

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, March 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, Pat Scanlon, and Stuart Skauge (5). Also present was City Manager Craig Cugini and City Attorney Caroline Bridges.

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

Joan Mercadal, 826 Empire Street, expressed her displeasure with the snow plowing and the snow being thrown on her pathway to her door. Questioned why all the snow was being thrown on her side of the street and why the plows could not alternate which side of the street the snow would be pushed.

Claudia Demarest, 821 Maurice Street, expressed her concern with the removal of snow at the library which was a public facility.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Chapman requested the addition of the appointment of Sarah Trumbley to the DDA on the consent agenda.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve the agenda incorporating the additional of the appointment of Sarah Trumbley.

**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 Bean and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda with the addition of item e.

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Declare 342 Library Books as surplus
- d. Reappoint Justin Koski to a 5-year term on the Compensation Commission: Term expiring 2/2028
- e. Appoint Sarah Trumbley to a vacancy on the DDA: Term expiring 7/2024

**MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT**

Finance Office Manager Joe Erickson reviewed the monthly financial statements for the period ending February 2023.

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

**RESOLUTION #6-2023: BUDGET AMENDMENT**

Finance Office Manager Erickson reviewed the proposed budget amendments including the Fire Department FEMA grant and the Communication Strategic Plan.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #6-2023 Budget Amendments as presented.

**MOTOR POOL FUND UPDATE**

Finance Office Manager Erickson reviewed the status of the Motor Pool fund. Council requested an update on the Major and Local Streets fund.

RESOLUTION 4-2023: REQUEST FROM THE HONORABLE DISTILLERY FOR OFF-PREMISE TASTING ROOM LICENSE AT THE MATHER

The Honorable Distillery thanked Council for considering this resolution and advised they just opened a distillery in Marquette in August and he was present for any questions.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #4-2023 for the Honorable Distillery pending review by the City Attorney and the Police Chief.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED SALE OF LOT 85 AND VACATION OF ALLEY BETWEEN LOT 85 AND LOT 86 OF CLEVELAND IRON COMPANY'S ADDITION

Mayor Chapman opened the public hearing at 6:25 p.m.

Carrie Meyer, Ishpeming High School Superintendent, explained since the closure of Phelps School and moving grades 5-8 to the High School they would like to create a greenspace/play area for the children. They would like to have the alley vacated and then purchase the adjoining lot.

The public hearing was closed at 6:31p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED ACCESS EASEMENT LYING WEST OF MALTON ROAD

Mayor Chapman opened the public hearing at 6:32 p.m.

Manager Cugini explained the request for an access easement requested by Tim Kinney.

The public hearing was closed at 6:34 p.m.

ORDINANCE 11-700: CONSIDERATION OF SWORN STATEMENT

City Attorney Caroline Bridges explained the process in Ordinance 11-700.

Jason Chapman

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean and supported by Councilmember Scanlon to find the charges against Mayor Jason Chapman to have no merit and to be dismissed. Motion passed 4-0 with Mayor Chapman abstaining.

Lindsay Bean

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon and supported by Mayor Chapman to find the charges against Councilmember Bean to have no merit and to be dismissed. Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Bean abstaining.

Pat Scanlon

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean and supported by Mayor Chapman to find the charges against Councilmember Scanlon to have no merit and to be dismissed. Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Scanlon abstaining.

Stuart Skauge

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman and supported by Councilmember Bean to find the charges against Councilmember Skauge to have no merit and to be dismissed. Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Skauge abstaining.

Craig Cugini

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean, supported by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to find the charges against Manager Cugini to have no merit and to be dismissed.

SECOND READING OF AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 8-100, REZONING

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the second reading of the amendment to Ordinance 8-100 rezoning from Mining (M) to General Residential (GR).

REPAIRS TO DPW SALT/SAND TRUCK #158

General Foreman Anderson advised this was the truck the City traded with the County. He noted the truck would not be in use for the remainder of this year. Staff recommended the repairs be made by JX Truck Center in the amount of \$9,847.81. There was discussion related to making the repairs versus purchasing a new vehicle next year.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean, supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to have the repairs made by JX Truck Center in the amount of \$9,847.81.

ESTABLISH SALARY RANGE FOR THE CITY TREASURER POSITION

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, supported by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to set the salary range for the City Treasurer position at \$48,000 to \$58,000 per year.

CAMPING RULES FOR THE BRASSWIRE CAMPGROUND

Manager Cugini advised these rules were reviewed and approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, supported by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to accept the Brasswire Campground rules as proposed by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean supported by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to amend the 2023 fee scheduled to incorporate the camping fees of \$25/per night.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilmember Scanlon expressed concern over the maintenance of Main Street particularly with the windrow. In addition, he felt the snow maintenance at the Library should more regular.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Chapman and Councilmembers Skauge, Firby, and Bean had no new business.

Councilmember Scanlon asked if the two television in the Council chambers could be moved closer to Council.

Manager Cugini informed Council he would be preparing a report on the legislative visit to Lansing. He gave a brief overview of the trip.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Public comment was offered on zoom and in person.

Karen Kasper, 111 Bluff Street, requested snow be removed more frequently at the MarqTran pick up location on Pine Street.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Firby and Councilmember Skauge had no report.

Councilmember Scanlon asked about the status of the Washington Street easement from the IOHT; Manager Cugini advised it would be brought to the special Council meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Councilmember Bean announced she was participating in Dancing with our Stars and all their proceeds would be going to the U.P. Hospice Foundation.

Mayor Chapman reminded everyone Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup> was Spread Goodness Day in Marquette County; and today was International Woman's Day.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Cugini advised the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration has been worked on in coordination with the Historical Society; staff was working on an agreement with Partridge Creek Farms for the composting grant; and he reviewed the vacant positions that had recently been filled.

General Foreman Anderson explained the sidewalk plows had been down several times during the winter and during the last storm, two DPW employees were using snowblowers to clear the sidewalks in the downtown.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT** – There was no report.

**CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO MCL 15.268( a) TO CONSIDER A PERIODIC PERSONNEL EVALUATION CITY MANAGER**

Closed session was withdrawn because all council evaluations were not submitted to the Mayor at this time.

Discussion took place on the procedure for the evaluation and format of the evaluation form and how the tabulation would take place. Also talked about was form being consistent with the performance criteria set for the Manager.

The draft evaluation form would be forwarded to Council and the evaluation would take place at the April regular meeting.

**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