

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, September 17, 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, Jason Chapman, and Kurt Kipling (5).
Absent: None (0). Also, present was City Manager Randy Scholz and City Attorney Caroline Bridges.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pat Scanlon asked that the September 10th minutes be removed from the consent agenda and for item 11(o) Resolution #27-2025 Supporting Forging Futures be removed and requested the addition of item 11(p) Bell Booster Water Pumps.

A motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Kurt Kipling, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda incorporating the above changes.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeff DeGabrielle, 412 Vine Street, requested time to speak under item 11(f).

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

7. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Ben Argall seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda incorporating the removal of the minutes from September 10th.

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (8/19, 8/20, 9/10)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Confirm Mayor appointment to fill vacancy on the Commission on Aging: Thomas Donahue with term expiring on 9/2027

8. MONTHLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

a. Monthly Financial Statement Report

Finance Director Grey Getschow reviewed the unaudited monthly financial report including the General Fund, Major and Local Streets, Sewer, and Garbage Fund, DDA, and Police and Fire Retirement Fund for the period ending August 2025. Reimbursement for the MMRMA renewal was received from the Negaunee Ishpeming Water Authority.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall, and carried unanimously to approve the monthly budget report as presented.

Finance Director Getschow announced the City received a donation of \$2,500 from QuikTrip for the skatepark and the project should be underway the beginning of October. He also submitted the final report for the Partridge Creek Compost Grant, and he was starting to work on the 2026 Budget.

b. DPW Update

DPW Director Bill Anderson advised the vehicle auction netted \$63,000 and staff would like to use that money toward two used vehicles; he noted Third Street construction was as far north as construction would be going this year.

c. Police Department Update

Chief Chad Radabaugh provided a brief update on the number of service calls this year as compared to last year; announced he received a grant for additional body cameras; and received a grant to purchase tactical bags. He also

explained the City had received additional funding for traffic enforcement this year so there were a lot more patrol cars around this summer.

9. PUBLIC HEARING – There were none.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – There was none.

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. City of Ishpeming Rebranding Design

Elena Mouller-Younger, from OHM, presented the updated logo options incorporating some of the feedback received by the Council at the previous meeting. She explained that during discussion with the group it was the consensus to establish a logo for the city completely separate from school colors. She further noted the interchangeability of the icons such as skis, bike wheels, and pickaxes, and explained the white trail in the center of the logo translated to the trail perspective and invites exploration of the trails in the city.

Councilmember Jason Chapman suggested putting a larger emphasis on the Ski Club in the logo since they have been in the City since 1887. He questioned how input was received for the rebranding and what methods were used; and would like to see a better version of skis for the logo.

Finance Director Getschow briefly explained how the committee was established; the surveys that were posted; discussions among the committee related to having a more simplistic logo; and establishing the logo for the City that stood apart from other organizations.

Councilmember Kurt Kipling thought the biking trails were an important asset to the City and liked how that was presented in the logo; and added it would not be feasible to incorporate everything into the City logo.

Councilmember Ben Argall liked the simplicity of the logo and the new brand for the City. He also liked the updated color.

Councilmember Brett Argall advised he was on the Committee and briefly reviewed some of the discussions that took place and the process; and he liked the simplicity of the logo and the representations of the new brand.

A motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall, and carried unanimously to approve the new branding logo for the City of Ishpeming as presented.

b. Special Event Application: Ishpeming High School Homecoming

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall, and carried unanimously to approve the parade permit and the special event application as presented for the Ishpeming High School Homecoming Festivities.

c. Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)

i. Resolution #25-2025 Reimbursement Request CWSRF #11

A motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Kurt Kipling, and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution #25-2025 for reimbursement request #11 for the CWSRF as presented.

ii. Resolution #26-2025 Reimbursement Request DWSRF #6

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution #26-2025 for reimbursement request #6 for the DWSRF as presented.

d. Request from Pop-up Powwow for fee waiver

Sarah Garver and Krystan Beaumont, members of the Powwow Committee, asked if the fees could be waived for this event; questioned garbage removal for the event; and if a ceremonial fire would be permitted.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Mayor Pat Scanlon and carried unanimously to authorize a one-time waiver of the fee for this event since it was the inaugural powwow for the City; City has Native American ties; and the organization was a 501(c)3; and in addition, authorize a dump truck for garbage be brought to the site.

