1. CALL TO ORDER
The regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, November 13, 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 and Pat Scanlon (3). Absent: Councilmember Renelle Halverson (1). One Councilmember seat vacant (1). Also present was Interim City Manager Grant Getschow and City Attorney Caroline Bridges.

a. Seating of new Mayor and Councilmembers – Former Mayor Chapman transferred the gavel to new City Mayor Pat Scanlon and the new Council was seated. Present was Mayor Pat Scanlon, Councilmembers Ben Argall, Brett Argall, Jason Chapman and Kurt Kipling (5). Absent: None (0).

b. Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem – Mayor Pat Scanlon would like to appoint Kurt Kipling to the Mayor Pro Tem position as his 2-year term coincides with the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem terms.

A motion was made by Mayor Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman and carried unanimously to appoint Kurt Kipling to Mayor Pro Tem.

Mayor Pat Scanlon thanked Mayor Chapman for his service over the past two years and welcomed Councilmember Ben Argall, Brett Argall, and Kurt Kipling to the City Council.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall and carried unanimously to amend the agenda to add Change Order #1 for the Second Street Sewer Repair to the agenda under item 10(b).

5. PUBLIC COMMENT
Sarah Johnson, 901 N. Third Street, Executive Director of Partridge Creek Farm, introduced herself to the new Council and gave a brief history of the farm; advised they were looking to expand their programming; all the programs provided to the schools were at no cost; an MDARD grant application has been submitted to develop additional acreage; and she was pleased to announce their Giving Tuesday campaign was very successful and they raised $10,300 to date, she thanked Velodrome for providing the space and thanked everyone that donated.

Amy Lerlie, 725 N. First Street, reserved time under 10e on the agenda.

David Aeh, 121 S. Main Street, loved this community and has served on several boards over the last 21 years; he felt it was his duty as a member of the Historical Society to reminded Council about the repairs needed on the wall on Jasper Street; would like a sign on the highway noting the Historical District downtown and thought this would be good for economic development; he hoped the compost would again be provided by the Wastewater Treatment Plant; and would like the contract approved with the Lake Superior Community Partnership.

Bill Larson, 1000 Old Farm Road, was recently told after the last snow storm that the City would no longer be plowing Old Farm Road on his property and he briefly summarized his conversation with a member of staff.

Johnathon Naracon, 742 Elliott Avenue, congratulated the new members of Council; and he thought Payne and Dolan did a great job in the Eighth Addition but the communication could be improved for the next construction project.

Kevin Corkin, 604 N. Pine Street, thanked the past City Council for their service and welcomed the new Councilmembers; he looked forward to working with Council and added it was important for everyone to work together.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented.

a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (November 13th)
b. Approval of Disbursements
c. Nominate Jo Ellen Yeadon to the Marquette County Transit Authority for a 3-year term: Expiring 12/2027
d. Confirm Mayor reappointment of Jim Bertucci to the NIWA: Term expiring: 12/2027

7. MONTHLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

a. Financial Statement Report

Interim City Manager Grant Getschow explained the summary report has been revised and the report was now summarized from the income statement. He 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 November 30, 2024. He further explained having the meeting later in the month would be beneficial to allow staff to close out end of month finances.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Brett Argal and carried unanimously to approve the unaudited financial report as presented.

b. DPW Report

Interim DPW Director Bill Anderson provided an update on the 8th Edition project; all plowing has gone well so far; the ice rink was being worked on and the tube slide improvements were complete; water bills will be going out the first of the month; the water meter project was progressing; he announced the Category-F funding has been received so Washington Street will be repaved from Greenwood to the Township line and Chris Holmes, UPEA, will be reaching out to the State to ask if both projects (Small Urban and Category F) could be done together.

c. Library Report

Library Director Jesse Shirtz provided the monthly report for Council's review and pointed out some of the highlights.

8. PUBLIC HEARING – There were none.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – There was none.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. State Revolving Fund

i. Resolution 21-2024, CWSRF Payment Reimbursement

Chris Holms, UP Engineers and Architects (UPEA), advised this reimbursement requested included the most recent pay application from Payne and Dolan and invoices from UPEA. He added there should be better communication moving forward during the projects.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Kurt Kipling and carried unanimously to adopt resolution #21-2024 for CWSRF Payment and Reimbursement in the amount of $2,547,341.71.

b. Second Street Repairs

i. Change Order #1 – Second Street Sewer Repairs and Pay Application for Payne and Dolan

Chris Holmes, UPEA, explained this project was bid for sewer only so the change order is the addition of the water line for the project in the amount of approximately $212,000.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Mayor Pat Scanlon and carried unanimously to approve the change order as presented and approve the application for payment from Payne and Dolan pending final contract review by the City Attorney.

