

*Council Proceedings, October 18, 2023*  
*Ishpeming, MI 49849*

The special meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, October 18, 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, Renelle Halverson, and Pat Scanlon (5). Also present was City Manager Craig Cugini.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

SNOW CONTROL PLAN DISCUSSION

Manager Cugini briefly reviewed the draft Snow Control Plan and advised he and staff would answer any questions.

Council discussed concerns with specific alleys in the City particularly in the areas where there was no access off the street and the only entrance was from the alley. One example was the alley between Third and Fourth Street and between North Street and Vine Street. There was further discussion related to classifying the alleys in terms of priority; how alleys are plowed; and the clearing of snow in the downtown especially with more development taking place.

DPW General Foreman Bill Anderson and City Manager Cugini explained the current process for plowing in terms of priority. Alleys are plowed before the streets and are always done as best as possible. Staff would investigate process for plowing alleys and would also evaluate the plan for clearing of the downtown. DPW was also considering not hauling Third Street as often.

Council felt it was necessary to communicate with the residents if the DPW crew was pulled away from snowplowing due to another event, such as a water leak, that would take priority. Communication with the community was very important. This could be communicated with TextMyGov, Facebook, the City's website, and Channel 189.

It was pointed out that there was no 4-inch rule that was followed. General Foreman Anderson always watched the weather using the tool from MDOT and would then determine when the crew should be called out. Depending on the storm, the crew could be called out if there was less than four inches, and possibility not be called out if there was more than four inches. There were times that major streets would be plowed, but the neighborhoods would not be until later. He also discussed the readiness of the equipment, the training of employees, and the routine maintenance of the equipment. He further noted he was always in contact with school during weather events.

There was some brief discussion related to using more salt than sand and the issues with salination.

Council felt this was a good plan and after review of the some of the section of the plan, would like to have this plan placed on the website.

SECOND READING OF AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 8-100, ZONING ORDINANCE

a. Map Amendment General Commercial (GC) to Multiple Residential (MR) Error Correction –

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve the second reading of the Zoning Ordinance Map Amendment rezoning General Commercial (GC) to Multiple Residential (MR) which was basically an error correction.

b. Text Amendment to Section 15.3(A) and Section 15.4 (I)

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve the second reading of the Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment to language in Section 15(A) and adding Section 15.4 (I).

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Claudia Demarest, 821 Maurice Street, questioned if the DDA still contributed toward snowplowing in the downtown; felt plows were too far away from the curb; Channel 189 had what looked like a postage stamp on the screen so it was difficult to watch; noted there was a camper at Brasswire Campground which was officially closed; and the roof drain on City hall needed to be cleaned.

Mike Tonkin, 612 N. Third Street, questioned who the snow belonged too; felt the berms were too high on Third Street which made it difficult to see at intersections; explained how plowing was done in the past and suggested current staff contact retirees to get their input.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:03 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Firby supported by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cathy Smith", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cathy Smith  
City Clerk