

Ishpeming City Council Proceedings: July 31, 2024
Ishpeming, MI 49849

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Special meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, July 31, 2024, in the Ishpeming City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Jason Chapman called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Jason Chapman, Council Members Lindsay Bean, Elizabeth Firby, Renelle Halverson, and Pat Scanlon (5). Also present was Interim City Manager Grant Getschow and City Attorney Caroline Bridges.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - Public comment was offered through Zoom and in person.

Phil Carter, Partridge Creek Compost, was available for any questions on item 5a(ii).

5. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

a(ii) Revised Brasswire Campground Deficit Elimination Plan - Interim City Manager Getschow explained the revised Brasswire Deficit Elimination Plan was being presented with some revisions that had been requested by Treasury. One change was the plan end date exceed 5 years so it would have to be changed from 2028 to 2027. The solution to the deficit would be a transfer from the General Fund versus the Public Improvement Fund, but this solution could be discussed further before the deficit elimination plan end date. He added the purpose of this deficit elimination plan was to show the State the City could cover its debts and take on new debt.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Bean and carried unanimously to accept the revised Brasswire Deficit Elimination Plan as presented.

a(ii) Partridge Creek Compost Deficit Elimination Plan - Interim City Manager Getschow advised the audit did not require a deficit elimination plan for this fund, however, the State requested one. He further explained the deficit in this fund was from a reimbursement lag from the grant.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the Partridge Creek Compost Deficit Elimination Plan as presented.

b. Discussion of Transportation/Installation of Used Playground Equipment – Interim City Manager Getschow explained there has been ongoing discussion and research of options/quotes for disassembly and reassembly of the equipment, along with the transportation costs. Staff recommends hiring GameTime for the disassembly, transportation, and reassembly of the playground equipment for the quote of \$56,700. He further noted with the cost of the equipment and ground preparation necessary the total cost of the project would be approximately \$100,000.

There was discussion related to ADA compliance, possible crowdfunding efforts; location of the playground equipment; receiving input from the Parks and Recreation Commission on their recommendation for the playground equipment; and the Wabash Park location. Also talked about was the possibility of splitting up the equipment and the dollars for funding for the project.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to execute the quote with GameTime as presented with a total project cost not to exceed \$100,000 which includes the purchase of the equipment.

Councilmember Scanlon asked that a special Parks and Recreation Commission meeting be arranged and then a joint meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission and Council be set up.

Councilmember Bean announced her resignation from the City Council effective this evening. She read her statement into the record. She noted with the timing of her resignation Council may choose not to appoint but to allow the vacancy to be placed on the November ballot. She wished Council, staff, and other appointed members of boards and committees the best. She enjoyed serving the community and would very much continue to stay involved.

A motion was made by Councilmember Halverson, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to accept Councilmember Lindsay Bean's resignation.

Mayor Chapman and Councilmembers Scanlon and Firby thank Councilmember Bean for her service to the City of Ishpeming and added she would be missed.

There was discussion related to placing the vacancy on the November ballot and the timeline to do this.

City Clerk Cathy Smith advised she talked with the County Clerk about this extenuating circumstance and there would be enough time to advertise the vacancy and accept nominating petitions for the unexpired term and have this placed on the November 5th ballot. Council could decide on the deadline for accepting nominating petitions and that would be placed in the Notice of Vacancy.

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to place the vacant seat on the November 5th ballot and accept nominating petitions until 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 15, 2024.

6. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:10 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon seconded by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to adjourn.


Cathy Smith, City Clerk