replaced.
7. Parking lot across from City Hall. The beds are flourishing. The trees need to be trimmed.
8. Old Ish. The park is well designed, but has tired soil. Some flower replacement is needed.

It was noted that beautification is way over budget this year. Mrs. Leaf has prepared a budget proposal for next year. The invoice for beautification services for 7/19/12-8/17/12 is \$1,960. A budget amendment will be necessary before the end of the year.

Bond Project Update

Malton Road. The contract will be finalized on Wednesday. They are working on a change order to pave as much as allowable under the bid amount award and to eliminate the seal coat. Lindberg gave a reduced price for the paving. The pavement will be 24 feet, with gravel shoulders.

Signage. When the project can proceed is dependent on Canadian National. Completion may not be until spring 2013.

U. S. 41 Water and Sewer Extension. Negotiations are continuing with Roger Crimmins, and the figures are fairly close to prepare a change order. It is preferred that the project not be rebid. There should be something solid within the next few weeks.

Trust Fund Grants. Grant applications are being reviewed now, with notification of award in early 2013.

Downtown Infrastructure Grant. The grant agreement has been signed, and UPEA is working on planning and design work for construction in the spring. A proposal for services will be presented at the September meeting.

J C Penney Building Site. Mr. Coleman presented some concepts for review. The location of the stage area is different in each drawing and shows an expanded kitchen area for the Congress. Mr. Coleman requested that the drawings be reviewed for discussion on what parts of the proposal is preferred.

DDA Board Appointments. The three openings were advertised. Interested applicants are Dave Aro, Mary Tippett, Dominic Vilona, Mike Koski, and Ray Roberts.

Ishpeming Business Association Report. Mr. Anderson stated Ladies Night Out will be on Tuesday, November 20.

Mr. Aeh is working with Charter Communications on "feel good about Ishpeming" ads.

Old Business

Mr. Ottenwess said the Planning Commission will be discussing DDA direction on use of the former J C Penney lot and how it relates to the Master Plan. Representatives of the DDA have been invited to the Planning Commission meeting on September 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Aeh and seconded by Mrs. Willey to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Carol Holmgren
Recording Secretary