

Ishpeming City Council Proceedings: August 28, 2024
Ishpeming, MI 49849

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Special meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, August 28, 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, and Pat Scanlon (3). Absent: Councilmember Renelle Halverson (1). One seat vacant (1). Also present was Interim City Manager Grant Getschow.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

Amy Lerlie, 725 N. First and 404 N. Third Street, pays approximately \$6,000 in taxes to the City. She suggested Council review the City Manager's job description, City ordinances and procedures and reflect on what has transpired over the last several months. She asked Council to consider the future of the entire City and to be strong and capable leaders. The audit was so much better this year and she appreciated Grant Getschow and all the work he has done and is doing for the City

Sarah Johnson rescheduled time under item 5b.

Kevin Corkin, 604 N. Pine Street, advised the Parks and Recreation Commission was discussing how to promote the campground and improve utilization and added the new playground equipment installed at Al Quaal was a benefit to the City. He supported non-profits like Partridge Creek Farm (PCF) and Partridge Creek Compost and noted the many benefits provided by PCF such as free school programming supported by grant funding; the public community gardens; and food assistance programs. He thanked Council and staff for their service to the community.

5. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

a. Anderson Tackman and Company: 2023 Audit Presentation

Mike Grentz, Anderson Tackman and Company, presented the 2023 City Audit. He reviewed the net position of the City and added the audit was much better than last year's audit. Interim Manager Getschow did a great job in cleaning up the financials. He further reviewed the analysis of MERS pension and the Act 345 Police Fire Pension.

There was discussion related to the staff turnover at City Hall and the importance of hiring to the Finance Director position; the amount of debt the City currently has; and the City's current credit rating which was good.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to adopt the 2023 Audit as presented by Anderson Tackman and Company.

b. Renewal of Service Support Agreement with Partridge Creek Farm (PCF)

Sara Johnson, Executive Director Partridge Creek Farm, 901 N. Third Street, explained Partridge Creek Farm provided many services to the community but mostly food security. She advised the community gardens started Partridge Creek Farm and then the Farm developed the intergenerational garden in the community. The community gardens are important and PCF does not receive revenue from these gardens. She hoped the service agreement would be renewed with PCF for the community garden sites.

Interim Manager Grant Getschow reviewed the goals and objective in the Master Plan that addressed PCF and community gardens. PCF was providing a public service and carried out the objectives in the Master Plan.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon seconded by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to adopt the agreement as presented.

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c. Resolution #14-2024, Designation of Street Administrator

Interim Manager Getschow advised this resolution was needed to name Bill Anderson as the Street Administrator.

A motion was made by Councilmember Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Firby and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution #14-2024 Designation of Street Administrator as presented.

d. Request to purchase new Police Department vehicle

Police Chief Chad Radabaugh reviewed the quote for a new 2024 Ford F-150 patrol vehicle through MI Deals along with the estimate from Elcom Systems to outfit the vehicle for a total cost of \$74,974.87. He further explained the benefits of the Police Department having another truck versus SUV.

A motion was made by Mayor Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of the vehicle from the 2024 Public Improvement Budget and authorize the budget amendment in the amount of \$74,974.87.

6. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:00 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Firby seconded by Councilmember Scanlon and carried unanimously to adjourn.


Cathy Smith, City Clerk