

**City of Ishpeming Planning Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**September 11, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the City of Ishpeming Planning Commission was called to order in the Council Chambers at City Hall by Chairperson Brooke Routhier at 6:34 pm.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Present: Brooke Routhier, Lindsay Bean, Dave Lawler, Mike Elliot, Mike Kinnunen, and Kari Getschow (6).  
Absent: Bruce Houghton, Torrey Dupras, and Ben Argall (3). Also present was Al Pierce, Zoning Administrator.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT** - There was no public comment.

**D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Zoning Administrator Al Pierce recommended the minutes from March 7, 2022 be added to the agenda for approval and a letter from Anderson-Petersen Investment be added to the agenda under correspondence.

A motion was made by Member Lawler, supported by Member Elliott and carried unanimously to approve the agenda incorporating the additions of the two items above.

**E. MEETING MINUTES**

A motion was made by Member Kinnunen, supported by Member Bean and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of 3/7/2022 as presented.

A motion was made by Member Bean, supported by Member Lawler and carried unanimously to correct the spelling of Member Bean's name from "Lindsey" to "Lindsay" and approve the 7/10/2023 minutes as amended.

A motion was made by Member Bean, supported by Member Kinnunen and carried unanimously to correct the spelling of Member Getschow's name from "Carrie" to "Kari", correct the start time to 6:33 p.m., and Member Kinnunen was present, not Member Elliott; and approve the 8/7/2023 minutes as amended.

**F. PRESENTATIONS** – There were no presentations.

**G. PUBLIC HEARINGS** – There were no public hearings.

**H. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Master Plan: 2024 Priority Discussion** –

There was discussion related to the goals in the Master Plan including annual review of the Public Participation Plan, review of the zoning ordinance annually, creation of a low impact recreation area and new trail development, holding joint meetings with various boards/committees and/or organizations, working with the schools for a youth liaison.

It was felt the Master Plan goals section should be on the agenda monthly and reviewed.

**2. Group Liaison Discussion**

There was discussion related to the group liaisons beginning in 2025.

**3. City Owned Land by Malton Road Area – Maps**

There was discussion regarding various options to consider to protect the trail network, such as easements and/or other necessary document. Zoning Administrator Pierce will continue to research the potential to use the area as a low impact recreation area.

**4. Findings of Fact for Public Hearings**

Zoning Administrator Pierce reminded the Commission to start stating “Findings of Fact” during public hearings which states the basis for making the decision. This will protect the Planning Commission and aid in not having the decision overturned.

**5. Sign Ordinance and Lighting****6. Short Term Rental Ordinance**

Zoning Administrator Pierce advised he is continuing he work on items (5) and (6), however, there was no information to present at this time.

**7. Dollar Tree Update**

Zoning Administrator Pierce reported there was an old brick storm sewer that was apparently underneath the old “Burger King” structure. He has not heard from Dollar Tree and believes the project may be reconsidered.

**I. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Gino Gerding Apartments** – Zoning Administrator Pierce advised there was no correspondence sent to date and noted Mr. Gerding has stopped development at that location.

**J. CORRESPONDENCE**

**1. Anderson-Petersen Investments Letter dated 9/11/2023** -Zoning Administrator Pierce advised this letter of support was provided for the proposed parking garage for The Mather.

**K. MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:24 p.m., a motion was made by Member Lawler, supported by Member Bean and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Prepared by:



Cathy Smith, City Clerk

For Jodi Champion, Deputy Clerk

  
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Alan K. Pierce, Assistant Secretary