1. CALL TO ORDER
The regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, June 18, 2025 in the Ishpeming City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Pat Scanlon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL
Present: Mayor Pat Scanlon, Council Members Ben Argall, Brett Argall, and Kurt Kipling (4). Absent: Councilmember Jason Chapman (1). Also present was City Manager Randy Scholz and City Attorney Caroline Bridges.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
A motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling, seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda incorporating the following changes: addition of the closed session minutes from 5-21-2025 and the addition of 8(a)(i) Uniform Guidance Policies and Procedures – Federal Awards.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT
Raymond Olds, 1165 9th Street, asked that the road to the hospital be maintained in good condition because there are many emergency vehicles that utilize that road; and he thanked staff for making the recent repairs to the road.

6. MANAGER OFFER OF INFORMATION - There was no additional information.

7. CONSENT AGENDA
A motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall, and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented.

a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (May 21st and Closed Session May 21st)
b. Approval of Disbursements
c. Mayor appointment of Darren Boldt to a 5-year term on the Library Board: Term Exp: 5/30

8. MONTHLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS
a. Financial Statement Report
Finance Director Grant Getschow 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 May 30, 2025.

i. Uniform Guidance Policies and Procedures – Federal Awards
Finance Director Getschow reviewed the reasons necessary for adoption of the policy for federal awards.

A motion was made by Councilmember Brett Argall, seconded by Councilmember Kurt Kipling, and carried unanimously to adopt the Uniform Guidance Policies and Procedures for Federal Awards as presented.

b. DPW Update
DPW Director Bill Anderson advised all city utilities were now on the SCADA system and are able to be monitor by staff with notifications going to cell phones; the water tank is being painted both inside and outside; he had a couple of meetings with the Superintendent of the School regarding the tennis courts; he explained the hospital was moving forward with their plan to fix the drainage problem in the parking lot and when that is completed the repairs/repaving of the road would be done; and he announced the new Aquahawk program was now available to residents to monitor their water usage and gave a brief overview of the program.

c. Police Update – MCOLES Audit
Chief Chad Radabaugh reported the City had its first MCOLES audit which reviewed policies and hiring practices for the Police Department and the City successfully passed the audit.

9. PUBLIC HEARING – There were none.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
2025 Water and Sewer Rates
Finance Director Getschow advised the Council acted in January to pause the increase in water and sewer rates for 2025, which is required by Ordinance, and directed staff to review the funds through June. After reviewing the status of the water and sewer funds, he recommended the 2025 rate increase not be implemented and review rates again in 2026.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall and carried unanimously to forgo the 5% water and sewer rate increase for the remainder of 2025.

11. NEW BUSINESS
a. Special Event Applications
i. Buzz the Gut: 8/9/2025
ii. Swim Teal Lake-Benefit for Diabetes: 7/26/2025
A motion was made by Councilmember Ben Argall, seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall, and carried unanimously to approve the two special event applications as presented.

b. Final Payment to Payne and Dolan for Second Street Storm Sewer Improvements
Chris Holmes, U.P. Engineers and Architects (UPEA), explained the retainage was held for this project through the winter so the project could be inspected in the spring, and this was now the final payment for the project for closeout.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall and carried unanimously to approve the final pay application for the retainage to Payne and Dolan in the amount of $24,612.92.

c. Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)
i. Resolution 16-2025, Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Reimbursement #3
Chris Holmes, UPEA, explained this was a progress billing for reimbursement from the DWSRF grant.

A motion was made by Councilmember Ben Argall, seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall, and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 16-2025 for the submittal of a reimbursement request for the DWSRF in the amount of $1,311,840.79.

ii. Resolution 17-2025, Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Reimbursement #8
Chris Holmes, UPEA, explained this was a progress billing for reimbursement from the CWSRF grant.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 17-2025 for the submittal of a reimbursement request for the CWSRF in the amount of $267,121.67.

d. 2025 Native American Heritage Fund Grant Application: Jiikakamiigad Powwow in Ishpeming
Sarah Garver, President and a Native American resident and business owner, would very much like to have a Powwow in Ishpeming. She thought it would be an exceptionally good and beneficial event to have in Ishpeming and asked the Council to approve the grant application for submittal for the Jiikakamiigad PowWow.

Manager Scholz explained the timeline for submitting the grant was prior to the meeting, however, the application could be pulled back if needed; he further advised, there was no match required for the grant and the grant amount was $20,000.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall and carried unanimously to confirm the submittal of the grant application for the Jiikakamiigad Powwow in Ishpeming.

e. Approval of RAMBA beginner trail and bridge project
Manager Scholz explained that the beginner trail was approved by Council in 2018; however, construction never started on the beginner trail or the bridge project. He recommended the Council approve both projects and authorize the Manager to sign the DEQ permit, and Soil Erosion Permit for the construction of the bridge.

Glen Lerlie, 725 First Street and President of RAMBA, explained the two projects and advised the bridge would cross Partridge Creek. The trail project would be approximately ¾ to one mile long and it would be flat and open for beginner riders.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall and carried unanimously to approve the RAMBA beginner trail and bridge project with the understanding that a lease agreement will be developed and approved separately; and authorize the Manager to sign the necessary permit applications.

f. MERS Defined Contribution Plan – Contribution Addendum
City Clerk Cathy Smith explained this addendum was needed for the MERS Defined Contribution Plan. The Tentative Agreement with the AFSCME union included an increase to the employer contribution for the Plan from 11% to 13%.

A motion was made by Councilmember Brett Argall, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall, and carried unanimously to approve the addendum for the MERS Defined Contribution Plan, increasing the employer contribution from 11% to 13% and authorize the Manager to sign the addendum.

g. Amendments to Policy #304: Utility Billing and Payment Policy
Finance Director Getschow explained the proposed amendments to the Utility Billing and Payment Policy. He reminded residents that the City offers temporary extensions and there are many agencies that will assist residents that are having problems with paying their utility bills.

A motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon seconded by Councilmember Kurt Kipling and carried unanimously to approve the revisions proposed for Policy #304 Utility Billing and Payment Policy.

h. First reading of Amendment to Ordinance 8-600: Regulating Fences
Attorney Caroline Bridges explained there were some minor wording changes to the ordinance, but the major amendment was changing violations to a civil infraction versus a misdemeanor.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling, seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall, and carried unanimously to approve the first reading of amendment to Ordinance 8-600 Regulating Fences as presented.

i. First reading of Amendment to Ordinance 8-100, Zoning Ordinance: RZ2025-01 from Industrial to General Residential
Attorney Bridges explained the Planning Commission held a public hearing at their regular meeting for Rezoning #2025-01: to rezoning lots 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17 and 18 of the Assessor's Plat of the Barnum Location No. 2 from the Industrial (I) district to the General Residential (GR) district, aka 240, 236, 207, 211, and 215 Stone Street. The Planning Commission moved to approve the rezoning as it was presented, based on the findings of fact with the removal of lots 12 and 13 from the rezoning.

Attorney Bridges further discussed spot zoning and noted the meeting notice was posted including lots 12 and 13. Removal of the two lots from the rezoning would create a spot zone.

A motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon, and seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall and carried unanimously approve the first reading of amendment to Ordinance 8-100 Zoning Ordinance for Rezoning #2025-01: to rezoning lots 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17 and 18 of the Assessor's Plat of the Barnum Location No. 2 from the Industrial (I) district to the General Residential (GR) district.

j. Addendum to Water Tank Maintenance Contract with Utility Services Company
DPW Director Anderson explained the contract with Utility Services Company for maintenance of the water tank would be expiring this year, and the proposal was for an addendum to the contract for an additional 10 years. Utility Services Company has been working on the tank for the last 13 years and staff would recommend retaining this company for water tank maintenance. Manager Scholz recommended waiving competitive bidding.

A motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall, and carried unanimously to waive competitive bidding; and approve the 10-year addendum as proposed by Utility Services Company and authorize the Manager to sign.

k. Declare Police Department Code Vehicle as surplus
Chief Chad Radabaugh explained the Code Vehicle has been inspected and it has been determined that it is not worth repairing as it would cost more to repair than what the vehicle was worth.

A motion was made by Councilmember Ben Argall seconded by Mayor Pat Scanlon and carried unanimously to declare the 2016 Inceptor, the code enforcement vehicle, as surplus and list it in the auction for sale.

l. DPW request to purchase new pickup truck through State of Michigan MiDeal Contract
DPW Director Anderson explained Public Works was schedule to purchase a new truck in 2026, however, with the condition of the police vehicle for Code Enforcement, DPW would like to purchase the new truck this year from the Michigan MiDeal program from the Water Fund and give the 2017 GMC Sierra to Code Enforcement.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling, seconded by Mayor Pat Scanlon, and carried unanimously to authorize the purchase of a new vehicle from the Michigan MiDeal program and give the 2017 GMC Sierra to Code Enforcement.

m. New photocopier lease for City Hall through State of Michigan MiDeal Contract
City Clerk Smith explained the lease for the copier at City Hall expired in April. She recommended a 36-month lease for a new Bizhub C301i copier with Cooper Office through the Michigan MiDeal program for a total of $260.80 per month which included the lease payment and the monthly maintenance and supply agreement.

A motion was made by Councilmember Brett Argall, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall, and carried unanimously to approve the 36-month lease with Cooper Office for the Bizhub C301i copier through the Michigan MiDeal program.

n. Amendment to the 2025 Fee Schedule
DPW Director Anderson explained the discussion that took place at the Cemetery Commission meeting. The increase was for rates for after hours, Sunday, and Holiday burials.

A motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall, and carried unanimously to adopt the amendments to the 2025 fee schedule for Cemetery burial fees as recommended.

o. Schedule Special City Council meetings
i. Confirm July 9, 2025 – Informational/Listening Session regarding Fluoride
ii. Schedule meeting for closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(d) to consider purchase or lease of real property
It was the consensus of the Council to hold the special meetings on Wednesday, July 9th with the closed session at 4:00 p.m. and the Informational/Listening session at 6pm.

12. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS
Councilmember Ben Argall attended the two Planning Commission meetings in June the regular and the special; advised the Short-Term Rental Ordnance would be brought to Council at the July meeting; and he attended the West End Lake Superior Community Partnership breakfast at The Mather.

Councilmember Kurt Kipling had no report.

Councilmember Brett Argall attended the School Board meeting; attended a Ribbon Cutting for Great Lakes Glass and Calibration; announced the upcoming events including the Farmers Market on Sundays at Jasper Ridge from 11-2 pm; Festival of Treasures on July 3rd from 10-5 pm; and the Fourth of July festivities will take place on July 5th.

Mayor Pat Scanlon reported he continued to meet with the Wastewater Treatment Plant; he attends the construction meetings every Wednesday at City Hall; there would be an upcoming work group meeting regarding blight; and the City Manager is continuing to get to know the City.

13. MANAGER'S REPORT
Manger Scholz reviewed his monthly report including the launch of the new slides on Channel 189; met with American Ramp Company regarding the skatepark; the Communication Intern has been providing construction updates on social media; he attended the groundbreaking of the new Veterans Facility in Marquette Township; and attended the LSCP breakfast at The Mather.

14. ADJOURNMENT
At 8:44 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling, seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall, and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Cathy Smith

Cathy Smith, City Clerk