There was some discussion related to allowing a small ceremonial fire for the event; it was suggested the Committee contact the Mining Museum for a location for the fire.

e. Resolution #24-2025, Naming Trustee and Alternate Trustee for the West Michigan Health Insurance Pool
Mike Hagerty, WMHIP, provided a brief overview of The Pool and explained what the proposed plans would be for employees along with the cost savings for the City and employees.

A motion was made by Councilmember Mayor Pat Scanlon, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall, and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #24-2025 naming trustees for members to the West Michigan Health Insurance Pool as presented.

f. 11-700 Consideration of Sworn Statements

Jeff DeGabrielle explained each of his sworn statements and listed his concerns with the officers involved.

City Attorney Caroline Bridges

A motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon and supported by Councilmember Kurt Kipling to find the charges against City Attorney Caroline Bridges to have no merit and to be dismissed. Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Randy Scholz

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman and supported by Councilmember Kurt Kipling to find the charges against City Manager Randy Scholz to have no merit and to be dismissed. Motion carried unanimously.

City Clerk Cathy Smith

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman and supported by Councilmember Ben Argall to find the charges against City Clerk Cathy Smith to have no merit and to be dismissed. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief of Police Chad Radabaugh

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman and supported by Councilmember Brett Argall to find the charges against Chief of Police Chad Radabaugh to have no merit and to be dismissed. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Ben Argall

A motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon and supported by Councilmember Kurt Kipling to find the charges against Councilmember Ben Argall to have no merit and to be dismissed. Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Ben Argall abstaining.

Councilmember Brett Argall

A motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon and supported by Councilmember Jason Chapman to find the charges against Councilmember Brett Argall to have no merit and to be dismissed. Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Brett Argall abstaining.

Councilmember Jason Chapman

A motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon and supported by Councilmember Kurt Kipling to find the charges against Councilmember Jason Chapman to have no merit and to be dismissed. Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember Jason Chapman abstaining.

Mayor Pro Tem Kurt Kipling

A motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon and supported by Councilmember Jason Chapman to find the charges against Mayor Pro Tem Kurt Kipling to have no merit and to be dismissed. Motion passed 4-0 with Mayor Pro Tem Kurt Kipling abstaining.

Mayor Pat Scanlon

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman and supported by Councilmember Brett Argall to find the charges against Mayor Pat Scanlon to have no merit and to be dismissed. Motion passed 4-0 with Mayor Pat Scanlon abstaining.

g. Consider purchase of laptops for Councilmembers

i. Adopt Policy #602: Computer Use Policy for City Council Members

City Manager Scholz explained the purchase of computers for Council would reduce the amount of paper used. Councilmembers would receive a City email and training would be provided to Council.

A motion was made by Councilmember Brett Argall, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman, and carried unanimously to approve Policy #602 Computer Use Policy and authorize the purchase of computers for the City Council from the 2025 budget.

h. Request to purchase a shoulder machine for the DPW

DPW Director Anderson requested authorization to purchase a shoulder machine, if after the demo, staff thought it would be a good purchase for the City.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall and carried unanimously to authorize the purchase of the shoulder machine, if after the demo, staff determined it to be useful for the department in the amount of \$49,875.92 with funding from Streets in the amount of \$39,875.92; Water \$5,000; and Sewer \$5,000.

i. DPW request to authorize repairs to the Case 621G Loader

DPW Director Anderson explained the pins on the loader needed replacement and failure to repair them now could cause a more expensive repair in the future.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall, and carried unanimously to approve the repairs to the 621G Loader in the amount of \$6,135.60 from Miller, Bradford, and Riseberg as recommended by staff.

j. Request to purchase two used dump trucks for the DPW

DPW Director Anderson explained \$63,065 was received from the auction for the surplus equipment. The Chief Mechanic found two vehicles and staff would like to purchase the two dump trucks with the funds from the auction and use \$10,000 from both the Water and Sewer Fund towards the purchase of the two vehicles for a not to exceed amount of \$83,065.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of the two dump trucks in the not-to-exceed amount of \$83,065 with funding from the dollars received from the sale of surplus equipment \$63,065 and \$10,000 from the Water Fund and \$10,000 from the Sewer Fund.

l. Confirm form L-4029: Tax Rate

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall and carried unanimously to confirm the L-4029 for 2025 as presented.

m. Request for over-hire for the Rental-Code Enforcement Officer Position until 1-1-2026

Chief Radabaugh advised this position is usually hard to fill and he would like to have this over-hire so some training could be provided before the current rental inspector leaves at the end of the year.

