

Ishpeming City Council Proceedings: July 10, 2024
Ishpeming, Michigan

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, in the Ishpeming City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Jason Chapman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

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

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Chapman added a discussion for the Bertucci family on Empire St to unfinished business, Resolution for the CWSRF Grant Loan Program which is a Reimbursement and Payroll approval to new business item T, remove any new appointments from the Consent Agenda and let Interim Manager Grant Getschow get to know whoever may apply and make any appointments.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented with the additional items added.

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

Claudia Demarest, 821 Maurice St, had questions on the Brasswire Campground Deficit Elimination Plan. She wanted to know how many reservations have been currently booked and the cost and fees are associated with running it. She also had some questions about the Blight Committee, the short-term rental policy, various road repairs and the Debit limit for the City of Ishpeming.

Phil Carter, 601 N. Main St, would like to thank the Council for keeping the positive relationship with Partridge Creek. Provided some updates on their ongoing programs such as the Curbside Collection program for businesses or residents, which just ramped up. Seeking citizens to sign up at PartridgeCreekCompost.org. Thank you to the County government for their help and informed a seat is available for that board. It will be possible to work with other counties around the UP for more funding to Marquette County. They are also looking for an additional pick up driver.

John Becker from Ore to Shore is seeking for support for their special event application. They are looking for the same level of support as before especially from Public Works and the Police Departments.

Sara Johnson, 901 N 3rd St, on behalf of Partridge Creek, would like to update accomplishments for the month: they had their 2nd annual farm to school event and several workshops for the attendees. They have full water and electrical on site, are fine tuning the irrigation system and the hoop house has automated side for optimal growing conditions and many other upgrades. Every Wednesday they will hold the West End Farm Stand from 4:30pm-6:00pm on site. Volunteer days are on Thursdays from 2:00pm – 4:00pm. They were 1 of 20 awardees to receive a \$300,00 from the Trust for Civic Life. Check out the website for upcoming events.

Jen Shina. on behalf of Sara Derwin, 321 E Ohio, Marquette, Director of Mental Health Services for Marquette Alger Resa Walk for Hope. The walk takes place on September 21st at Al Quaal to honor those lost to suicide and provide hope for those who struggle. All funds raised will fund local Suicide Prevention and postvention programming in Marquette County. The event will take place from 9am until 11am.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (June 5th, June 12th, June 20th, Closed Session June 27th)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Confirm Manager appointment of Krystan Beaumont to four-year term on the DDA: Term Exp 7/2028
- d. Reappoint Dave Aro to a four-year term on the DDA: Term expiring 7/2028)

6. MONTHLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

a. Chief Radabaugh gave updates on the recruits that are graduating on August 16th. Received the full grant of \$48,000 to cover the Academy, uniforms and helping toward payroll. Also, will be participating in a program called Books & Badges: a program out of Ohio providing the Police Department 300 books per year. There will be special guests from the PD, Chief Radabaugh will be the first. There will be two programs to start, reading to the kids at the Ishpeming Library on September 14th and one in October. Each child will receive a book and there will be a theme. The leftover books will go to the schools or other organizations. This is a non-profit and he is the first one in the UP to do this. He is looking for other businesses or organizations that would like to participate. All funds stay with the local organization which would allow to purchase more books.

b. Financial Statement Report

Interim City Manager Grant Getschow reviewed the unaudited balance sheet including the General Fund, Major and Local Streets, Sewer, and Garbage fund, and Police and Fire Retirement Fund for the period ending 5/31/2024. He explained the revenues and expenses report. The audit was submitted successfully by the deadline this year for 2023. We did clear up any weaknesses and significant deficiencies that were found last year, there is only one remaining issue of compliance which is our expenditures over appropriations. This was something that was expected from prior discussions.

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

i. Brasswire Campground Deficit Elimination Plan

Interim City Manager Getschow discussed the deficit at the Brasswire Campground. It is required and part of our audit as for the 2nd year the Brasswire Campground is in a deficit. Largely a result of construction costs and have not much revenue to offset. We currently have reservations outside of August and have about \$7,000-\$8,000 in revenue for the year. There is a big bike race on August 23rd which will hopefully bring in more revenue. He would like Council to sign this deficit resolution, an estimate for when the campground may pull out of the deficit fund balance for the state. His recommendation is that we pay for this Campground of the Public Improvement Funds to make up the deficit. There was further discussion on how to move forward to show the State we have a plan for the deficit, and with the councilmembers on how to make it profitable.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to move forward with the deficit elimination resolution that is presented tonight to be compliant with our State audit. Would also like to have more discussion on it at the end of August or September to see options available.

