

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, February 8, 2023, in the Ishpeming City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Jason Chapman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Jason Chapman, Council Members Lindsay Bean, Elizabeth Firby, and Stuart Skauge (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. There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Chapman added two items to the agenda, Item 22 First Reading of Amendment to Ordinance #8-100, Rezoning from Mining to General Residential and Item 23 Spread Goodness Day Proclamation and moved the other items down on the agenda. A motion was made by Councilmember Bean supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to approve the amended agenda as requested.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (January 11 and January 11 Closed Session)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Nominate Ed Anderson to the Marquette County Transit Authority Vacancy: Term Expiring 12/31/23
- d. Reappoint Larry Bussone to 3-year term on the Iron Ore Heritage Authority: Term Expiring 4/30/26

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

Finance Office Manager Joe Erickson reviewed the monthly financial statements for the period ending January 2023. No budget amendments were needed for January. He reviewed the balance sheet and advised the 2022 fiscal year had not been closed out yet.

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

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER GRANT AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT

Carrie Meyer, Ishpeming School Superintendent, announced the Ishpeming Schools were awarded a School Resource Officer grant from the State of Michigan. With the rising concerns of school safety, when the grant was made available she worked with Chief Radabaugh to prepare and submit the grant. Notification has been received that the grant was awarded and she was looking forward to working with the City and the Police Department.

a. Hiring options for new Police Officer/School Resource Officer

Chief Radabaugh advised he would like to use an experienced officer to fill the Resource Officer position and he would like permission to put another candidate through the academy with this position being funded by the grant. The City would be responsible for the cadet's wages plus benefits while the cadet was in the Academy. The approximate cost would be \$11,065.60.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean, and supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to accept the grant for the School Resource Officer.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean, and supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to put a second cadet through the academy at an approximate cost of \$11,065.60 for wages and benefits for the cadet.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean, supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to authorize the City Manager to sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the School Resource Officer pending legal review by the City Attorney.

REVIEW REQUEST FROM ISHPEMING PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO PURCHASE PROPERTY AND VACATE ALLEY

Carrie Meyer, Ishpeming School Superintendent, advised with the closure of Phelps the School District would like to develop an outdoor play area for the students which would also include a volleyball area. The School District would like to request the alley between lots 85 and 86 be vacated and would like to then purchase lot 85 from the City.

Manager Cugini advised the Planning Commission recommended the alley be vacated and staff recommends the sale of the adjoining lot.

A motion was made by Councilmember Firby and supported by Councilmember Skauge and carried unanimously to declare the lot and alley as surplus and schedule the public hearing for the next regular Council meeting on March 8, 2023.

REVIEW REQUEST FROM TIM KINNEY FOR ACCESS EASEMENT

Manager Cugini advised this has been an ongoing process due to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant the City received for the trail along Malton Road. Staff recommends the City accept the proposal from the property owner for an access easement on the west side of Malton Road.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean and supported by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to allow the access easement and schedule the public hearing for the next regular Council meeting on March 8, 2023.

SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATIONS

a. Ishpeming Community Events: Festival of Treasures 6/30/23 and Music in the Park 6/15/23 – 9/7/23

A motion was made by Councilmember Firby, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to approve the special event application for Festival of Treasures and Music in the Park as presented.

b. Fourth of July Festivities

Councilmember Skauge would like to see the Fourth of July celebrated on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

The Committee explained they would like to have the events on the first Saturday in July to not be in conflict with surrounding municipalities. It was also easier to get volunteers and attendance was very good.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean, supported by Councilmember Firby to approve the special event for the Fourth of July as presented. Ayes: Mayor Jason Chapman, Councilmembers Lindsay Bean and Elizabeth Firby (3). Nays: Councilmember Stuart Skauge (1). Motion passed 3-1.

c. Iron Range Roll: 6/3/2023

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to approve the special event application for the Iron Range Roll on June 3, 2023 as presented.

d. Gus Macker: 5/19/23 through 5/21/23

A motion was made by Councilmember Firby, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to approve the special event application for Gus Macker as presented.

AGREEMENT WITH PARTRIDGE CREEK FARMS FOR POTENTIAL USDA COMPOSTING AND FOOD WASTE REDUCTION GRANT

Manager Cugini advised a grant from USDA for Composting and Food Waste Reduction was received and the City and Partridge Creek would be working together with this grant. Staff would be developing an agreement between the City and Partridge Creek Farm with an agreement with CUPPAD for grant administration.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to allow the City manager to develop an agreement with Partridge Creek for the USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Grant pending legal review and authorize the City Manager to sign.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean supported by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to authorize acceptance of the USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Grant and assign the City Manager and Finance Office Manager as agents.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to enter into an agreement with CUPPAD for grant administration at a fixed price pending legal review.

