

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, July 6, 2022, in the Ishpeming City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Lindsay Bean called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC COMMENT – Public comment was offered through Zoom and in person.

Matt Treado, UPEA, provided a brief update on the projects currently being worked on by UPEA including: Empire Street Construction Project, Malton Road Campground, CWFR and DWRF, Drinking Water Asset Management Grant, and Lake Bancroft.

Rebecca Denofre, originally from Negaunee but currently residing at 445 Cardinal Way Unit 318 in Green Bay, Wisconsin, expressed her concerns with the Ishpeming Police Department and City Staff as it related to a couple incidents she had within the City limits.

Claudia Demarest, questioned the monthly financial report and if it would be available to the public again soon.

Clint Kaukkari, 930 Wabash Street, expressed his concerns with the playground area on Wabash Street. He felt it was unsafe, particularly the basketball court, and should be replaced. He offered to donate the court if the area could be redone by the City.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to discuss item 19 after the Monthly Financial Report and approve the agenda as amended.

AGENDA COMMENT – Agenda comment was offered though Zoom and in person. There was no comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (June 8th, 15th, and 28th)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Declare miscellaneous furnishings at the Library as surplus
- d. Special Event Application: Buzz the Gut: August 13, 2022

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

City Treasurer Sarah Trumbley reviewed the monthly financial report for period ending June 30, 2022.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to approve the monthly financial report as presented.

Mayor Bean advised with the recent hiring of staff in the Finance Department, the reports will now be presented monthly to Council.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE AN IRRIGATION WELL FOR PARTRIDGE CREEK FARM

May Tsupros, Partridge Creek Farm, briefly reviewed Partridge Creek Farms (PCF) programs and provided a brief summary of their mission. She advised PCF had received MDARD funding for the Intergenerational Farm located at Jasperlite.

Matt Treado, UPEA, advised the proposed irrigation well would only be used for the garden. As the project grows and develops, there would be City water and sewer connected to site.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to approve the irrigation well for Partridge Creek Farm as proposed.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR IRON ORE HERITAGE AUTHORITY

Mayor Bean opened the public hearing at 6:32 p.m. Manager Cugini advised this was a connector to the Trail Head from the new parking lot on Washington Street for the Iron Ore Heritage Trail. There being no comment, the public hearing was closed at 6:33 p.m.

SECOND READING OF AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 8-100, MAP AMENDMENT- GENERAL RESIDENTIAL TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Skauge, and carried unanimously to approve the amendment to ordinance 8-100 map amendment from general residential to general commercial as of the second reading.

LAKESHORE ROUNDABOUT MDOT PROJECT AGREEMENT CHECKLIST

Manager Cugini advised the agreement checklist was for the proposed roundabout at Lakeshore/US 41. The City would be agreeing to a cost share for irrigation services or conduit for future irrigation service for a total estimated cost of \$4,500. The City would own, operate, and maintain all lighting, sidewalk, watermain, and irrigation items constructed as part of this project.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman supported by Councilmember Firby to approve the agreement checklist as presented and agree to the cost share for the irrigation services estimated at \$4,500 and agree to own, operate and maintain lighting, sidewalk, watermain, and irrigation items. Ayes: Mayor Lindsay Bean, Councilmembers Jason Chapman and Elizabeth Firby (3). Nays: Councilmember Skauge (1). Motion passed 3-1.

RECOMMENDATION FROM CAMPGROUND COMMITTEE FOR CAMPGROUND NAME TO BE BRASSWIRE CAMPGROUND

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to agree with the recommendation from the Campground Committee and name the campground Brasswire Campground.

TENTATIVE AGREEMENT WITH POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN

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

CONFIRM DECLARING 1987 JD 790D EXCAVATOR AS SURPLUS FOR TRADE-IN

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to confirm the declaration of the 1987 JD 790D Excavator as surplus and trade in the Excavator for the new Wheeled Excavator.

PROPOSED CEMETERY SOFTWARE GIS MAPPING AND ONLINE SEARCH

General Foreman Bill Anderson reviewed the proposals for the cemetery software from Tri Media and from Pontem. There was discussion related to the need for the software, the benefits of the software, and the cost.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman and supported by Councilmember Firby to authorize the \$27,600 with Tri Media for this year to have the entire map of the cemetery created with funds from the Public Improvement Fund. Ayes: Councilmember Jason Chapman and Elizabeth Firby (2). Nays: Mayor Lindsay Bean and Councilmember Stu Skauge (2). Motion tied 2-2.

Councilmember Skauge expressed concern over spending funds on this project. Mayor Bean also expressed concern over the cost and would like more information on what exactly would be provided for the price and if the existing system could be incorporated into a new system.

A motion was made by Councilmember Firby supported by Councilmember Chapman and carried unanimously to table this item pending additional information.

DISCUSSION ON ATTORNEY AUTHORIZATION TO PURSUE VARIOUS ACTIONS WITH COURTS

Attorney Bridges advised there were some properties currently being inspected and she would like additional authorization to pursue court actions on specific parcels. She further reviewed the process for moving forward with complaints made to the City.

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to authorize the City Attorney to pursue necessary legal actions in the enforcement of ordinances for the City.

GUIDANCE FOR FUNDING IN THE 2023 BUDGET FOR BLIGHT AND ATTORNEY COURT ACTIONS

A motion was made by Councilmember Chapman supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to amend this year's budget to include \$5,000 in the General Fund for the attorney to pursue actions in court in regards to blighted properties and to establish a committee to meet with the City Attorney to review and determine the budget to be established for 2023.

Councilmember Chapman requested to be on the Committee. Staff would check with Councilmember Scanlon. Fire Chief Jason Annala also requested to be on the Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilmember Stu asked when Channel 189 would be back up and running; Manager Cugini advised the equipment was currently being built and tested and it would then be installed.

NEW BUSINESS

Manager Cugini advised he would be meeting with Karen Kasper on July 11th to formulate a plan to begin the 150th celebration of the City of Ishpeming. He also advised the Senior Center was nearing completion; the final installations would be completed soon.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Public comment was offered through Zoom and in person. There was no public comment.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Chapman has received many positive comments on the Cemetery Tours conducted by Karen Kasper; thanked the Fourth of July Committee; and encouraged residents to vote in the August primary.

Councilmember Firby thanked all the volunteers for making the Fourth of July a success; and also thanked all those individuals that worked on the Gus Macker Tournament.

Mayor Bean noted the Fourth of July and Gus Macker were a success; there had been lots of good music in town on Thursday nights; and she congratulated new Chief of Police Chad Radabaugh.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Cugini noted the Gus Macker was a wonderful event, the Festival of Treasurers was a success; as well as the Fourth of July; the fireworks went off well and noted one new improvement was the routing of traffic after the fireworks; and he thanked Fox of Negaunee for providing a vehicle for Council for the parade.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – There was no report.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:37 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Firby, supported by Mayor Bean and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cathy Smith".

Cathy Smith
City Clerk