

**Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 22, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, July 22, 2024, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Chairman David Aeh at 4:00 p.m.

Present: David Aeh, Brice Sturmer, David Aro, Renelle Halverson, Tracy Magnuson, Brian Buchanan, Carrie Meyer, Antonio Adan, and Grant Getschow (9). Two vacant seats (2). Also present was Linda Andriacchi for Beautification, DPW Foreman Bill Anderson, Kelly Milano of Milano Meats, and Claudia Demarest.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Member Buchanan seconded by Member Magnuson and carried unanimously to approve the May 20th regular meeting minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Interim Manager Grant Getschow reviewed the monthly financial report for period ending June 30, 2024. A motion was made by Member Meyer seconded by Member Magnuson and carried unanimously to approve the financial report as presented.

Interim Manager Getschow requested at least two members meet with him to discuss the 2025 budget. Members Aeh, Aro and Buchanan offered to sit on the committee. City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager Cathy Smith would arrange the time and date.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE REPORT – Linda Andriacchi reported she found a replacement employee for water flowers for the remainder of the year. With City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager Cathy Smith being out of the office, she made the decision to hire Amy Marietti to the Beautification Assistant position.

There was some discussion related to the condition of the Old Ish Park and the City Hall Gardens. Linda Andriacchi reported she was working with City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager Smith to schedule work at Old Ish Park.

She further explained that due to the lack of volunteers within the Beautification Committee, the City Hall Garden was not a priority for upkeep. Member Aeh offered to pay someone to maintain and would offset his donation to beautification with this cost.

LAKE SUPERIOR COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP 2024 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

Member Aeh briefly discussed that now is the time for the city to rely on LSCP during the city's current transition and the likelihood of future investors in the city.

Interim Manager Getschow discussed his ongoing work to maintain RRC Certification(s). Member Adan discussed his work with the Michigan Main Street Program, and will report back once it has been determined if the City is eligible.

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Member Aro announced a new addition to the LSCP Board, hired under a grant, for the West End office.

2024 FAÇADE GRANT REQUEST FOR EXTENSION

A motion made by Member Magnuson seconded by Member Meyer and carried unanimously to approve all three extension requests for Snowbelt Development, Old Ish Auto, and The Mather until December 31, 2024, stipulating all three requests must be complete by this time.

Review of the application process and deadlines would be discussed at the regular meeting in 2024.

ISHPEMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Member Magnuson reported the Festival of Treasures and Music in the Park have been very successful. She added some vendors dropped out due to inclement weather.

There was discussion regarding incentivizing local food trucks for community events because dining options are limited. Member Adan offered to put together an annual event calendar and reach out to a local forum in attempt to attract more vendors.

OLD BUSINESS

DPW General Foreman Bill Anderson provided an update regarding the vacant lot on Canda Street noting grass seed has been planted and signs have been installed.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman David Aeh introduced Member Adan and was excited to work with him on the DDA.

Interim Manager Getschow reported the City Council approved and awarded the contract for the skate park.

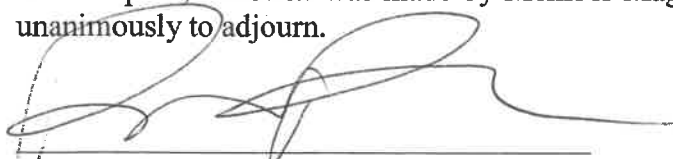
There was discussion of a 'Welcome Packet' being developed and provided by the DDA to new business owners to the city. Interim Manager Getschow advised this was an item that the Lake Superior Community Partnership was working on.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND PLACE

The next meeting will be held September 23, 2024, at Ishpeming City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:12 p.m., a motion was made by Member Magnuson seconded by Member Aro and carried unanimously to adjourn.



Raquelle Ball, Account Clerk/DPW-Cemetery-Parks