

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, in the Ishpeming City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Jason Chapman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Jason Chapman, Council Members Elizabeth Firby, Pat Scanlon (4). Absent: Councilmember Renelle Halverson (1). Also present was Manager Craig Cugini and City Attorney Caroline Bridges.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to approve the agenda incorporating the addition of the sale of Lot 52-51-559-004-00: 429 E. New York Street to the Marquette County Land Bank under New Business Item j.

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

Deb Johnson, 559 S. Pine Street, explained her elderly mother lived at 597 S. Pine Street and she was very concerned with the condition of the street in front of her mother's residence. It is very difficult for her mother to walk on the street with the condition it is in. She further noted there is a problem with water pooling in front of the driveway and walk way due to the condition of the blacktop and it is very difficult for her mother to get in and out of the car when she picks her up. She hoped the City would look into some repairs in this location for the homes that are serviced by this road.

Sarah Johnson, 901 N. Third Street, and Executive Director of Partridge Creek Farms (PCF), would like to continue providing updates to the City Council on the activities of PCF. The Farm has secured over one million dollars in grant funding for the community; there are many small gardens placed around the City; the large farm will provide foods for the community and will also be an educational site; NMU students will begin internships with PCF this month; and their summer programming will begin the end of June. She announced some of the upcoming PCF events and thanked Kelly Milano for starting the Ishpeming Farmer's Market at the Country Village.

Claudia Demarest, 821 Maurice, expressed her concerns with transparency and following the City Charter.

Kevin Corkin, 604 N. Pine Street, thank Council for reappointing him to the Parks and Recreation Commission; was excited for the kayak launches project to be completed; reiterate his public comments from the May Council meeting; and asked Council and staff to work together to make the City of Ishpeming a great place. He appreciated all the work that is done by staff and Council for the City.

Antonio Adan, 832 N. Main Street, was present to talk under the new business item that was added to the agenda related to 429 E. New York Street.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (May 8th, Closed Session May 8th)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Declare 171 library books as surplus

7. MONTHLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

a. Financial Statement Report

Finance Director Grant Getschow reviewed the unaudited balance sheet including the General Fund, Major and Local Streets, Sewer and Garbage fund, DDA, and Police and Fire Retirement Fund for the period ending May 31, 2024. He

further reviewed the revenue and expense reports and noted the County tax settlement was received in May along with the grant reimbursement for the Fire Department FEMA grant.

There was discussion related to the dollars received from the marijuana tax, street repairs, and the preparation of the 2025 budget.

A motion was made Councilmember Firby, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve the financial report as presented.

8. PUBLIC HEARING

a. Proposed vacation of 20' wide alley between lots 49-52 Nelson's Addition

Mayor Chapman opened the public hearing at 6:26 p.m. There being no comment, the public hearing was closed at 6:27 p.m.

b. Proposed vacation of 20' wide east-west alley between lots 163 and 165 of the Nelson's Addition

Mayor Chapman opened the public hearing at 6:27 p.m., there being no comment, the public hearing was closed at 6:28 p.m.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Location and date for the special meeting to discuss proposed Ordinance #5-1400

Manager Cugini advised the Ishpeming Senior Center was not available until July for a meeting. He added, by not having the meeting in the Council Chambers, the capacity to televise on Channel 189, Zoom, and You-Tube would be lost. This special meeting would be for a public hearing related to proposed Ordinance #5-1400.

It was the consensus of Council to hold the meeting in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Thursday, June 20th at 6:00 p.m.

Item added to Unfinished Business - Malton Road Development

There was discussion related to a proposed developer that has expressed interest in construction of 3-5 homes on Malton Road and the benefits of having this area developed and adding housing in the City.

Councilmember Bean reviewed some of the Planning Commission's past discussions related to development on Malton Road including connecting Malton Road and Wabash and how this development matches what has been discussed by the Planning Commission and it fits the Master Plan.

It was suggested Councilmember Bean bring this topic up to the Planning Commission.

Antonio Adan, Marquette County Landbank, noted the Intergovernmental Task Force is a committee that is working to determine sites for development in each unit of government. He suggested if Malton Road is a site that the City is interested in developing this would be the perfect time begin. He would happy to meet with the Planning Commission as well.

Item added to Unfinished Business - Short-term Rental Policy

Mayor Chapman questioned the status of the short-term rental policy; Manager Cugini explained work is being done to determine the number of short-term rentals currently in Ishpeming.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Special Event Applications

i. Annual Cal's Journey 5K Run/Walk for ALS: 8/17/2024

ii. Historical Society-Cemetery Tours: Tuesdays in July and August, 2024

iii. Shelly's Rainbow Bar and Temporary Liquor License: July 4, 5, 6,7/August 10/September 7, 2024

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

b. First Reading of Amendment to Ordinance 11-700, CHN Ishpeming Tax Exemption Ordinance

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the first reading of Amendment to Ordinance 11-700, CHN Ishpeming Tax Exemption Ordinance as presented.

c. Confirm quotes from PK Contracting – Pavement Marking

General Foreman Bill Anderson, via Zoom, advised the quote was strictly for linear lines for the main streets in the City. The DDA would be covering the pavement markings in the downtown which included the parking spaces.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the quote for PK Contracting in the amount of \$7,887.15 as presented.

d. First Reading of Amendment to Ordinance 8-100, Zoning Ordinance

i. RZ-2024-02, Map Amendment from Multiple Residential to General Residential

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to approve the first reading of amendment to ordinance 8-100 for RZ-2024-02, Map Amendment from Multiple Residential to General Residential as presented.

e. Discussion of Roadway Master Plan

Chris Holms, U.P. Engineers and Architects (UPEA), presented an updated Roadway Master Plan. He advised the Paser rating has not been updated since 2021, however, he did review the costs in the plan and increased them by approximately 10-15%. The proposed roadway improvements in the plan totaled just under 30 million dollars.