Mike Tonkin, 612 N 3rd St, when he was Mayor he had conversation with former City Manager Cugini about picking up a \$100,000 grant to build a campground and that he had a \$20,000 match from the City. He explained to him that no money would go into the campground, Manager Cugini also agreed to that. Now four years later we are over \$200,000 in debit on a project that was only supposed to be \$100,000 to start with and has gone up to almost \$400,000 in total. It was not brought to the attention of the Council. He is angry because they want to use money from the Public Improvement funds to pay for it, should be using that money to repair the streets. Where is the money coming from to maintain the campground? The Council violated the City Charter. Fix our streets and quit spending money.

7. PUBLIC HEARING – There were none.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Discuss basketball court on Wabash Street

Mayor Chapman discussed ways to help to get the courts repaired. He spoke with Coach Reichel who said he is confident that they can potentially do replacements themselves if the City can get the court torn up and leveled. Interim

Ishpeming City Council Proceedings: July 10, 2024
Ishpeming, Michigan

Manager Getschow recommended that they will look into a funding source. Councilmember Scanlon raised concerns about spending extra money. Maybe get an engineer in to evaluate it, or get some Crowdfunding Source to help. Councilmember Scanlon clarified the direction that they would like to move in, to see if it is repairable. There are companies that can evaluate to see if they can repair it and what it would cost if it's not repairable to then to make it playable.

b. Discuss Third St Truck Route

Lisa Thompson, 208 2nd St owns the Ish Creamery. If trucks are banned on Third St she cannot run her business without deliveries as well as other businesses. Mayor Chapman explained that it is a non-truck road except for local deliveries. Could put up a sign that says that they accept local deliveries. Attorney Bridges explained that there is a City Ordinance that establishes the truck route is Business M28 and some side street, not Third Street. So, without changing the Ordinance, trucks can't be banned.

A motion was made by Councilmember Halverson, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to replace the missing signs on Third Street as reference to truck traffic.

Lisa Thompson was upset with how she was treated at the meeting. She got the impression that the Council did not care what she had to say. She invested into the community because she saw hope here and thought that it would be good to open a place where kids and families could hang out. Council needs to be aware that business owners are important to the community. Councilmember Halverson and Mayor Chapman did apologize to her.

Bertucci Family Empire St Project.

Janice Bertucci, 801 N Maple St, has concerns about the lack of progress in addressing the errors that were made during the Empire St project of 2022. For more than 2 years they have not been able to use their garage, the new road elevation does not match the previous elevation. The sidewalk does not match as well. They hoped that it could be corrected on the first stages of construction with very little difficulty, but they continued with the construction with the incorrect elevation. The solution was to create a nonstandard apron entrance which resulted in a valley or wedge in the sidewalk. They have been trying for two years to meet with the Manager but were never able to do so. We would like the City Manager and a representative from UPEA to meet with them to discuss a solution to the problem.

Jim Bertucci, 801 N Maple, would like to have a meeting to discuss the issues and to find a solution. He sent pictures for Council to look at. Councilmember Scanlon did drive by to look at it, could see that there is a problem. Need UPEA and the City Manager to get together to discuss a solution. Interim Manager Getschow said that he has reached out to the staff that worked with the Bertucci's and would like to meet with them and be updated on the topic and then meet with the Bertucci's to discuss a solution.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Michigan Municipal League-

