

**Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority
Minutes
Monday, September 27, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, September 27, 2021 in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was called to order by David Aeh at 4:09 p.m.

Present: David Aeh, Dave Aro, Rob Taylor, Tracy Magnuson, Sandy Arsenault, Jay Clancey, and Craig Cugini, (7). Absent: Jason Chapman and Erick Laksonen (2). One vacancy (1). Also present was Linda Andriacchi, Bob Hendrickson, David Thibeault from Bucks Subs.

A motion was made by Member Arsenault, supported by Member Magnuson and carried unanimously to accept John Carlson's resignation from the Downtown Development Authority.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Public comment was held via Zoom and in person.

Saralise Sophia spoke, via Zoom, regarding the two stores she planned on opening in Ishpeming for knitting workshops and knitting supplies. She would be checking into the DDA façade grant application process.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Member Magnuson, supported by Member Taylor, and carried unanimously to approve the July 26, 2021 regular meeting minutes as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director James Lampman had left employment with the City. A motion was made by Member Arsenault seconded by Member Magnuson and carried unanimously to accept the financial report as presented.

The 2022 Budget document would be discussed under new business after Agreement of Transfer of Real Estate.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Linda Andriacchi gave a brief review of the caretaking of the planters after the college student left to return to school. There were some problems and the planters were taken down early. She would rather have the planters down versus remaining up and not looking good.

She advised she would need more mulch at Lake Bancroft bed for next year and reviewed the grant application that Mike Flynn would be applying for.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT

Bob Hendrickson provided a report to Council pertaining to the special events that took place, announced their new staff member, advised there was the first Business After Hours held in a while, and summarized the number of members they currently had.

AGREEMENT FOR TRANSFER OF REAL ESTATE – 120 E. CANDA STREET

There was discussion related to the agreements that were made with the Rainbow Bar/Bucks Subs for the transfer of real estate. Member Aeh recently talked to Partridge Creek Farms about possible uses for the lot and the owner of the Cameo Salon also talked to him about the purchase of the lot. There was discussion about alternatives for the site after the deadline of September 30, 2021.

Dave Thibeault, Bucks Subs, advised he purchased a lift to work on the side of his building, however, he did not feel the lot would be used by patrons of Bucks and did not think it was worth the purchase price and further did not want to dollars on the lot to make it look pretty. He would, however, be interested in purchasing the lot outright.

There would be further discussion on selling the property at future meetings and seeking proposals on the sale of the property.

ISHPEMING COMMUNITY EVENTS REPORT

The Ishpeming Community Events meeting was scheduled for September 28th and they would be discussing the upcoming holiday festivities.

OLD BUSINESS

Clerk Smith advised she had contacted someone over at the AT&T building and was waiting to hear back to get a contact person for the corporate office to discuss the murals for the grates on the building that previous Manager Mark Slown had been working on.

NEW BUSINESS

Manager Cugini advised there was a meeting with Representative Sara Cambensy at the Senior Center which was fairly well attended. They discussed grant programs and blight in the City. Member Aeh advised after the meeting he talked with Pat Moyle regarding the Anderson Building and they have had a difficult time dealing with the State. There was discussion pertaining to façade grants, blight, and various grant opportunities.

PROPOSED 2022 DDA BUDGET

The DDA talked about the proposed 2022 proposed budget, the various line items, and the ending fund balance for 2022.

A motion was made by Member Magnuson, supported by Member Clancey and carried unanimously to approved the proposed 2022 budget as present. Member Aro abstained from voting as he did not have a copy of the document. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:45 p.m., a motion was made by Member Magnuson, supported by Member Arsenault and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith

City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager