

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, August 3, 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 Elizabeth Firby, Pat Scanlon, and Stuart Skauge (4). Absent: Councilmember Jason Chapman (1). Also present was City Manager Craig Cugini and City Attorney Caroline Bridges.

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

Claudia Demarest, 821 Maurice Street, questioned the status of repairs to the fire hall tower and floor; the library columns, the wall in Cleveland location; and expressed her concern with the condition of the alley near Maurice Street and with the ditch along 8th Street being filled with leaves and cement causing issues for nearby property owners. She felt signs should be posted “no dumping” and letters should be sent to residents to not dump in the ditch. She felt there was no need for mapping at the cemetery. She also added budget amendments were a requirement and needed to be completed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (July 6, 2022)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Declare 127 Library books and 1 rocking horse as surplus
- d. Appoint Julie Luehmann to a vacancy on the Housing Commission term expiring: 10/2025
- e. Appoint Lisa Thompson to a vacancy on the Parks and Recreation Commission term expiring: 5/2025

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Finance Office Manager Joe Erickson reviewed the monthly financial statements for the period ending July 2022. He further advised he was working on midyear budget amendments to be presented to Council at a future meeting.

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

PRESENTATION BY DAN PERKINS: MUNICIPAL COMPOSTING PROGRAM GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Dan Perkins, Partridge Creek Farm, talked about a proposal to create a composting site in the City of Ishpeming. He felt if an effective composting program was established it would reduce what was brought to the landfill. Partridge Creek Farms would like to apply for grants, one from the USDA and he was requesting assistance from the City Manager to apply for the grant and to submit the grant on the City’s behalf. If awarded it would then come to Council for approval. He further talked about Partridge Creek Farms and their missions/goals.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, support by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to authorize the City Manager to work together with Dan Perkins and submit the USDA grant for the Composting and Food Waste Reduction Pilot Project by September 1st; if awarded it would be brought back to Council for final approval.

GEI CONSULTANTS CATEGORY B FUNDING NON-PARTICIPATING SEWER (SANITARY SEWER LINING)

Brian Fabbri, GEI Consultants, discussed the City's award of the Category B MDOT grant and advised this bid was for the non-participating portion for the sanitary sewer lining. GEI recommended Tunnel Vision be awarded the sewer lining contract. He advised Stone, Houghton, and Prairie Street would have the sewer lining. The water portion, under Stone and Houghton Street, would be bid out next.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to waive competitive bidding and award the bid to Tunnel Vision for the non-participating portion for sewer lining for the Category B project in the amount of \$169,343.25 as presented.

UPEA: CONSIDER REPAVING MARQUETTE STREET FROM READY STREET TO SNOW STREET

Kevin Nancarrow, UPEA, had oversight of the Empire Street project and he advised after reviewing the budget for the Empire Street project and the balance of funding remaining, Marquette Street was being considered for paving before winter along with new catch basins. UPEA received a quote from A. Lindberg and Sons in the amount of \$83,185.25 for that section of roadway.

Manager Cugini further explained paving of Second Street from Hematite to Euclid Street was also being considered and the entire project cost would be approximately \$150,000. He recommended waiving competitive bidding for both sections of roadway (Marquette Street from Ready Street to Snow Street including catch basin repairs and paving Second Street from Hematite to Euclid Street) and allow the work to be completed by A. Lindberg and Sons.

A motion was made by Councilmember Firby supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to waive competitive bidding and authorize \$150,000, for paving Marquette Street from Ready Street to Snow Street including catch basin repairs and paving Second Street from Hematite to Euclid Street.

SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATIONS

- a. Eagle Mine Picnic: August 19, 2022
- b. Marji Gesick: September 16-18, 2022
- c. Marquette Marathon: September 3, 2022

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to approve all three special event applications as presented.

JX TRUCK CENTER QUOTE FOR TRANSMISSION COOLER FOR DPW TRUCK #158

General Foreman Bill Anderson advised this repair was necessary to keep the truck in operation.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to authorize the repair to DPW Truck #158 in the amount of \$3,302.99.

PROPOSED CEMETERY SOFTWARE GIS MAPPING AND ONLINE SEARCH

General Foreman Bill Anderson reviewed staff's recommendation to utilize a GIS System for cemetery gravesite identification. He advised the entire cemetery could be done for a total cost of \$73,150 over a six-year period and the Cemetery Board was in concurrence. Manager Cugini recommended using the Cemetery Care fund for purchasing the software as the City would be delivering a service to the community.

Councilmember Scanlon supported moving forward with the project however, he would like funding sources further investigate, particularly the ability to use the perpetual care fund.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon supported by Councilmember Firby to move forward with Tri-Media for years 2022 and 2023 and allow staff to determine the timeline with funding from the Cemetery Care Fund for the two years. Ayes: Mayor Lindsay Bean, Councilmembers Elizabeth Firby, and Pat Scanlon (3). Nays: Councilmember Stuart Skauge (1). Motion passed 3-1.

DISCUSSION ON CHANGE TO TRAFFIC CONTROL ORDERS: CONVERTING MAIN STREET FROM CANDA STREET TO EUCLID STREET TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC

General Foreman Bill Anderson felt it was beneficial to change this section of the road to two-way traffic. There was discussion on winter maintenance on Main Street from Canda Street to Euclid Street. Parking on that section of Main Street was discussed and it was determined parking spaces would remain as they currently exist.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to change Main Street from Canda Street to Euclid Street to two-way traffic.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Update on Water Meter Testing by Midwest Testing LLC – General Foreman Anderson gave a brief update on the Water Meter testing.

Councilmember Skauge suggested traffic control lines be painted on the streets again.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Scanlon felt it was time to start investigating the construction and new location for the Fire Hall; the existing building could then be converted to a Police Department.

Mayor Bean advised it was time for a mid-year evaluation on Manager Cugini to be included on the September agenda. She also discussed conducting another employee survey since the last one was completed in September/October of 2021.

Manager Cugini advised on August 18th there would be a meet and greet with Attorney General Dana Nessel, Justice Elizabeth Welch, and Honorable Michelle Rick at the Ski Hall of Fame from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

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

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Scanlon thanked the Fire Department for the tour; and thanked Manager Cugini for his work in getting funding for the rain event on May 12, 2022.

Mayor Bean thanked the Fire Department for the tour, attended the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, and advised there was no Planning Commission meeting held in July.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Cugini advised the City Hall roof had been addressed; reminded residents about the availability of TextMyGov to report concerns to City staff; noted the campground was proceeding; and attended a meeting with EGLE to discuss the DWRF and CWRF grant submittals.

Clerk Cathy Smith thanked all the election workers for a great job at the August 2nd Primary Election and noted the City was very lucky to have such dedicated election workers.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – There was no report.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:34 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Firby, supported by Mayor Bean and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,


Cathy Smith, City Clerk