Glenn Anderson of the Michigan Municipal League do about 15-20 searches a year just in Michigan. If he was retained he would have a profiling session with the Council and the Mayor. He would be looking to identify the candidate profile, put that information into a comprehensive advertisement that would be advertised throughout the country for four weeks, screen the applicants and then Council would go into closed session and all candidate applications would be reviewed. Then you would decide on how many applicants you would like to interview. The league will assist with preparing questions with the public interview process and would also work with Council to negotiate to assist in any contractual agreements. It takes about one week to put the advertisement together, then Council reviews it and makes any changes to it. The league requires four weeks of advertisement, one week to review the candidates, and then the league provides a list of names and qualifications to be interviewed. Councilmember Scanlon thinks that we need to take our time in searching for a new Manager. We have some old business that needs to be cleaned up. Mayor Chapman questions if MML will help if we do our own search. The base fee for the search is \$18,500.00. He would like to table this until the August meeting.

b. Request to use Senior Center Maintenance Funds to purchase cameras for Senior Center

Ishpeming City Council Proceedings: July 10, 2024
Ishpeming, Michigan

Request from Chief Radabaugh, who is willing to do a grant for them. He feels the need for them and footage goes back to the police department.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Halverson and carried unanimously to authorize with the approval of the attorney, to use the \$3,529.95 from the Senior Center Maintenance Fund to purchase the cameras.

c. Consider vacation of 20' wide alley between Lots 49-52 -Nelson's Addition

A motion was made by Councilmember Firby and seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to vacate the 20-foot alley between lots 49-52 of the Nelson's Addition.

d. Consider vacation of 20' wide east-west alley between lots 163 & 165 of the Nelson's Addition

Lori Perry owns this property and wants to sell the property. Just wants to vacate the east-west alley.

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to vacate the 20-foot alley east-west between Lots 163 & 165 of the Nelson's Addition.

e. Special Event Applications

- i. Buzz the Gut: August 10, 2024
- ii. Suicide Prevention Annual Walk: September 21, 2024
- iii. Ore to Shore: August 10, 2024
- iv. 4-H Summer Day Camp: various dates June/July/August
- v. Swim Teal Lake: July 27, 2024

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to allow each of the five special events.

f. Second Reading of Amendment to Ordinance 11-2700, CHN Ishpeming Tax Exemption Ordinance

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to adopt Ordinance #11-2700 CHN Tax Exemption Ordinance as presented.

g. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

- i. Resolution # 7-2024, Tentatively Award DWSRF Construction Contract 1

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution # 7-2024, Tentatively Award DWSRF Construction Contract 1 as presented.

- ii. Resolution # 8-2024, Tentatively Award DWSRF Construction Contract 2

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution # 8-2024, Tentatively Award DWSRF Construction Contract 2 as presented.

h. Emergency Reading of Ordinance 11-2800 Bond Ordinance for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

A motion was made by Councilmember Firby, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon to adopt the Emergency Reading of Ordinance 11-2800 Bond Ordinance for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund as presented.

i. Discussion on additional loan funding for the DWSRF project

Chris discussed the additional funding that is available for the City. He did recommend this because it can absorb costs and not have to increase rates.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Halverson and carried unanimously to direct Interim Manager Getschow have UPEA move forward with that application.

Ishpeming City Council Proceedings: July 10, 2024
Ishpeming, Michigan

j. Discussion of additional sewer funding for Salisbury location

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to accept the additional \$3.4 million in debit funding from Egle and that will be towards the end of fully funding the original DWSRF.

k. DWSRF and CWSRF Designation of Signatories

i. Resolutions 9-2024, Designation of Signatories for the DWSRF

A motion was made by Councilmember Firby, seconded by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution 9-2024, Designation of Signatories for the DWSRF.

ii. Resolution 10-2024, Designation of Signatories for the CWSRF

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution 10-2024, Designation of Signatories for the CWSRF.

l. Interim City Manager Agreement

Mayor Chapman updated about the meetings that he and other Council members on the role of the Interim City Manager and other duties to be split among other staff members, Cathy Smith, William Anderson and April Holm. Bill Anderson take over the DPW Director role, Cathy Smith be recognized for the work that she has already been doing and be made a Deputy Interim Manager and April Holm and other Finance staff will receive a compensation.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon seconded by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously adopt the presented wage variance and move forward with contacting John Thomas for Union approval and agreement as needed.