Discussion took place related to the cost of road improvements and possible options for funding which included a millage, a change to the allocation from taxes for the public improvement fund, possible grant funding; and bonding options. It was noted with no road improvements being done for so long, the cost of repairs was significantly high.

Council suggested staff work with UPEA to prepare an update to the Paser data in the roadway plan and keep the contract under \$10,000; bidding these engineering services out would not be cost effective for the City.

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to authorize the City Manager to work with UPEA to determine road repair cost estimates in an amount not to exceed \$9,999 with funds to be taken from the Public Improvement Fund.

f. Resolution 6-2024: CWSRF Sewer Project Pay Application

Chris Holms, UPEA, explained this was the first reimbursement request for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF).

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution #6-2024, CWSRF Sewer Project Pay Application #1 and approve submittal of the reimbursement request.

g. Confirm Community Center Grant and City Fund Match for Skate Park

The Community Center Grant was a two-part grant; programming was \$250,000 and the capital portion, which was the skate park, was \$100,000 which would be a 2025 project.

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to confirm the acceptance of the Community Center Grant as presented.

h. Confirm Execution of RRC – Technical Assistance Grant for Branding and Marketing

Manager Cugini explained two bids were received: Community Image Builders (CBI) and Rogers Marketing Group. Staff recommendation was to award the bid to CBI.

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman seconded by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to confirm the execution of the RRC – Technical Assistance Grant for Branding and Marketing and award the bid to Community Image Builders.

i. Discuss Mayor Request for information on Playground Equipment

Mayor Chapman brought to the attention of Manager Cugini some playground equipment that was available for \$35,000 from Marinette, Wisconsin. Manager Cugini explained this equipment was from a school that was going to be converted to a medical care facility. This equipment has not been inspected by staff and an estimate on transportation cost has not yet been determined.

There was discussion related to the purchase of the equipment, possible location of the equipment if purchased, transportation costs, and funding in the budget. It was noted the Parks and Recreation Commission should be involved in the decision of where the playground equipment would be placed, if purchased. Consideration should also be given to the City Park Risk Review prepared by MMRMA.

Discussion took place on the funding for the equipment and what Capital Improvement Projects could possibly be reduced in scope if the equipment was purchased. Some concerns were expressed over trying to cut the scope of approved projects in the Public Improvement Fund to find funding for this purchase.

Manager Cugini would reach out to the owner and make sure the equipment was still available; staff would look into transportation costs; what project scopes could be reduced; and possible crowd funding.

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon to send staff to evaluate the equipment and if it was in good condition purchase the equipment for a cost of not to exceed \$35,000 with \$10,000 for transport. Motion was rescinded.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bean, seconded by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to table this item until the special Council meeting on June 12, 2024.

j. Sale of lot located at 429 E. New York Street

Manager Cugini explained the lot at 429 E. New York Street was declared surplus. The Poutanen's and the Land Bank have agreed on terms.

Motion was made by Mayor Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to authorize the sale of Lot 4 (429 E. New York Street) to the Marquette County Land Bank with the following conditions:

(1) Price of \$7,000; (2) Development of a residence within 5 years (not to exceed); (3) Insure that the Poutanen's (neighboring lot) are afforded a reasonable sized easement for the potential requirements of a replacement septic drain field; (4) MCLBA will insure that the remaining portions of Lot 4, after any easement, is capable of erecting a residence (all environmental, well, septic, etc.).

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

Mike Tonkin, 612 N. Third Street, discussed the FOIA requests that he has made to the City; felt he was being discriminated against, and would like an apology.

Antonio Adan, 832 N. Main Street and with the Marquette County Land Bank, stated the Landbank was here to work with and help the City. Council thanked the Land Bank for all the work they have done in the City of Ishpeming.

Claudia Demarest, 821 Maurice Street, questioned if the Blight Committee was still in existence, because there was still a lot of blight in the community.

12. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Bean had no report.

Councilmember Firby thanked Kelly Milano for organizing and planning the new Farmer's Market in Ishpeming.

Councilmember Scanlon was not able to attend the Commission on Aging meeting but was able to arrange life support training for the Senior Center staff and added they did receive a new AED; he also questioned the hours and availability of the Ski Hall of Fame to visitors during the busier summer months.

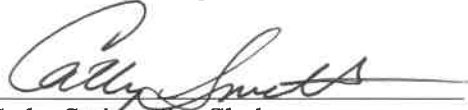
Mayor Chapman congratulated all the graduates in the area; thanked Kelly Milano for arranging the Farmer's Market, asked if staff could check into truck route signs in the City; and added he has been working with the TV stations to promote the City and local businesses.

13. MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Cugini reported the Lake Superior Community Partnership would be moving into the former Chamber of Commerce as their West End hub; the Teal Lake Dock project construction would begin around June 20th; announced some of the upcoming events in Ishpeming; and the tennis court grant application was currently in the review stage.

14. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:04 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon seconded by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to adjourn.


Cathy Smith, City Clerk