Manager Scholz also said he would like to increase the hours per week for this position to 36 hours per week.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall, and carried unanimously to approve the over-hire for the Rental-Code Enforcement Officer position through December 31, 2025 and increase the hours for the position to 36 hours per week.

m. Consider declaring a portion of Cedar Street from Tamarack to the east alley and the alley located at the end of Cedar Street south to Greenwood Street as surplus

Mayor Pat Scanlon expressed his concerns with this area being abandoned but not being paved. He thought Cedar Street went to the alley and he would like to see that portion paved. The cost to pave to the end of Cedar Street, to the alley, was approximately \$24,000 and he suggested a barricade be placed at the end of the street and then abandon the North/South alley to Greenwood Street. This resident has been asking for this area to be paved for 40 years.

A motion was made by Mayor Pat Scanlon and seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman to pave the portion of Cedar Street from Tamarack Street to the alley while the construction crews were in that area and then schedule a public hearing at the next meeting for declaring that area as surplus. Motion was withdrawn.

Finance Director Getschow reviewed the Major and Local Street funds; the Third Street Construction project and funding for the project; and the preparation of the Capital Improvement Plan for 2026. Funding for this project would have to come from either Local Streets, Public Improvement Fund, or General Fund.

DPW Director Anderson explained there were many other streets that were in need repairs and could use a mill and overlay. The area being discussed has always been a gravel road.

Councilmember Ben Argall expressed his concerns with how the street was proposed to be paved and if it was being constructed according to the standards for a street; and was also concerned with paving an area for a driveway. He suggested paving to the water shut off and did not think it would be necessary to pave to a dead end.

There was discussion among Council related to the paving of that area; standards to which the road would be paved; paving that portion of the street and then abandoning it; the appearance of paving a driveway for a resident; and the option of paving the entire area as a street from Tamarack to Greenwood.

Manager Scholz suggested this be considered with the 2026 Capital Improvement Projects where all the issues and concerns could be discussed.

n. Declare City Vehicles Surplus

i. 1992 International Dump Truck #104

ii. 2017 Ford Explorer

A motion was made by Councilmember Kurt Kipling, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman, and carried unanimously to concur with staff recommendation and declare the two vehicles (1992 International Dump Truck and 2017 Ford Explorer) as surplus.

~~o. Resolution #27-2025, Supporting Forging Futures Fundraiser for Playground on Wabash Street~~ – This item was removed from the agenda.

p. (Added Item) Bell Booster Water Pumps

DPW Director Bill Anderson explained the current pumps were requiring maintenance and staff was concerned about reliability of the pumps. Staff would like to purchase and install two new pumps with work done by Crane Engineering.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall, and carried unanimously to purchase the two new pumps in the amount of \$30,664 from Crane Engineering with funds to come from the Water Fund and authorize Crane Engineering to install the pumps.

12. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Pat Scanlon had no report.

Councilmember Ben Argall had no report.

Councilmember Jason Chapman said the coffee hour with the manager went good and was well attended; he attended the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and they would now be holding meetings monthly; he discussed the lodge repairs needed; expressed his concern with a possible government shut down; and talked briefly on First Amendment Rights.

Councilmember Brett Argall reported he attended the School Board meeting and noted Business After Hours has been renamed to Community After Hours.

Councilmember Kurt Kipling will be attending the Central Dispatch Policy Board meeting tomorrow evening; and he asked residents to be cautious of workers with all the construction around town.

13. MANAGER'S REPORT

Manger Scholz summarized his monthly report provided to Council; and noted with a State shutdown, reimbursements for grants would be affected.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:01 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall, and carried unanimously to adjourn.


Cathy Smith, City Clerk