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to offer Interim Manager Getschow 5 extra paid vacation days that do not get carried over.

m. Police Chief request to attend Police Technology and Equipment Exchange Conference

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Halverson and carried unanimously to approve the Police Chief to attend the Police Technology and Equipment Exchange Conference in New Orleans at an expense not to exceed \$5000.

n. Second Reading of Amendment to Ordinance 8-100, Zoning Ordinance: RZ-2024, Map Amendment from Multiple Residential to General Residential

A motion was made by Councilmember Firby, seconded by Councilmember Halverson to adopt the Second Reading of Amendment to Ordinance 8-100, Zoning Ordinance: RZ-2024, Map Amendment from Multiple Residential to General Residential.

o. Approval of Agreement for Branding and Marketing with Community Image Builders (CIB)

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to accept the professional services agreement with Community Image Builders.

Mike Tonkin, 612 N 3rd St, had concerns about using taxpayer money on the rebranding.

p. Resolution #11-2024, Designation of Authorized Official Drinking Water Asset Management Grant

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to adopt the Resolution #11-2024, Designation of Authorized Official Drinking Water Asset Management Grant and designate Interim Manager Getschow as our Senator.

q. Community Centers Grant- Award Skate Park Project to American Ramp Company

Ishpeming City Council Proceedings: July 10, 2024
Ishpeming, Michigan

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to award the Skate Park Project to the American Ramp Company and not to exceed the sum of \$292,600.

r. METRO Act Right of Way Permit Extension

A motion was made by Councilmember Firby, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to extend the METRO Act Right of Way with AT&T/Michigan Bell Telephone.

s. Discussion new/used DPW trackless tractor

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Mayor Chapman and carried unanimously to direct our DPW Foreman to have staff go check the tractor out and if it is appropriate to purchase it for \$49,500 with funds coming from the Motor Pool Fund.

t. Payment Request CWSRF pay request #2 to Payne and Dolan

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve payment #2 to Payne & Dolan

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

Kevin Corkin, 604 N Pine St, just wanted to say thank you for all of the support and work that was put in for the new kayak docks. Also had some concerns about the Brasswire Campground. He thanked Grant, Cathy and Bill for stepping up for the City.

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to direct the Parks and Rec Committee to look at the Brasswire Campground and how it can best be utilized moving forward and what ideas they might come up with to make things happen. He would also like to in the Wabash Park and the Playground equipment as well.

Krystan Beaumont, 519 N First St, just wanted to introduce herself and say that she is still very interested in being on the DDA Board.

12. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Halverson had some updates on the Housing Commission. Waiting on environmental study to come back so that they can start their window replacement.

Councilmember Firby wanted to thank all of the volunteers who made the Independence Day celebration successful. All of the events are driven entirely by the volunteers, so “thank you” to them.

Councilmember Scanlon also wanted to thank all of the volunteers as well. Thank you to the Blue Notes as well, always great to see them.

Mayor Chapman wanted to thank the Fourth of July Committee for all of their work on the festivities. He would also like to thank the Rotary Club for the work that they put into those kayak launches as they were the initial people behind that. He attended the Ishpeming Hall of Excellence Awards and Councilmember Firby is on that committee, they have done so much for the community being recognized and for the school being recognized as well. Mayor Chapman would like show his support and trust in our Interim City Manager, Grant Getschow and ask the public to give a little bit of time to work things out. He would also like to thank Grant, Cathy, April and Bill for all of their hard work.

13. MANAGER’S REPORT

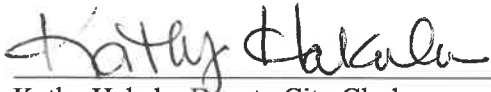
Ishpeming City Council Proceedings: July 10, 2024
Ishpeming, Michigan

Interim City Manager Getschow expressed it was great to work with the Fourth of July Committee, thank you to them, the volunteers, the DPW staff and the Police staff. He also like to thank the Council for the opportunity to service the City.

DPW Foreman Anderson also gave an update of the road construction. US 41 has changed lanes and there is no more access North and South on Lakeshore. If you're coming in or out of Ishpeming you have to use North Lake Drive or Second St. There is no traffic signal at Jubilee, it is just straight through but there is still pedestrian traffic that is allowed to cross there without a signal and will be in effect until November First.

14. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:56 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon seconded by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to adjourn.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kathy Hakala", written over a horizontal line.

Kathy Hakala, Deputy City Clerk