Chris Holms, UPEA, asked Council to authorize him to make a request to MDOT to allow the Small Urban Grant and Category F grant to be done together in 2026 instead of being done separately since both projects are for a portion of Washington Street.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall and carried unanimously to authorize Chris Holms, from UPEA, to ask MDOT to allow the Small Urban Grant to take place with the Category F grant in 2026 rather than doing each project separately since both projects are for a portion of Washington Street.

c. Special Event Application
i. Noquemanon Ski Marathon: 1/24/2024
A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall and carried unanimously to approve the Noquemanon Ski Marathon event as presented.

d. Proposed 2025 Lake Superior Community Partnership (LSCP) Service Contract
Interim Manager Getschow explained the LSCP has been extremely helpful during this transition period and in keeping the Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) process moving forward. There was some discussion related to the additional grants that become available with the RRC certification.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the LSCP Service Contract proposal contingent upon final review of the contract by the City Attorney.

e. Authorization to apply for MDARD Grant for Solar Lighting at Brasswire Campground
Amy Lerlie, 725 N. First Street and 404 S. Third Street, and Secretary of Board of Directors of RAMBA, gave a brief overview of the many RAMBA trails in the City and provided some statistics on trial usage; she added the RAMBA event was a huge success this summer and advised the Brasswire Campground was a big attraction for people that want to use the trails. RAMBA volunteered to help with the enhancement of the Brasswire Campground and would like to assist with the submittal of an MDARD Grant for solar lighting at the campground.

Interim Manager Getschow advised the grant was for a total of $90,000 with a match of $30,000 for a total project cost of $120,000. The grant would install a solar array, tie into UPPCO's grid, and supply power to users.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded Mayor Pat Scanlon and carried unanimously to authorize submittal of the MDARD Grant for Solar Lighting at Brasswire Campground.

f. Request to pursue Negaunee Ishpeming Water Authority Well Advance
Interim Manager Getschow explained NIWA was not able to bond on their own and approached the City for help with the bonding process. The total funding needed was approximately $600,000 and he advised the City could avoid bonding by simply advancing the funds to NIWA with a set repayment schedule. He has also talked with the auditors about pursuing this direction and noted the City has significant ownership in NIWA and a vested interest in their success.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Mayor Pat Scanlon and carried unanimously to authorize the Interim City Manager to pursue an advance of funds to the Negaunee Ishpeming Water Authority for a well with the funds to come from the Water Fund.

g. Resolution #20-2024, Health Insurance per Public Act 152 of 2011
Interim Manager Getschow advised that in the past Council has chosen to opt out of PA 152, which still allows for some options.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Mayor Pat Scanlon and carried unanimously to opt out of Public Act 152 of 2011 and approve Resolution #20-2024 selecting the Section 8 "Exemption" Option.

h. Schedule January 2025 City Council Meeting
A motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman and carried unanimously to hold the regular City Council meeting on January 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

i. City Council Committee Appointments by Mayor
Mayor Pat Scanlon made the following Councilmember appointments:

City/School Liaison Committee	Brett Argall
Parks and Recreation Commission	Jason Chapman
Liaison to Housing Commission	Ben Argall
Planning Commission	Ben Argall
Downtown Development Authority	Brett Argall
Liaison to Cemetery Board	Kurt Kipling
Liaison to Library Board	Jason Chapman
Liaison to Commission on Aging	Pat Scanlon
Central Dispatch Policy Board	Kurt Kipling

j. Schedule Special Council Meeting on December 6th: City Manager Interviews
A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman seconded by Mayor Pat Scanlon and carried unanimously to schedule a special Council meeting on Friday, December 6th at 10:00 am. to hold City Manager interviews.

Discussion took place on developing the list of questions and directing any questions that Council would like to staff to be added to the list noting it was important to ask all applicants the same list of questions.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT
Jeff DeGabriele, 413 Vine Street, suggested all Council members take training.

Norman Larson, 1010 Old Farm Road, has lived at this address since 1975 and questioned the decision to no longer plow their private drive on Old Farm Road.

Interim Manager Getschow briefly explained the plow routes and advised the City should not plow private property with the main concern being liability.

Claudia Demarest, 821 Maurice Street, congratulated Kurt Kipling, Ben Argall, and Brett Argall on being elected to Council; reminded them to follow the City Charter; and thanked Fire Chief Jason Annala and Interim Manager Getschow for the help in the situation at her home with the carbon monoxide alarms. She also pointed out a typo on the City Council agenda.

12. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS
Councilmember Ben Argall was very excited to be on Council; had been a lifelong resident of the City of Ishpeming; and looked forward to serving the community.

Councilmember Kurt Kipling has no report but thanked all the residents that voted for him in the November election.

Councilmember Jason Chapman thanked all the voters for reelecting him and all the other candidates for running a good campaign; thanked Kevin Corkin for all the positivity he brings to the City; would like to reevaluate televising on Channel 189 and You Tube; and thanked all department heads and staff for their support while he was Mayor.

Councilmember Brett Argall thanked everyone for voting during the November election; and was very excited to work with staff and Council and to provide transparency to the residents.

Mayor Pat Scanlon thanked everyone that voted during the elections; thanked all the election workers and Clerk's office staff along with the Police for running a smooth election; advised the City would start to broadcast on Channel 189 and on You Tube again in January; and was excited to work with staff and the new Council.

13. MANAGER'S REPORT

Interim Manager Getschow reminded residents of the billing cycle change with the January bill including December and January; advised the Fire Tower report was received from the engineer with the recommendation for the top portion to be removed; and he welcomed the new Councilmembers.

14. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:35 p.m., a motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Kurt Kipling and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Cathy Smith

Cathy Smith, City Clerk