A motion was made by Councilmember Firby supported by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to accept invoices to be paid for services and then submitted to CUPPAD for USDA reimbursement and assigning \$150,000 from the general fund to the account.

AWARD OF LIVE SCAN GRANT FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Radabaugh advised the Police Department was awarded a grant from the Michigan State Police for a live scan fingerprint machine in the amount of \$10,000. There was an annual maintenance cost of \$1,645 that the City would be responsible for.

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to accept the grant for the live scan fingerprint machine in the amount of \$10,000.

REQUEST TO PURCHASE SNO GO AUGER REPLACEMENT FROM SUPERIOR EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY COMPANY

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to purchase a new auger in the amount of \$6,915.53 plus freight from Superior Equipment and Supply.

REPAIRS TO LOADER 544 FROM MCCOY CONSTRUCTION AND FORESTRY

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean, supported by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to proceed with repairs to Loader 544 from McCoy Construction and Forestry in the amount of \$8,361.65.

REQUEST TO PURCHASE 30-INCH BUCKET FOR 190 EXCAVATOR FROM MCCOY CONSTRUCTION AND FORESTRY

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of a 30-inch bucket for the 190 Excavator from McCoy Construction and Forestry in the amount of \$8,450.

REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY OVER-HIRE FOR TRANSITION TO CITY TREASURER POSITION

Manager Cugini would like to request an over-hire for transition to City Treasurer as current Treasurer Sarah Trumbley will be resigning from that position.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean and supported by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to allow for an over-hire to transition to the City Treasurer position.

RESOLUTION #3-2023, ADOPT POVERTY EXEMPTION INCOME GUIDELINES AND ASSET TEST

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to adopt ordinance #3-2023 Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test as presented.

NOTIFICATION OF SIDEWALK PLOWING CHANGE

General Foreman Anderson announced the changes to the sidewalk plowing plan.

AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO BE A PRESENTER FOR THE CITY OF ISHPEMING AT THE MICHIGAN'S SMALL TOWN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE ON JUNE 6-8, 2023 AT CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN RESORT

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to authorize the City Manager's travel to Crystal Mountain in June 2023 with costs not-to-exceed \$2,000.

FIRST READING OF AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 8-100, REZONING FROM MINING (M) to GENERAL RESIDENTIAL (GR)

Councilmember Bean reviewed the discussion at the Planning Commission meeting noting it was not spot zoning and the rezoning was consistent with the zoning of the surrounding areas.

A motion was made by Councilmember Skauge, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to approve the first reading of amendment to ordinance #8-100, to rezoning from Mining (M) to General Residential (GR) as recommending by the Planning Commission as presented.

PROCLAMATION FOR SPREAD GOODNESS DAY

Mayor Chapman read the Spread Goodness Day Proclamation into the record.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean, supported by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to adopt the Proclamation to declare March 10, 2023 as Spread Goodness Day.

OLD BUSINESS

Manager Cugini advised Channel 189 was getting close to being available again.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Chapman requested staff look into updating the Council's seating in the Council Chambers.

Manager Cugini advised LSCP would like to arrange a meeting for the 2023 plan recommendations. He noted there would also be a presentation from Siren regarding communication.

It was the consensus of Council to set a special Council meeting for Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Public comment was offered on zoom and in person. There was no public comment.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Skauge and Firby had no report.

Councilmember Bean reported Bryce Sturmer, Velodrome Coffee and Melo, attended the Planning Commission thanking them for the work related to the cannabis licenses; he also advised he was offering tours of Melo on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. and Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.; and the LSCP was working with Eagle Mine on trails and was looking for input from the community.

Mayor Chapman congratulated the Ishpeming Ski Club on having a wonderful tournament; expressed his condolences to the Ron Hawking family; and read a thank you note into the record.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Cugini announced the Land Bank received additional funding for blight and he would bring further information back to Council.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – There was no report.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO MCL 15.268(C) TO CONSIDER STRATEGY AND NEGOTIATIONS  
CONNECTED WITH A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Councilmember Firby and supported by Councilmember Bean to go into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(c) to consider strategy and negotiations connected with a collective bargaining agreement at 7:38 p.m. Ayes: Mayor Jason Chapman, Council Members Lindsay Bean, Elizabeth Firby, and Stuart Skauge (4). Nays: None (0). Motion passed 4-0.

Back to open session 7:57 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:58 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Bean, supported by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Smith  
City Clerk