

*Council Proceedings, September 29, 2021
Ishpeming, MI 49849*

The Special meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, September 29, 2021, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Lindsay Bean called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Lindsay Bean, Councilmembers Jason Chapman, Elizabeth Firby, Pat Scanlon, and Stuart Skauge (5). Also present was City Manager Craig Cugini and City Attorney Caroline Bridges.

AGENDA COMMENT – Public comment was offered via Zoom and in person. There was no public comment.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO MCL 15.268(e) TO CONSULT WITH ITS ATTORNEY REGARDING TRIAL OR SETTLEMENT STRATEGY IN CONNECTION WITH SPECIFIC PENDING LITIGATION

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon and supported by Councilmember Chapman to go into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(e) to consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation at 5:30 p.m. Ayes: Mayor Lindsay Bean, Council Members Jason Chapman, Elizabeth Firby, Pat Scanlon, and Stuart Skauge (5). Nays: None (0). Motion passed 5-0.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to returned to open session at 6:24 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to agree to dismiss the case and authorize Attorney Bridges to send the appropriate documents to the Tax Tribunal.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to proceed as directed in the Hess v City of Ishpeming case.

REQUEST TO PURCHASE DPW DUMP TRUCK

Derrick Magnuson, Chief Mechanic, advised he located a used dump truck for DPW at approximately 1/3 the cost of a new vehicle. He briefly summarized the staff report for the purchase of the truck.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to authorize the purchase of the dump truck from the Motor Pool Fund from UP International Trucks, Inc. in the amount of \$54,000 which did not include the tarp.

DISCUSSION ON LAKE SUPERIOR COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP (LSCP) DECISION BRIEF
MEDC JOINS DISCUSSION REGARDING REDEVELOPMENT READY COMMUNITIES

Chris Germain, from MEDC, presented on Redevelopment Ready Community (RRC) and how far in the process the City was in becoming RRC certified. He reviewed the benefits of being RRC certified and the assistance that would be available from MEDC once certified.

LSCP CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER JOINS DISCUSSION

There was discussion among Council pertaining to planning and marketing strategies which included educating residents, publications and promotions, community engagement, and branding. Also talked about was the blight mitigation to improve the community.

A concern of LSCP was that some of the target items would take longer than one year and if it were a one-year contract, LSCP may not be able to deliver results.

Councilmember Scanlon felt the number one item was marketing. There was discussion on the use of social media and flyers to city residents. It was suggested the City and My Great Ishpeming share the Facebook page.

Sara Lucas, LSCP, discussed marketing strategy in connection with Redevelopment Ready Communities and blight mitigation which would involve correcting current ordinance and/or creating new ordinances; and indicated there would need to be a long-term effort and action plan for blight mitigation.

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Manager Cugini and the LSCP would work on providing a more detailed scope of work related to marketing and planning with clear deliverables.

SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION: ISHPEMING HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING PARADE: 10/1/2021

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the special event application and parade permit for the homecoming festivities on October 1, 2021 for the Ishpeming High School.

PROPOSED FIREFIGHTERS PAY INCREASE

Councilmember Scanlon noted the fire fighters would never be forgotten.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to increase the fire fighters wage to \$15/hour effective October 1, 2021 and to contribute \$2000 per year into the fire fighter's longevity fund beginning in the 2021 budget.

PROPOSED FIRE CHIEF STIPEND INCREASE

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to increase the Fire Chief stipend to \$400 a month and pay an additional \$400 per month for conducting Zoom and Youtube services.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:51 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Chapman, and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith

City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager